Faith fortifies Rwandan refugee community
Twenty-fifth anniversary of genocide approaches

BY JILL A. BOUGHTON

On April 7, 1994, Rwanda’s Hutu militia began systematically slaughtering members of the Tutsi tribe. Three months later, over a million Rwandans, mostly Tutsis, were dead. It’s been 25 years, but several Michiana survivors will never forget the horror of losing scores of friends and family members in the genocide.

Why did we survive, they wonder. Marie-Rose Semuhungu was a college student in Switzerland at the time, but her twin sister was killed, as well as a brother with whom she had spoken on the phone two days before his death. Immaculée Songa lost her husband, two daughters and siblings, including a brother who was a priest, killed at a retreat center. With her 1-year-old son strapped to her back, she herself came face-to-face with the killers six times. She’s convinced God spared her for a reason: to make sure this sort of genocide never happens again.

Raised in strong Catholic families, both women’s faith was shaken by the genocide. How could God permit this to happen to their faithful family members? Semuhungu remembers hearing her father’s rosary beads clacking when she woke up in the middle of the night, and Songa recounts how her brother made sure the small quantity of milk available to them went to seminarians instead, rather than to his own family.

For months afterward, they couldn’t study, work or go to church. They felt unsafe remaining in or returning to Rwanda and eventually wound up in the United States, where Songa felt obligated to have Masses offered for her family members. She knew they were still looking down on her and expected she would do this, she said.

Semuhungu joined her fiancé here, and knew she wanted a sacramental marriage and a Catholic upbringing for her children. They found a supportive community on the west side of South Bend, not only with other Rwandans but also in their parishes.

“Thank God, who doesn’t give up on us. He knows how to bring His children back,” said Semuhungu, now a nurse at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center. “I love Him so much.”

Armel Iradukunda is the son of Rwandan genocide survivors, Seventh-day Adventists who were living in Kenya at the time. He regrets never having a chance to get to know his grandparents, aunts and uncles who were killed.

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The life of a young person and the voca-
tion to which God calls each one is “holy ground” that pastors and parents must respect, nurture and encourage, Pope Francis wrote in a new apostolic exhortation, “Christus Vivit” (“Christ Lives”), the pope’s reflections on the 2018 Synod of Bishops on young people, the faith and vocational discernment, is a combination letter to young people about their place in the Church and a plea to older members of the Church to not stifle the enthusiasm of the young, but to offer gentle guidance when needed.

In the document, released April 2, Pope Francis talked about how the sex abuse crisis, a history of sexism and an overly narrow focus on just a handful of moral issues can keep young people away from the Church.

But he also said many young people want to know and understand the teachings of the Church and, despite what many people think, they long for and need opportunities to serve their communities.

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Atlanta archbishop named new leader of Washington archdiocese

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Francis has named Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory of Atlanta as the new archbishop of Washington.

The appointment was announced April 4 in Washington by Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the Vatican nuncio to the United States.

Archbishop Gregory, 71, a former president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops who helped navigate the conference through the clergy sexual abuse crisis in 2002, is the first African American to be named to head the Washington archdiocese.

He succeeds Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl, whose resignation was accepted by Pope Francis in October, nearly three years after he turned 75, the mandatory retirement age for bishops. Cardinal Wuerl continued as apostolic administrator until his successor was named. The cardinal headed the Washington archdiocese from 2006 to 2018.

Archbishop Gregory will be installed as the seventh archbishop of Washington May 21 at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle.

“I am deeply grateful to Pope Francis for this appointment to serve the Archdiocese of Washington and to work with all of the members of this faith community,” Archbishop Gregory said. “I look forward to encountering and listening to the people of this local church as we address the issues that face us and continue to grow in the love of Christ that sustains us.”

Cardinal Wuerl welcomed his successor’s appointment “with great joy.”

“I join all who appreciate his pastoral abilities, his intellectual gifts and his leadership qualities,” he said in a statement. “I have known Archbishop Gregory for many years. In working with him on a range of pastoral initiatives and programs, I have come to recognize how generously he shares his talents and his love for the church.”

As the Washington archdiocese “opens a new chapter and looks to the future,” Cardinal Wuerl added, “we can all, with great confidence and enthusiasm, welcome our new shepherd.”

The archdiocese’s three auxiliaries, Bishops Martin E. Dorsonville, Roy E. Campbell Jr. and Michael W. Fisher, also issued statements expressing their joy and gratitude to the pope for appointing Archbishop Gregory to Washington.

“This appointment reflects the Holy Father’s love for the local Church, for each one of us, and, especially, for our immigrant families in the archdiocese,” said Bishop Dorsonville.

“I have come to know Archbishop Gregory over the past two years and have had the good fortune to work with him as a member of the black Catholic bishops of the United States,” said Bishop Campbell, a Washington auxiliary since 2017. “I look forward to working closely with him in his ministry of leading and healing all who make up this Church and this community.”

Bishop Fisher added: “His experience and guidance as president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops during the adoption of the ‘Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People’ will be essential in our Church’s continued commitment to healing and accountability. The new archbishop will be shepherding diverse and vibrant parishes with zealous and faith-filled clergy and laity ready to assist him in his ministry.”

Archbishop Gregory has served in Atlanta since 2005. He previously was bishop of Belleville, Illinois, for 11 years, beginning in 1994. He was named auxiliary bishop of Chicago in 1983. In the Archdiocese of Chicago, he served as associate pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Glenview; a faculty member at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein; and as master of ceremonies for Cardinal John P. Cody and Cardinal Joseph L. Bernardin.

In moving to Washington, the archbishop steps into a high-profile position. The area that comprises the archdiocese includes the halls of power in Congress, the White House, and the courts. The archdiocese has nearly 659,000 Catholics throughout the District of Columbia and five Maryland counties.

The archbishop served as USCB president from November 2001 until 2004, a period that was perhaps one of the most difficult in the conference’s history.

Under his leadership, the bishops adopted the “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young Adults” and established norms for handling accusations of sexual abuse by priests or other church personnel; established a lay board to review how cases have been handled; commissioned an extensive analysis of the factors involved in the crisis; and created a staff office to oversee those efforts.

When he was elected in 2001, much of the attention focused on the fact that he was the first African American to head the conference. Before that served three years as vice president of the conference. He was the third African American to be named archbishop of Atlanta.

A Chicago native, Archbishop Gregory graduated from Quigley Preparatory Seminary South, Niles College of Loyola University and St. Mary of the Lake Seminary. After his ordination in 1973, he obtained a doctorate in sacred liturgy from the Pontifical Liturgical Institute in Rome.

Since arriving in Atlanta, Archbishop Gregory has seen the archdiocese grow to about 1.2 million Catholics in the 69 counties it covers in northern and central Georgia. In addition, nine parishes were created and six missions established; 64 priests and 152 permanent deacons were ordained, nearly 150,000 infants, children and adults were baptized, and more than 16,000 people were brought into full communion with the Church, according to the archdiocesan website.

Archbishop Gregory has issued pastoral statements on themes of life, family and dying, euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide and has published numerous articles discussing liturgy, especially within the African American community.
Dear Friends in Christ:

During Holy Week, the Gospel readings come to life in a special way as we gather to celebrate the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The readings remind us of our special connection to the land where this great story unfolded. Soon, like Simon of Cyrene, you can help to carry the cross in the Holy Land.

The annual Pontifical Good Friday Collection is requested by Pope Francis. His request continues a longstanding commitment to helping Christians in the Holy Land. In the Acts of the Apostles, we read that even St. Paul urged his missionary Churches not to forget the needs of the Church in Jerusalem. We are called to continue the legacy of supporting our brothers and sisters who live in the land made holy by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Christians living in the Holy Land today are descendants of those who first believed the Christian faith. There are hopeful signs as well. The 29 parishes in the Holy Land lead worship, offer Christian formation and education and provide housing and food for the poor. The Christian shrines that directly connect us to the life of Jesus and the Apostles are maintained. But those serving there need our help.

Soon, you will be invited in your parish to contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection. This Collection offers all Catholics an opportunity to express their solidarity with Christians in the Holy Land. A donation to the Holy Father’s annual appeal is a direct way to make a difference in the lives of those caught up in war, violence and instability in this region.

Through the Good Friday Collection, you join with Catholics around the world to stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. And, you become an instrument of peace in a troubled land. It is important that Christians continue to live, work and pray in the Holy Land. Please be generous when called on to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection this year.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades
Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend

Asylum-seeker from Nicaragua credits new home in Iowa to prayers

STORM LAKE, Iowa (CNS) — Darwin Josue Mejia Montoya could have been shot during protests in Nicaragua last year. He also could still be languishing in a detention center in Arizona, after escaping the violence. But Montoya credits prayers — particularly to Mary — for enabling him to be one of the few individuals granted asylum in the United States from the Central American country. Speaking through interpreter Araceli Reyes, assistant for Hispanic ministry at St. Mary Parish in Storm Lake, Montoya recalled his calmness while waiting to hear if he would be granted asylum. “I was never nervous that day,” he told The Catholic Globe, newspaper of the Sioux City diocese. “I had previously been nervous at the other court dates, but that day, I earlier turned to Psalm 70 and just knew whatever was going to happen, I would be all right.” The youngest of six children, Montoya grew up in Boaco, Nicaragua. His parish is Parroquia de Santiago Apostol (Parish of St. James the Apostle) — where he received the sacraments of baptism, confirmation and confirmation. One of the priests who served at Santiago was Father Sergio Antonio Alvarez Alemán, with whom “Darwin is a good friend,” explained Father Tien Friedrichsen, pastor of St. Mary in Storm Lake and Sacred Heart in Early. “Padre Sergio is now the pastor at Santa Lucía,” Father Friedrichsen said of his church’s sister parish. “I met both Padre Sergio and Darwin when I first visited Nicaragua in January of 2016.”

Cardinal O’Brien turns 80; U.S. left with nine cardinal electors

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — U.S. Cardinal Edwin F. O’Brien, grand master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, celebrated his 80th birthday April 8, meaning he is no longer eligible to enter a conclave to elect a new pope. His ineligibility leaves the College of Cardinals with 121 members who are under 80 and could enter a conclave. Eighteen of the voters were made cardinals by St. John Paul II; 46 by Pope Benedict XVI; and 57 by Pope Francis.

National Religious Retirement Office offers gratitude for generous support

March 27, 2019

Dear Bishop Rhoades:

Sincere thanks for your diocesan check of $153,677.42 in support of the 2019 Retirement Fund for Religious collection. Please extend our heartfelt gratitude to your parishioners for their ongoing support of senior religious and their communities.

Since the collection was launched, contributions from your diocese have totaled $4,179,111.90.

Generosity to the collection enables our office to distribute financial and educational assistance that help religious communities provide for older members while continuing to serve the People of God. Proceeds offer much-needed support for medications, nursing care, and other day-to-day necessities. A portion of the appeal also underwrites programming and education that promote long-term retirement planning. These resources focus on helping communities to reduce costs, enhance eldercare, and identify additional sources of income.

Joined with the 32,000 elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who benefit from the Retirement Fund for Religious, I offer a daily prayer of thanksgiving for all whose love and sacrifice make the work of our office possible. May God bless you and your parishioners.

With gratitude,

Sister Stephanie Still, PBVM Executive Director

Chrism Masses

Sunday, April 14: 9 a.m. — Palm Sunday Mass, St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend
Monday, April 15: 7:30 p.m. — Chrism Mass, St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend
Tuesday, April 16: 7:30 p.m. — Chrism Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
Thursday, April 18: 7 p.m. — Holy Thursday Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
Friday, April 19: 1 p.m. — Good Friday Service, St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend
Saturday, April 20: 9:15 p.m. — Easter Vigil Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne

Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

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Diocesan policy on reporting incidents of child abuse or neglect

FORT WAYNE — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend shares the conviction of Indiana legal authorities, all concerned individuals and the Church that every effort should and must be made to report child abuse or neglect to the appropriate authorities. Incidents of physical, emotional or sexual abuse or neglect of children, unfortunately, occur with regularity throughout our society.

Very often the victims of this abuse are too young to relate to others the fact of occurrence or are too frightened or ashamed to reveal the identities of those responsible for the abuse or neglect. Therefore, only when concerned individuals report those facts that give them reason to believe an incident of child abuse or neglect has occurred, can this disturbing problem be brought forward for legal redress as well as psychological assistance and spiritual rehabilitation. This diocesan policy on reporting child abuse or neglect is intended to promote awareness of the laws of the State of Indiana already in effect for all, and thus enhance pastoral awareness of, and response to, this grave problem.

Indiana law requires that all persons, without exception, make an immediate oral report to a local law enforcement agency or Department of Child Services if that person has “reason to believe” that a child may be a victim of child abuse or neglect (unless that person knows a report of the incident has already been made). The obligation to report exists regardless of who the accused may be. This duty applies to all diocesan personnel:

• All priests, deacons, canons, religious, lay personnel:

  This duty applies to all diocesan obligation to report exists regard has already been made). The knows a report of the incident may be a victim of child abuse “reason to believe” that a child report to a local law enforce and response to, this grave prob

State laws require that you have reasonable suspicion that abuse is occurring. That means you do not need proof of sexual abuse to make a good faith report to authorities.

Reasonable suspicion means you have wit- nessed physical or behavioral signs of maltreat- ment, either in the child or parent/caregiver, or both. OR, you have received a disclosure from a child about abuse, neglect, or boundary violation toward them.

Disclosure Discovery: Suspension

WHAT INFORMATION DO I NEED TO MAKE A REPORT?

Necessary Information

• Child’s name, address and age
• Parent’s name and address
• Nature of the abuse

Helpful Information*

• Perpetrator’s name
• Details of the abuse

* If the child does not readily supply this information, do not continue to question or investigate. It could interfere later with the investigation.

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EXHORTATION, from page 1

Defensive, which loses her humility and stops listening to others, which leaves no room for questions, loses her youth and turns into a museum,” Pope Francis wrote. “How, then, will she be able to respond to the dreams of young people?”

Young people have a natural desire to improve the life of the Church and the world around them, the pope said. If older people in the Church will let the young people try, it will keep the Church youthful, too.

“Let us ask the Lord to free the church from those who would make her grow old, encase her in the past, hold her back or keep her at a standstill,” Pope Francis wrote. “But let us also ask him to free her from another temptation: that of thinking she is young because she accepts everything the world offers her, thinking that she is renewed because she sets her message aside and acts like everybody else.”

The core of the pope’s message to young people was that...
Pro-life victories at Statehouse could have national implications

The Indiana General Assembly’s passage of two major pro-life bills represents a “milestone moment” that not only will save the lives of unborn children in the state but possibly lead to a long-term impact on a national scale.

That is the appraisal of Mike Fichter, president and chief executive officer of Indiana Right to Life, who hailed the legislation that now awaits the signature of Gov. Eric Holcomb. House Bill 1211 bans dismemberment abortion, a later-term abortion method that involves tearing a live fetus apart in the uterus and extracting the unborn child piece by piece. Senate Bill 201 expands conscience protection rights beyond physicians and hospital employees to nurses, pharmacists and physician assistants, ensuring that they do not have to participate in abortion procedures if they object on moral grounds. The Indiana Catholic Conference supported both bills and actively lobbied for their passage.

“These were both hard-fought victories that will have far-reaching effects,” Fichter said. “For the first time since the Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion, a later-term abortion procedure is no longer available in Indiana, and this long-term impact on a national scale.”

The landmark Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision paved the way for unintended access to all types of abortions, including the method that House Bill 1211 now prohibits except in cases where a physician “reasonably believes” that performing the procedure is necessary to prevent serious health risks to the mother or to save her life. Dismemberment abortion, also known as dilation and evacuation abortion, is a particularly brutal procedure that occurs in the second trimester of pregnancy, when the first-trimester methods — suction abortion and the abortion pill — are no longer possible because of the unborn child’s growing size.

“It’s tragic that it took 46 years to get to this point, but House Bill 1211 will immediately save lives in Indiana and could in the long term be a vehicle for bringing about the end of Roe v. Wade,” Fichter said.

That’s because the American Civil Liberties Union and Planned Parenthood, the nation’s leading abortion providers, have vouched to challenge the bill upon its passage. Fichter said he is encouraged by the “more conservative makeup of the Supreme Court” today as legal challenges to legislation like this make their way through the court system.

“We can expect a lawsuit, and Indiana should not be afraid of that suit,” Fichter said. “We are on very solid constitutional ground.”

Glenn Tebbe of the Indiana Catholic Conference described the passage of House Bill 1211 and Senate Bill 201 by both chambers of the General Assembly as a “monumental step forward” for the pro-life cause in Indiana.

“There is nothing more important than protecting the sanctity of human life, and this ground-breaking legislation speaks volumes about the values that the majority of people in this state hold dear,” said Tebbe, executive director of the ICC, the public policy arm of the Catholic Church in Indiana.

Tebbe applauded the efforts of the lawmakers who brought the legislation forward. Sen. Liz Brown (R-Fort Wayne) was the primary author of Senate Bill 201, which she has described as essential to updating the state’s quarter-century-old conscience protection laws. In particular, she has cited the 2000 launch of RU-486, the so-called “abortion pill,” as a driving force for extending conscience protection beyond doctors and hospital employees to nurses, pharmacists, and physician assistants.

House Bill 1211 was authored by Rep. Peggy Mayfield (R-Martinsville), Rep. Ben Smaltz (R-Auburn) and Rep. Christy Stutzman (R-Middletown). If Gov. Holcomb signs the legislation, as expected to do, Indiana will join 10 other states in banning dismemberment abortion, which is considered the method of choice to terminate a pregnancy after the first trimester.

“Many people think abortion is a tidy little procedure that’s simple and safe,” said Mayfield, the bill’s lead author. “When I had to explain dismemberment abortion in our caucus, I tried to avoid the graphic nature of it, but it was impossible. There were people who had their heads in their hands as they listened to the details.”

The legislation’s passage comes at a pivotal time, as the movie “Unplanned” — which shines a light on the inner workings of the abortion industry — is exceeding all expectations at the box office. The film chronicles the true story of Abby Johnson, a former Planned Parenthood clinic director, who fled the organization after being asked to assist with an ultrasound-guided abortion and witnessing a 13-week-old fetus fight against the instrument used in the procedure.

“All of a sudden, she said the scales fell from her eyes,” said Jodi Smith, a lobbyist for Indiana Right to Life and a personal friend of Johnson. “For the first time, she saw the baby behind the procedure.”

Smith texted Johnson — now an outspoken pro-life advocate — to congratulate her before the film’s March 29 nationwide release. Its unexpected success in their hands as they listened to the movie’s official opening, as well as in the days that followed.

Smith says that the film could not have come at a better time given the momentum at the Statehouse.

“Indiana is ripe for this legislation,” said Smith, who also serves as state director of the Susan B. Anthony List, a national organization that supports pro-life lawmakers and educates Americans about where their legislators stand on protecting the unborn. “I’m so proud and so excited that Indiana is finally taking these bold steps.”

To follow priority legislation of the ICC, visit www.indianacc.org. This website includes access to I-CAN, the Indiana Catholic Action Network, which offers the Church’s position on key issues. Those who sign up for I-CAN receive alerts on legislation moving forward and ways to contact their elected representatives.
**Catholic leaders urge US to declare TPS for Venezuelans**

“TPS is a lifeline for more than 1 million people in Venezuela,” said Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin, Texas, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Migration, and Sean Callahan, president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services, who have asked the U.S. government to designate Temporary Protected Status for Venezuela for 18 months. With the “ongoing political unrest, violence and shortages” in Venezuela causing millions of citizens to flee their country, the U.S. government should designate TPS for that country, U.S. Catholic officials said in a letter to then-Secretary of Homeland Security Kirstjen Nielsen and Secretary of State Michael Pompeo. “Conditions in the country and existing political instability have created a situation in which Venezuelan nationals cannot be safely returned home at this time,” wrote Bishop Vasquez.

**Extension crowdfunding campaign begun for Texas migrant shelter on border**

CHICAGO (CNS) — Chicago-based Catholic Extension has launched a crowdfunding campaign to raise $25,000 for a new emergency migrant shelter at the U.S.-Mexico border in Laredo, Texas. The national Catholic organization, which raises money on behalf of poor Catholic churches in the United States, started an information about the campaign and how to donate can be found at https://www.catholicextension.org/laredo.
**Spirituality of St. Katharina Kasper program**

DONALDSON — Join Sister Germaine Hustedde, PHJC, on Tuesday, May 7, for a day program on the spirituality of St. Katharina Kasper, foundress of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ. This program will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. EDT at Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center. Check-in is at 8:30 a.m.

Sister Germaine will recount St. Katharina’s deep love of Christ with her compassionate service to the poor, the sick and the needy. Themes of “Student of the Holy Spirit,” “Mystical Experience of Saint Katharina,” “The Hidden Saint” and “Our Shared Heritage” will be explored. Participants will be encouraged to imitate ways that portray St. Katharina as a courageous and persevering role model, an example of how to accept and live God’s will daily. Living life in a committed way and walking in St. Katharina’s footsteps will enable each participant to mirror the mystery that enfolded St. Katharina in her simplicity and humility.

Cost for the retreat is $35 and includes Mass and lunch. Register at lindenwood.org by May 1. For more information, email lindenwood@poorhandmaids.org or call (574) 935-1780.

**Holy Spirits Pilgrimage on the Bourbon Trail**

MISHAWAKA — The Abbey of Gethsemani, the Trappist monastery where Thomas Merton was a monk, is nestled in the heart of the Bourbon Trail, the historical epicenter of bourbon production. Young adults of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are invited to renew their spirits and explore the intersection of faith and culture, sacred and profane, and spiritual and physical refreshment on a June 7-9 pilgrimage to the abbey and other local areas of interest.

Highlights of the trip will include the opportunity to explore the history and spirits of the Bourbon Trail, with tours and tastings at local distilleries; pray with the monks at the Abbey of Gethsemani; and discover the Basilica of St. Joseph Proto-Cathedral in Bardstown, Kentucky, the first cathedral west of the Allegheny Mountains.

Departures will take place from both Fort Wayne and South Bend. The registration fee includes transportation from either local area to the abbey. Transportation will be provided by the Abbey of Gethsemani. The registration fee includes transportation from either local area to the abbey. The registration fee includes lodging, prayer service, lunch, and participation in spiritual and cultural activities. Participants will be expected to cover their own meals, transportation, and any additional expenses.

For more information, contact Sister Germaine Hustedde, PHJC, at lindenwood@poorhandmaids.org or by calling (574) 935-1780.

**Shroud of Turin exhibit visits Elkhart**

Parishioners from St. Thomas the Apostle, Elkhart, had the opportunity to view a Shroud of Turin exhibit in the school gym the week of March 18. A full-size reproduction of the shroud was on display, as well as a life-size crucifix based on details provided by the shroud.

**Lenten Stations of the Cross**

Father David Violi leads a Stations of the Cross devotion on the first Friday of Lent, March 8, at St. Joseph Church, Bluffton. The parish held Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent at 7 p.m., preceded by a meatless soup supper from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

**Diocese to host conference on ministry to those with disabilities**

FORT WAYNE — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will host the National Catholic Partnership on Disability’s 2019 Great Lakes Regional Meeting on Monday, July 15 and Tuesday, July 16 at Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center, Donaldson.

Directors within each diocese of the Great Lakes Region will attend the conference to consider how offices and ministries within the diocesan structure can work together with parish staffs, educators and parents to serve adults and children with disabilities in their faith communities. Participants will hear from a keynote speaker, attend breakout sessions and have opportunities for networking and to attend Mass.

For information contact Allison Sturm, Office of Evangelization and Ministry with Persons with Disabilities, at asturm@diocesefwsb.org or 260-399-1452.

**‘Rejoice and Come Together’**

Father Canon A. Gerard Jordan, O. Praem, of Chicago, Ill., beams with joy while preaching to a diverse crowd of 50 at St. Augustine Church, South Bend, on the theme “Rejoice and Come Together: The Unshakable Joy of Father Augustus Tolton.” Father Jordan is promoter of the cause for sainthood for Servant of God Father Tolton. The Lenten prayer service, held on Tolton’s birthday, April 1, and just after Laetare Sunday, was co-sponsored by the Black Catholic Advisory Board of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and the Tolton Society of St. Augustine Parish.

Provided by Deacon Mel Tardy
Holy Week and Easter Mass Times with Bishop Rhoades

Palm Sunday
SOUTH BEND: Palm Sunday Mass at St. Matthew Cathedral on Sunday, April 14, at 9 a.m.

Chriism Mass
SOUTH BEND: Chrism Mass at St. Matthew Cathedral on Monday, April 15, at 7:30 p.m. This Mass Interpreted for the deaf.

FORT WAYNE: Join Bishop Rhoades as he celebrates Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Tuesday, April 16, at 7:30 p.m. This Mass Interpreted for the deaf.

Holy Thursday
FORT WAYNE: Join Bishop Rhoades as he celebrates Holy Thursday Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Thursday, April 18, at 7 p.m.

Good Friday
SOUTH BEND: Good Friday service at St. Matthew Cathedral on Friday, April 19, at 1 p.m. This Mass Interpreted for the deaf.

Easter Vigil
FORT WAYNE: Join Bishop Rhoades as he celebrates Easter Vigil Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Saturday, April 20, at 9:15 p.m.

Easter Sunday
PIERCETON: Easter Sunday Mass at St. Francis Xavier, 408 West Catholic St., on Sunday, April 21, at 9 a.m.

Additional Holy Week and Easter Masses interpreted for the deaf

Palm Sunday
SOUTH BEND: Palm Sunday Mass at St. Matthew Cathedral on Sunday, April 14, interpreted for the deaf at 11 a.m.

FORT WAYNE: Palm Sunday Mass interpreted for the deaf will be at 11:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Good Friday
FORT WAYNE: Good Friday service will be interpreted for the deaf at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at 1 p.m.

Easter Sunday
FORT WAYNE: A Mass interpreted for the deaf will be at 11:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

SOUTH BEND: A Mass interpreted for the deaf will be at 11 a.m. at St. Matthew Cathedral.
Family tradition:
Carrying the cross on Jerusalem’s Via Dolorosa

BY JUDITH SUDILOVSKY

JERUSALEM (CNS) — For four decades, Mousa Kamar has taken his place at the head of the heavy wooden cross used during the Franciscan Good Friday procession on the Via Dolorosa.

Kamar, 55, can be seen every year at the front left of the cross, the same position where his father used to carry the cross. His grandfather also helped carry the front of the cross. The scores of old black-and-white pictures, color photographs and magazine photos Kamar has collected and uploaded onto his Facebook page attest to the long-held family tradition.

“We do this not only because it is the tradition, but because we are religious and we truly believe in it,” said Kamar, looking over some of the photographs scattered on a coffee table as he sat in his mother’s living room in Jerusalem’s Old City, near the ninth station of the cross. This is the home where he grew up and where his paternal grandmother was born.

It takes about 20 men to carry the 3-meter (3.3-yard) cross on Good Friday, and traditionally each position on the cross was taken by a representative of a different family. Kamar is the only one who has continued the tradition. As the older generation died off, the younger members of the other families did not continue with the tradition, he said.

The cross, though still large and heavy, is smaller than the one used generations ago, he said.

Even in the pushing and shoving of the procession, which sees local Catholics and pilgrims packing the cobblestone streets of the Old City as they make their way along the Via Dolorosa, Kamar said he is able to find a space within himself where he can reflect on the significance of the moment and on the life of Jesus.

“When I am carrying the cross I remember Jesus, how He died for us and how He walked all this way by Himself,” said Kamar. “We are 20 people carrying it, and he carried it by Himself. Especially as we stop at each station and it is mentioned where He fell (or other detail), it makes me feel like I am following the footsteps of Jesus.”

Kamar’s parents had run a family grocery store near the eighth station of the cross, and Gracella Marulliah Kamar, today 83, recalled the pride she felt as she would stand in the doorway of their shop on Good Friday and watch as her husband carried the cross during the procession. Her husband, Kamar’s father, was killed during the 1967 war in which Israel took over control of Jerusalem from the Jordanians.

“After he was killed, I couldn’t watch the procession anymore. It was too painful,” she said. “Especially on Good Fridays, my mother would tell me about how my father carried the cross and that one day I would carry it, too.”

The first time I carried it
I couldn’t sleep the night before,
I was so excited...
filling that space
my father had had.”

MOSA KAMAR

“Especially on Good Fridays, my mother would tell me about how my father carried the cross and that one day I would carry it, too.”

The first time I carried it, I couldn’t sleep the night before, I was so excited... filling that space my father had had.

MOSA KAMAR

“Especially on Good Fridays, my mother would tell me about how my father carried the cross and that one day I would carry it, too.”

It is also a burden and an honor to do this,” he added. “Since I was young, I heard stories about this family tradition and, since my father, and his father and his grandfather have done this, I think it is important to keep the tradition and to keep our religious identity.”

In preparation for the procession, Mousa Kamar spends Holy Week in prayer, visiting the Church of the Holy Sepulcher every day after work and participating in the liturgical ceremonies, including the traditional veneration of the pillar of Jesus’ flagellation, the washing of the feet pilgrimage to the Cenacle, and holy hour on Holy Thursday at Gethsemane.

He said he uses the time to meditate and pray for Christian unity and a strengthening of Christian religious identity, which he feels is being lost.

“All week I am praying, preparing to carry the cross, linking how Jesus suffered for us to the Palestinian situation. He fought for us, sacrificed himself for us but, unfortunately, we are losing our Christianity. I always pray for that, that people will return to the foundations of Christianity,” he said noting that Christians in the Middle East are living a difficult reality with close to 50 percent of the Christian population having emigrated. “We love Jesus and we feel we are a part of Jesus. Every corner, every stone in Jerusalem is directly about Jesus.”
WASHINGTON (CNS) — The internet facilitates sexual exploitation, a category of child abuse, according to experts in this field interviewed by Catholic News Service.

The internet also, they say, enables near universal access to violent pornography, with a range of negative implications, including normalizing sexual aggression and the dramatic increase in children abusing other children.

In a recent report on the role of technology in sex trafficking, as reported by the Justice Department’s Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking studies and based on interviews with 260 survivors, Vanessa Boutuch, a political science professor at Texas Christian University, found the internet facilitated prostitution, through online ads, in 75 percent of the cases.

The average age of entry was 15. Young victims, under 1 through age 10, were exploited by family members (76 percent), while older minors were exploited by members of their social network or strangers, far more often than by family.

According to Mary Anne Layden, director of the sexual trauma and psychopathology program in the University of Pennsylvania’s Department of Psychiatry, our society is at the point of “almost universal exposure” of children to pornography, which gives them “massive miseducation about intimacy and sexuality.”

Children “learn that sex is non-intimate, violent, adversarial, that it is non-relational, it is degrading and it is narcissistic,” she told CNS. “Almost 90 percent of pornography coded by researchers is violent, so boys are being taught: Women like to be forced, women like to be raped, fisted, choked, gagged and slapped.”

Women are depicted as enjoying, or having a neutral response, to maltreatment. “Everything pornography says is a lie, but it is a massively effective teaching tool — of toxic learning,” Layden explained.

The U.S. Catholic bishops addressed these harmful effects on children in their 2015 pastoral letter on pornography, “Create in Me a Clean Heart.”

“Being exposed to pornography can be traumatic for children and youth. Seeing it steals their innocence and gives them a distorted image of sexuality, relationships, and men and women, which may then affect their behavior,” they wrote. “It can also make them more vulnerable to being sexually abused, since their understanding of appropriate behavior can be damaged.”

One result of exposure to this violence of pornography is an “explosive” increase in children who are assaulting other children.

Layden said it is more likely for a daughter to be assaulted by her brother than by her stepfather in a “blended” household. Dawn Hawkins concurs with Layden. Hawkins is senior vice president and executive director of the National Center on Sexual Exploitation, or NCOSE, known as Morality in Media until 2015.

“NCOSE believes the increase in children with ‘harmful sexual behavior’ — a term that includes rape — is due to early exposure to hardcore porn,” said Hawkins. Hawkins said there’s little data, for one reason, in school settings sexual abuse between children is not reported, but the damage to victims is real.

The lawyer for an 8-year-old girl raped multiple times by a 13-year-old male neighbor consulted NCOSF recently. The boy — a consumer of violent pornography — had lined up his younger siblings, and the victim’s siblings, to serve as an audience for his illicit performance.

“We know child sexual abuse leads to depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, self-harm, PTSD, risky sexual behaviors, poor physical health and other difficult struggles,” summarized Hawkins. “It often predates an individual’s entry into prostitution.”

“So the trauma experienced by that group of children, caused by an immature brain’s exposure to pornography, could take years, even decades, to unravel,” she added.

Hawkins recommends the website Protect Young Minds, protectyoungminds.org, for guidance on inoculating them from harmful imagery online. Another such site is www.faithandsafety.org, created by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Department of Communications and the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

A data set released Nov. 30 by Children’s Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri, found that in almost half of its 2017 child abuse cases, boys ages 11 to 15 years were the perpetrators, physically and sexually attacking girls ages 4 to 8 years old. Nurses traced the phenomena to exposure to pornography.

One potentially positive note in the disturbing trend regarding peer assault is that, unlike adult perpetrators, young offenders who receive treatment do not appear to re-offend into adulthood.

“The good news on treatment means we need mandatory reporting of these cases, so kids get help,” observed NCOSF’s Hawkins.

She also is excited that after “many meetings” with Google, the internet giant has quietly added a “safe search” feature, allowing a setting that automatically screens out graphic sexual imagery from popping up.

Private companies as well as governments are responding to evidence of the harmful impacts of pornography and to federal law enforcement crackdowns on it.

The social networking site Tumblr, now owned by Verizon, announced in early December it would block all pornography and “adult content” from its site beginning Dec. 17, as a result of child pornography — a federal crime treated with great severity — getting past its filters.

And Starbucks announced it will block customers from perusing pornography while on the store’s free Wi-Fi, as a result of pressure from the South Carolina-based advocacy group Enough is Enough.

Some of these changes are a result of consumer pressure, according to Hawkins.

“The general public is becoming more aware of the public health harm,” she told CNS. “Parents are concerned about the harm to their young kids.”

She added, “There is a connection between pornography and violence against women. ... The general public is becoming aware of this and demanding an end to the violence and sexual abuse of children.”

Hawkins also cited 40 peer-reviewed studies since 2001 that stated the detrimental impacts of pornography. “There is much more widespread awareness of the harms, which have been swept under the rug and not talked about,” she said.

Mark Pattison contributed to this story.
Lay missioner in Salvador works toward root causes of emigration

BY MEINRAD SCHERER-EMUNDS

LAS DELICIAS, El Salvador (CNS) — Halfway up the back slope of San Salvador volcano, Cesar Hernandez wakes up at 4 a.m. and leaves his family’s home on a coffee plantation at 5. He makes the hourlong walk down the mountain to the community of Las Delicias, where he catches the bus for another hour’s ride to San Salvador.

On the way through his town, he must be careful to whom he speaks. Not only are gang members watching everything and everyone, the police or military frequently come up the dirt roads “looking for gang members.” To them, every young man from the community is a suspected gang member.

Violence, including murder, is common in communities like Las Delicias. While murders have decreased since 2015-16, when El Salvador had the world’s highest murder rate, disappearances have increased, and the murder rate remains among the worst in the world.

Hernandez makes this long commute to reach the Jesuit-run University of Central America El Salvador, where he studies mechanical engineering. That Hernandez, whose family has very limited economic means, is able to have this opportunity is due in no small part to the support and mentoring he has received through a youth program developed by Maryknoll lay missioner Larry Parr.

Sometimes, when it is too dangerous for Hernandez to make the long trip back to his house on the other side of the volcano, he even stays overnight at Parr’s family’s home, close to the university.

Parr has been working in Las Delicias for the past 11 years. Together with community members and with the support of Maryknoll Lay Missioners and a local community foundation, he has created a variety of programs designed to provide safe spaces and alternatives for young people so they can become educated, stay out of gangs and develop into leaders and role models for their community.

The odds are stacked against them.

“With all that violence in the community, it is not safe for kids to walk around alone,” Parr says. “It is very difficult for kids in marginalized communities to have opportunities.”

Only about 40 percent of Salvadorans graduate from high school and fewer than 10 percent from college. Even though public education is free, many families cannot afford to pay for books and supplies or the 40-minute bus ride to the nearest high school. Schools in poor communities have few resources, so the education that young people receive there is far inferior to that in wealthier areas.

To help improve educational opportunities for the young people in Las Delicias, Parr’s youth program provides tutoring and mentoring as well as scholarships both for high school and for university students. Many of the scholarship recipients lead community projects.

The most popular is a soccer program, which will celebrate its 10th anniversary in May. Called Playing for Peace, it provides a safe place for young people, ages 6-21, to play soccer and participate in tournaments. The program is run by young people from the community, who serve as role models and mentors.

“Our motto is ‘First, God. Second, studies. Third, sports,’” Parr explained. “God is always first. We always pray and give thanks to God, and we always read the Bible before each practice. Then we focus on the importance of studying, and finally sports.’”

The scholarship recipients help lead many of the program’s activities.

“I love teaching kids sports and arts,” Hernandez said. “We not only help them develop athletically, but we are also helping them develop their talents and teach them how to deal with their problems, family crises or difficulties they may have at school. These programs help to relieve their stress. Being able to help others gives me great satisfaction and joy. Together, we will make this a better community.”

His favorite is the breakdance program, through which he passes on his own passion for breakdance to younger kids, who embrace it just as eagerly.

Parr said he is concerned about the U.S. plan to cut off aid to El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala.

“In my time living and working in El Salvador,” he said, “I have seen that U.S. foreign policy has had a considerable effect on the current reality and violence in Central America.”

He said he believes “it is very important that the U.S. works together with our Central American brothers and sisters to help local programs that provide opportunities, reduce violence, and work toward a more just and compassionate reality here. The U.S. aid is crucial to help the Northern Triangle reach their goals of making their countries more safe.”

On a recent morning, as Parr, Hernandez and two other scholarship recipients walked through Las Delicias, grade schoolers greeted Parr and the college students, sharing their news, discussing progress at school and anticipating their next activities in the program.

At the grade school, Ismelda Carballo, the school’s custodian, had prepared a letter for Maryknoll Lay Missioners.

“This program is a great blessing,” wrote, “not only for my children but for many young people in this community. From the bottom of my heart, I give thanks to God and to all who, with their great hearts, have given us the opportunity to have projects like this one to help improve our school and our community.”

Meinrad Scherer-Emunds is communications director of Maryknoll Lay Missioners.
Celebrating mercy during Easter

Easter is a time of great joy, hope and celebration, so why does the Church emphasize our sinfulness and great need for mercy on the Second Sunday of Easter, “Divine Mercy Sunday”? The Gospel reading on that day and Jesus’ words to St. Faustina Kowalska make it clear that the connection is quite fitting and always appropriate: Jesus suffered and died for our sins so that we might receive His mercy and the joy of eternal life.

The destruction of life through abortion, assisted suicide and euthanasia are among the gravest of sins. Yet Jesus says that even those who have committed great sins can not only be forgiven, but have priority. St. Faustina, a Polish nun canonized by St. John Paul II in 2000, recorded the words of Jesus in her journal: “Let the greatest sinners place their trust in my mercy. They have the right before others to trust in the abyss of my mercy... I cannot punish even the greatest sinner if he makes an appeal to my compassion, but on the contrary, I justify him in my compassion.”

As related in John’s Gospel (John 19:30-31) proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter, the resurrected Jesus appeared to the disciples. They had been gripped by fear, to the point that they saw Him and received the Holy Spirit, peace and the power to forgive sins. God invites us, like the disciples, to be moved from fear into great joy. Despite our great sinfulness, we can receive forgiveness, grace and healing in the sacrament of reconciliation and be inspired to show mercy to others.

Now is the perfect time to consider how we can receive God’s mercy and extend mercy to others. One option is to pray the Divine Mercy novena from Good Friday to Divine Mercy Sunday. You can ask St. Faustina to pray the novena during this time. Also, the Church grants a plenary indulgence for celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday. All who do so, according to the usual conditions, receive the Holy Spirit and “ foster a growing love for God and for their neighbor, and after they have obtained God’s pardon, they in turn might be persuaded to show a prompt reparation to their brothers and sisters” (Decree of Indulgence, Apostolic Penitentiary, 2002).

By receiving mercy, we can be more merciful towards others. Pope Francis has written in his encyclical “Laudato Si’” that “the challenge of finding joy despite the experience of sin in the description of the women who entered Jesus’ tomb that Easter morning. They came face to face with Christ’s death and of their own existence as sinners in need of God’s forgiveness. At the same time, they encountered His love, which is greater than the greatest of sins. The power of the resurrection lies in this message: face to face with our sins, confess our mistakes, and then humble receive God’s forgiveness and accept the joy that comes with new life in Christ.”

Mary McClusky is assistant director for Project Rachel Ministry Development at the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. For confidential help, visit www.hopeafterabortion.org or www.esperanzasobabortion.org.

Mary McClusky is assistant director for Project Rachel Ministry Development at the Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.
Why you need a rule of life

Socrates famously stated that the unexamined life is not worth living. After 2,500-ish years, those words still ring true. However, the Christian Event (the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ) has changed things. We should be striving not only for an examined life, but an ordered life in Christ.

Jesus Christ brought order back to creation and part of our life as His followers is allowing Him to reorder our lives, our desires and our actions. The disorder had its start in the first sin. After the Fall, things were no longer as they were in the beginning. For example, no longer do Adam and the dirt get along. Adam must toil for the land to bear fruit. Also, a fundamental disorder is shown in the relationship between Adam and the woman. Adam does something he had not done yet (and probably didn’t think to do before) — he gives the woman the name Eve. In the perfect relationship they had before, he would not have done this because only God could have.

Now disorder has entered and the way Adam and Eve relate is changed (not for the better). But Christ undoes this disordering and invites us into His new life.

So ... what does this have to do with a rule of life? Freedom, here again, rears its splendid head. If we want to enter into the life in Christ, we need to practice this reordering so that our hearts are made ready for God’s work. This is where a rule comes in. It is a tool intended to draw us to Christ by drawing us out of ourselves. What is a rule?

A rule of life is simple, it is a set of expectations that one lives by. Every religious order lives a rule (most are in some way related to St. Benedict’s Rule, which is subtly one of the most influential documents in the history of Western Civilization). A rule can be simple or complex, but it is intended to simplify life. It is really beneficial when you live in community because it becomes a standard that all strive for and are answerable to.

How a rule works can be seen by way of example in Lenten penances. Before Lent, we know that prayer, fasting and alms giving are the pillars of the season, so we make decisions about how we will live those more intentionally for the duration of Lent. Making that choice at the beginning of Lent actually gives us immense freedom. Instead of having to think of new ways to live those three pillars and choose to do it every day, we know exactly how we are being called to act (assuming the choice of penitential acts where chosen with proper discernment). It frees us to grow by giving order and clarity.

In a very similar way, a rule gives freedom because it frees you to die to self in a specific way.

So now the question is: How do I do this? I do not think it is necessary to plan out every moment of your day or every action. For people living a vocation to matrimony, life is unpredictable in a lot of ways. Therefore, the best way to start is in general. What a rule does is spell out the most important aspects of your life so that all other decisions are made based on the essential aspects of your life. So start there. Here’s a suggested list to begin with:

1) Our family! I will go to Mass every Sunday and Holy Day.
2) Our family! I will go to confession at least twice a year/once a month/every other month.
3) Our family! I will eat a meal together at least __ times a week.

Or you could also be more a little more specific, like:

a) The TV and computer will be turned off in my home at 9 p.m. each night.
b) I will pray (or my spouse and I will pray) for at least 10 minutes a day in (insert specific place).

The whole point is, once you have discerned and set out those things which are essential to your life, you are free to live instead of constantly having to choose in the moment. One example of the application of this: Will the invite to this event make it hard or impossible to go to Mass on Sunday? Answer: I am committed to going to Mass every Sunday, so I can’t go to that event unless I can also get to Mass.

Start small, discern and pray about it. Then let the rule free you as it shapes your life.

Mark Hellinger is a seminarian of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. He is studying at Pontifical North American College in Rome.

Saint of the Week

Benedict Joseph Labre

1748-1783
Feast April 16

Born in France the eldest of 15 children of a prosperous shopkeeper, Benedict tried unsuccessfully to join a religious order. He was rejected as too young, too delicate and too eccentric. After a pilgrimage on foot to Rome around 1770, he spent several years wandering among Western Europe’s Catholic shrines, begging as he went. From 1774 on, he stayed in Rome, spending his days praying in churches and his nights in the ruins of the Colosseum. The Roman people esteemed this mendicant pilgrim, whose health finally failed, as a “new St. Francis.”

Mark Hellinger

A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for April 14, 2019


Following is a word search based on the Processional Gospel reading for Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion: the entry into Jerusalem. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

ON THE ROAD

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

WOO, from page 12

They could not and would not let the Good News go silent, and they have their action plans to show it.

Later in the week, a colleague in his early 40s shared with me his great joy in his upcoming marriage to a woman who is beautiful both inside and out. For their wedding, they would like to set up a nonprofit foundation so that gifts can be used for others as their blessings already overflow.

All these just in one week! Easter presents the call to move forward with renewed imagination that places God in our future: our reason for hope.

Carolyn Woo is the distinguished president’s fellow for global development at Purdue University.

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‘The Best of Enemies’

BY JOHN MULDERIG

NEW YORK (CNS) — “The Best of Enemies” (STX) is an appealing fact-based drama that promotes humane values and Gospel-guided behavior. On that basis, many parents may consider it a rewarding film for older teens, the inclusion of some mature material notwithstanding.

Set in 1971 Durham, North Carolina, writer-director Robin Bissell’s adaptation of Osha Gray Davidson’s 1996 book — subtitled “Race and Redemption in the New South” — traces the evolving relationship between no-nonsense civil rights activist Ann Atwater (Taraji P. Henson) and C.P. Ellis (Sam Rockwell), the head of the local Ku Klux Klan.

The two, who initially want nothing to do with each other, are forced to spend time together as leading participants in an arbitration process deciding regard to one of his three sons, a developmentally disabled lad confined to a home for whom C.P. cannot afford the kind of care he would like. Ann, who carries a Bible with her and says grace before each meal, intervenes with a friend on the staff of the facility where the boy lives to bring about an improvement in his situation.

Though C.P. at first reacts to this thoughtful gesture with disdain, not wanting to be indebted to Ann in any way, in the long term it becomes an important turning point in the evolution of his outlook. His gradual change of heart, which will ultimately have very positive consequences, is also encouraged by his sensible wife, Mary (Anne Heche).

Bissell evokes strong performances from his fine cast and his picture’s themes of reconciliation and equal dignity for all will be on target for believing moviegoers. The story he tells might seem pat if it were not derived from real events. As it is, viewers can come away from “The Best of Enemies” hopeful, despite the many fraught and contentious circumstances of our own era.

The film contains some non-graphic violence, including gunplay and the threat of rape, an act of sexual aggression, a few uses of profanity and of crude and crass language and racial slurs. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned.

For information and application contact:
Stephanie Howe, Personnel Assistant
P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, IN 46801
260-422-4611 ext. 3335
Email: showe@diocesefwsb.org
or visit
www.diocesefwsb.org/Administrative-Application

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS — APRIL 24, 2019

THE DIocese OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

NOW HIRING
SUPERINTENDENT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is currently seeking candidates for the position of Superintendent of Catholic Schools. Catholic Schools are a ministry of the Church, and this position works with the Bishop and the Secretary for Catholic Education to ensure the integration of faith and life, reverence for truth, growth in virtue, formation in Christian discipleship, and commitment to prayer. The superintendent oversees the formation of 13,000 students in 39 elementary school and 4 high schools in Northern Indiana.

Qualifications for interested candidates include the following:

- Be a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church with a working knowledge of Church Doctrine, Law, and Organization.
- Strong and Proven Commitment to Catholic Identity
- Indiana School Administrator’s and/or Indiana Superintendent’s License
- Five years of Administrative/Superintendent experience
- Familiar with curricular models and current trends in Catholic education
- Have strong organizational, verbal, and written communication skills with the ability to collaborate at all levels of the Catholic Schools.

For information and application contact:
Stephanie Howe, Personnel Assistant
P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, IN 46801
260-422-4611 ext. 3335
Email: showe@diocesefwsb.org
or visit
www.diocesefwsb.org/Administrative-Application

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS — APRIL 24, 2019

MOVIE CAPSULES

NEW YORK (CNS) — Following are capsule reviews by the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

“Dumbo” (Disney)

Lush but insubstantial live-action reimagining of the 1941 animated classic, set in 1919, in which the young elephant of the title becomes a pawn in a struggle to profit from the fact that his outsized ears enable him to fly. Out to protect him are a wounded and recently widowed World War I veteran (Colin Farrell), his two children (Nico Parker and Finley Hobbins) and the manager (Danny DeVito) of the circus for which he works. The owner (Michael Keaton) of a lavish amusement park has more devious ideas which are not necessarily shared by his amiable girlfriend (Eva Green). Director Tim Burton brings visual flair to screenwriter Ehren Kruger’s story but the impression it leaves is less than lasting while constant peril, the mistreatment of animals and several sad plot developments make this too challenging for little kids. Characters in danger, cruelty to animals. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

“Shazam!” (Warner Bros.)

Endowed by a wizard (Djimon Hounsou) with the ability to transform himself, by dint of the titular exclamation, into a superhero with the body of an adult (Zachary Levi), a 14-year-old foster child (Asher Angel) does battle with a formidable villain (Mark Strong) who wants the lad to surrender his newfound powers to him. Though it eventually becomes almost exclusively an action picture, director David F. Sandberg’s DC Comics-based origin story begins with an enjoyable overlay of comedy as the protagonist and his physically challenged best friend (Jack Dylan Grazer) marvel at his ability to shoot electricity from his hands and perform similar nifty stunts. Family life is exalted over egotistical self-reliance as Angel’s character learns to use his gifts responsibly, and viewers of faith will appreciate brief scenes of prayer and an implicitly pro-life message about the dignity of the disabled. Some mischief enabled by the main character’s grown-up guise, however, makes this questionable fare even for older teens. Much stylized violence with a few gruesome sights, underage drinking, brief sexual humor, some of it involving a strip club, at least one use of profanity and a milder oath, about a dozen crude and crass terms. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 15.
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.

St. Hedwig Rosary Society bake sale
SOUTH BEND — The Rosary Society of St. Hedwig and St. Patrick is having a Palm Sunday bake sale April 13-14 at St. Hedwig Memorial Center, 531 S. Scott St. It will be held before and after 4 p.m. Mass at St. Hedwig, after 9 a.m. Sunday Mass at St. Hedwig and before and after 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Patrick. A variety of pastries will be available: lamb cakes, Pacziks, pies, cookies and more. Ham and sausage sandwiches are also available for $3.

‘The Second Greatest Story Ever Told’: documentary by Father Michael Gaitley
HUNTINGTON — View and learn more about the powerful and historic events from Father Michael Gaitley’s DVD series: ‘The Second Greatest Story Ever Told’: A documentary by Father Michael Gaitley. The Second Greatest Story Ever Told: ‘The Second Greatest Story Ever Told’: You may attend the retreat begins at 9 a.m. with continental breakfast in the Spiritual Center. Reservations are required — contact Judy at 260-489-4875 or judymockenhaupt@hotmail.com. Freewill donations will be accepted. Visit www.saintv.org.

Easter bake sale supports St. Rose
ELKHART — St. Vincent de Paul parishioners will offer a Palm Sunday bake sale Friday, April 19, from 8:30-10 p.m., modeled after traditional Catholic liturgies for Holy Week. The candle-lit devotion features hymns, readings and psalms in English, as well as chant and polyphony sung by the choir in Latin.

Tenebrae at St. Vincent de Paul
FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent de Paul Parish, 1502 E Wallen Rd., will offer Tenebrae, a musical service, Good Friday, April 19, at 9 p.m. in the church, 1502 E Wallen Rd. Visit www.saintv.org.

Easter bake sale supports St. Rose
MONROEVILLE — St. Rose Altar and Rosary Sodality will have an Easter bake sale on Saturday, April 20, from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m., at the Monroeville Fire Station located at 205 W. South St.

Immaculate Conception rummage sale
AUBURN — Immaculate Conception Parish, 500 East Seventh St., will have its annual rummage sale Friday, April 26, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, April 27, from 9 a.m. to noon. Bag sale on Saturday.

St. Vincent de Paul widows’ retreat
FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent de Paul Parish widows’ grief support group, Safe Harbor, will host a widows’ retreat on Saturday, April 27, from 9 a.m. to noon at the parish, 1502 E Wallen Rd. Kay Corzad, certified grief educator, will present “The Ebb and Flow of Grief.” You may attend Mass at 8 a.m. in the church — retreat begins at 9 a.m. with continental breakfast in the Spiritual Center. Reservations are required — contact Judy at 260-489-4875 or judymockenhaupt@hotmail.com. Freewill donations will be accepted. Visit www.saintv.org.

Devotion of Tenebrae
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Michael J. Bragg, 74, St. Anthony of Padua
Jacquelyn T. Wooley, 64, St. Anthony of Padua
Bremen
Paul Winslow, 82, St. Dominic
Bristol
Joyce Chapman, 88, St. Mary/Annunciation
Jerry Edman, 75, St. Mary/Annunciation
Decatur
Edward Comejo, 77, St. Mary/Assumption
Jeanne C. Rue, 70, St. Mary/Assumption
Garrett
William L. Mologak, 94, St. Joseph
Fort Wayne
Patricia Frost, 70, St. Charles Borromeo
Mary Farmer, 94, St. Charles Borromeo
Ricky Martin, 66, St. Vincent de Paul
Andrew Strite, 23, St. Vincent de Paul
Granger
Sue Scaife, 81, St. Pius X
Johnathan Hamby, 39, St. Pius X
Monica Casbon, 63, St. Pius X
Chet Kaminski, 65, St. Pius X
Mishawaka
Francis DeNeve, 96, St. Bavo
Mary Thomas, 95, St. Bavo
William Stauffacher, Jr., 69, St. Bavo
South Bend
Joseph Vance, 94, Holy Cross
Mary Beth McCarthy, 64, Holy Cross
Georgianne Whelan, 65, Holy Cross
Florence Bilinski, 95, Holy Cross
Theresa Liwosz, 92, Holy Cross
Donald Beiter, 87, Christ the King
Christopher Jackowiak, 74, Holy Family
Alber Dolan, 82, Holy Family
Joseph Farkas, 103, Christ the King
A senior at Marian High School, Idradukunda, accepted the invitation to come to know God more intimately through the sacraments, converting to Catholicism and moving from a Baptist Church to St. Joseph in Mishawaka. He was baptized earlier this year, in February, and confirmed during a visit to the school the same month.

In addition to Songa, Semuhungu and Idradukunda, about 300 Rwandans — survivors and descendants of survivors, Catholic and otherwise — live in Michiana. Most years they hold a “walk to remember” in downtown South Bend, the theme for the walk is “Kwibuka,” which means “Remember.”

This year they will gather April 26-27 for the 25th Commemoration of the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi, which includes an all-day symposium on Friday and an exhibit of images at the University of Notre Dame’s McKenna Hall on Saturday. The symposium will examine the past, present and future: how the genocide happened, how rebuilding is possible and how future generations, with the help of God, can make sure genocide never occurs again. The organizers urge everyone, from high school students to scholars, to participate.

For details, go to http://racoofmidwest.org/.

Survivors hold a Walk for Remembrance in South Bend in 2017. Rwandan refugees from across the Midwest will gather there again April 26-27 for events commemorating the 25th anniversary of the deaths of more than 1 million Rwandan people during a campaign of genocide in the African country.

Parishes-in-Need grants approved

FORT WAYNE — The Annual Bishop’s Appeal of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend includes a funding program to assist less affluent parishes. A Parishes-in-Need Fund Committee met recently to review parish requests for financial assistance with church projects, and recommended a total of $201,718 be granted to 14 parishes for 16 essential projects — enabling them to arrive at a more stable existence.

Because the diocese cannot meet every request submitted by the parishes, the nature of each request is carefully considered in light of the total needs and financial resources of the parish, as well as the other parishes in the diocese. Requesting funding assistance. If all or part of a request cannot be met, often the committee will recommend the parish apply to another fund or financial resource in the diocese or community, or seek other alternatives.

Some funds usually remain in the account for use throughout the year by parishes when a new need arises. If all the money is not used in 2019, it will be carried over and allocated to next year’s Parishes-in-Need fund.

“Hopefully, this money will strengthen these parishes financially, increase their outreach and improve their ability to do the work of Christ,” Bishop Rhoades has said of Parishes-in-Need grants in the past.

This year’s allocation of Parishes-in-Need funding brings the amount granted to $6,639,515 from the Annual Bishop’s Appeal to parishes in need during the 32 years of the Annual Bishop’s Appeal.

South Bend

Holy Cross — $7,798 for new fire alarm panel for the school
St. Anthony de Padua — $22,000 to complete replacement of school roof
St. John the Baptist — $15,000 to repair roof on the school
St. Patrick — $22,000 for bell tower masonry repairs

South Bend area

St. Michael, Plymouth — $6,500 to renovate and repair bathrooms in church basement

Fort Wayne

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception — $10,000 subsidy to help Burmese students attend Catholic schools
Queen of Angels — $15,905 to replace school fluorescent lighting with LED
St. Henry — $6,500 to resurface school asphalt parking lots, $5,000 for concrete repair to walkways and rector driveway, and $5,000 to paint, seal and caulk exterior
St. Joseph — $20,000 for heating and cooling units for the school
St. Joseph - Hessen Cassel — $8,500 to install loop system for people with hearing aids

Fort Wayne area

St. John the Baptist, New Haven — $5,000 to replace old doors
St. Mary of the Assumption, Avilla — $15,000 for parking lot refurbishment
St. Mary, Huntington — $7,515 to replace the kitchen floor for the school
St. John the Baptist, North Webster — $11,000 for parking lot

Peter Ringenberg