

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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Evangelium Vitae Medal awarded to Women's Care Center

BY JENNIFER MILLER

The Evangelium Vitae Medal is a significant lifetime achievement award for heroes of the pro-life movement, and honors those whose outstanding efforts have served to proclaim the Gospel of Life. Named for the papal encyclical promulgated by Pope St. John Paul II in 1995, "Evangelium Vitae," the award's name means "The Gospel of Life" in Latin.

On Saturday, April 27, the last day of the Easter Octave and the vigil of Divine Mercy, the de Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture awarded the ninth annual medal to the national Women's Care Center organization, founded and headquartered in South Bend. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated a Mass of thanksgiving at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart preceding an award banquet at the University of Notre Dame.

O. Carter Snead, director of the Center for Ethics and Culture, shared: "In his great encyclical 'Evangelium Vitae,' Pope St. John Paul II calls upon those who would proclaim the Gospel of Life to cultivate an attitude of wonder that celebrates the gratuitous gift of every human life. Even in the



Peter Ringenberg, courtesy of de Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture

Women's Care Center was honored by the de Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture with the 2019 Evangelium Vitae Award April 27 for its pro-life support of mothers and children. Left, at the award banquet, is Dr. Janet Smith, who founded Women's Care Center in South Bend; and current Women's Care Center President Ann Manion.

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Former Catholic schools superintendent receives Sagamore of the Wabash

FORT WAYNE — The prestigious Sagamore of the Wabash award, the highest distinction of honor in the state of Indiana, was bestowed by Gov. Eric Holcomb April 5 on Fort Wayne resident Marsha A. Jordan, M.S. Ed, in recognition of four decades of unfailing commitment to Catholic education in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. A presentation of the award was made



MARSHA A.
JORDAN

to Jordan by Mary Glowaski, special assistant to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

Jordan recently retired as superintendent of Catholic schools for the diocese. During her professional career, she pursued excellence in both its educational institutions and in the students formed by them.

Graduating from Indiana University, Bloomington, in 1973 with a bachelor's degree in education, Jordan taught biology and served as dean of girls at Wawasee Preparatory School. From 1975 to 1984 she instructed seventh- and eighth-grade sci-

ence students at St. Vincent de Paul School, Fort Wayne, and also obtained a master's degree in education from IU.

She transferred to nearby Bishop Dwenger High School in 1984, where she served as Science Department chairman, dean of girls and a biology teacher for 10 years.

Jordan completed a Certification in Elementary and Secondary Administration and Supervision from Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, and in 2000 assumed the leadership of Queen of Angels School, Fort Wayne, as principal. In 2010 she

joined the Catholic Schools Office as assistant superintendent. She was named superintendent of Catholic schools in 2014.

"Our diocese has been blessed to have Marsha as a leader in our schools for over 40 years. Her dedication and leadership have impacted generations of children," said Amy Johns, associate superintendent. "We are thrilled that Marsha's service and impact is being recognized by this prestigious award."

Each governor of Indiana since Ralph Gates, who created

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PUBLISHER: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Editorial Department

PUBLICATIONS MANAGER: Jodi Marlin

PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

BRAND SPECIALIST: Molly Gettinger

NEWS SPECIALIST: Mark Weber

Business Department

BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION: Geoff Frank
circulation@diocesefwsb.org

Advertising Sales

Jackie Parker

jparker@diocesefwsb.org

Website: www.todayscatholic.org

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BUREAU OFFICE: 1328 Dragoon Trail, Mishawaka, IN 46544. Telephone 260-456-2824. Fax 260-744-1473.

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Pope names Bishop Hying of Gary new bishop of Madison

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Francis has named Bishop Donald J. Hying of Gary as the new bishop of Madison, Wisconsin.

The appointment was announced April 25 in Washington by Archbishop Christophe Pierre, the Vatican nuncio to the United States.

Bishop Hying, 55, is a native of Wisconsin. He was installed as the bishop of Gary Jan. 6, 2015. Before that, he had been an auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee since 2011.

In Madison, he succeeds the late Bishop Robert C. Morlino, the diocese's fourth bishop, who died unexpectedly Nov. 24, 2018. The 71-year-old bishop was undergoing planned medical tests when he suffered what doctors described as "a cardiac event" at St. Mary's Hospital in Madison and never recovered.

"I bring you news of great joy!" Msgr. James Bartylla, Madison's a diocesan administrator, told the faithful in a statement about their new bishop. He said he announced the news of the appointment "with honor and great pleasure."

He said the diocese was "deeply grateful" to Pope Francis for appointing Bishop Hying. "Please join us in prayer to Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for Bishop Hying and his episcopal ministry, as we look forward to his installation as the fifth bishop of Madison."

Bishop Hying will be installed June 25 at St. Maria Goretti Church in Madison. His motto is "Caritas Numquam Excidit — Love Never Fails" (1 Cor 13:8).



CNS photo/Catholic Herald

Pope Francis has named Bishop Donald J. Hying of Gary as the new bishop of Madison, Wis. Bishop Hying is pictured in a June 9, 2011, file photo.

"I am grateful and energized by this appointment made by Pope Francis to serve the Diocese of Madison and to minister to the people of God in south-central and southwestern Wisconsin," Bishop Hying said in a statement.

"My father was originally from this beautiful part of Wisconsin as part of a hardworking, farming family in Iowa and Grant counties," he continued. "Many of my relatives live here. I look forward to being part of this rich history of Catholic faith and continuing to sow the seeds of faith in this local church as we continue to reap the bountiful harvest of my predecessor, especially by deepening our common call to missionary discipleship

and to nurturing priestly vocations."

Donald Joseph Hying was born Aug. 18, 1963, in West Allis, Wisconsin, to Albert and Catherine Hying. The youngest of six sons, he attended Jesuit-run Marquette University in Milwaukee. He has a master's of divinity from St. Francis de Sales Seminary in suburban Milwaukee. He completed his class work in the doctor of ministry program at the University of St. Mary of the Lake-Mundelein Seminary in Illinois.

Ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee May 20, 1989, his first priestly assignment was as associate pastor for St. Anthony Parish in Menomonee Falls, 1989-94. Father Hying then served from three years as a team member for La Sagrada Familia Parroquia, Dominican Republic. He returned to the United States in 1998 for parish assignments.

After serving as pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish in Milwaukee from 1999 to 2005, he was named dean of formation at St. Francis de Sales Seminary. In 2007, then-Milwaukee Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan appointed him rector of the seminary; he served in the post until 2011.

On May 26, 2011, Pope Benedict XVI named then-Father Hying to be an auxiliary bishop for Milwaukee. His episcopal ordination was July 20 of that year. On Nov. 24, 2014, Pope Francis appointed Bishop Hying the bishop of Gary, where he succeeded the retiring Bishop Dale J. Melczek. Bishop Hying was installed at the Cathedral of the

Holy Angels in Gary Jan. 6, 2015.

In his statement on his appointment to Madison, Bishop Hying told the Catholics of the Gary diocese: "It has been a great joy to encounter many of you in my visits to our parishes and schools and to accompany you as we experienced the outpouring of Holy Spirit's presence during our diocesan synod process.

"I have already witnessed the first fruits of this historic event and pray that the Spirit will continue to strengthen the faith at all levels — individuals, families, parishes and the entire Diocese of Gary."

Bishop Hying said when he was first told of his new appointment, "I felt a particular regret knowing that I will no longer share in the continued renewal that is taking place and thinking about all the wonderful people I will miss."

"Yet," he added, "I surrender it all to Our Lord knowing that all the hard work, prayers and sacrifice will continue to be boldly carried on by the priests, religious and laity who make up this local church of northwest Indiana."

He assured them of his "heartfelt prayers" and asked for their prayers "as I begin anew in southwestern Wisconsin!"

The 11-county Diocese of Madison has a Catholic population of over 288,000 Catholics. It has 102 parishes and is served by almost 100 active priests. Its 44 grade schools, two high schools and one college — Dominican-run Edgewood College — educate over 7,200 students.

Marian students paint Divine Mercy image



Photos by Jennifer Kedik

Art students at Marian High School, Mishawaka, under the direction of teacher and Fine Arts Department Chairman Kitty Gunty, completed an 8-foot oil painting of the Divine Mercy the week of April 22. The painting was transported to St. Matthew Cathedral Parish in South Bend for a Divine Mercy Sunday blessing prior to being displayed at the school.

VITAE, from page 1

face of suffering and hardship, he writes, we are 'challenged to find meaning, and precisely in these circumstances... [to be] open to perceiving in the face of every person a call to encounter, dialogue, and solidarity.'

"The Women's Care Center has built a model of service rooted in John Paul the Great's vision of radical hospitality, welcoming women precisely in their moment of greatest vulnerability and deepest need. Theirs is a ministry of love, based not on the proposition of an argument but on an encounter with the unique and unrepeatable individual before them."

The Women's Care Center was founded 35 years ago on the edge of the Notre Dame campus by philosophy professor Dr. Janet Smith.

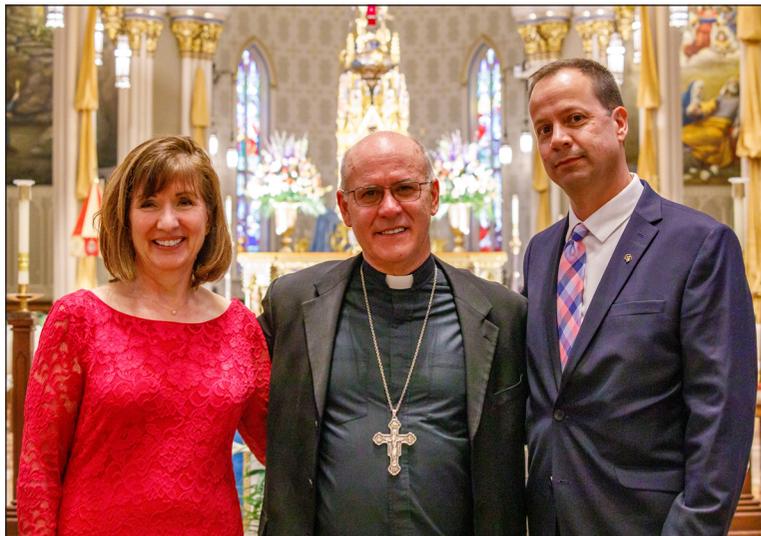
"I did sidewalk counseling outside of the South Bend abortion clinic and thought it would be wonderful if there were a nearby place where I could send women for assistance," Smith explained. As faculty advisor for the student right-to-life group, she connected local pro-life leaders "who were ready to help; and there was an exceptional set of leaders who were eager to take on the challenge."

"The Holy Spirit got us the first little blue house right next door to (a former) abortion clinic. We seemed to get just what we needed, just when we needed it — the house, furniture, counselors, funds, etc."

Women's Care Center offices continue to open next to abortion clinics and offer life-affirming choices. Bishop Rhoades described them, in his homily, as "oases of God's mercy in the desert of this culture of death. That's why it's a special priority of our centers to be located near abortion clinics. Women can go into an oasis of love, rather than into a place that violates the natural love of a mother for her child. Through their comprehensive care and their compassion for women and their unborn babies, those who serve the Gospel of Life in our Women's Care Centers witness to the love and mercy of Jesus and to His glorious wounds, the wounds that bring healing to troubled hearts."

Since 1984, Women's Care Center has become the largest network of pregnancy resource centers in the United States, with 32 centers in 11 states. Statistically, every other baby born in St. Joseph County is born to a mother who has visited a WCC location.

Over 400 women a day nationally are welcomed at a WCC. Offering free, confidential counseling and education to women facing unplanned pregnancies, the Women's Care Center supports families from conception through toddler years. It cares for both the mother and child, before and after birth, with services including free ultrasounds, helpful referrals and par-



Peter Ringenberg, courtesy of de Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades said Mass in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Notre Dame, prior to the Evangelium Vitae award banquet. Above, from left, are Ann Manion, president of Women's Care Center; Bishop Rhoades; and Bobby Williams, director of the Women's Care Center Foundation. At left, Manion delivers remarks during the banquet.

enting classes.

WCC volunteer President Ann Manion spoke of the center's history during remarks at the award banquet.

"The sole focus was on how to best love and serve the next woman who walks through our doors. And this hasn't changed. This means outstanding counselors, nurses, sonographers and parenting instructors. It is and has always been about the personal connection. This is why in every community with a Women's Care Center, abortions plummet. Ninety-two percent of the women we serve across the country choose life.

"Late last year, we surpassed 1 million visits to Women's Care Center," Manion noted. "That means 1 million times, a young woman has walked through our doors. One million times, she has been loved and served. The true lifesavers and heroes of this organization are and have always been the counselors."

"This award gives us the validation and the courage to continue to grow this mission on a national level," she said. "But it always starts with one. One woman a time. And one baby at a time."

New Women's Care Center locations will open in Bismarck, Devils Lake and Fargo, North Dakota, and Fort Pierce, Florida, later this year, as well as on Lincolnway West in South Bend, across the street from a potential new abortion clinic.

WCC Foundation Director Bobby Williams described the modern climate in which the organization operates.

"I think with the heightened political volatility we see that is rampant not only nationally but locally, there is an unfortunate tendency to try and drag the life issue into politics to fit an agenda. What really separates

the WCC is that we are apolitical and simply focus on what works, which is simply this time-tested, highly refined, unconditionally loving, nonjudgmental, professional model of care that ultimately serves the most women and saves the most babies from abortion. ... In 35 years we have never turned a family away, and we never will."

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades preached: "In 'Evangelium Vitae,' St. John Paul II wrote that 'the deepest element of this commandment to protect human life is the requirement to show reverence and love for every person and the life of every person.' This is the secret of the success of the Women's Care Center: the genuine reverence and love they show for every woman who enters their doors, and the real reverence and love they have for the babies these women carry in their wombs. The Women's Care Center reminds us that our 'No' to abortion must always be matched by a compassionate and caring 'Yes' to those who find themselves faced with a crisis pregnancy."

"The wounds of Jesus reveal His mercy and His love," the bishop continued. "They also reveal how precious human life is and how priceless the value of human life. Gazing on the wounds of Jesus, we learn to recognize and appreciate, in the words of St. John Paul, 'the almost divine dignity of every human being,' and we 'can exclaim with ever-renewed and grateful wonder the words from the Exsultet of the Easter Vigil': 'How precious must man be in the eyes of the Creator, if he gained so great a Redeemer.' Gazing at the wounds of Christ, we draw strength to promote life, and we draw hope from those wounds that in God's plan, life will be victorious."



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

- Sunday, May 5: 2 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Pius X Church, Granger
- Sunday, May 5: 5:30 p.m. — Vespers and Dinner, Henri de Lubac Jesuit Community, South Bend
- Monday, May 6: 5 p.m. — Mass with Blessing for Notre Dame Masters of Divinity Program, Moreau Seminary, University of Notre Dame
- Tuesday, May 7: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. John the Baptist Church, New Haven
- Wednesday, May 8: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Paul of the Cross Church, Columbia City
- Friday, May 10: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Sacred Heart Church, Warsaw
- Saturday, May 11: 10 a.m. — Confirmation Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, May 11: 5 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Anthony of Padua Church, Angola

Month of Mary



File photo

For at least 400 years, May has been a month of special devotion to Mary. Traditional crowning ceremonies to honor Our Lady will take place this weekend and next in parishes across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and at the University of Notre Dame.

Deacon Ranaghan retires from active ministry

BY JILL A. BOUGHTON

Deacon Kevin Ranaghan, one of the first permanent deacons in the modern history of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, delivered his last homily at St. Bavo Parish, Mishawaka, April 28. Because he has served there for 34 years, a few tears flowed as he expressed gratitude to God, his gifted and supportive wife Dorothy, the four bishops and five pastors under which he has served and “the people of God at St. Bavo’s.”

“This is such a warm, friendly, caring parish,” said Deacon Ranaghan. “It’s hard to say goodbye.”

The feeling is mutual. Longtime parish secretary Sue Alwine called him a “sweet man with a delightful personality, always a joy to work with. He’s part of the Bavo family, and we’ll really miss his presence.”

Gus Zuehlke, in charge of faith formation at St. Bavo, said, “I will miss Kevin Ranaghan a lot as our deacon. He has proven himself a marvelously committed servant of the Lord. He’s a superlative preacher who brings the Gospel to ordinary people’s lives with such grace and dignity. He and Dorothy together have done a great job of witnessing Christian family life to our parish. And I will miss his singing of the ‘Exultet’ on Holy Saturday.”

There’s a story to how Deacon Ranaghan wound up at St. Bavo. His first assignment as a deacon was to Sacred Heart Parish at the University of Notre Dame: Years of service to the national and international charismatic renewal in the Catholic Church followed. Then one day in the Bronx, New York, Deacon Ranaghan’s mother, Irene, learned that her neighbor’s nephew, Father Paul Bueter, who served in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, had recently returned from Panama and needed a hand in his new assignment at St. Bavo.

“My son’s a deacon, and he isn’t currently assigned to a parish,” she volunteered. That was in 1984.

Along with his wife, who is a teacher, theologian and author, the Ranaghans helped train three classes — about 15 permanent deacons — for the diocese at the Apostolic Institute in the early 1970s. Most have since died, retired or moved out of state, but Deacon Brian Miller is still at St. Anthony de Padua Parish, South Bend.

Bishop Leo A. Pursley ordained Deacon Ranaghan in 1973. He is grateful for Bishop Pursley’s wisdom and foresight in approving implementation of formation for the permanent diaconate in this diocese so soon after the reforms of Vatican II.

Deacon Ranaghan holds a Ph.D. in theology from the

University of Notre Dame. He loves to prepare and deliver homilies. About once a month during his tenure at St. Bavo, he would give all the weekend homilies, which was a great support to the busy pastors. Father Jim Shafer, who served at St. Bavo for 13 years, found it “extremely valuable. Having him preach once a month gave me and the people a break, and his homilies were always excellent.”

Father Barry England, the pastor at St. Bavo for 15 years, agreed. “He’s a faith-filled person who was very supportive of me and the parish. I certainly wish him God’s blessings in his well-deserved retirement.”

An appreciative Deacon Ranaghan joked, however,



A reception in honor of Deacon Kevin and Dorothy Ranaghan took place in the parish hall following the Mass.

during the homily on his last Sunday at the parish that, “The CD of ‘Kevin’s 50 Great Homily Hits’ will not be available after this Mass.”

In addition to gratitude, his Divine Mercy Sunday homily touched on the themes of faith, forgiveness and mercy. He urged parishioners to invest in their faith as a way of resisting “creeping doubt” and concluded by telling them, “I look forward to hearing the great things you are doing in and for the Kingdom of God.” Several priests and brother deacons assisted at the Sunday liturgy.

Deacon Ranaghan has been heavily involved in the liturgical life of the parish and also was responsible for preparing families seeking to have their young children baptized. Assisting at weddings and funerals has more often happened by personal request. He also has served on the diocesan Deacon Community Board, which plans social events and helps provide ongoing formation.

The role of a deacon is often misunderstood, Deacon Ranaghan said. He has been addressed as everything from “monsignor” to “Kevin” (Bishop



Photos by Jennifer Kedik

Deacon Kevin Ranaghan delivers the homily at Mass on Divine Mercy Sunday at St. Bavo Church, Mishawaka. He has given more than three decades of diaconal service to the parish and entered retirement this week.

Kevin C. Rhoades). Many Catholics also don’t realize that, unlike priests, deacons are not salaried, he said, except for a small stipend to cover continuing education and retreats.

The Ranaghans are in agreement that at age 79, it’s time for the deacon to step down from active ministry. “I know how much he loves this ministry,” said Dorothy, but she also is looking forward to sitting beside him in the pew, and they also look forward to the new opportunities for service God may send their way.

Although stepping out of regularly scheduled ministry, he has no plans to move. He always will be a deacon, he said, and sees himself “heading off into the deacon bullpen” when called upon. The Ranaghans feel assured that St. Bavo is in good hands with Pastor Father Peter Pacini, CSC.

“This community has been very blessed to have Deacon Kevin here. He’s an inspiration and a role model,” Father Pacini said.



More than a half-dozen priests and brother deacons assisted with Deacon Ranaghan’s final pre-retirement Mass April 28; pictured during the liturgy of the Eucharist are, from left, are Deacon Ranaghan; Father Barry England; pastor Father Peter Pacini, CSC; and Father Jim Bracke, CSC.

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Indiana Catholic Conference hails 'successful legislative session'

With major victories in the pro-life arena and other matters of human dignity, the Indiana Catholic Conference considers the recently concluded 2019 session of the General Assembly a positive one overall.

Throughout the course of the four-month session, the ICC closely tracked and promoted legislation concerning pro-life issues, religious liberty, payday lending industry practices and parental authority with respect to education choice. From the standpoint of the Catholic Church and many other advocates for the common good, favorable developments occurred in all of these areas.

"This was a successful legislative session for the people of Indiana," said Glenn Tebbe, executive director of the ICC, the public policy voice of the Catholic Church in Indiana. "The dignity of people was upheld, and the sanctity of life was promoted. These are always our guiding principles."

Two of the most significant achievements occurred late in the session with the passage of important pro-life bills. House Bill 1211 bans dismemberment abortion, an abortion method in the second trimester of pregnancy 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.

Gov. Eric Holcomb signed both bills into law on April 24, the final day of the legislative session. As expected, the American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana immediately challenged the dismemberment abortion law. But Mike Fichter, president and chief executive officer of Indiana Right to Life, maintains that the legislation is "on very solid constitutional ground."

Another life-affirming bill, House Bill 1547, unanimously passed both chambers of the General Assembly. Pregnant minors now will be able to consent for health care services at all stages of their pregnancy through delivery, provided that a reasonable attempt is made to contact their parents or legal guardians. Lawmakers were particularly focused on pregnant girls who have no parental support or involvement, but the ICC and other advocates worked to ensure that parents' rights were not circumvented.

"We are pleased that so many important pro-life issues were promoted and adopted, and that some negative things were stopped," Tebbe said.

With regard to the latter, a bill promoting assisted reproduction and gestational surrogacy (House Bill 1369) stalled in the Senate. In addition, companion bills promoting physician-assisted suicide failed to receive a hearing in either chamber of the General Assembly.

"The ICC's focus for each ses-

INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE



BY VICTORIA ARTHUR

sion always includes upholding the dignity of human life, protecting the well-being of the family, defending the integrity and religious liberty of the Church and all Hoosiers and protecting the vulnerable from exploitation," Tebbe said. "For the most part, these objectives were achieved during the 2019 legislative session."

This was a long session of the General Assembly, occurring every other year. Lawmakers concluded their business five days ahead of the April 29 deadline. Although many bills were left undetermined at the close of the session, the Assembly fulfilled its primary responsibility: drafting and approving Indiana's biennial budget.

The 2019-20 budget, House Bill 1001, passed mostly along party lines. The budget saw a significant increase for K-12 education, with many favorable provisions for non-public schools.

"School choice was protected," Tebbe said. "That is a very positive outcome for families in Indiana."

One significant change was the creation of a third tier of funding for the state's voucher program. This will provide

more opportunities for families caught in the middle of the two existing income eligibility levels to send their children to the school of their choice.

Lawmakers also approved an increase in the scholarship tax credit cap, which offers individuals and corporations an opportunity to raise more funds for private school scholarships. Another change was the addition of a second-semester window to allow families to apply for vouchers later in a school year.

Catholic and other nonpublic schools also were included in a school safety bill, House Bill 1004, which passed both legislative chambers. Among other provisions, the bill expands and adjusts safety funding for schools and requires every school statewide to conduct one active-shooter drill within the first 90 days of the school year.

"It is important to ensure the safety of all children no matter where they are and no matter what school they attend," Tebbe said.

Protecting the most vulnerable people from an economic standpoint also was a top priority of the ICC. A major victory was the recent defeat of Senate Bill 613, which would have dramatically expanded predatory lending in the state. However, Senate Bill 104, which would have placed severe limits on the payday loan industry, stalled earlier in the legislative session.

Another setback was the failure of Senate Bill 440, which would have modernized the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program in Indiana. The \$288 monthly payout for families in poverty to help them temporarily through hard times has not been updated since 1988. The TANF bill, which had support from the ICC and many other advocates, unanimously passed the Senate but did not get a hearing in the House Ways and Means committee.

"As with all legislative sessions, there are disappointments," Tebbe said. "Overall, we are very pleased with the outcomes this year. But there is always more to do."

For more detailed information regarding these bills and other priority legislation of the ICC, visit <http://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.

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Pope makes donation to help migrants traveling through Mexico

TAPACHULA, Mexico (CNS) — Pope Francis has donated \$500,000 to assist migrants attempting to travel through Mexico, but who are increasingly being impeded by Mexican officials from reaching the U.S. border. Those migrants who travel the length of Mexico are also being impeded in their attempts to apply for asylum in the United States and remain in precarious conditions south of the border. The donation “will be distributed among 27 projects in 16 dioceses and Mexican religious congregations that have asked for help to continue providing housing, food and basic necessities to these brothers and sisters,” the Vatican charity Peter’s Pence said in an April 27 statement. The Vatican already approved projects run by seven dioceses and three religious congregations: the Scalabrinians, the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary and the Hermanas Josefinas. The donation comes as the crush of migrants arriving at the U.S. border reaches levels not seen in more than a decade. Mexico’s Catholic Church has helped the migrants with little cooperation from the various levels of government. Priests who work on immigration matters say the federal government has yet to outline a policy or offer a proper response, while state and local governments prefer not spend money on migrants.

Church needs joyful disciples, pope tells young people, deaf association

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In back-to-back audiences with a group of French young people and an Italian association for deaf people, Pope Francis cited personal example and witness as a vital piece in the Church’s evangelization mission. Meeting with young people from the Diocese of Aire et Dax in southwestern France April 25, the pope encouraged them to remain united with Christ through the sacraments and the example of the saints so that they can spread the message that “God wants to give to the world through your lives. Yes, let yourselves be transformed and renewed by the Holy Spirit to bring Christ to every environment and give witness to the joy and youthfulness of the Gospel,” he said. The pope told the young men and women their pilgrimage to Rome was an opportunity to reflect on the lives of the martyrs who remained faithful to Christ until the end. The martyrs’ example, he added, is important now more than ever “because many people today think it is more difficult to call themselves Christians and live their faith in Christ.”

NEWS BRIEFS

Women religious find place of honor on Mother’s Day



CNS photo/Chaz Muth

Sister Constance Veit, a Little Sister of the Poor, collects rosaries from elderly residents following prayers at the Jeanne Jugan Residence for senior care in Washington March 25. Although Sister Constance is many years their junior, she is considered a spiritual mother by many of the residents, who said they will honor her on Mother’s Day. Pope Francis has called on women religious to “be mothers, as a figure of Mary ... and of mother Church. It is impossible to understand Mary without her motherhood; it is impossible to understand the Church apart from her motherhood, and you are icons of Mary and the Church,” he said.

Court says Philadelphia can end faith-based agency’s foster placements

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit ruled April 22 that the city of Philadelphia can bar Catholic Social Services of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia from placing children in foster care with any family because the Catholic agency upholds traditional marriage. “This ruling is devastating to the hundreds of foster children who have been waiting for a family and to the dozens of parents working with Catholic Social Services who have been waiting to foster a child,” said Lori Windham, senior counsel at Becket, which is representing CCS and several foster parents who have sued the city. “We’re disappointed that the court decided to let the city place politics above the needs of kids and the rights of parents, but we will continue this fight,” Windham said. In March 2018, Philadelphia’s Department of Human Services froze all new foster care place-

ments with the archdiocese’s Catholic Social Services. At issue is a long-standing practice of CSS not to perform evaluations of the homes of same-sex couples wishing to care for foster children and instead to refer the required process to one of seven other foster agencies contracted by the city’s Department of Human Services. On average, the Catholic agency was serving 127 foster children a day placed with more than 100 families in the city.

Court upholds rule that House open each day it is in session with prayer

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In a unanimous ruling April 19, a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit upheld the long-standing requirement of the House of Representatives that it open each day it is in session with a prayer. The decision from Judges David Tatel, Douglas Ginsburg and Harry Edwards also confirmed that the U.S. House chaplain, Jesuit Father Patrick Conroy,

can reject a secular invocation to open the sessions. “Since 1789, the House of Representatives has begun each legislative day with a prayer,” said the court’s opinion, which was filed by Tatel. Although a House-appointed chaplain has traditionally delivered the opening prayer, some time ago the House began allowing members to nominate other individuals to give a prayer as “guest chaplain.” As the opinion explained, this current case arose when a House member asked Father Conroy to invite Daniel Barker, a former Christian minister who is now an atheist, to be guest chaplain and deliver a secular invocation. Barker is co-president of the Freedom From Religion Foundation, a nonprofit that promotes nonbelief and “works to keep state and church separate.” The priest denied the request and Barker sued in 2016, claiming that he was being “unconstitutionally excluded” from the guest chaplain program because he is an atheist. Barker cited the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment — which says Congress “shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”

Vatican publishes updated schedule for pope’s visit to Romania

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Visiting Romania May 31-June 2, Pope Francis will stop at six destinations, including a popular Marian shrine in Transylvania. He also will beatify seven bishop-martyrs of the Eastern-rite Romanian Catholic Church, who died during a fierce anti-religious campaign waged under the communist regime. His visit to the predominately Orthodox country will be his 30th foreign trip after visiting Bulgaria and North Macedonia in early May. The trip will include visits to the Romanian Orthodox and Roman Catholic cathedrals, celebration of a Latin-rite Mass and an Eastern-rite Divine Liturgy, as well as separate meetings with political leaders, young people and families as well as members of the Roma community. He will visit the capital, Bucharest, the cities of Bacau, Iasi, Sibiu, Blaj and the Marian shrine in Sumuleu Ciuc, an important place of pilgrimage for Hungarian Catholics, especially on Pentecost, which is June 9.

Bishops urge Nigerian president to protect citizens, get schoolgirls freed

LAGOS, Nigeria (CNS) — Several Catholic bishops appealed to the Nigerian government to expedite actions that will lead to the release of Leah Sharibu and other girls held captive by Boko Haram insurgents. In their Easter messages, the bishops also urged the government to end the incessant and wanton killings of fellow citizens in the country; no one has the right to kill another person, they added. Bishop Hilary Okeke of Nnewi said there was a ray of hope regarding the fate of the abducted girls and that Nigeria’s bishops “are not relenting” in their efforts to recover them from their captivity. Leah, 15, was taken hostage with more than 100 girls in the town of Dapchi early last year, in the largest mass abduction since Boko Haram took 220 girls from the town of Chibok in 2014. When the others were freed a month later, she was the only one not released — reportedly because she refused to renounce her Christian faith. About 120 Chibok girls are still in captivity. The bishops’ conference has formally involved Pope Francis, and the Vatican might have reached out to President Muhammadu Buhari on the issue, Bishop Okeke said. Bishop Okeke said he thought the government was doing the best it could to stem the rising conflict in Nigeria and killings by ethnic Fulani herders. He said the killings started before Buhari’s election in 2015 and might continue beyond his presidency because the herders seem to appreciate their cows more than humans.

Annual retreat June 23-29 at Lindenwood

DONALDSON — Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center hosts its 2019 Conference Retreat June 23-29. Facilitated by William DeWitt, this year's retreat topic is "St. John of the Cross and Thomas Merton: Brothers in Christ."

Although separated by centuries, both followed parallel spiritual paths. St. John of the Cross (1542-91) and Merton (1915-68) were cloistered mystics, spiritual reformers and prolific writers. Both attuned to the Holy Spirit, they wrote some of the most memorable prose and poetry ever composed. DeWitt will explore their inspiring spiritual works in this retreat.

DeWitt served in the U.S. Navy before studying engineering at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. He is retired from the Purdue University faculty and lives with his wife, Nola, in West Lafayette. He has written several books including "The Essence of Christian Meditation" published by CrossBooks. He also has led meditation studies on Father Henri Nouwen, Dorothy Day, St. Teresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross.

Cost for the retreat is \$600 for single accommodations or \$460 for commuters. Check-in begins at 4 p.m. EDT on June 23. Register at Lindenwood.org by June 16. For more information, email lindenwood@poorhandmaids.org or call (574) 935-1780.

Located at 9601 Union Road, Plymouth, Indiana, Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center is a part of The Center at Donaldson, sponsored by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ.

Father Sigstein foundation accepting grant proposals

HUNTINGTON — From their founding in 1922 by Father John Joseph Sigstein, Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters have been dedicated to living the mission of Jesus. They proclaim the Word of God, foster justice, stand in solidarity with those living in poverty and oppression and promote the development of leaders. The John Joseph Sigstein Foundation was created to offer grants to organizations that will extend this approach to mission.

Victory Noll Sisters have served the people in mission centers across the United States. Through this foundation, they continue to have a presence in these areas. The foundation is established to promote and sustain the mission of God according to the charism of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters in solidarity with all persons, especially those living in poverty and oppression.

The grant process for 2019 is underway and applications are being accepted. Organizations applying for a grant must have 501(c)(3), or equivalent, status and be geared toward

AROUND THE DIOCESE

New St. Charles Borromeo cross installed



Joe Romie

A new cross was installed on the roof of St. Charles Borromeo Church, Fort Wayne, April 16 in front of the parish school's students and staff, who prayed, sang and cheered. The installation kicked off a spring project to renovate the church's roof, built in 1975 but which has developed leaks in recent years. The previous cross was stainless steel and was transferred from the first St. Charles church, built in 1958. It was removed and placed on the current church building in 1975. The new 1,800-pound, 12-foot cross is bigger and more substantial, and will be easily visible to those passing the church on Reed Road.

effecting systemic change. The deadline for applying for 2019 grants from the John Joseph Sigstein Foundation is July 1.

Characteristics on which programs' eligibility for funding will be judged include: promoting justice for those living in poverty and oppression; empowering persons to contribute to a more just

and peaceful society; protecting and sustaining the environment, God's creation; and contributing to the well-being of families.

The foundation is not intended to fund such things as scholarships, building projects, medical programs, well-funded existing organizations, foreign organizations and direct service programs.

Grant applications are available for download at www.olvm.org/jjsfoundation. For more information, check the website or contact the foundation by email at jjsfoundation@olvm.org, or by regular mail at John Joseph Sigstein Foundation, 1900 W. Park Drive, Huntington.

Day retreat with Bishop Donald Hying

DONALDSON — On July 6, Bishop Donald J. Hying of the Diocese of Madison, Wisconsin, and formerly of the Diocese of Gary, will lead a day retreat at Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center in Donaldson, focusing on ways to pray with Scripture.

The Catholic Church offers many beautiful ways to pray with Scripture. In this retreat, participants will explore several, including lectio divina and the Ignatian method of contemplation, or praying imaginatively. These methods will be practiced using scriptural references that focus on one's responses to Christ's call of discipleship.

The cost of the retreat is \$35 and includes lunch and refreshments. Bishop Hying will celebrate Mass in Ancilla Domini Chapel during the retreat. Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. EDT. The retreat time is 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Register at Lindenwood.org before June 29. For more information, email lindenwood@poorhandmaids.org or call 574-935-1780.

A native of West Allis, Wisconsin, Bishop Donald Hying was ordained in 1989 and served as auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee before becoming bishop of the Diocese of Gary in 2015. He was appointed by Pope Francis as the bishop of the Diocese of Madison on April 25. He's a graduate of Saint Francis de Sales Seminary in St. Francis, Wisconsin.

Students receive vocation society scholarships

FORT WAYNE — The Father Solanus Casey Vocation Society conducted its annual awards banquet in April. A Mass was celebrated at St. Joseph Hospital, and the yearly Christian Leadership Awards were presented during the luncheon.

Every year, two seniors, a boy and a girl, are selected by the staffs of Bishop Dwenger and Bishop Luers high schools for living the Christian faith. Each of the four students received one of the awards, which is a scholarship toward their college education.

At Bishop Luers, Lily Shafer and Thomas Bond received the awards. Shafer is going into nursing at Purdue Fort Wayne, and Bond plans to study criminal law at PFW.

At Bishop Dwenger, the awards went to Mary Simcox and Thomas Koehl. Simcox will study canon law at Franciscan University, and Koehl is going into civil engineering at PFW.

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Rev. Brogan Ryan
Rev. Karl Romkema Rev. Brian Kennedy

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to the priesthood
of Jesus Christ
Rev. Michael Thomas C.S.C.

"Señor, tú lo sabes todo;
sabes que te quiero."
Jesús le dijo:
"Apacienta mis ovejas."

Juan 21:17



¡Felicidades Padre Michael!

Students, faculty, and staff of Saint George's College
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as they are ordained to the priesthood.

“ Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you.
As the Father has sent me, even so I send you.' ”
John 20:21

FIVE ORDAINED HOLY C

NOTRE DAME - With abundant joy and thanksgiving, the United States Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross celebrated the ordination of five new priests on Saturday, April 27, at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, located on the campus of the University of Notre Dame.

The Most Reverend William A. Wack, CSC, Bishop of Pensacola-Tallahassee, conferred the sacrament of holy orders on Deacon Brian David Kennedy, CSC; Deacon Karl Michael Romkema Jr., CSC; Deacon Brogan Christopher Ryan, CSC; Deacon Michael Scott Thomas, CSC; and Deacon Bryan Alan Williams, CSC.

On Aug. 25, Deacons Kennedy, Romkema, Ryan and Williams professed perpetual vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and committed themselves to the common

life and apostolic work of the Congregation of Holy Cross. Deacon Thomas professed the same in Santiago, Chile, where he served at San Francisco de Sales Parish, on Sept. 15 — the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows, the special patron of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

Father William M. Lies, CSC, Provincial Superior of the United States Province of Priests and Brothers of the Congregation of Holy Cross, reflected prior to the ordinations: "As these men are ordained as Holy Cross priests, there is great rejoicing in the vision they bring, the courage they demonstrate, the hope and the fervor they share, and the great joy and peace they will make known wherever they serve."

Father Kennedy is the second of three children of David and Christine Kennedy of Pequot

Lakes, Minnesota. He entered formation with the congregation in 2008 as an Old Collegian and professed First Vows on Aug. 3, 2013. Prior to his ordination as a deacon, his assignments included religious education catechist at Holy Cross Parish, South Bend, during his postulant year; social action associate with the Center for Social Concerns, Notre Dame, during his first year professed; marriage preparation at St. Pius X Parish, Granger, during his second year of temporary vows; and RCIA at the Notre Dame Campus Ministry during his fifth year of temporary vows.

He earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy and theology from Notre Dame in 2012, and an M.Div. in 2018.

Father Kennedy's first Mass as a priest was celebrated at 10 a.m. April 28 at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

Father Romkema is the second of nine children of Mike and Karen Romkema of Clarkston, Michigan.

During his formation, his service included the Strong Fathers Program at the Women's Care Center, South Bend; RCIA, University of Notre Dame Campus Ministry; and assistant rector, O'Neill Family Hall, Notre Dame.

He graduated with a B.A. in philosophy and theology from Notre Dame in 2013, where he also earned his M.Div. in 2018. He entered Holy Cross in 2009 as an Old Collegian. He made his First Profession of Vows on Aug. 2, 2014.

Father Romkema celebrated his first Mass as a priest at 10:15 a.m. April 28 at Sacred Heart Chapel, Moreau Seminary, Notre Dame.

Father Ryan is the sixth of 11 children of Robert and Mary Ginn Ryan of Columbus, Ohio, and has a younger brother, Michael, who is a Holy Cross Novice.

Prior to his diaconate year, his service included RCIA team member at Christ the King Parish, South Bend; with the Tax Assistance Program at Notre Dame; at Catholic Worker, South Bend; assistant director, Old College Undergraduate Seminary, Notre Dame; and assistant rector, Keough Hall, Notre Dame.

He graduated with a B.B.A. in accounting and minor in theology from Notre Dame in 2008, an M.Ed. (ACE) from the university in 2010, and an M.Div. in 2018. He entered Holy Cross in August 2012 as a postulant and made his First Profession of Vows on Aug. 2, 2014.

Father Ryan celebrated his first Mass as a priest at 11:45 a.m. April 28 at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

Congratulations!
Blessings and best wishes

Rev. Michael Thomas C.S.C.

Rev. Paul, Rev. Ryan, Rev. Mr. José and the parish communities of St. Casimir Parish, South Bend and St. Adalbert Parish, South Bend

HOLY CROSS FAMILY MINISTRIES

Blessings to our former intern
Rev. Brogan Ryan
and all our ordination candidates!

"The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus."
- St. John Vianney -

CROSS PRIESTS

ORDAINED, from page 8

Father Thomas is the oldest of two children of Wayne and Karin Thomas of Lakeville. He served his diaconate at St. George's College, Santiago, Chile.

Prior to his diaconate year, the programs to which Thomas' talents were lent included St. Adalbert and St. Casimir parishes, South Bend.

He earned a bachelor's degree from Indiana University in 2012 and an M.Div. from the Notre Dame in 2018. He entered Holy Cross in August 2012 as a postulant and made his First Profession of Vows on Aug. 2, 2014.

Father Thomas celebrated his first Mass as a priest at 9:30 a.m. April 28 at St. Casimir Parish, South Bend, and his second at St. Adalbert Parish, South Bend, at 1 p.m. April 28.

Father Williams is the eldest of three children of Warren and Melanie Williams of Sugar Land, Texas. He served his diaconate at Stonehill College, North Easton, Massachusetts.

Prior to his diaconate year, Williams' service included St. Adalbert and St. Casimir par-

ishes; Center for the Homeless, South Bend; Multicultural Student Ministries, Campus Ministry, Notre Dame; Satellite Theological Education Program, Notre Dame; St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal, Canada; and assistant director, Old College, Notre Dame.

He earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy and theology from Notre Dame in 2013 and his M.Div. in 2018. He entered Holy Cross in August 2009 as an Old Collegian. He made his First Profession of Vows on Aug. 2, 2014.

Father Williams celebrated his first Mass as a priest at 8:30 a.m. April 28 at Sacred Heart Chapel, Moreau Seminary.

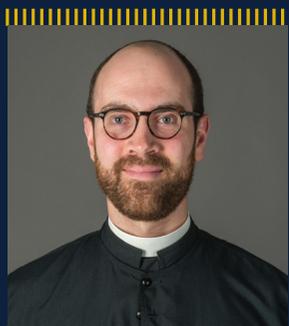
The United States Province of Priests and Brothers is a community made up of approximately 500 priests, brothers and seminarians and is headquartered in Notre Dame. The United States Province fulfills Blessed Moreau's vision in its education, parish and mission settings around the world. To learn more about Holy Cross or discerning a call to religious life, visit www.holycrossusa.org.



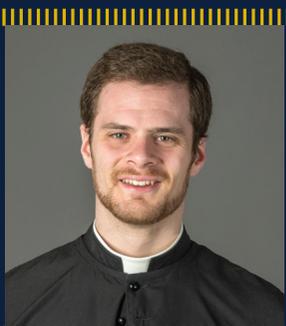
Matt Cashore/Congregation of Holy Cross

The sacrament of holy orders was conferred on five members of the Congregation of Holy Cross by Bishop William A. Wack, CSC, Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee, at a Mass Saturday, April 27, at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. From left are Father Michael Thomas, CSC; Father Brogan Ryan, CSC; Father Brian Kennedy, CSC; Bishop Wack; Father Karl Romkema, CSC; and Father Bryan Williams, CSC.

Congratulations



*Rev. Brian Kennedy,
C.S.C.*



*Rev. Karl Romkema,
C.S.C.*



*Rev. Brogan Ryan,
C.S.C.*



*Rev. Michael Thomas,
C.S.C.*



*Rev. Bryan Williams,
C.S.C.*

ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD.

May Mary, Our Lady of Sorrows, patroness of the Congregation of Holy Cross, keep you close and help you continue to grow in faith, hope, and love.

Sincerely,

The University of Notre Dame

Her students, faculty, staff, trustees, and the Holy Cross community at Notre Dame



Prayers joined after Easter attacks in Sri Lanka

BY WILLIAM GETTINGER

At 9:51 a.m. Indian Standard Time on April 21, simultaneous explosions were reported at three churches and two hotels in the island nation of Sri Lanka. Within an hour, a total of eight explosions had rocked the nation on Easter morning. The death toll continued to rise throughout the coming days, from 10 immediately being reported dead to now, with approximately 253 dead, according to Catholic News Service, and many more wounded. What was supposed to be a joyous time for Catholics was instead filled with fear and mourning. Curfews were enacted, leaves were canceled for police and military personnel, and Easter Mass was canceled in the capital district of Colombo.

In the wake of the attacks, Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith, archbishop of Colombo, canceled all April 28 Masses, saying "We don't want repetitions."

Sri Lanka is slightly smaller than Indiana in land mass, but has more than three times the population. Catholics are a minority on the island, making up 6 percent of the population.

At 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on the day of the attacks, John Pratt, director of Youth Ministry for the diocese, was praying evening prayer with St. Pius X Parish, Granger, when he noticed a group off to the side.

"I wanted to be sure they were welcomed. I didn't quite know who they were, and I also hadn't heard the news about the attacks in Sri Lanka," he said.

Members of the Islamic Society of Michiana, including Imam Mohammad Sirajuddin, had come to offer their condolences and prayers, and to present a statement.

"Today's savage series of attacks on Christian worshippers celebrating Easter Sunday and



Young people light candles near the closed door of a church in Colombo, Sri Lanka, April 28, during a vigil in memory of the victims of a string of suicide bomb attacks across the island on Easter.

hotels in Sri Lanka that reportedly left more than 200 dead and 450 injured are outrageous and despicable," the statement read. "Michiana Muslims, along with American Muslims, stand with our fellow citizens of all faiths in condemning such acts of violence wherever they take place and whomever they target. May God heal those injured, comfort the loved ones of those killed, and bring those responsible for this crime to justice. Today, we join people around the world in saying, 'Pray for Sri Lanka.'"

Pratt said it was refreshing to hear members of an Islamic organization condemn such attacks, "and to have them do it even before I had heard of them was very proactive on their part."

Having world events provoke local reconciliation was something that he hadn't often seen, he said. "That was particularly powerful ... to see their efforts to bring about peace and unity within our community was

touching."

For him, this was a moment of clarity, showing how, by the grace of God, people of different faiths can come together in unity. "Reconciliation and unity are not easy," Pratt added. "The world often tells us it's impossible and not worth fighting for, but with God's grace it is possible, and it can completely transform our communities and societies."

What can Catholics do in the wake of attacks on their faith taking place across the globe?

"Being able to learn from those who the world tells you are

'other'" is key, commented Pratt. Msgr. William Schooler of St. Pius X added: "Like Christians in Sri Lanka, Muslims are a minority in our country. I also know that many of our Muslim brothers and sisters have become very worried since the attacks on the Mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand. In celebrating the central mysteries of our faith, we become more aware that there is no room for prejudice and hatred of any kind."

Jesus teaches us to turn the other cheek. Instead of responding with hatred, Pratt said that "forgiveness and kindness are

universal languages that speak to everyone, and so moving forward, when talking to those of other creeds and faith ... I'll have a starting-off point that many people don't have, like a concrete act of kindness going above and beyond what is the norm ... building unity between those who might have different beliefs."

Pope Francis offered his prayers during his Easter "urbi et orbi" address, saying: "I entrust to the Lord all those who have tragically perished, and I pray for the injured and all those who suffer as a result of this tragic event."

Several Sri Lankan natives currently bless the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend with their priestly service. Among them, Father Tyrell Alles, St. Peter Parish, and Father Polycarp Fernando, St. Vincent de Paul Parish, both in Fort Wayne, prayed for their country and the victims of the bombings with their parishioners the weekend of April 27-28.

"This Divine Mercy Sunday, we are praying especially for those Catholics who are affected by that may live by that peace," Father Fernando, said noting the cancellation of all Masses except one televised Mass celebrated by Cardinal Ranjith on Sunday. He asked for the prayers of parishioners, "that peace might reign" in the terrorized nation, "the peace that comes from God, so that we may live in harmony and in peace, according to the designs of God."

LITTLE FLOWER HOLY HOUR

May 7,
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Survivor: No more turning away

BY GINA CHRISTIAN

Listening to some songs is a kind of time travel — a few notes, and you're instantly back years, not just remembering but reliving a moment from your past.

Recently (and at the risk of showing my age) I found myself whisked to the late 1980s, when fashion, music and hair were all quite loud. I'd happened to hear the first few bars of "On the Turning Away," a thundering ballad by Pink Floyd. Suddenly I was in my college dorm room, strumming the chords on my guitar when I should have been studying.

Although I was never a die-hard Floyd fan (as a Jersey girl, I favored Springsteen), that one song always could — and still does — move me to tears. The lyrics implore the listener not to dismiss the agony of those who suffer, the heartache of "the pale and downtrodden ... the weak and the weary."

Toward the end of the song, vocalist and lead guitarist David Gilmour resolves that there will be "no more turning away from the coldness inside." The apathy that he rails against ultimately has its source in the icy soul that cannot admit its own lack of love.

As I heard those lyrics again with a heart now 30 years older, I realized just how relevant they remain. The road from that dorm room to where I stand today has been a hard one.

That's because I've spent the



CNS photo/Brendan Reichwein

Sexual abuse survivor Gina Christian, pictured in a July 16, 2018, photo reflects on several reasons why people fail to report suspected molestation and harassment. Christian is the senior content producer at CatholicPhilly.com, the news outlet of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

better part of those intervening decades coming to terms with the sexual molestation I experienced as a child.

And as the Catholic Church reels from still more clerical abuse scandals — as headlines and hearts break, as cyberspace surges with outrage, as bewildered believers struggle to hold fast to their faith, while others simply drift away — we need to take our core temperature.

Like all evil, sexual abuse thrives in darkness and secrecy. Most of the heinous acts committed against victims, children and adults alike, are unwit-

nessed — but not entirely secret.

High-profile cases like those of Jerry Sandusky, Harvey Weinstein and Archbishop Theodore E. McCarrick have triggered choruses of stifled acknowledgments — years of whispered comments, averted glances, uncomfortable silences, nervous jokes, quick changes in the conversation topic.

How often we seek any distraction to avoid the horror at hand: that a colleague, a cleric, a mentor, a spouse, a friend, a man or a woman we know and even love could misuse a child or adult sexually.

For over 15 years, I was abused by a family member. My relatives knew something was wrong, as did my teachers. I remember the day Sister Sandra, my grade school principal, pulled me aside after I'd fainted yet again during the nurse's lesson on "the facts of life." The mere mention of human sexuality made me violently ill; it was one of many symptoms I manifested, along with depression and self-mutilation.

In that long-ago hallway, Sister had looked at me thoughtfully for a moment. Then she told me to get a drink of water and sent me to the library to read a book until the class was finished.

And that was all.

Yet I now know that in many ways she felt she had no other choice. Since the 19th century, the issue of sexual abuse has received only intermittent attention in the United States, said

historian Steven Mintz of the University of Texas. Despite various reform efforts, our awareness of the perennial problem "waxes and wanes," Mintz observed — and today, far too many of us still fail to intervene. Why?

According to 1in6, a nonprofit that assists male survivors of sexual abuse, there are a number of reasons that keep adults from protecting children who are being molested.

Sometimes intervention is seen as too risky; those who suspect abusers may lose relationships, jobs or financial security if they speak out. Sometimes bystanders are plagued by self-doubt; they wonder if they're misreading the signs of abuse, or if they're simply being paranoid.

Many times, and despite thousands of examples to the contrary, adults fail to act because they have misconceptions about abusers — that they're easily recognized as evil and antisocial, when instead so many seem to be good individuals with families, jobs and "normal" lives.

And sometimes the issue of abuse triggers overwhelming feelings of fear, anger and

shame in those who are on the outside looking in, paralyzing them and preventing them from taking action.

Children, along with many adults, rarely use direct language to tell about the abuse they're experiencing. Ellen Bass and Laura Davis — who sparked renewed attention to the problem of sexual abuse with their 1988 book "The Courage to Heal" — stress that we need to listen and watch for more subtle cues, such as vague references, acting out, mood swings and regression.

The worst evil thrives not in a fiery but a in frozen heart, one that can neither feel another's pain nor act to assuage it. If our Church was born in the flames of Pentecost, then may that same Spirit rage within us now — because we can no longer endure hearts of frost, and we can no longer afford to turn away.

Gina Christian is the senior content producer at CatholicPhilly.com, the news outlet of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

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Whitewashing Planned Parenthood

The pro-life film “Unplanned” has exceeded expectations, recouping its \$6 million filming budget on its first weekend in theaters. At this writing, it has taken in over \$17 million — despite the fact that many television stations and social media sites refused to accept advertising for it.

It depicts the true story of Abby Johnson, a Planned Parenthood clinic director in Texas who left her job and converted to a pro-life position. That conversion was remarkable by any standard, as she had undergone two abortions herself and was once “employee of the year” at her Planned Parenthood affiliate in Texas.

The movie recounts how she was changed by some truths about abortion — and by the realization that the pro-life protesters at her clinic cared more about women than her employer did.

The story is emotional and at times difficult to watch. It received an R rating for violence, a backhanded tribute to the violence involved in abortion.

Perhaps even more remarkable than the movie are the hysterical attacks on it from some film critics.

Nick Schager of *The Daily Beast* calls it “a leaden, self-righteous and wholly rancid affair.” Owen Gleiberman of *Variety* says this “absolutist and extreme” film begins as “a pro-life alarmist horror movie.”

In the online version of *New York Magazine*, Caitlin Moscatello

even calls “Unplanned” “a movie that could get someone killed” by inciting crazed pro-lifers to murder.

(The film’s only reference to such horrors is that, when Abby and her husband hear of abortion doctor George Tiller being murdered, they fear for her own life. The film portrays most abortion clinic workers as personable and caring, if misguided — it aims at a change of heart, not violence.)

Such reactions are so overwrought that they recall the old military pilot’s phrase: When you’re getting flak, you must be over the target.

These reviewers also say the film is grossly inaccurate about Planned Parenthood. Let me comment on this.

Is Schager right to sneer at the claim that Planned Parenthood is “a billion-dollar corporation”? Its own annual report shows it taking in almost \$1.7 billion in the year ending in June 2018, netting almost \$245 million over expenses.

Is abortion marginal to Planned Parenthood’s agenda?

Moscatello, for example, says abortion is only 4 percent of its services. But the annual report shows that 97 percent of the organization’s pregnancy services are abortions.

Cecile Richards, when she was CEO of Planned Parenthood, called it “obscene and insulting” to suggest that her organization might get out of the abortion business to maintain and increase its federal funding; her



A MORE HUMAN SOCIETY

RICHARD DOERFLINGER

successor, Leana Wen, has said that “providing, protecting and expanding access to abortion” is part of Planned Parenthood’s “core mission.”

Since 2013, Planned Parenthood has required all affiliates to have at least one clinic performing abortions on-site. It lost a few affiliates in the process.

Does Planned Parenthood rely on abortion for its financial bottom line? From 2004 to 2017, its other services — Pap tests, breast exams, cancer screenings, even contraceptive services — markedly decreased. Even total number of clients decreased from 3 million to 2.4 million. Two things increased: Abortions performed (now over a third of all abortions in the U.S.) and revenues.

Finally, is Planned Parenthood ruthless when former allies decide to part ways?

In 2011, when the Susan G. Komen breast cancer foundation decided that its relatively small donations to the organization for breast exams could be more effectively spent elsewhere,

DOERFLINGER, page 13

All the news that’s fit to print

“Wife Returned After Having Fine Funeral.”

The headline of a 483-word story in the March 15, 1904, edition of *The New York Times* bore a sly nod to Tom Sawyer. A man named Ignacio Valente was charging the city with a funeral bill he had been wrongfully issued, according to the Times.

It had all started in the kitchen: “Valente is an Italian, and about six weeks ago he quarreled with his wife, Angelico, over the way she cooked macaroni. As a result of the quarrel the wife left Valente’s home, declaring she would rather die than return.”

Indeed, she did not return, and Valente eventually reported her missing to the police, who said the body of a woman matching her description was at the morgue.

Valente identified the clothing of the dead woman, but not the body.

The story goes on: “This woman was better looking than my wife,’ Valente says he declared. ‘Death beautifies them all,’ the Morgue man is said to have replied.”

Eventually Valente was persuaded, and he went on to have the body dressed in his wife’s wedding dress, a request she had once expressed. He attended her funeral and footed the bills.

Notice of the event was published in Italian papers,



TWENTY SOMETHING

CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

which came to the attention of “the real Mrs. Valente,” who hurried home. Her husband arrived later and found her “rummaging about for her wedding dress.”

The story proceeds: “‘Why, I buried you in it three days ago,’ Valente, in his surprise, replied. Real trouble followed this, and, when Valente had satisfied himself it was his real wife who stood before him, and that he had buried the wrong woman, he could only restore peace by promising his wife another wedding dress just like the one in which the strange woman had been buried.”

According to the Times, Valente was now demanding that the city pay for the funeral expenses, as well as \$110 for a new wedding dress and \$40 for wages lost through grief and because of illness that followed the shock of finding his wife alive”

The reader is left to imagine what that illness entailed and which way the scale was now tilted for Valente among his

CAPECCHI, page 13

Jesus asks His disciples to continue His work



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

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Third Sunday Of Easter John 21:1-19

Again this weekend, the Church presents as its first reading for liturgy in Eastertide a passage from the Acts of the Apostles.

The mere construction of Acts is a lesson. Actually, it is a continuation of St. Luke’s Gospel. Its underlying lesson is that the salvation achieved by the Lord Jesus did not end with the Ascension. Neither did the presence of Jesus in the world end with the Ascension. The risen Lord, ascended into heaven before the very eyes of the Apostles, absent the dead Judas, lives and acts through the Christian community, a

community of visible structure and with specific functions.

This reading reports a conflict between the Sanhedrin, led by the high priest, and the Apostles. The Sanhedrin was the official ruling council of Judaism at the time of Jesus. Its agenda was primarily religious, but its authority touched virtually every aspect of life. Again, and important to note, Peter is the spokesman for all the Apostles. He was their leader.

Ordered to cease preaching about Jesus, the Apostles boldly reaffirmed their intention to not stop. No earthly power could deter them in fulfilling their commission from the Lord. Again speaking for the group, Peter offered a capsulized story of the life and mission of Christ.

The Book of Revelation is the source of the second reading. Probably no other book of the New Testament, and few in the Old Testament, perennially leaves readers in wonder as does Revelation.

Revelation is not the more ancient, nor literarily precise, term for the book. The older

and better term is Apocalypse; however, most English-speaking biblical scholars have adopted the better-known name of Revelation.

Revelation is clear. Again and again, it refers to Jesus as the sinless lamb of God, which is the title used by John the Baptist for the Lord. It insists that Christians stand with one foot on earth and the other in heaven, for they stand in and with Christ, the Son of God and also the son of Mary, a woman.

St. John’s Gospel supplies the last reading. It is a Resurrection narrative, wondrous and consoling. Jesus, risen from death, appears to the Apostles as they are fishing on the Sea of Galilee without luck. At dawn, recalling the time of the Resurrection, Jesus comes into their midst. He tells them exactly where to cast their nets. They obey, and a huge catch comes. The Beloved Disciple recognizes Jesus, but Peter is central to the story. He rushes to Jesus.

Then, at a meal, Jesus asks Peter if Peter really loves Him. It is a question put to Peter three

times, with three affirmative responses. In ancient Jewish symbolism, three represented what was complete, final and absolute. After each answer, Jesus commissions to Peter to love the Good Shepherd’s flock. His commission is exact, final and unqualified. It sent Peter to continue the Lord’s work.

Reflection

It would be difficult indeed to find three other readings from the New Testament that individually are as beautiful and expressive in teaching the marvelous lesson of how salvation unfolds.

Setting the stage is the reading from Revelation. Disciples live with one foot on earth, but the other in heaven. Nowhere else is this reality better seen than in the Eucharist.

The combination of Acts with Luke’s Gospel reminds us that the salvation accomplished by Christ still lives. So it was with the early Christians around the Apostles. It is with us still, and with the Apostle’s successors, in

the Church. The trial before the Sanhedrin recalls Peter’s fervor beside the sea, when Peter saw Jesus risen from the dead and professed his love for Jesus.

After the betrayal, healed by Christ’s divine forgiveness, Peter was worthy of his calling. We can follow him. We, too, can be healed. No matter our past, we can be saved.

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41 Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13 Rv 5:11-14 Jn 21:1-19

Monday: Acts 6:8-15 Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: Acts 7:51—8:1a Ps 31:3cd-4, 6ab, 7b, 8a, 17, 21ab Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8 Ps 66:1-3a, 4-7a Jn 6:35-40

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40 Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 Jn 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20 Ps 117:1b-2 Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: Acts 9:31-42 Ps 116:12-17 Jn 6:60-69

Nobody gets hurt?

A few years back, I gave a talk titled “Thinking Through the Transgender Question” at a local parish. In the audience were several individuals supporting the transgender movement. During the question-and-answer session, one of them, a young woman, raised this difficulty: “If someone wants to transition, how does that hurt anybody else? If my friend wants to be transgender, how would that harm any of us?”

Behind this line of argument, first, is the widely held notion that each of us is an isolated unit and our private choices don’t affect others. Yet the old adage that no man is an island rings perennially true. Grave harms to others, in fact, follow in the wake of the radical personal decision to “switch genders.”

I recently spent some time with a husband and wife who had a son struggling with depression and schizophrenia and who was convinced he was a woman. They shared with me how their son no longer spoke to any of his siblings or relatives, shutting everyone out of his life. He moved away to link up with the transgender community at his college for support, and his parents summed up his new way of thinking as the detonation of a bomb that had ravaged the whole family.

That kind of devastation has been thoroughly catalogued by those who have gone all the way through the process of transitioning, and years or decades later come to regret it.

Walt Heyer is one such individual who turned to hormones and surgeries to try to take on the appearance of a woman. Many years later, he “detransitioned,” and started writing and speaking about his experiences. He has summarized the painful effects of his choices on those around him in several of his essays.

“Being transgender required destroying the identity of Walt so my female persona, Laura, would feel unshackled from Walt’s past, with all of its hurt, shame, and abuse,” he wrote. “It’s a marvelous distraction for

a while, but it isn’t a permanent solution when the underlying issues remain unaddressed. Gender change is at its heart a self-destructive act. Transgenders not only annihilate their birth identity, they destroy everyone and everything in their wake: family, wife, children, brothers or sisters, and career.”

Walt had been married for many years, but after transitioning, he and his wife divorced. Communication with his children ceased. He was fired from his well-paying job as an engineer, and became practically destitute. Virtually all the significant relationships in his life were damaged, some irretrievably.

In his essay, Walt follows the trail of breadcrumbs in his own life to its logical conclusion.

“It occurred to me after much self-reflection that asking a surgeon to modify my appearance through a series of cosmetic procedures was simply a socially acceptable means of self-mutilation and self-destruction,” he stated. “Taken to the extreme, self-destruction leads to suicide.”

Follow-up studies of those who undergo sex-change operations have shown that they experienced highly elevated suicide rates, even many years post-surgery, revealing yet another of the grave harms associated with transitioning that brings untold heartache to family and friends, relatives and acquaintances.

Beyond wreaking havoc in the life of patients and those around them, other damaging societal consequences arise in the wake of transitioning.

In a recent article in *Public Discourse*, Dr. Monique Robles, a pediatric critical care specialist, stresses how schools and institutions of higher learning are now “enforcing the use of preferred gender pronouns and opening bathrooms and sports teams to students of the opposite biological sex. Educators who refuse to comply are losing their jobs. Parents who do not agree with the trans-affirmative approach for their gender dysphoric children are faced with legal consequences. In the sports arena, biological males identifying as transgender are competing in



MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

women’s events with an unfair biological advantage. Biological females who claim to be male are allowed the unfair advantage of competing while taking testosterone, which is considered ‘doping’ in any other circumstance.”

Coming to the conclusion that “no one gets hurt” whenever someone transitions is simply naïve, contradicted by the facts on the ground and by the tortuous lives of those pursuing this misguided “solution” to their gender confusion. They, along with their families and broader society, clearly deserve better.

Instead of propping up a fictitious and harmful understanding of human masculinity and femininity, we owe it to those struggling with gender dysphoria to address compassionately their underlying mental health concerns. Through evidence-based therapies, including appropriate psychiatric and interpersonal outreach and counseling, we hope to bring healing, preserve family unity, and help sustain important, lifelong friendships.

That’s what those struggling with their gender dysphoria deserve and all those who love them desire.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

objective reporting.

The most newsworthy stories are those we can’t stop thinking about and discussing over cubicles, fences and treadmills: the discovery of Jayme Closs, the Notre Dame Cathedral fire.

And yet, there is another definition for Christians: the good news.

Easter once felt like news. The shock of the empty tomb. The sought-after account of the first witness. The soaring and inexplicable triumph of it all.

For those who believe, it was — and remains — the biggest news of all time.

To truly be Easter people, as we are called, means to not only

CAPECCHI, from page 12

mixed emotions, recovering from the “real trouble” that ensued with the macaroni maker.

For all its humor, the story also has a bygone feel, harkening back to an era when the Times felt like a small-town paper to New Yorkers. In 1904, Ignacio and Angelico’s plight had landed among “all the news that’s fit to print.”

The debate over what qualifies as “news that’s fit to print” has picked up fervor in our Misinformation Age, when we tap through fake news, funny news and failing news with a single slide of the thumb; editorials, advertorials and

be people of hope but people of words, with a story burning in our hearts. We’d noodle it again and again, like any newsworthy story: What it means to me, what you make of it, what we do and don’t know so far, how it’s affecting us.

We’d ask with wide eyes: Have you heard the good news?

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for May 5, 2019

John 21:1-19

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Third Sunday of Easter, Cycle C: a morning story about fishing and breakfast. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

PETER	THOMAS	DIDYMUS
CANA	GALILEE	FISHING
NIGHT	NOTHING	THE NET
RIGHT	CAST IT	JESUS LOVED
DRAGGING	CHARCOAL	BREAD
BRING	CAUGHT	ONE HUNDRED
FIFTY-THREE	LAMBS	SHEEP

MORNING CATCH

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B H J T H E N E T P D E
R C A S T I T W K E I V
I L Y R H D C L R E D O
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E O U E D H N M B G B T
E E R H T Y T F I F X S
    
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DOERFLINGER, from page 12

Planned Parenthood unleashed a vindictive public relations campaign that brought the organization to its knees. The book about this by former Komen senior vice president Karen Handel is titled “Planned Bullyhood.”

I hope “Unplanned” changes some hearts and minds on the

subject of abortion — and encourages greater scrutiny of the nation’s largest abortion provider.

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

Saint of the Week

Hilary of Arles

circa 400 - 449

This French aristocrat, a pagan holding high office in a local government, was converted to Catholicism by his relative, St. Honoratus, and became a monk at Lerins. An austere and strict monastic, Hilary succeeded Honoratus as bishop of Arles when he was just 29. As bishop, he preached notably, donated his earnings from manual labor to the poor, ransomed captives by selling sacred vessels, and built and visited monasteries in his diocese. But he got into trouble by claiming metropolitan jurisdiction over other bishops and tried to depose one who appealed to the pope. As pope, St. Leo the Great restricted Hilary’s authority, but later recalled him “of blessed memory,” perhaps signaling a reconciliation before Hilary’s death.



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Busse to speak at USF commencement; Carpenter will receive honor

FORT WAYNE – Steel Dynamics Inc. co-founder Keith Busse will address graduates as the featured speaker at the University of Saint Francis commencement ceremony at 2 p.m. May 4 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum.



DOTTIE CARPENTER

As part of the ceremony, longtime local volunteer Dottie Carpenter will be presented with an honorary degree. Carpenter founded the Ave Maria House, a day respite for the homeless, and continues to serve as director. Busse, chairman of the board of Steel Dynamics, graduated from then-St. Francis College in 1973 with a B.A. degree in business

finance. In 1998, USF honored Busse by awarding him with a Doctor of Humane Letters and in 2004, the university named the Keith Busse School of Business and Entrepreneurial Leadership in his honor.

Busse was Steel Dynamics president from 1993 to 2007, when he became chairman and chief executive officer. In 2005, he was named Steelmaker of the Year by the Association of Iron and Steel Technology and one of the Top 10 entrepreneurs in the United States by *Bloomberg Businessweek* magazine. He retired as CEO in 2011.

Carpenter assisted Father Tom O'Connor, the founder of St. Mary's Soup Kitchen, in the early days of the ministry. She was involved in many other ministries over the years. She

founded a clothing and household bank at St. Mary and St. Patrick Catholic churches and spent many years raising money as a participant in the St. Jude's Children's Hospital Bike-A-Thon. For more than 20 years, Carpenter taught religious education, led Girl Scouts and contributed countless hours to her children's school activities.

Currently, at St. Mary, Mother of God Church, Carpenter serves the St. Martin de Porres Society, which provides Christmas gifts and Easter parties for more than 250 children. She also serves on the hospitality committee and the Women of Spirit prayer group. Carpenter serves during Mass as a lector and an extraordinary minister of holy Communion.

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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.

Organ recital with JJ Mitchell
ELKHART — JJ Mitchell, a candidate for a Master of Sacred Music degree from the University of Notre Dame, will offer an organ recital Sunday, May 5, from 6-7 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, 1108 S. Main St. Cost is free — donations accepted. Contact Brad Todorovich at 574-904-0867.

St. Pius X to host grief series
GRANGER — St. Pius X Parish will offer a grief series Thursday, May 9, from 7-8:30 p.m. at the St. Pius X Church, Parish Life Center, 52553 Fir Rd. Cost is free. In this second event in the series, four people will share their experiences of hope in these losses. Toni Medaglia will speak about losing her husband. Rebecca and Michael Rubbelke will speak about losing their mothers. Deacon Jim Tighe will speak about losing children. Light refreshments will be served following the presentations. Contact Michael Rubbelke at 574-272-8462 or mrubbelke@stpius.net.

Carnation sale sponsored by Huntington County Right to Life
HUNTINGTON — Huntington County Right to Life will hold its 41st annual Mother's Day Carnation Sale, May 10, 11 and 12. Long-stemmed carnations, corsages and vases will be sold Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the office, 34 E. Washington St. Carnations will also be sold at Saturday and Sunday Masses at St. Joseph, St. Mary and SS. Peter and Paul churches. Prices are \$1 each for long-stemmed carnations, \$3 and up for corsages, and vases start at \$4. All proceeds will benefit pro-life efforts in Huntington county. Contact Deanna Mills at 260-356-5933.

DisAbilities expo to share resources
FORT WAYNE — The Ministry for Persons with Disabilities will participate in the disAbilities expo sponsored by Anthony Wayne Services Foundation Saturday, May 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The expo is a resource for individuals with intellec-

tual, developmental and physical disabilities, their families, caregivers and professionals to find services, equipment and information in one convenient location. Admission is free and parking is \$6 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Ave. Website: <https://disabilitiesexpoindiana.org/> Contact Allison Sturm at 260-399-1452 asturm@diocesefwsb.org.

Homeschool tea party
FORT WAYNE — Homeschool parent-teachers and their children may attend a Tea Time Out, Friday, May 24, from 10 a.m. to noon in the Msgr. John Kuzmich Life Center, 1502 E Wallen Rd.

REST IN PEACE

Bremen Richard Monhaut, 89, St. Dominic	Richard Mulpagano, 81, St. Vincent de Paul	Connie Hunt, 84, Christ the King
Elkhart Eric G. Schmidt, 42, St. Vincent de Paul	Marshall Didier, 97, Most Precious Blood	Bonnie Kay Strycker, 71, Sacred Heart of Jesus
John A. Zemlicka, 91, St. Vincent de Paul	Granger Roger Gurthet, 89, St. Pius X	Germaine A. Meert, 81, Holy Family
Michael J. Ivagnilio, 90, St. Vincent de Paul	Mishawaka John Derksen, Jr., 84, St. Bavo	Stanley H. Borlik, 92, Holy Family
Fort Wayne Jennifer Dillon, 47, St. Jude	South Bend Leo Despres, 87, St. Therese, Little Flower	Michael D. Sulentic, 40, Holy Family
Joseph Fenker, 87, St. Jude	William Farmer, 87, St. Therese, Little Flower	Warsaw Anton J. Schwartz, 90, Sacred Heart

Hostess will provide a variety of tea bag selections, paper products and some games to play. If you are able to attend, please bring some kind of tea and a treat or snack to share. RSVP to Lisa at 637-1285, 206-2054 or lcwinde@frontier.com.

May crowning
NOTRE DAME — A May crowning will be Saturday, May 4, at 10:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto with a Marian procession through campus and crowning at Geddes Hall. Reception to follow. In case of rain, the event will be held at Geddes Hall.



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Young adults invited to explore faith, spirits on Holy Spirits Pilgrimage

BY STEPHANIE PETRIE

What do Bardstown, Kentucky, the Abbey of Gethsemani and the Bourbon Trail all have in common? First, they are all in located in the Holy Lands of Kentucky; but second, and more importantly, all three will be featured on the upcoming Holy Spirits Pilgrimage on Friday, June 7, through Sunday, June 9.

This pilgrimage, which is a collaboration of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Young Adult Ministry and Verso Ministries, made its debut in summer 2017. In it, young adults in the diocese are offered the chance to explore the intersection of faith and culture, sacred and profane, spiritual and physical refreshment.

All young adults over the age of 21 (at time of departure) are invited to be a part of this pilgrimage, which Sean Allen, director of Young Adult Ministry for the diocese, describes as “a fantastic way to get away from the daily routine to recharge, reflect on life, and refocus.”

While exploring the history and spirits of the Bourbon Trail, with tours and tastings at local distilleries, pilgrims will be invited to pray at the Abbey of Gethsemani, the monastery of Thomas Merton, and visit the Merton Hermitage with Brother Gregory, a Trappist monk. In addition to focusing on the world-famous history of Kentucky Bourbon and Thomas Merton, the group will discover the roots of the Fort Wayne-South Bend diocese with visits to St. Thomas Church and Bishop Flaget Log Home before celebrating Sunday Mass at St. Joseph Proto-Cathedral in Bardstown, Kentucky.

From barrel rooms stacked high with oak barrels to churches in French art, the pilgrimage offers something for

everyone. As a first-time pilgrim and novice bourbon drinker, Mariah Cressey shared that she was drawn to the Holy Spirits Pilgrimage by the definition of a pilgrim, or peregrinus: “someone who places himself or herself in a new place to be transformed.” Thinking back to her experience, Cressey said that “between observing (and my peer pilgrims praying) the Liturgy of the Hours with the monks at the Abbey of Gethsemani, visiting the hermitage of Thomas Merton, and finishing every sample of bourbon available, I also experienced the available space for discernment. That space wasn’t demanding. It was merely available. And that availability, like that of my peers’ honesty, was enough.”

The pilgrimage will depart from both Fort Wayne and South Bend on Friday morning and return Sunday evening. The pilgrimage package fee includes lodging at the Nazareth Retreat Center, preparation and follow-up materials, tours at Barton 1792 and Bourbon Heritage Center at Heaven Hill distilleries, and donations for Abbey of Gethsemani, Merton Hermitage, St. Joseph Proto-Cathedral, St. Thomas Church and Bishop Flaget Log Home. Also included are some meals and gratuities, as well as the accompaniment of a dedicated guide. If pilgrims want to add a little more to their journey, they can add on the optional Bardstown Ghost Trek experience and Jim Beam distillery tour.

For more information visit <http://www.diocesefwsb.org/yam-pilgrimages>, and join fellow pilgrims for a trip that, as pilgrim Joe Reis reflected, will remind young people of “God’s abounding presence and how all things should lead us towards God not away from God.”

Stephanie Petrie is the pilgrimage coordinator for Verso Ministry.



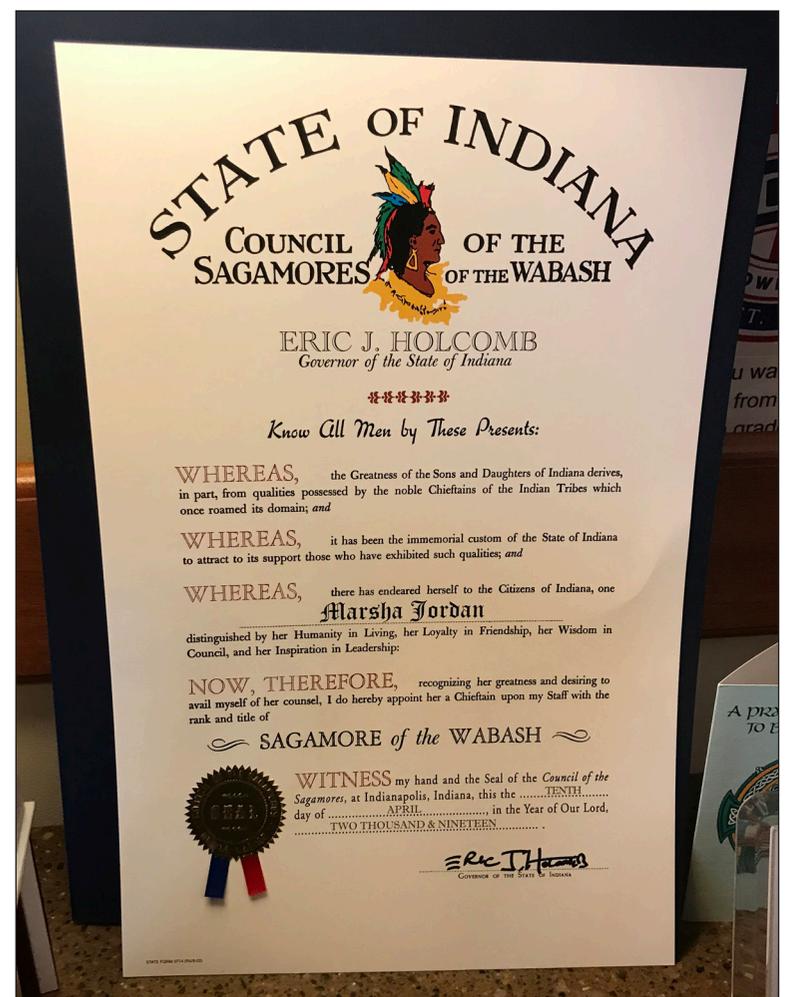
Provided by Stephanie Petrie

Among the vast grounds of the Abbey of Gethsemani, pilgrims explore the Kentucky countryside and hike to the hermitage of Thomas Merton in 2018.

SAGAMORE, from page 1

the Sagamore of the Wabash award, has bestowed the honor on those who have rendered distinguished service to the state or to the governor. Among those who have received Sagamores have been astronauts, presidents, ambassadors, artists, musicians, politicians and ordinary citizens who contributed greatly to Hoosier heritage. Jordan’s nomination was facilitated and encouraged by the office of state Sen. Liz Brown.

During the trajectory of her career, Jordan was honored with additional awards — notably including a papal blessing earlier this year. The “Heritage Registry of Who’s Who” included her in the 2006-07 edition, and she was a 2007-08 recipient of the diocesan Light of Learning Award.



Provided by Mary Glowaski

Marsha A. Jordan, retired superintendent of Catholic schools for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, received the prestigious Sagamore of the Wabash award April 5.



Participants on the Holy Spirits 2018 pilgrimage learn about the distilling process and taste a variety of bourbon whiskey at Makers Mark Distillery in rural Kentucky.