

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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TODAYSCATHOLIC.org

October is Respect Life Month

BY THE MOST REVEREND JOSEPH F. NAUMANN

My dear friends in Christ:

Each October during Respect Life Month, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops launches a new cycle of the Respect Life Program — a year-round, nationwide effort to help Catholics understand, value and help cultivate respect for human life.

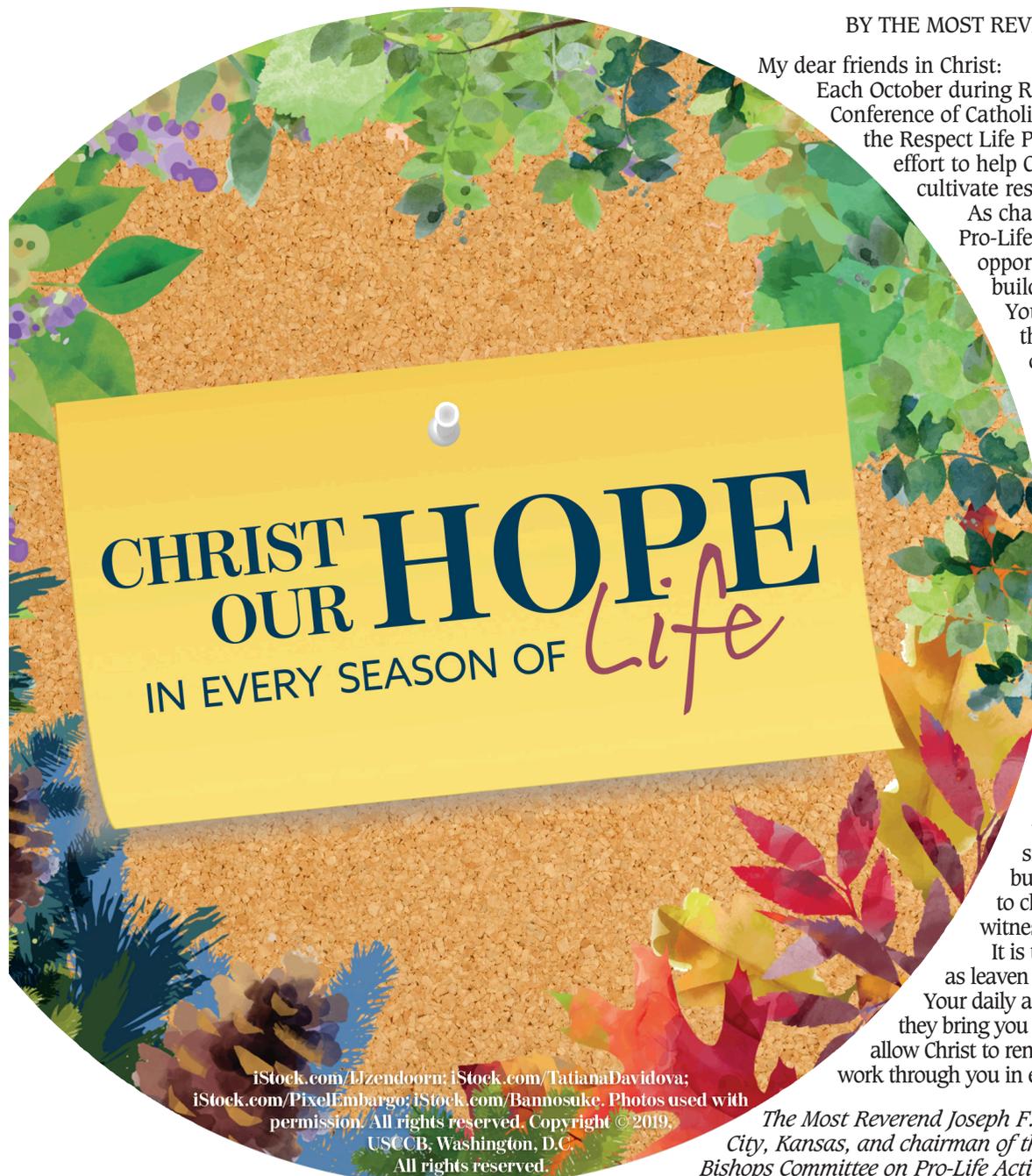
As chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all you do to build a culture of life on a daily basis. Your efforts on behalf of the unborn, the dying, the elderly, the imprisoned, the poor and so many others have a profound impact, both now and in the life to come.

This year's theme, "Christ Our Hope: In Every Season of Life," is particularly suited for the times in which we live. The attacks against human life seem to grow more numerous and callous by the day. Despite these challenges, we know that Christ has conquered sin and death once and for all. Through our Christian hope in the Resurrection, we are given the grace to persevere in faith. Our sacrifices on behalf of the Gospel of Life can contribute to the redemption of this current culture of death.

We bishops need your help. While there may be opportunities for decisive political action, we know that to build a true culture of life, we must seek to change hearts and minds. And your witness is essential.

It is the vocation of the laity to go out to be as leaven in the world, a light in the darkness. Your daily activities take you to places I cannot go; they bring you to those I will never meet. May you allow Christ to renew and strengthen you, that He may work through you in each moment of every day.

The Most Reverend Joseph F. Nauman is archbishop of Kansas City, Kansas, and chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Pro-Life Activities.



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Hope and healing after abortion

BY LISA EVERETT

The gruesome discovery of 2,246 medically preserved fetal remains on the property of Ulrich Klopfer has been upsetting on so many levels, and it stands to reason that this revelation may be especially traumatic for women and men who sought abortions from Klopfer during the decades that he performed them at his clinics in Fort Wayne and South Bend.

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend stands ready to help anyone in the area to process the loss of his or her baby through

our post-abortion healing ministry, Project Rachel.

Project Rachel consists of a compassionate, confidential network of specially trained priests, professional counselors and lay companions who provide an integrated array of services, including pastoral counseling, support groups, retreats, referrals to licensed mental health professionals and the opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation. This program is now offered in 140 Catholic dioceses in the United States, as well as dioceses in other countries. It is open to people of any faith or no faith.

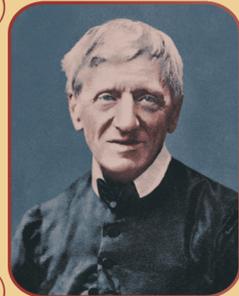
Vicki Thorn, who founded Project Rachel in 1984 and currently serves as the director of the National Office of Post-Abortion Reconciliation and Healing, said that while some women report relatively little trauma following abortion, for many, abortion is devastating. It causes serious and persistent emotional, psychological and spiritual difficulties. Women who have experienced an abortion may exhibit some or several of the following symptoms:

- Low self-esteem
- Grief, ranging from mild to profound
- Depression, sometimes to the point of suicidal thoughts

and attempts

- A sense of alienation from family and friends
- A feeling of being 'numb,' not able to enjoy activities that used to be pleasurable
- Difficulty concentrating
- Isolating oneself from others to avoid discussing the abortion experience
- Guilt and shame
- Anger towards oneself, the baby's father, or others involved in the abortion
- Alcohol and drug problems, which develop to dull the pain

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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

BUSINESS MANAGER: Jennifer Simerman
BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION: Geoff Frank
circulation@diocesefwsb.org
BUSINESS SALES MANAGER: Erika Barron
ebarron@diocesefwsb.org

Website: www.todayscatholic.org
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MAIN OFFICE: 915 S. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, IN 46802. Telephone 260-456-2824. Fax: 260-744-1473.

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P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN
46856-1169; or email:
editor@diocesefwsb.org



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Notre Dame hosts expert panel on clergy sex abuse crisis

BY ANN CAREY

The annual University of Notre Dame forum on topics of importance began its 2019-20 season with the difficult issue of clergy sex abuse in a Sept. 25 keynote panel titled "The Church Crisis: Where Are We Now?"

The four panelists have a wide spectrum of experience with the topic. Archbishop William E. Lori of Baltimore was appointed to the U.S. Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse in 2002 and helped write the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People."

Kathleen McChesney had a long career in law enforcement, capped by service as FBI executive assistant director. She was appointed in 2002 as the first executive director of the U.S. bishops' Office of Child and Youth Protection. She continues to consult on the topic.

Juan Carlos Cruz is a clergy sex abuse survivor from Chile and outspoken advocate for survivors. Cruz travelled to Rome and successfully convinced a skeptical Pope Francis that complaints about Chilean priest abusers were credible and should not be dismissed.

Journalist and educator Peter Steinfelds has reported on the sex abuse crisis for 30 years. He is a former columnist for The New York Times and continues a long career with Commonweal. He also has taught at Notre Dame, Georgetown University and Fordham.

Moderating the panel was journalist John Allen, longtime Vatican correspondent for The National Catholic Reporter and now editor of Crux.

Steinfelds led off the panel by discussing the precipitous drop in the number of clergy sex abuse cases, declining by almost 97 percent over the past 60 years. Such statistics should not blind us to the "excruciating" devastation caused by a single case of abuse, he continued, but the statistics cannot be ignored.

The sex abuse scandal will always remain one in the long list of betrayals of Jesus Christ over the centuries, Steinfelds said. But if the danger to children in U.S. Catholic institutions has been dramatically reduced, he asked: "Why are we talking about not just a lasting scandal but about a pressing crisis?"

Steinfelds suggested five reasons for the crisis.

1. The abuse scandal has gone global, which constitutes one big story about Catholicism even though just a fraction of the abuse has touched the Church.

2. The McCarrick case brought to a boil the long-simmering distrust of American hierarchy.

3. The scandal has become



Barbara Johnston/University of Notre Dame

Moderator John Allen, editor of Crux, center, presents a question to panelists, from left, Peter Steinfelds, journalist and educator who has written for Commonweal since 1964; Juan Carlos Cruz, survivors' advocate from Chile; Kathleen McChesney, former FBI executive assistant director who investigated victim allegations; and Archbishop William E. Lori, archbishop of Baltimore, during the 2019-20 Notre Dame Forum titled "Rebuild My Church: Crisis and Response." The panelists discussed "The Church Crisis: Where Are We Now?" at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Sept. 25.

part of a "Catholic civil war" over the papacy of Pope Francis.

4. A growing number of state and federal investigations promises to produce a "drip, drip" of sensational headlines, draining resources and magnifying the ongoing hemorrhaging of the young from the faith.

5. There is a "legacy of profound suffering, pain and desire for acknowledgement, contrition, justice and vindication" by abuse survivors primarily from 30 to 60 years ago, a legacy Steinfelds compared to "landmines left buried in the ground after a war."

Steinfelds concluded by observing that the Church needs an accurate history of the sex abuse scandal, based on archives, oral histories and studies, and he asked Catholic colleges and universities to take on the task.

Cruz told the audience that he speaks from the heart, as a survivor of clergy sex abuse. He acknowledged that it is difficult to speak out, but he said he was honored to have such a platform to encourage other survivors to seek help from the many good people who are dedicated to helping abuse survivors, and it is those people and other survivors who give him courage.

Referring to the U.S. statistics, Cruz said that while things have improved in the U.S. they have gotten worse in other parts of the world, including both Chile and Peru. He said he thought the abuse would end with Pope Francis's 2019 Motu Proprio of norms for sex abuse, but it has not.

Cruz charged that some bishops bow to the pope when they are in Rome, but when they go back home, it is business as usual and nobody holds them accountable.

Archbishop Lori observed there are many learning curves for a bishop, but "I don't think any of the learning curves have been as steep as discovering, learning, struggling to deal in some adequate way with the ugly specter of child abuse."

He said that various policies had been in place since the 1980s, and the 2002 charter was an attempt to have all bishops deal with victims compassionately and try to prevent future abuse.

"But it's one thing to have policies and procedures in place and another thing to draw out from them . . . the moral imperative to address this in the way that God only knows it deserves to be addressed."

Archbishop Lori said the numbers of abuse cases are significantly down, "but one case is still too many." He stressed that it is necessary always to see the charter and norms not just as policies to be complied with. Rather, he said bishops and their coworkers need to have "a conversion of mind and heart."

The protection of children and care for survivors has to be as much a part of the Church's life as evangelization, Catholic education and raising up vocations, Archbishop Lori said.

McChesney offered several observations, disappointments and predictions, based on her nearly two decades consulting on clergy sex abuse. First, she said it is "critical" for helping survivors heal to hold someone accountable for their abuse; yet she emphasized that not all Catholic abusers have been priests, for lay Church workers and volunteers also have been guilty.

She related that she has observed a serious lack of over-

sight of priests. Bishops do not have the time to see each priest every day, she said, and the lives of many priests are very isolated. Laity can play a role in observing priests, she suggested, and can help priests have healthy social relationships.

Regarding seminaries, McChesney warned that the Church has been emphasizing seminary formation, but selection of the men for the priesthood is far more important than formation. "To have a healthy presbyterate, you need to start with a healthy man."

Among her disappointments were: some failures to act on many of the recommendations of lay review boards and survivors; a lack of research into the causes of abuse since the charter and why oversight failed; failure by the Church to embrace technology and to effectively use data and provide disclosure lists; and a lack of vision in ways to structure seminary formation.

McChesney predicted cases will continue against living bishops who are thought to be negligent in the way they handled the abuse claims; additional scandals will happen, either financial or sexual, whether in schools, other ministries or seminaries; a harder line will be taken by Church authorities due to Francis's Motu proprio; conservatives and liberals both will continue to use this issue to promote their own agendas; and civil, canon and criminal law will change, with a greater emphasis on vulnerable adults.

McChesney's final prediction was "The Church will continue to be slow to reform. I think that shouldn't be an option, but I think that sadly, that is the way this Church works."



Priest appointment

The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, has made the following appointment:

Reverend Wimal Jayasuriya, to Parochial Vicar of Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, and to Judge in the Diocesan Tribunal, effective September 23, 2019.

Study released on sexual harassment among seminarians

BY RHINA GUIDOS

LAS VEGAS (CNS) — The University of Notre Dame Sept. 21 released a groundbreaking report that looked at sexual harassment in U.S. Catholic seminarians, revealing that just 6% of seminarians reported experiencing some form of sexual harassment or misconduct, while 90% reported none.

Another 4% said they might have experienced misconduct but were not sure. Of the 10% who reported they had experienced sexual harassment or indicated they might have, 80% percent identified a fellow seminary student or religious in formation as the alleged perpetrator.

Among the respondents overall, 84% percent said they felt the administration and faculty take seriously reports of harassment. Of those who reported an incident, about a third said they were not sure how seriously their report was taken or whether it was acted upon.

The research, from Notre Dame's McGrath Institute for Church Life, in collaboration with the Washington-based Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, came from data obtained from 149 seminaries or houses of formations in the United States. The study is titled "Sexual Harassment and Catholic Seminary Culture."

John Cavadini, Notre Dame professor of theology, who presented the results at the Religion News Association conference in Las Vegas, said the survey was a response to rumors about what was happening in seminary culture after allegations surfaced concerning former U.S. Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick.

"The vision for the survey came in the wake of the clerical sex abuse scandal and abuse allegations against the now-laicized Theodore McCarrick, who was accused of grooming victims during their seminary years," Cavadini said.

With data, constructive change could take place and affect policies that may be needed to make the country's Catholic seminaries safer, he said.

Some of the concerns seem to center on the question of whether reports of sexual harassment were taken seriously and acted on by the responsible authorities. Of those who reported an incident, about four in 10 (42%) believe that their reports of sexual harassment, abuse or misconduct "to the responsible authorities" were taken seriously and acted upon "completely" (24%) or "for the most part" (18%).

Twelve percent said that their reports were taken seriously "somewhat, but not adequately," and 15% said they believed their reports were "not taken seriously or properly acted upon." Those who said they "didn't know" how seriously their reporting of an incident was taken or whether it was acted upon accounted for 31%; and 21% said reports were "not taken seriously or properly acted upon."

"We hope to hold people to a higher standard," Cavadini said.

The number of seminarians invited to participate was 2,375; valid responses came from 1,544. This is a 65 percent response rate.

The Executive Summary of the report on the survey said CARA identified 154 seminaries or houses of formation around the country, but five said they are no longer seminaries or had

no candidates at this time. So the number identified for the survey was a total of 149. Forty-eight percent of those, or 72, provided CARA with a list of their seminarians, and CARA emailed 2,215 seminarians invitations to complete the survey. Two seminaries forwarded to their seminarians a generic email from CARA with a link to the survey, bringing the total participation to 2,375.

Jesuit Father Thomas Gaunt, executive director of CARA, who was present for the release of the results, said he believed the research marked the first time such a study has been undertaken. Some of the data can help create or institute policies to ensure that seminarians who report abuse against them will be taken seriously by those in charge, he noted.

"It's not just our opinion. We have data to show so we'll be able to say that it is not our imagination," Cavadini said. "We want to affect the seminary culture. We want to create a culture where that ambiguity goes down."

In a Sept. 21 statement introducing the research, Cavadini said that in approaching the report, researchers wanted to give seminarians a voice without fearing reprisal.

"As a service to the current and future Church, we wanted to try to get some objective data on how prevalent (or not) sexual abuse and harassment might be at seminaries," he said.

Editor's Note: The full report on the "Sexual Harassment and Catholic Seminary Culture" study can be found online at <https://bit.ly/2lImRF6>.



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Sunday, October 6: 3 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Patrick Church, Fort Wayne

Monday, October 7: 10 a.m. — Meeting of the Bishop's Cabinet, Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, Fort Wayne

Monday, October 7: 5:30 p.m. — Meeting of Board of Directors of Catholic Cemetery/Divine Mercy Funeral Home, Divine Mercy Funeral Home, Fort Wayne

Tuesday-Thursday, October 8-10: Continuing Education Days for Priests, Potawatomi Inn, Pokagon State Park, Angola

Thursday, October 10: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend

Friday, October 11: 7 a.m. — White Mass, Our Lady of Fatima Chapel, Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, Mishawaka



Indiana Catholic Conference

Indiana Catholic bishops call for renewed moratorium on federal executions

The federal government's decision in July to end a 16-year moratorium on executing federal inmates is regrettable, unnecessary and morally unjustified. As we observe Respect Life Month in the Catholic Church, we, the Bishops of Indiana, in as much as federal executions are conducted in our State, ask President Trump to rescind the U.S. Justice Department's decision to resume capital punishment later this year. We respectfully implore that the sentences of all federal death row inmates be commuted to life imprisonment.

In seeking to end the use of the death penalty, we do not dismiss the evil and harm caused by people who commit horrible crimes, especially murder. We share in the sorrow and loss of families and victims of such crimes. And we call upon our faith community and all persons of good will to stand with the victims and to provide spiritual, pastoral and personal support.

All life is a gift from God and each life has dignity. As recently confirmed in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, "The death penalty is inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person." (CCC #2267) Capital punishment undermines the dignity of human life. Taking human life is justifiable only in self-defense, when there is no other way to protect oneself, another innocent person or society from extreme violence or death. In the case of incarcerated prisoners, the aggressor has been stopped and society is protected. Hence, it is no longer permissible to take the life.

In addition to the moral problems with capital punishment, it continues the cycle of violence; it neither helps the victims who survive, nor does it mitigate the loss of a loved one. And it precludes the possibility of reconciliation and rehabilitation. As Pope Francis has stated, "A just and necessary punishment must never exclude the dimension of hope and the goal of rehabilitation."

The application of capital punishment also calls for its discontinuance. The problems are well documented. These include: Its unequal application to minorities, the poor and mentally ill; its cost, which is more expensive than a lifetime of incarceration; the more than 160 persons since 1977 serving time on death row who have been exonerated of their guilt; and the instances of innocent people being wrongly executed. Moreover, its application also impacts those who are associated with it, particularly correctional officers and those who are obligated to participate in taking a human life. The psychological and spiritual harm that these persons experience is real.

*Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson D.D., J.C.L.,
Archdiocese of Indianapolis*

*Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, D.D.,
Diocese of Fort Wayne South Bend*

*Most Reverend Timothy L. Doherty, S.T.L., Ph.D.,
Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana*

*Most Reverend Joseph M. Siegel D.D., S.T.L.,
Diocese of Evansville*

*Reverend Michael J. Yadron, Diocesan Administrator,
Diocese of Gary*



CNS photo/Rhina Guidos

University of Notre Dame professor John Cavadini and Jesuit Father Thomas Gaunt of the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate take questions from the audience Sept. 21 during the Religion News Association conference in Las Vegas. They presented findings of their groundbreaking study on sexual harassment in seminaries in the U.S.

Woman says vow not to 'deny Jesus' was motivation in campus freedom fight

BY SAM LUCERO

GREEN BAY, Wis. (CNS) — As long as she can remember, Polly Olsen, 29, said she has handed out heart-shaped cards on Valentine's Day.

"Basically since I could walk, me and my siblings would distribute them at nursing homes and hospitals," said Olsen. "My mom would dress us up fancy and we would go hand them out." The handmade cards included a positive, handwritten message in the center, along with a Bible passage.

Olsen continued the tradition when she enrolled part-time at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College in 2009. On Valentine's Day 2018, after distributing about 30 cards on the NWTC campus, Olsen was stopped by a campus security officer after someone anonymously called the security office.

She was told that handing out the cards constituted "soliciting" and was in violation of the college's public assembly policy. Olsen also was told that some people might find the Bible references on her cards offensive.

Olsen, through the Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty, filed a complaint against the college Sept. 4, 2018, claiming that the college was violating her First Amendment rights of free speech. On Sept. 13, a federal judge in Green Bay ruled that NWTC did infringe on Olsen's right to free speech.

In his 14-page summary judgment, U.S. District Court Chief Judge William Griesbach stated that NWTC "had no more right to prevent (Olsen) from handing out individual Valentines than it did to stop her from wishing each individual to have a 'good morning and a blessed day.'"

In a statement, Rick Esenberg, president and general counsel of the Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty, said he was thankful for Olsen "stepping up to defend not only her own rights, but the rights of all students."

"This case was very simple," said Esenberg. "NWTC, through their public assembly policy, sought to restrain and contain the First Amendment rights of students. That is, and always has been, unconstitutional."

The college's president, H. Jeffrey Rafn said in a statement: "We fully support freedom of speech and we promote the respectful exchange of ideas. We also have a responsibility to protect the privacy of students and the integrity of the learning environment. The college will continue to ensure that it meets its legal obligations."

In an email to The Compass, Green Bay's diocesan newspaper, Rafn said the college's decision



CNS photo/Sam Lucero, The Compass

Polly Olsen holds three handmade Valentine cards that feature a Bible passage and messages such as "Jesus Loves You!" outside the Northeast Wisconsin Technical College Sept. 21 in Green Bay, Wis. Olsen was told that handing out the cards constituted "soliciting" and was in violation of the college's public assembly policy. She was also told that some people might find the Bible references on her cards offensive.

to prevent Olsen from distributing cards wasn't an attempt to obstruct her freedom of speech but said it came in response to her entering private areas of the campus to hand out her cards.

"We did not have a concern until Polly went into back offices where, among other things, confidential information is handled," said Rafn. "I am unaware of other circumstances where students freely went into back offices. It is commonly assumed in any business that customers would not freely walk around into back offices. Our students abide by this common courtesy, although we have since added this admonition in the student handbook."

In his summary decision, Griesbach said there was no

evidence Olsen trespassed in restricted areas.

"Although NWTC makes much of the fact that Olsen went into the General Studies office to give a Valentine to her friend Casandra, there is no evidence that this was a restricted area and it is undisputed that Olsen had a practice of visiting employees at NWTC who were friends for both personal and school-related reasons," the judge wrote.

In an interview, Olsen, who graduated from NWTC last May with a paralegal degree and law office administration certificate, told The Compass that she was first prohibited from distributing Valentine cards in 2014, the year she and another student formed an InterVarsity Christian Fellowship chapter on campus.

"When they stopped me and a couple of my friends from handing them out, they decided to go after my club, saying that we had disruptive members on campus," she said. "They asked me to apologize for my 'Jesus loves you' Valentines. I told them I would not do that."

Olsen calls the Valentine tradition "my personal thing that I do every year." It became more personal on July 16, 2013, the day her mother, Debra, died from pancreatic cancer.

She said she makes 500 to 600 cards and distributes them with friends.

This spring Olsen's case made national headlines when she was invited to the White House by President Donald Trump to attend a March 21 ceremony

where he signed an executive order protecting free speech on college campuses.

"What motivated me the most to not give up and not cower to the school's bullying was the fact that they wanted me to apologize for Jesus' name," Olsen, who attends Jacob's Well Presbyterian Church in Green Bay, told The Compass.

"I will not deny Jesus in any way," she said, "so I guess, 'stand up for Jesus no matter what,' would be what I would tell people. He uses little things to do big things, like change a law in our country with a Valentine."

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

China-Vatican accord promotes Church's pastoral work, speakers say

BY CINDY WOODEN

ROME (CNS) — The provisional agreement signed in 2018 by the Holy See and the Chinese government has “opened the way to the two most important things: pastoral activity and dialogue,” said Archbishop Claudio Maria Celli.

The agreement also meant that, for the first time in 70 years, all of the Catholic bishops in China are in communion with the pope and with their brother bishops throughout the world, the archbishop said Sept. 26 at the presentation in Rome of a book on the agreement, its historical roots and the future of Catholicism in China.

Archbishop Celli, who retired in 2016 as president of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, was a key partner in the negotiations that led to the signing of the agreement. He had spent 35 years as part of a team of Vatican officials reaching out to the Chinese government on behalf of popes John Paul II, Benedict XVI and Francis.

“A door has been opened,” he said. “It’s a door that would be difficult to close again.”

The provisional agreement, signed Sept. 22, 2018, set out procedures for the nomination of bishops acceptable to both the Vatican and the Chinese government, ending decades of Chinese

insistence that allowing the Vatican to name bishops would amount to foreign interference in China’s internal affairs.

Vatican officials consistently had said that giving up full control over the nomination of bishops would not be what it hoped for, but that it could be an acceptable first step toward ensuring greater freedom and security for the Catholic community there.

The agreement was controversial given that bishops, priests, religious and lay Catholics had been jailed and persecuted for their loyalty to Rome and their refusal to join the Chinese government’s associations for Catholics.

At the book presentation, Archbishop Celli paid tribute to those witnesses for the faith.

“When the time comes that the archives are opened, people will be in awe over the great witness of Chinese bishops and what they endured in order to be fully Chinese and authentically Catholic, faithful to Jesus Christ,” he said.

But the unity of the Church in China is essential for its existence and growth, he said.

“It is a challenge to find ways to reach out to priests and people still part of what we called the ‘clandestine’ Church,” he said.

The book and speakers at the book presentation, including Andrea Riccardi, a historian and founder of the Community of Sant’Egidio, noted how sur-

“A door has been opened.

It’s a door that would be difficult to close again.”

ARCHBISHOP CLAUDIO MARIA CELLI

圣座与中国



Agostino Giovagnoli – Elisa Giunipero (a cura di)

L'Accordo tra Santa Sede e Cina I cattolici cinesi tra passato e futuro

Prefazione del Card. Pietro Parolin



CNS photo/Urbaniana University Press

This is the cover of the Italian book “The Accord Between the Holy See and China,” which was presented in Rome Sept. 26. The book discusses the 2018 provisional agreement between the Vatican and China, its historical roots and the future of Catholicism in China.

veys show a growing interest in religion among the Chinese, but a steep decline in the number of Catholics baptized each year, both in communities registered with the government and in those that are not.

Romano Prodi, an economist, former Italian prime minister and former president of the European Commission, also spoke at the book launch and noted how China’s economic boom has been accompanied by a huge population shift from rural areas to cities, where Catholic churches are few and far between.

Bringing all the country’s bishops into union with each other and with the pope and having them all recognized by the Chinese government were necessary for the Catholic Church to minister to its current members, to evangelize others and to build

a future in China, Riccardi said.

Writing the preface to the book, Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, said the agreement was a necessary step in showing the Chinese government and Chinese Catholics that a person could be simultaneously fully Chinese and fully Catholic.

Especially since the Second Vatican Council, he said, the Catholic Church has made it clear that one could “live universality without uniformity and communion without homogenization.”

The provisional agreement, Cardinal Parolin wrote, leads to hope for a true inculturation of the Catholic faith in China, a process that “presupposes the growth of local communities fully rooted in a specific historical, social and cultural context, but also authentically inserted into the communion of the universal church.”

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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NEWS BRIEFS

Catholic Charities to award \$1 million for innovative anti-poverty efforts

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Catholic Charities USA has unveiled a \$1 million award program that officials hope will lead to innovative efforts to address poverty. Called the Innovation Challenge, the program will see three member agencies receiving identical \$333,333 awards for the “reduction, elimination and prevention of poverty. Innovation is the key word,” explained Steve Bogus, who is Catholic Charities USA’s vice president of social enterprise and workforce development. Dominican Sister Donna Markham, president and CEO, announced a yearlong competition Sept. 26 during the agency’s annual gathering in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She invited diocesan member agencies to submit proposals for new programs to meet peoples’ needs. The winners will be announced during the organization’s annual gathering Oct. 28-30, 2020, in Cleveland. Awards will be given to three diocesan agencies based on the size of their operation. That way, Bogus told Catholic News Service, a small agency will not be competing with an agency in a much larger budget and staff. The competition is meant to inspire Catholic Charities staffers around the country to think of new ways to address poverty, Bogus said.

Mexican state lawmakers: Abortion no longer a crime in Oaxaca

GUATEMALA CITY (CNS) — Lawmakers in the southern Mexican state of Oaxaca have approved a measure to decriminalize abortion, despite vocal Church opposition. The measure passed the Oaxaca state legislature, 24-10, amid shouts in the session from boisterous supporters and opponents. It allows for abortion in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. Oaxaca becomes the second Mexican jurisdiction to decriminalize abortion and follows Mexico City, which approved decriminalization in 2007. The Archdiocese of Oaxaca voiced displeasure with the decision, posting on its Facebook page immediately after the measure was approved, “Only God decides who is born and who is not born.” In a statement released later that day, Archbishop Pedro Vazquez Villalobos said, “Making laws that promote the death of the unborn causes a grave moral deterioration, continues deforming our values and does not protect the defenseless nor defend the weak.” The archbishop added, “We continue praying that this situation makes us aware of what we want and what kind of society we want to shape so that, as true Christians, we continue to be defenders and promoters of human life.”

‘Moral duty’ to help migrants and refugees, pope says



CNS photo/Paolo Galosi, pool

Migrants and refugees are pictured on a large bronze statue in St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican Sept. 29. Pope Francis attended the unveiling of the statue after celebrating a Mass for World Day of Migrants and Refugees.

‘Christ Our Hope: In Every Season of Life’ is Respect Life Month theme

WASHINGTON (CNS) — This year’s theme for Respect Life Month, “Christ Our Hope: In Every Season of Life,” is “particularly suited for our times,” said the chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities. “Attacks against human life seem to grow ever more numerous and callous,” said Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, and he urged Catholics who feel discouraged by these attacks to “hold fast to Christ, our hope. We know that Christ has conquered sin and death. Through our Christian hope in the Resurrection, we are given the grace to persevere in faith,” he said in a Sept. 26 statement. The need to “cherish, protect and defend human life” is year-round, Archbishop Naumann noted, but he said the U.S. Catholic Church sets aside each October as Respect Life Month to bring special attention to all life issues. The first Sunday of October, Oct. 6 this year, is Respect Life Sunday. Every October, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops launches a new yearlong cycle of the Respect Life Program — a nationwide effort “to help Catholics understand, value and

help cultivate respect for human life.” The USCCB’s Secretariat of Pro Life Activities has prepared a packet for the 2019-20 program containing materials and resources. The materials are available online at <https://www.respectlife.org/october>.

U.S. Cardinal William Levada, former doctrinal head, dies in Rome

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — U.S. Cardinal William J. Levada, former head of the Vatican’s doctrinal congregation and retired archbishop of San Francisco and Portland, Oregon, died Sept. 26 in Rome. He was 83. When Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger was elected Pope Benedict XVI in 2005, he named then-Archbishop Levada to replace him as head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Vatican agency charged with protecting and promoting the Church’s teachings on faith and morals. It was the first time a U.S. prelate had headed the congregation, and Cardinal Levada served in that position until 2012. Before his Vatican appointment, he had served as archbishop of San Francisco since 1995; archbishop of Portland, Oregon, 1986-95, and an auxiliary bishop of Los Angeles, 1983-86. For decades, he was a frequent collaborator with the Vatican and with the future Pope Benedict.

He was a doctrinal congregation staff member from 1976 to 1982 and was a bishop-member of the congregation beginning in 2000. In the 1980s, he worked with then-Cardinal Ratzinger as one of a small group of bishops appointed to write the “Catechism of the Catholic Church.” Cardinal Levada was a key figure in the Church’s efforts to eliminate priestly sexual abuse. He headed the Vatican agency that oversaw the handling of priestly sexual abuse cases; in 2002, he was a member of the U.S.-Vatican commission that made final revisions to the sex abuse norms in the United States, which laid out a strict policy on priestly sex abuse and provided for removal from ministry or laicization of priests.

Refugee advocates decry Trump administration’s plan to cut refugee cap

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Refugee advocates are opposed to the decision announced by the Trump administration Sept. 26 that it plans to admit no more than 18,000 refugees in the next fiscal year, the lowest number since the resettlement program was created in 1980. “The U.S. must remain the beacon of hope to people who feel forgotten and abandoned by the world and

maintain its status as a leader of refugee policy for all nations to follow,” said Dominican Sister Donna Markham, president and CEO of Catholic Charities USA. A Sept. 27 statement by the organization said it “strongly opposes” the administration’s plans to “historically reduce the number of refugees welcomed into the United States” and urged it to “consider the refugee resettlement program’s mission to provide protection to those in need for humanitarian reasons. The program should return to consistent refugee numbers rather than focus primarily on its use for partisan-based purposes,” the statement added. The State Department released the refugee cap proposal and the White House issued a separate order saying states and localities must approve refugee resettlement in their regions before refugees can be sent to them. A final decision on the number of refugees the U.S. will admit will be made after consultation with Congress.

Vatican temporarily suspends decree on Indianapolis Jesuit high school

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Vatican Congregation for Catholic Education temporarily lifted a decree that had taken away the Catholic status of Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School in Indianapolis. The decree was issued three months ago by Indianapolis Archbishop Charles C. Thompson when the school refused to dismiss a gay employee in a same-sex marriage. Its suspension is just until the congregation makes a final decision since the Midwest province of the Society of Jesus, which administers Brebeuf, has appealed the archbishop’s decision to the Vatican congregation. “We have just learned that the Congregation for Catholic Education has decided to suspend the archbishop’s decree on an interim basis, pending its final resolution of our appeal,” Jesuit Father Bill Verbryke, Brebeuf’s president, said in a Sept. 22 letter to the school community, posted on the school’s website. He said in light of the congregation’s temporary decision, Archbishop Thompson said the school is free to resume Masses, which would include a Mass for the feast of St. Jean de Brebeuf Oct. 24. Father Verbryke stressed that the temporary suspension of the archbishop’s decree “does not mean that the matter has been resolved, or that any permanent decision has been made. It also does not mean that anyone should infer that the Congregation for Catholic Education is leaning one way or the other on any of the issues at hand. The Congregation has simply granted a temporary suspension of the archbishop’s decree until it makes a final decision,” he wrote.

Sisters to host 'Grieving and the Holidays'

SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS — Persons of all faith traditions are invited to join the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods for the upcoming retreat "Grieving and the Holidays," set for 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, in Providence Hall.

Participants will reflect upon, pray about, and allow God and others to help them create a plan for grieving gracefully during the holidays.

Sister Connie Kramer, SP, will help guide participants to a place of befriending grief and strengthening the enduring bond with lost loved ones.

"I believe that the holidays are a difficult time for persons who are grieving the loss of a loved one," Sister Connie said. "Often, holiday memories associated with deceased loved ones, who either died recently or a long time ago, will bring about a person's grief or sense of loss." Those who are grieving have to acknowledge the loss, rather than deny it.

"They also have to determine which holiday traditions they wish to continue and which holiday traditions they wish to change," she said. "In doing this reflection and making life-giving decisions, a person will be able to allow grief to be their teacher."

Cost is \$45, which includes lunch. The registration deadline is Oct. 7.

Register online at Events.SistersofProvidence.org, by calling 812-535-2952 or by email at jfrost@spsmw.org.

Darkness and Light creative conference coming to Fort Wayne

FORT WAYNE — What does it mean to say that human beings are made in the image of God?

Everything in the canon of sacred Scripture follows those five words: If God is a creator and we are made in the image of God, then we are creators, too. St. John Paul II expounds on this in his "Letter to Artists"; "as Genesis has it," he writes, "all men and women are entrusted with the task of crafting their own life: in a certain sense, they are to make of it a work of art, a masterpiece."

Dr. Peter Kreeft sums this up in five words: We're artists because God is.

Even those who don't think of themselves as artists, really are — by their life, by their nature, by their personhood. How can a person tap into that?

Likeable Art founder Cory Heimann and collaborators have developed "Darkness Has Not Overcome," a multimedia meditation on the interplay of light and darkness, pain and hope — in art, in the world and in each human life. With original music by singer-songwriter Kevin Heider and visual art by Marie Heimann, the immersive event leads the audience deeper into

AROUND THE DIOCESE

New members elected to PHJC provincial leadership team



Provided by Julie Dowd

During a Special Chapter Sept. 18-19, the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ elected new members to the American Province leadership team. The new Provincial is Sister Joetta Huelsmann, far left; the elected leadership team consists of, from left, councilors Sister Nkechi Iwuoha, Sister Michele Dvorak and Sister Margaret Anne Henss. The new team will guide the American Province for the next two years.

the mystery of being human, to remind participants that that they are all artists, because God is. It's a truly unique performance event, a creative exploration full of surprises — music, film, light painting, songs, stories, magic, wonder and more.

Darkness and Light will be open to the public in Fort Wayne for one night only, Friday, Oct. 11, at the University of Saint Francis Performing Arts Center, 431 W. Berry St. From 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Come explore, share and learn how all Catholics together can live out the first five words of the Bible in tandem with the last four: In the beginning, God created ...with all the saints.

For information visit DarknessHasNotOvercome.com.

Formation day for Catechists planned

FORT WAYNE — Catechist Formation Day, with keynote speaker Dr. Bill Keimig, is Saturday, Oct. 12, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne. Catechist Formation Day is an event especially for catechists of all kinds, including directors of religious education, youth ministers and others, to gather for spiritual, intellectual and pastoral formation in handing on the Catholic faith to all of God's people. There is no cost to attend. For information or to register contact Janice Martin, jmartin@diocesefwsb.org or 260-399-1411.

Knights council helps parishioner



Provided by Justin Purdy

The St. Charles Borromeo Knights of Columbus Council 451 replaced front porch boards of parishioner Nelvia Soto, Fort Wayne, Sept. 21. Knights J.D. Krouse, Chris Rittenhouse, Bob Leszczynski, Dennis Redding, Phil Kramer, Greg Hacker and Justin Purdy rebuilt the front porch at no cost to Nelvia because of the council's Outreach Program. From left, Leszczynski, Redding, Kramer and Hacker cut a new deck board.

St. Mary parishioner Eagle Scout



Provided by Barbara Young

Brant Young, 17, a parishioner of St. Mary, Huntington, achieved Eagle Scout rank Sept. 3. Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America. Brant is a member of Troop 135; its charter member is SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Huntington. An award ceremony will take place Oct. 8.

St. Joseph Grade School receives Blue Ribbon designation

SOUTH BEND — St. Joseph Grade School, an educational ministry of St. Joseph Parish in the Diocese of Fort Wayne South Bend, has been named a 2019 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. This is the second time that St. Joseph Grade School has received the distinction, having previously been named a National Blue Ribbon School in 2011.

St. Joseph is one of just 50 non-public schools across the U.S. to receive the honor this year, and the first nonpublic elementary school in Indiana to receive the award since 2015.

St. Joseph has also earned recognition as an Indiana Four Star School each year from 2011 to 2018, the only school in South Bend and in the diocese to have done so.

"I want to congratulate our students, teachers, staff, parents, and parishioners, and thank them all for their hard work and support in providing our students with an exemplary Catholic education," said George Azar, principal at St. Joseph.

The National Blue Ribbon recognition is earned by schools that not only perform well on benchmark tests, but exemplify best practices within the classroom and greater school community, Azar explained.

"Our mission of educating hearts and minds in the Holy Cross tradition, making God known, loved, and served is at the center of everything that we do here at St. Joseph Grade School. Our practices reflect



Educating hearts and minds in the Holy Cross tradition since 1854

this mission in numerous ways, from our unique and dynamic literature-based curriculum to our service learning projects and Christ-centered development."

On Sept. 26, U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos recognized 362 schools as National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2019. The recognition is based on a school's overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups.

"We recognize and honor your important work in preparing students for successful careers and meaningful lives," said DeVos in a video message to the honorees. "As a National Blue Ribbon School, your school demonstrates what is possible when committed educators hold all students and staff to high standards and create vibrant, innovative cultures of teaching and learning."

The coveted National Blue Ribbon Schools award affirms

the hard work of educators, families, and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content.

Now in its 37th year, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has bestowed recognition on more than 9,000 schools. On Nov. 14 and 15, the Secretary and the Department of Education will celebrate with 312 public and 50 nonpublic school honorees at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Joseph Brettnacher, superintendent of Catholic schools for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, commended SJGS and its peer diocesan schools.

"Congratulations to the pastor, administration, faculty, staff, students, parents, and St. Joseph Grade School community on this achievement. The diocese is proud of the fact that all 43 of our Catholic schools provide their students with a holistic education. Our students continually

cultivate their relationship with Jesus Christ, develop Catholic values and morals, and grow spiritually, intellectually, physically, and socially."

St. Joseph serves boys and girls in preschool through eighth grade. In 2016, St. Joseph Parish completed a \$5 million capital project that included a new gymnasium and outdoor green space, as well as new classrooms for science, art, music and the preschool.

St. Joseph Preschool is a Level 4 provider in the Paths to Quality early care and education rating program for the State of Indiana. Level 4 is the top rating a program can earn, after having demonstrated a commitment to the highest level of professionalism in quality early care and education. The preschool is also an Indiana On My Way Pre-K provider, allowing qualifying families to receive grants to attend our program the year before kindergarten.

St. Joseph Grade School is a family committed to academic excellence and Catholic formation in the tradition of the Congregation of Holy Cross. Founded in 1854, its vision of education, inspired by the teachings of Holy Cross founder Blessed Basil Moreau, focuses on educating not only the minds of

students, but also their hearts, so that they might make God known, loved and served.

At St. Joseph Grade School, educating the mind begins with a unique literature-based, rather than textbook-based, curriculum as well as a common language of instruction for reading and writing across grades K-8. The school has mastered the craft of teaching by finding the best materials and resources, and implementing cross-curricular subject integration wherever possible. Supplemented by effective instructional strategies and personalized assessment experiences using routine growth data, this dynamic curriculum has been fundamental to academic success at St. Joseph.

Educating hearts and growing together as a family are mission elements lived out each day within the St. Joseph Grade School community. The school embraces Christian community as the context for lifelong formation, and the cultivation of mind and heart enkindles in students the virtue of zeal — a burning desire to use what is learned to serve others. Grade-level service-learning programs culminate with the Summons Project, a capstone program for eighth graders that facilitates discernment of individual gifts and prepares them to continue in service beyond graduation.

Outside the classroom, St. Joseph Grade School offers its students numerous extracurricular activities for further enrichment. Athletic teams participate in the Inter-City Catholic League with other Michiana Catholic schools. The school's chess club won the 2019 K-3 Indiana State Team Championship. Other offerings include student council, Lego league, choir, strings, band, Latin, Quiz Bowl, scouting, youth group and a eucharistic adoration club.

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RESPECT LIFE, from page 1

The British Journal of Psychiatry published an article in 2011 that examined data extracted from 22 studies. The article, "Abortion and mental health: quantitative synthesis and analysis of research published 1995–2009," concluded that "the results of this meta-analytic review of the abortion and mental health literature indicate quite consistently that abortion is associated with moderate to highly increased risks of psychological problems subsequent to the procedure... Overall, the results revealed that women who had undergone an abortion experienced an 81% increased risk of mental health problems."

Some women experience emotional and psychological symptoms soon after the abortion. However, it is more common for symptoms to occur over the course of five to 12 years after the abortion. Sometimes a woman does not realize that the suffering she has been experiencing, perhaps for many years, is associated with her past abortion.

Those who experience symptoms of grief and mourning after an abortion are often dismissed with the advice to "get over it" and left alone to suffer in silence, sometimes for decades, before seeking help and healing.

Men experience aftermath from abortion as well. According



to Vincent Rue, Ph.D., co-director of the Institute for Pregnancy Loss in Jacksonville, Florida, a psychotherapist, researcher and author, "Men do grieve following abortion, but they are more likely to deny their grief or internalize their feelings of loss rather than openly express them Because of this, men's requests for help may often go unrecognized and unheeded by those around them."

Project Rachel exists to extend the mercy of God to women

and men who have experienced abortion. As Thorn said when she came to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend in 2008: "No one has ever called me and said that healing didn't happen if they opened their heart to [God]. In fact, women often give me a hug and whisper, 'Thank you' in my ear."

"I recently met a woman whom I had counseled. With a huge smile she said, 'You and I have known each other a long time!' And the joy in her eyes

told me that the merciful hand of God had touched her and made her whole."

For more information about the local Project Rachel program, visit www.rachelhopes.org, call 1-855-RACHEL HOPE or email projectrachelhope@gmail.com.

In addition, the diocese will hold two memorial Masses in October for those who have lost a child before or after birth, including through miscarriage and abortion. The first memorial Mass will take place Thursday evening, Oct. 10 at 7 p.m. at St.

Thérèse, Little Flower Church, South Bend. The second will be celebrated Tuesday evening, Oct. 29 at St. John the Baptist Church, Fort Wayne. Those who attend the memorial Masses will have an opportunity to record their child's name in a book of remembrance, to entrust their little one to God and to take home a silk rose in honor of him or her. All are welcome.

For more information contact Lisa Everett at 574-234-0687 or leverett@diocesefwsb.org.

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For communications day, pope says memories can help unite people

BY PAIGE HANLEY

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis will highlight the important role of memory and storytelling across generations as a way to bring people together in a world marked by discord and division, the Vatican said.

The pope believes that memory — far from being a static, inflexible recollection of the past — has dynamic and transformative power that can influence and foster unity, a Vatican press release said Sept. 29 when it announced the theme of World Communication Day 2020.

The Vatican and many dioceses mark World Communication Day on the Sunday before Pentecost; in 2020 that will be May 24. The Vatican publishes the full message Jan. 24, the feast of St. Francis de Sales, patron saint of journalists.

For next year's message, the pope chose the theme, "So that you can tell your children and grandchildren. Life creates history."

The passage, based on the Book of Exodus, highlights the importance of sharing meaningful memories, stories and experiences, so that they may live on and transform the present, the



CNS/Paul Haring

An older and younger woman attend a Mass for the elderly celebrated by Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican in this Sept. 28, 2014, file photo. The pope will highlight the role of memory and storytelling across generations in his message for World Communications Day 2020.

Vatican statement said.

The theme "reminds us that every story is born out of life, from interacting with others," it said.

Stories are valuable resources which offer "great riches" to their listeners, it said. The insight, knowledge and human connection fostered through effective storytelling is an invaluable asset to the audience.

"Communications is, therefore, called to connect memory with life through stories," it said, explaining how Jesus used parables to convey "the vital power of the Kingdom of God, leaving his audience free to welcome these narratives and apply them to themselves."

"These stories are not only alive in the past but continue to guide the lives and beliefs of Catholics today," it said, adding, "The ability to generate change expresses how powerful a story is."

The Vatican announcement said the message will call for ongoing dialogue with each other and with the past and will ask everyone to make communications be "an instrument to build bridges, to unite and to share the beauty of being brothers and sisters in a moment of history marked by discord and division."



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Called to evangelize: directors of religious education

BY JENNIFER SIMERMAN AND VINCE LABARBERA

“Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you....” (Mt 28:19)

A director of religious education is first and foremost a catechist, someone who teaches the Catholic faith while being a model of Jesus Christ — helping others build a personal relationship with Him. A DRE administers a parish’s catechetical program for adults and children, sometimes teaching but also organizing and overseeing its budget, curriculum and catechist formation. Those who take on this role do so to serve and out of love for God.

“Our DREs have embraced the call to hand on the Catholic faith” said Jonathan Kaltenbach, director of catechesis for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. “Many of our DREs have received professional training for the purpose of taking on these ministerial roles, but many also simply stepped up when called upon by their parish. I have great admiration for all of them and their work in ministry.”

One such person who answered the call is Rebecca Frulla. She was recently appointed director of religious education and youth director for St. Therese Parish in Fort Wayne.

Frulla is no stranger to the study and teaching of Catholic faith. Originally born and raised in Manchester, New Hampshire, she moved to the Midwest to obtain a bachelor’s degree in theology and English from Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio. Upon graduating in 2013, she helped with a family business and served part-time at her home parish with the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults program, the



Photos by Jennifer Simerman

Cheryl Donaghy, director of religious education at St. Aloysius Parish, Yoder, substitutes for a catechist on Sept 22. She has been a DRE for more than 30 years, ensuring the sharing of the faith through catechetical programs first at Most Precious Blood Parish, Fort Wayne, then at St. Joseph Parish, Bluffton, and now at St. Aloysius.

youth group and confirmation preparation.

She moved to Fort Wayne to be closer to her now-husband David. She first accepted a position at the University of Saint Francis in the TRIO Student Support Services program, then moved her service to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish.

Frulla explained that she accepted her new role at St. Therese in July because “it’s more varied and encompasses areas I’ve always been interested in, namely, the RCIA process of bringing people into the Church, and religious education, working with both young people and adults.”

Frulla’s dedication to bringing

others into the faith is a vocation that requires balance with other life and daily responsibilities. Like other DREs, she feels called to a multifaceted and very active vocation, and she also balances work and family. Frulla and her husband are expecting their first child in January.

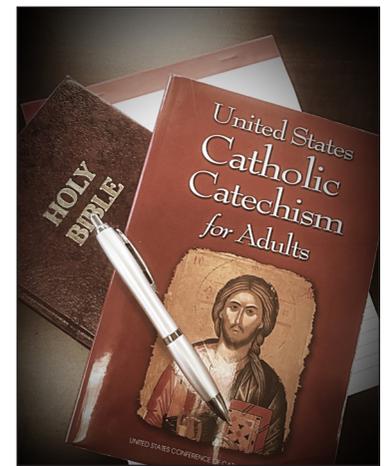
The job of being a DRE requires a true commitment to working with others — one’s own family, parishioners, parents, students, staff — in every part of every day, encouraging them to obey all that God has commanded.

“I am continually impressed and inspired as I continue to get to know our veteran DREs and welcome our new DREs: Their

faith, commitment, experience and wisdom are truly remarkable,” said Kaltenbach. “These are women and men who clearly love the Church and their parish and work tirelessly to hand on our faith to children and youth. And many of them serve catechumens and adults as well.”

The diocesan Office of Catechesis organizes two DRE gatherings every year, at the end of August and beginning of Lent. These gatherings are an opportunity for fellowship, program updates and professional development.

At the Aug. 22 gathering, attendees learned about the new Foundations of Faith course that assists with catechist and adult



faith formation. It is offered both in Fort Wayne and South Bend, using online resources from Franciscan University.

“We strongly encourage DREs who do not have formal theological training to pursue diocesan certification as catechists,” said Kaltenbach.

Other topics of discussion included regional DRE meeting options, resources and curriculum options for the coming year. Throughout the day, DREs were given the opportunity to briefly speak on particular special projects and events, such as the upcoming World Apostolate of Fatima Mass and breakfast, the Totus Tuus summer program for youth at St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, and much more. Various diocesan staff also dropped in to update the group on diocesan support available to them, and Kara Slocum gave a preview of some of the books and resources available from Good Shepherd Books & Gifts. Kaltenbach said he was also very “grateful to Father Louis Fowoyo for celebrating Mass for us and for his inspiring preaching on the mission of all Catholics to hand on our faith in Jesus Christ to all our brothers and sisters.”

“I am truly blessed to work with these amazing women and men.” Kaltenbach concluded.

Becoming a refugee — an exercise

BY JOSHUA SCHIPPER

Catholic Charities began its refugee resettlement program after the fall of South Vietnam. The organization estimates that there are 67.75 million refugee “persons of concern” globally.

On Sept. 28, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and the Fort Wayne Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints co-hosted a symposium to help families understand the wrenching decisions and hardships refugees face when leaving their homeland for a new country. The symposium took place at the LDS Stake in Fort Wayne, where representatives from Catholic Charities — several of them former refugees

— gave an overview of Catholic Charities’ charitable mission with regard to the myriad of individuals around the world displaced by war and poverty.

Following the presentation, those present participated in a brief simulation titled, “A Refugee’s Journey.” Each table member was given a list of supplies, and they were asked to choose only six items from the list that they would bring with them if they had to flee their homeland.

Participants then had to “endure” several more hardships throughout the simulation, including a broken-down truck, lost luggage and injured family members. The exercise seemed to lend insight into the difficulties that refugees face and an understanding of how the support of Catholic Charities helps.

After the simulation ended, the participants were questioned about what they learned. One man commented that at the end, “We were left with a couple blankets, a bunch of water, a knife, rope and a raincoat.”

A woman concluded that the hardest part of the simulation was when her daughter got “injured.” Another thing that she found difficult was when her daughter had to separate from her favorite stuffed animal.

A young girl said she thought it would be hard to make such a journey without medicine, because both she and her mother are allergic to tree pollen.

Catholic Charities provides the refugee simulation to schools and organizations throughout the year. Contact them at 260-422-5625 or <http://www.ccfwsb.org/>.



Joshua Schipper

On the heels of World Day of Migrants, a young girl participates in a refugee simulation, carefully decides what steps to take on a dangerous journey to safety. The exercise took place during a family symposium co-hosted by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and Catholic Charities in Fort Wayne Sept. 28.

Catholic partnership creates healthier communities

FORT WAYNE – With financial support from the St. Joseph Community Health Foundation, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend brings lifesaving health care assistance to the Hispanic community.

Ana (whose name is changed to protect medical privacy) was not yet fluent in English, especially medical vocabulary. So Catholic Charities sent its Hispanic health advocate along to her doctor appointment. The ultrasound revealed her baby's amniotic fluid was below average, and that the baby was measuring small. The doctor said that, if the trend continued, the baby would have to be delivered early to minimize the risk of a stillbirth.

With proper care and the help of the HHA, Ana was able to deliver a healthy baby at 39 weeks.

"Until their English fluency improves, our Hispanic Health Advocate program serves those who need Spanish-medical-interpretation services in vital areas such as health care," said advocate Natalie Borjas.

Funded in part by a grant from the St. Joseph Community Health Foundation, the Hispanic Health Advocate program was created to serve those in north-east Indiana who need Spanish-interpretation services in all vital areas of health care. Ana and her family are one of 122 families that CCFWSB served last year. All



Catholic Charities
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

fell within the Indiana Poverty Guidelines of "low income/poor."

Crucially, the HHA program provides long-term support to those lacking proficiency in English. A certified medical interpreter with specialized training in medical and dental terminology accompanies the client to the doctor's office and interprets the entire conversation between the health care provider and the client. Without this service, chronic conditions or serious health concerns could go untreated.

"I can't imagine going through that [pregnancy] alone and not being able to understand what was happening," said Ana. "I'm so grateful because all my questions were answered by the doctor. I could ask whatever I wanted!"

In fiscal year 2018, Catholic Charities provided 494 visits and related services for medical, dental and school-related appointments. If the current trend continues, CCFWSB expects the number of clients and visits to double this year.

Clients usually learn about the

program through word of mouth, although some clinics provide pamphlets containing information about the program.

CCFWSB helps further the mission of St. Joseph Community Health Foundation to strengthen, improve and sustain long-term community health in Allen County. Catholic Charities is a private 501(c)(3) incorporated in the state of Indiana to act as the coordinating and administrative agency for the charitable activities assigned to it by the bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. The organization plans for, initiates, directs, supports and coordinates Catholic social-services programs for the spiritual, mental, emotional and physical welfare of persons in need; to seek and determine the causes of social problems in order to better promote preventative social-action programs; to participate in community planning and organization and work cooperatively with other

individuals and groups in the field of social work. The service area for Catholic Charities includes the 14 counties of the diocese, encompassing 2,236

The agency's vision is to create Generation Zero: the first generation of children free from poverty. To learn more, visit: EradicatePoverty.org.

The St. Joseph Community Health Foundation, sponsored by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, stewards resources to respond to community needs with



square miles, with a population of 1,247,850. Currently, Catholic Charities has offices in Fort Wayne (Allen County), Auburn (DeKalb County) and South Bend (St. Joseph County).

In fiscal year 2018-19, CCFWSB served 17,077 individuals at a fiscally responsible rate of .87 cents of every dollar dedicated to client services.

grants, leverage collaboration with community partners and engage in transformational initiatives.

SJCHF serves the poor in body, mind and spirit to achieve quality health and wellness, focusing on the community of Allen County and may respond to needs among other underserved populations.



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South Bend | St. Matthew Cathedral
11:00 a.m. | 2nd & 4th Sundays of the Month

Fort Wayne | Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
11:30 a.m. | 2nd Sunday of the Month



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The sin of anti-Semitism resurfaces

The world reacted with horror and outrage earlier this year when a town in Poland marked Good Friday with a ritual beating of a Judas effigy.

The effigy was crafted to resemble a stereotype of an Orthodox Jew. Adults dragged the effigy through the town while children beat it with sticks. It was later hanged and then burned.

Both the Polish Church and the Polish government condemned the incident, but the event heightened a growing concern with the rise of anti-Jewish violence across Europe.

Almost 75 years after the last of the Nazi death camps were liberated, the world is watching a new generation succumb to the poison that many had assumed had been eliminated when the world was shown those horrors.

In Europe and the United States, anti-Semitic incidents are on the rise. Verbal and physical assaults, including murder, are increasing. Anti-Semitic incidents in France increased more than 70 percent in 2018, in Germany by 20 percent, which also saw a near doubling of violent attacks.

In our own country, the massacre at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh and the synagogue shooting in Poway, California, are the most extreme examples of the kind of hate that is being rekindled. During the neo-Nazi march in Charlottesville in 2017, the demonstrators chanted "Jews will not replace us," an allusion to a popular white nationalist claim that the white race is under attack.

Anti-Semitism has a long history. It often arises in times of group resentment and fear. Hitler's movement channeled historic anti-Semitic tropes and grew out of the economic chaos and depression following Germany's defeat in World War I.

Today, in our country, the turmoil following the Great Recession as well as social and technological upheaval and the exploitation of politicians has led to more expressions of bigotry of all forms.

Our Church has its own long and dark history of anti-Semitism that too often led to or sanctioned acts of discrimination and even violence.

Since the Second Vatican Council and its groundbreaking document "Nostra Aetate," much progress has been made in healing 2,000 years of Christian-Jewish tensions. St. John Paul II was an important figure in this respect. The first pope to visit a synagogue in modern times, he referred to the Jewish people as our elder brothers in the faith.

During a visit to Israel, he followed the practice of leaving a prayer in the cracks of the Western Wall. It read in part: "We are deeply saddened by the behavior of those who in the course of history have caused these children of yours to suffer, and asking your forgiveness we wish to commit ourselves to genuine brotherhood with the people of the Covenant."

Unfortunately, even in Catholic circles, we must be on guard that the great evil of anti-Semitism does not return, nor



GREG ERLANDSON

AMID THE FRAY

give intellectual cover to those who invoke its slanders.

Last summer, Chicago Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, writing in *Chicago Catholic*, warned that "we live in an era that is witnessing a dramatic increase in anti-Semitism and hate speech." And in a warning that surely must concern all Americans, he quoted Rabbi Johnathan Sacks: "The hate that begins with Jews never ends with Jews."

Father Edward Flannery, one of the first chroniclers of Catholic anti-Semitism, concluded, "The sin of anti-Semitism contains many sins, but in the end it is a denial of Christian faith, a failure of Christian hope, and a malady of Christian love."

In this time of resentment and upheaval, we Catholics would do well to be on our guard that we do not countenance this sin. Such "tolerance" of great evil would make a mockery of the faith we proclaim, the Savior we follow.

Greg Erlandson, director and editor-in-chief of Catholic News Service, can be reached at gerlandson@catholicnews.com.

Conscience and its enemies

Should doctors and nurses be forced to take part in procedures that violate their conscience? It's a timely question. New federal regulations to enforce existing conscience protection laws are being challenged in federal courts.

This question is the subject of a public opinion poll commissioned by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The survey, conducted by Heart+Mind Strategies, interviewed more than 1,000 adults in July. The results were released Sept. 18.

Ensuring that health professionals "are not forced to participate in procedures or practices to which they have moral objections" was deemed "important" by 83% of respondents (86% of women). Fifty-eight percent of respondents (62% of women) said these professionals should not be legally required to perform abortions when they have a moral objection.

After learning what the new federal regulation does, respondents supported it 59% to 21%. By a similar margin, 60% to 22%, they supported modifying the law to protect those with moral objections to "gender reassignment" procedures.

This is especially timely: A state appellate court in California is allowing a lawsuit to proceed against a Catholic hospital that declined, on religious grounds, to remove a healthy uterus from a woman seeking to identify as a man.

Finally, 41% said they would



RICHARD DOERFLINGER

A MORE HUMAN SOCIETY

be "more likely" to vote for their current member of Congress if they knew that he or she supports conscience protections for doctors and nurses. Only 16% said this would make them less likely to vote for the member.

This message, however, is lost on many members of Congress, including some seeking higher office.

Witness a pending federal bill, the Do No Harm Act (S. 593, H.R. 1450). It would undermine protections for religious freedom by carving out exceptions to the Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

For example, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act would no longer apply to any case involving "access to, information about, referrals for, provision of, or coverage for, any health care item or service," which surely encompasses abortion and other attacks on life as well as gender reassignment procedures.

The bill also states that the Religious Freedom Restoration Act should not be interpreted to exempt anyone from a "generally applicable law" when that would impose "meaningful harm,"

DOERFLINGER, page 13

God helps us to stand firm in holy convictions



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Luke 17:5-10

This weekend's first reading is from the Book of Habakkuk. By comparison among the prophets it's a short work, including only three chapters.

In some cases, little is known about the author of a given book. In this case, the prophet identifies himself by name (Hb 1:1, 3:1). However, this hardly stills all other questions.

Who was Habakkuk? Some experts believe Habakkuk was a prophet associated with the temple in Jerusalem. When did he write? The most accepted

opinion is that Habakkuk wrote this work in the latter part of the seventh century B.C. At the time, the struggles among the great powers of the Middle East were numerous and intense, and the small Jewish community was threatened in the accompanying clash.

It is not hard to imagine fear and anxiety among the people of God. Desperation and confusion easily led them away from strict obedience to Him.

Like the other prophets, Habakkuk appealed to his contemporaries to rely on God for protection in the uncertain international situation. The prophet insists that the "just" will survive.

Paul's Second Epistle to Timothy gives us the next reading. In this letter, the Apostle Paul reminded Timothy of the strength available to him as a bishop. Indeed, the reading refers to the ancient gesture of laying on hands, on the head of the candidate, still an essential and primary act in the ordaining of deacons, priests and bishops, not only for Roman Catholics,

but also for Episcopalians and Orthodox.

Finally, Timothy was instructed not to preach his own mind, but instead to proclaim the Gospel of Christ.

St. Luke's Gospel is the source of the third reading. This Gospel was read during the liturgies of recent weekends. What already has been heard in these earlier readings forms an umbrella over what is read this weekend. The overall theme is that following Jesus requires strong determination and much faith.

The Lord has many disciples who stumble and fall. It is a world of sin and selfishness. Temptations are rampant. Security and success result from faith, which we ourselves must nourish and preserve.

In the second part of the reading, Jesus employs a parable, speaking of a farmer and shepherd who has engaged a servant.

Scholars cannot agree on the term used to describe the servant. Is he "worthless" or "lazy," "unprofitable" or "unproductive"? One ancient Greek text has "owing nothing,"

It is clear, however, that the servant is not so worthless as to be beyond God's love.

Also clear is that the master in no way depends upon the servant, but the context is that the servant is kept, not discharged. Indeed, the relationship between the servant and master is so close that the servant assumes to have a place at the master's table.

Reflection

For weeks, through Scriptures read at Mass, the Church has been summoning us to discipleship. The message has been no promise of a primrose path ahead. It has not exalted human nature above and beyond what human nature is in fact. Rather, it has been frank, even somberly warning at times.

This is the background from which these readings appear. Taken together, they are instructive, alerting us to dangers, but also consoling us with assurances of hope and of life.

Each sincere follower of Jesus must see herself or himself as

like the servant mentioned this weekend in Luke's Gospel. As sinning so well demonstrates, we are not as capable of finding the right path as we think we are. We need God to show the way.

Habakkuk lets us know that many detours and obstacles lie before us, but God will lead us, if we allow it. Our resolve must be to stand firm and unwavering in our conviction to follow Christ.

READINGS

Sunday: Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4 Ps 95:1-2, 6-9 2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14 Lk 17:5-10

Monday: Jon 1:1—2:2, 11 (Ps) Jon 2:2-5, 8 Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday: Jon 3:1-10 Ps 130:1b-4ab, 7-8 Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday: Jon 4:1-11 Ps 86:3-6, 9-10 Lk 11:1-4

Thursday: Mal 3:13-20b Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 11:5-13

Friday: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2 Ps 9:2-3, 6, 8-9, 16 Lk 11:15-26

Saturday: Jl 4:12-21 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 Lk 11:27-28

What our church buildings say

In the Mass for Thursday of the 25th week of the year, we read from the book of the prophet Haggai, who wrote at the time of the return of the Jews from the Babylonian exile, which had begun in 587 B.C. The Jewish people were permitted to return to the Promised Land beginning in about 538 B.C. Haggai wrote his book in the summer of 520 B.C., and in it he scolds the people for concentrating on their “paneled houses” while the Temple is in a ruinous state. He ties their weak piety to the failure of crops, their inability to enjoy what they have and other calamities.

We might look at a passage from the Book of Haggai and ponder what it means for us:

“This is what the Lord of Hosts says: ‘These people say, ‘The time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the Lord.’” Then the word of the Lord came through Haggai the prophet, saying: ‘Is it a time for you yourselves to live in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins?’ Now this is what the Lord of Hosts says: ‘Think carefully about your ways. You have planted much but harvested little. You eat but never have enough. You drink but never have your fill. You put on clothes but never get warm. You earn wages to put into a bag pierced through.’ You expected much, but behold, it amounted to little. And what you brought home, I blew away. Why? declares the Lord of Hosts. Because My house still lies in ruins, while each of you is busy with his own house.” (Hg 1:2ff).

God does not need a fancy temple, but we do. The building of beautiful churches says a lot about our priorities and where our heart lies. Churches express our love for God and our desire to honor and thank Him. They need not be extravagant, but they should be adorned with a beauty and form that stands out as sacred and memorable, as an expression that we love God and take Him seriously, that He is a priority in our lives. In the Middle Ages, the town church was usually centrally located and was the tallest and most prominent building. By the 16th

century, palaces and government buildings began to take that place. Today, the skyscrapers of our cities are named for investment banks and insurance companies. Yes, our buildings say something about our priorities.

Churches are also meant to remind us of heaven. Until recent decades, they were built along lines that spoke to the heavenly realities both Moses and John saw as they were shown the heavenly worship and vision. Churches have high jeweled (stained-glass) walls because heaven does. Churches have glorious throne-like altars with the tabernacle at the center amidst tall candles because in heaven there is a throne-like altar with the Lamb upon it and Jesus stands among the lampstands. Paintings and statues of saints and angels, incense, priestly robes, standing and kneeling appropriately and the singing of hymns all remind us of the communion of saints and angels in the heavenly worship. All of this is revealed in the heavenly visions contained in the Bible.

Haggai’s opening vision also says a lot about our inability to enjoy even the good things we have without God at the center. We all have a God-sized hole in our heart and only He can ultimately fill it. Trying to get created things to fill that gap is both frustrating and futile. The good things we do have point to God, the giver, and should inspire in us a gratitude and longing for Him. If we remove or marginalize God, our disorder affections gnaw away at us; no matter how much we get we remain dissatisfied.

God says through Haggai that fixing the ruined Temple is the way to fix their hearts. It is less about the building than about hearts. It is interesting that some of the most glorious and beautiful churches in this country were built by poor immigrant communities. We now live in times of comparative affluence, especially in America, but although incomes and home sizes have grown our churches seem to be built on the cheap, lacking both the nobility and glory that belong to God and which poorer



COMMUNITY IN MISSION

MSGR. CHARLES POPE

generations produced in the churches of their time.

The problem has both theological and liturgical roots. A flawed notion of the liturgy claimed that churches should look more like living rooms or dining rooms than heaven.

Another problem was, and is, the “poverty of Judas.” This is the idea that money spent on buildings would be better used by being given to the poor. There may be a little truth to that, but the poor also want and need beautiful churches that remind them of heaven and give due honor to God. A church is a space of beauty that all can share.

Yet another reason is that we just don’t value or prioritize the Lord and the liturgy as highly anymore. If we give less to the church perhaps we can buy a nicer car, a boat or a vacation home. How is that ephemeral stuff working out for us? Are we happier? Haggai says no: You eat but never have enough. You drink but never have your fill. Exactly! All our blessings point to God and should instill gratitude and a longing for the true completion of an eternal relationship with Him.

Enough said. The point is not so much a building itself but what the building says about our hearts. God says today through Haggai, in effect, “Your paneled houses and the ruined Temple are a testimony to the condition of your hearts and your flawed priorities.”

Indeed, God should get the first fruits of our harvest, our best and highest effort. This is not because He needs them, but because we do.

Msgr. Charles Pope is the pastor of Holy Comforter — St. Cyprian Catholic Church, Washington, D.C.

DOERFLINGER, from page 12

including dignitary harm,” on someone else.

The term “dignitary harm” does not appear in the U.S. Code, and this bill does not define it. But it has been used to sue bakers and others who decline on religious grounds to participate in same-sex wedding celebrations.

Plaintiffs claim that, by disagreeing with the couple’s definition of marriage, believers offend their dignity. Or as legal scholar Sheriff Girgis says, they seek to “punish expressive conduct whose message they abhor, just because they abhor it.”

Under these standards, the

Little Sisters of the Poor and other religious institutions, who the U.S. Supreme Court says are protected by the Religious Freedom Restoration Act from forced involvement in coverage for contraceptive and abortifacient drugs, could be put back in the cage built for them by radical secularists.

Catholic doctors, nurses and hospitals could be forced to take part in abortion and other procedures that Hippocrates condemned when he made “do no harm” a central principle of medical ethics.

Who is sponsoring this bill? One hundred and thirty-four House Democrats and 28 Senate

Democrats — including four senators running for president, led by prime sponsor Sen. Kamala Harris.

When the Religious Freedom Restoration Act was enacted in 1993, all but two Senate Democrats voted for it and President Bill Clinton enthusiastically signed it into law. The party’s leaders in recent years have taken a disturbing turn against religious freedom and conscience rights. That is not a direction most Americans want to take.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for October 6, 2019

Luke 17:5-10

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: a lesson about faith and discipleship. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

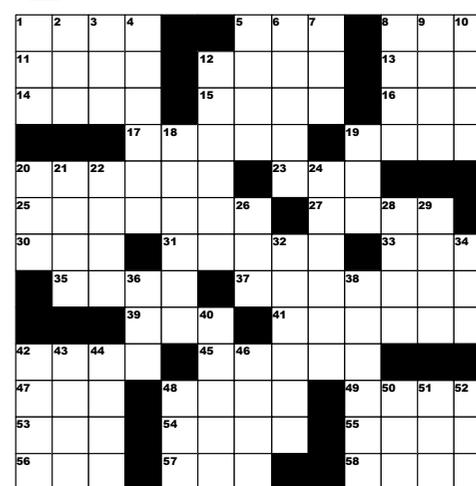
APOSTLE	INCREASE	OUR FAITH
THE SIZE	MUSTARD SEED	TREE
ROOTED	PLANTED	IN THE SEA
OBEY YOU	SERVANT	PLOWING
TENDING	SHEEP	IN THE FIELD
COME	TABLE	APRON
DRINK	COMMANDED	DONE

OUR FAITH

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The CrossWord

October 6 and 13, 2019



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Sunday readings: 1:2-3, 2:2-4; 2Tm 1:6-8; 13-14; Lk 17: 5-10 and 2Tm 2: 8-13; Lk 17:11-19

ACROSS

- 1 Intervene in violence
- 5 Extremely high frequency (abbr.)
- 8 Gone by
- 11 Input into a computer
- 12 What the devil is
- 13 Taxi
- 14 Volcano
- 15 To be faithless
- 16 Falsehood
- 17 Jesus healed the _____ & the lame
- 19 Obligated to do
- 20 Village in Samaria

- 23 Unidentified flying object
- 25 Grantor
- 27 Eastern Orthodox religious image
- 30 # of lepers
- 31 Play
- 33 Michigan locks
- 35 Eye infection
- 37 "Clamorous _____"
- 39 Epoch
- 41 Plot
- 42 Soybean
- 45 Loathe
- 47 Compass point
- 48 Opera solo

- 49 Sicknesses
- 53 Cause of sickness
- 54 Corporation (abbr.)
- 55 Oceans
- 56 High-school club
- 57 To the _____ of the age"
- 58 Writings

DOWN

- 1 Compass point
- 2 Feign
- 3 Truck
- 4 Endue
- 5 Nice and smooth
- 6 Large India religion
- 7 Winged pest
- 8 Civil liberties group
- 9 Horse's walk
- 10 Follow commands
- 12 Reviser
- 18 Bankers
- 19 Physician
- 20 Beret
- 21 Beers
- 22 Money vault
- 24 Absolute failure
- 26 Radiation dose
- 28 Double-reed instrument
- 29 "Take as your _____"
- 32 Accident
- 34 Poem
- 36 Affirmative
- 38 Jesus _____
- 40 Moses' brother
- 42 Take a picture
- 43 Off-Broadway award
- 44 Bark in pain
- 46 Holy Spirit image
- 48 Expert
- 50 Downwind
- 51 Nonchalant
- 52 Concord e.g.

Answer Key can be found on page 15

Novena with Newman

All over the world, people are preparing to celebrate the canonization of Blessed Cardinal John Henry Newman on Sunday, Oct. 13.

FORT WAYNE — This is a time of special grace for Catholics to join together and form links in a great chain of prayer, where we call upon the soon-to-be-saint to crown the prayers of the faithful with his intercession in heaven. The Oratories of England are extending to the world an open invitation to prepare for the canonization of Blessed Cardinal John Henry Newman by joining in the Novena with Newman — nine days of prayer starting on Friday, Oct. 4, and finishing on Saturday Oct. 12, on the eve of the canonization.

Eternal Word Television Network joins the faithful in Rome with complete live coverage of events celebrating the extraordinary lives of Blessed Cardinal Newman, Sister Marian Thresia, Sister Giuseppina Vannini, Sister Dulce Lopes Pontes and Marguerite Bays, who will be recognized for their uncommon virtue and holiness in this Mass of Canonization celebrated by Pope Francis.

Access the link for live coverage on the web at www.today-scatholic.org on Sunday, Oct. 13, at 3:30 a.m. An encore showing will be aired at 8 p.m. EST.

Visit www.newmancanonisation.com/novena to view or download a day-by-day novena intention and prayer guide.



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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.

Trivia night planned at St. Therese
FORT WAYNE — To celebrate the feast of St. Therese, a trivia night will take place Saturday, Oct. 5, from 7-10 p.m. at St. Therese gymnasium, 2222 Lower Huntington Rd. Reserve a table by calling Ray Converset at 260-443-5766. Cost is \$10 per person. Teams of 10 per table.

Memorial for the unborn
FORT WAYNE — A memorial for unborn babies will be Sunday, Oct. 6, at 2 p.m. at Catholic Cemetery on Lake Ave. For more information visit: www.ichoos-elife.org/memorial or call 260-471-1849.

An Evening of Mental Health and Hope
FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis will present "An Evening of Mental Health and Hope," from 6-8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 10 in the USF North Campus gymnasium, 2702 Spring St. The free event will include a Mental Health and Wellness Fair at 6 p.m., followed by a keynote address by Dr. Richard Ruhrhold, Ph.D., HSPP, senior vice president and chief psychologist at Otis R. Bowen Center at 7 p.m.

Memorial Mass for those who have lost a child
SOUTH BEND — Anyone who has lost a child before or after

birth — whether recently or long ago — may join for a special memorial Mass on Thursday, Oct. 10, at 7 p.m. at St. Therese, Little Flower Church in South Bend. For more information, contact Lisa Everett at 574-234-0687 or email leverett@diocesefwsb.org.

'Standing Strong as a Parent or Grandparent' with Dr. Ray Guarendi
FORT WAYNE — St. Charles Borromeo Parish, 4916 Trier Rd., will host a talk on "Standing Strong as a Parent or Grandparent" by Dr. Ray Guarendi on Thursday, Oct. 10, at 7:30 p.m. Guarendi is a Catholic father of 10 adopted

REST IN PEACE

<p>Decatur Lisa A. Bills, 41, St. Mary of the Assumption</p> <p>Richard E. Braun, 90, St. Mary of the Assumption</p> <p>Mishawaka Joseph Maguire, 93, Queen of Peace</p>	<p>South Bend Dorothy Sommer, 84, St. Anthony de Padua,</p> <p>Dorothy Lindzy, 95, St. Anthony de Padua</p> <p>Anthony J. Panzica, 95, St. Anthony de Padua</p> <p>David N. Dean, 69, St. Anthony de Padua</p>	<p>Barbara Ann Humnick, 73, St. Anthony de Padua</p> <p>Dominic Anthony Patkay, Newborn, St. Anthony de Padua</p> <p>Warsaw Lois A. Sullivan, 82, Sacred Heart</p>
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children, a clinical psychologist, author, professional speaker and national radio and television host. This event is free and open to the public.

White Mass to be celebrated at Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center
MISHAWAKA — Bishop Rhoades will celebrate the 7 a.m. White Mass on Friday, Oct. 11 in Our Lady of Fatima Chapel at Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, 5215 Holy Cross Pkwy.

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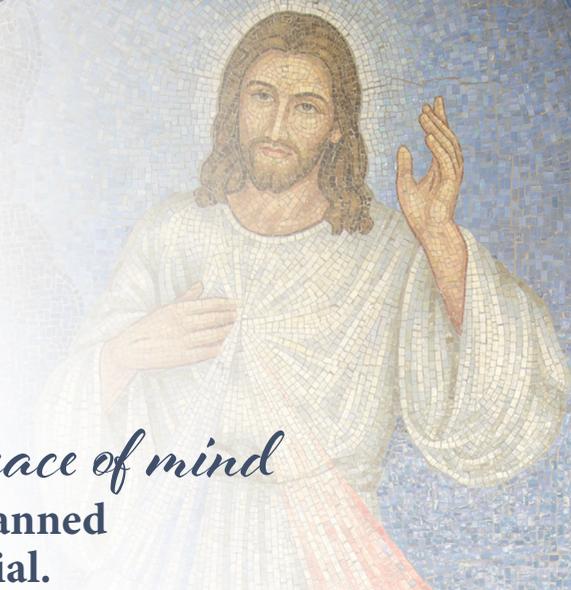
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Couples blessed at wedding anniversary Masses

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated wedding anniversary Masses at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, Sept. 22, and at St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, Sept. 29. Couples celebrating their 25th, 50th and 60th anniversaries were recognized during the homily and received a blessing from the bishop.

"At this Mass, we gather to thank God for your marriages, because He is the One who joined you together in the covenant of love and fidelity," Bishop Rhoades told the couples. "When you pronounced your vows 25, 50 and 60 years ago, God sealed your consent. God gave you the grace, and continues to give you the grace, to perfect your love and to strengthen your indissoluble unity as husband and wife.

"For all these years, Jesus has been with you in your marriage," he continued, "giving you the strength to take up your crosses and to persevere in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health. Jesus has been with you, giving you the grace to forgive one another and to bear each other's burdens. The Lord has blessed so many of you with children and grandchildren and some of you with great-grandchildren. We have much to thank God for today."

Bishop Rhoades related the second reading from St. Paul to the Corinthians to the couples' marriages, focusing on one verse — "Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails," and presenting insights from Pope Francis's apostolic exhortation, "Amoris Laetitia," "The Joy of Love."

These are powerful words about Christian love and very countercultural words," he said. "Christ's love is the source of the grace of Christian love, which is love unto the end."

"'Love bears all things.' This is about more than putting up with things. I'm sure you've all had to put up with annoying things about your spouse. The original Greek for 'love bearing all things' has to do with the



Jennifer Miller

An anniversary couple shares their joy with one another and the faithful as Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades proclaims, "You may kiss the bride, again!" during the annual wedding anniversary Mass at St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, Sept. 29.

use of the tongue," Bishop told the couples. "It means that love resists the impulse to speak ill of another, to condemn others, or to vent our anger or resentment."

"You know, our tongues can be pretty poisonous. We can say things that really hurt others. However, true Christian love cherishes the good name of others and doesn't try to tear people down.

"Spouses joined by love are called to speak well of each other. They keep silent rather than speak ill of their spouse. Couples, that doesn't mean that

you don't see the weaknesses and faults of your spouse. But you realize that those weaknesses and faults that annoy you are part of a bigger picture."

"'Love believes all things,' St. Paul writes. The word 'believes' here is to be understood as 'trusts,'" said the bishop. "Trust in one's spouse is essential to a good marriage. Love trusts and sets free; it doesn't try to control, possess, and dominate everything. One who loves is inclined to believe the best about others, to trust their motives and actions. In good marriages,



Joshua Schipper

Stephen and Ann Gillig, parishioners of St. Charles Borromeo, Fort Wayne, stand for a blessing by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades during a wedding anniversary Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception Sept. 22. The couple was celebrating their 50th anniversary.

there is this sincere trust in one's spouse. When one knows he or she is trusted and appreciated, there's no falsehood or deceit in the relationship. There's a sincerity and a transparency in good marriages.

"Those who know they are trusted and appreciated can be open and transparent in the relationship. There is a trust in the basic goodness of the other. Spouses who trust, believe in each other."

The connection between love and hope is of great importance also in a marriage, he said.

"Love doesn't despair of the future. You know, sometimes things don't turn out like we wish: In these situations, we must not give up. Sometimes God allows things to happen in our lives that are really difficult. But we can still persevere in hope because we know that God is with us. And God may

well draw some good from the evil we endure in this world. We live by faith in life after death. Each of us, with all our sins and failings, is called to the fullness of life in heaven. There we will be fully transformed by Christ's resurrection and every weakness, darkness, and infirmity will pass away. Even though there are sufferings and aggravations in this life, we don't lose hope.

"The grace of the sacrament of marriage sanctifies, enriches and illuminates the love between a husband and wife," Bishop concluded. "It endures long after the emotions and passions of romance subside. This is the power of true Christian love, the love we see in Jesus' self-sacrifice on the cross, the love that becomes present on the altar in every celebration of the Eucharist, the holy Sacrifice of the Mass."

Anniversary blessings by the numbers

43 Couples blessed

20 Couples celebrating their 50th anniversaries

60 Years of marriage of each of the three couples married the longest: Raul and Maria Caballero, Sandy and Carl Frecker and Tony and Ilene Lott, all of Fort Wayne; married in 1959

6 Largest number of couples attending from a single parish: St. Louis, Besancon, New Haven

1,732 Years of marriage celebrated, total

Fort Wayne

South Bend

40 Couples blessed

24 Couples celebrating their 50th anniversaries

71 Years of marriage of the couple married the longest: Betty and Robert Urbanski, married in 1948

6 Largest number of couples attending from a single parish: St. Pius X, Granger

1,968 Years of marriage celebrated, total