VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Saints are people who recognized their need for God’s help, who took risks to discover God’s will and to help others and who nurtured a habit of thanksgiving, Pope Francis said.

“The culmination of the journey of faith is to live a life of continual thanksgiving. Let us ask ourselves: Do we, as people of faith, live each day as a burden, or as an act of praise?” the pope said in his homily Oct. 13 after formally declaring five new saints for the Catholic Church.

Those canonized at the Mass were: St. John Henry Newman, the British theologian, poet and cardinal who died in 1890; Brazilian St. Maria Rita Lopes Pontes, popularly known as Sister Dulce, who died in 1992; Indian St. Mariam Thresia Chiramel Mankidiyan, founder of the Congregation of the Holy Family, who died in 1926; St. Marguerite Bays, a Swiss laywoman and mystic, who died in 1879; and St. Josephine Vannini, the Italian co-founder of the Daughters of St. Camillus, who died in 1911.

“Three of them were religious women,” the pope noted in his homily. “They show us that the consecrated life is a journey of love at the existential peripheries of the world.”

“St. Marguerite Bays, on the other hand, was a seamstress; she speaks to us of the power of simple prayer, enduring patience and silent self-giving,” he said.

Rather than describing St. Newman, Pope Francis quoted from him to illustrate the meaning of “the holiness of daily life”: “The Christian has a deep, silent, hidden peace, which the world sees not .... The Christian is cheerful, easy, kind, gentle, courteous, candid, unassuming; has no pretense ... with so little that is unusual or striking in his bearing that he may easily be taken at first sight for an ordinary man.”

And, referencing St. Newman’s famous hymn, “Lead, Kindly Light,” the pope prayed that all Christians would be “kindly lights amid the encircling gloom.”

Tens of thousands of people filled a sunny St. Peter’s Square for the canonization ceremony and Mass. Among them were Britain’s Prince Charles, Italian President Sergio Mattarella, Brazilian Vice President Hamilton Martins Mourao, a member of Switzerland’s federal council and the deputy foreign minister of India.

Melissa Villalobos from Chicago also was there with her husband and children, and they brought up the offertory gifts at the Mass. Villalobos’ healing, which saved her life and the life of her unborn child, was accepted as the miracle needed for St. Newman’s canonization.

Hours before the Mass began, Holy Family Sisters Manjula and Aruna stood just outside the security checkpoint, handing out Indian flags, rosaries and prayer cards, caps and scarves with the image of their order’s founder, St. Thresia.

The new saint’s focus, and that of her order today, is assistance to people at the peripheries of life: sick, abandoned, marginalized and neglect.”

“Kindly lights in gloomy world: Pope declares five new saints”

BY CINDY WOODEN
Bishops to vote for USCCB president, vice president at fall assembly

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. bishops are scheduled to elect the next president and vice president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops at their upcoming fall general assembly taking place Nov. 11-13 in Baltimore.

Each office is elected from a slate of 10 candidates who have been nominated by their fellow bishops. Released Oct. 9 by the USCCB, the slate of candidates for president and vice president is as follows:

— Bishop Frank J. Caggiano of Bridgeport, Connecticut.
— Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City.
— Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of San Francisco.
— Bishop Daniel E. Flores of Brownsville, Texas.
— Archbishop Jose H. Gomez of Los Angeles.
— Archbishop Jerome E. Listecki of Milwaukee.
— Bishop Thomas J. Paprocki of Springfield in Illinois.
— Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana.
— Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron of Detroit.

The president and vice president are elected to three-year terms, which begin at the conclusion of the fall assembly. The current president, Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, and the current vice president, Archbishop Gomez, will complete their terms at this meeting.

USCCB bylaws provide that the first election is that of president by a simple majority vote of members present and voting. In a special exception to this bylaw approved by the bishops one year ago, the June assembly, 17 bishops in Rome for their ad limina visits from the New York region will be allowed to participate remotely in the election as well.

Following the election of the president, the vice president is elected from the remaining nine candidates. In either election, if a candidate does not receive more than half of the votes cast on the first ballot, a second vote is taken. If a third round of voting is necessary, that ballot is a run-off between the two bishops who received the most votes on the second ballot.

Bishops use electronic voting devices during the spring general assembly of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Baltimore June 12. The bishops are scheduled to elect the next president and vice president of the USCCB during their fall general assembly Nov. 11-13 in Baltimore.

Advice offered to confront anxiety over gun violence

BY PATRICIA MONTANA

PORTLAND, Ore. (CNS) — Firearm attacks have changed society in the United States as mass shootings have become more frequent and the public is forced to face the psychological consequences, often silently.

More than half of American adults consider mass shootings a latent threat, a Reuters/Ipsos survey in August discovered. Many respondents reported experiencing a sense of insecurity with increased levels of anxiety.

“This situation puts you on alert because you never know when or where the next massacre will happen. There is an imitation effect and it is happening very frequently,” one respondent said.

Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Bishop Frank J. Dewane of Venice, Florida, chairman of the bishops’ Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, said recent mass shootings reveal a terrible truth.

“We can never again believe that mass shootings are an isolated exception,” they said in a statement after a pair of early August attacks in Texas and Ohio. “They are an epidemic against life that we must, in justice, face.”

Statistics from the Gun Violence Archive website show that as of Oct. 10 in the United States there have been 526 mass shootings in which four or more people were killed or injured. The shootings accounted for 363 deaths and 1,329 wounded, leaving countless families fretted in pain.

After a white supremacist shooter in El Paso, Texas, sought to “kill as many Mexicans as possible” Aug. 3, fear is especially strong among Hispanic families. Mental health hangs in the balance, experts said.

“I feel that the focus of the attacks and racism is directly against us,” said Edith Castillo, executive director of the Catholic Charities program El Programa Hispano in Gresham, Oregon.

Castillo, a mental health counselor, does not mince words in blaming President Donald Trump’s rhetoric and federal immigration policy for some of the violence, especially against Latino people.

“It’s not a stretch to say that terms such as “invaders” can spark criminal actions against Hispanics, Castillo said.

“Many people have been fleeing places with a lot of violence in search of a place that gives them peace and quiet, but people are afraid of the current situation,” said Elsa Tiztuntz, a mental health counselor at El Programa Hispano. “This causes immigrants to feel isolated and marginalized.”

Even those who were not present during an attack are affected by news reports, she said, explaining that trauma becomes an invisible and silent companion.

In 2014, after a shooting at Reynolds High School in suburban Portland, which left two students dead and a teacher wounded, El Programa Hispano offered psychological support. It was then that staff began to wonder how young people were affected by such incidents.

Tiztuntz explained that after violent events it is normal for people to feel anxious and afraid; children may begin to behave differently and the changes can dampen their performance in school. The counselor, a licensed psychologist, said children may also suffer from irritability, nightmares, insomnia, tremors, sadness, apathy and lack of concentration as symptoms of fear.

Post-trauma symptoms do not necessarily mean people will develop a chronic problem, she said.

In Hispanic culture, many people think psychologists serve only those with severe mental illness or the rich, Tiztuntz said.

Mental health professionals who speak Spanish are also difficult to find, she said.

The professionals at El Programa Hispano offered several strategies to help manage stress and anxiety caused by violent events. They can be found at www.todayscatholic.org.

Montana is editor of El Centinela, the Spanish-language newspaper of the Archdiocese of Portland.
Health care professionals come together in prayer and worship

BY JENNIFER MILLER

Early in the morning, before the sun rose, a large group of Catholic health care professionals gathered at Our Lady of Fatima Chapel at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center Friday, Oct. 11. There, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated the White Mass, asking for God’s Spirit’s intercession and blessing.

Following the tradition of the legal profession’s annual Red Mass, the White Mass is named for the white cloth worn by doctors and bestowed upon them during medical school. As physicians take an oath to care for the sick and dying, their profession is closely aligned to the ministry of Jesus, the divine physician.

Because it was the feast day of St. Pope John XXIII, the “Good Pope John,” Bishop Rhoades spoke of his love and concern for the sick and suffering. Having been a medic as well as a military hospital chaplain before serving as pope, the future saint knew well the pain and horrors of war. As pontiff, he was the first pope to visit the church’s children’s hospital, Bambino Gesu.

Bishop Rhoades then shared narratives about the saint that illustrated his deep love for each person, following that of the Good Shepherd. He touched on true Christian love, which is sacrificial and self-giving. He thanked those present for their great care and charity of those patients entrusted to them.

“Healing was an image of God’s compassion and love for all those who were hurting,” he said.

The homily also touched on the cultural realities Catholic physicians face every day.

“The Gospels are replete with examples of Our Lord curing every kind of ailment and disease. And He cared not only for people’s physical ailments. He touched people at deeper levels as well — including spiritual healing through the forgiveness of sins,” the bishop explained.

“As St. John writes in His Gospel, Jesus said: ‘I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.’” (Jn 10:10)

“This holistic vision is the vision of Catholic Health Care Ministry. That is why pastoral and spiritual care is important in our Catholic hospitals. Also, Christian love is to be the animating principle of Catholic health care. All employees are called to imitate the love of Jesus in their care of patients and in their relations with one another. Real love, not just superficial, sentimental or unanchored love,” Bishop Rhoades said. “It is a love anchored in the love of God. We must see Christ in everyone we care for,” affirms physician

Dr. John Rice, president of the St. Andre Bessette Guild of the Catholic Medical Association, said the following the White Mass that the Mass is an opportunity for the Church to honor Catholic health care professionals who bring Christ’s healing mission to the bedside every day.

“We come together to offer prayers for the sick and for those who provide their care. This is also an opportunity for physicians, nurses and others to recommit themselves to an authentic vision of the human person. We must see Christ in everyone we care for, and, in turn, we must be the hands and the voice of Christ for every patient we meet.”

“Bishop Rhoades highlighted some of the areas in which society directly challenges our Catholic understanding of the human person,” Dr. Rice continued. “Abortion, in vitro fertilization and embryonic stem cell research all undermine the dignity of persons at the beginning of life. Contraception, same sex ‘marriage’ and transgender conversions contradict the God-given plan for sexuality. Euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide both reflect a lack of trust in God and His dominion over our lives. Physicians are called to lead the fight to restore integrity to health care.”

The Catholic Medical Association is a national organization founded in 1932 and dedicated to integrating the truths of the Catholic faith with the science and practice of medicine, according to Dr. Rice. “Our local guild, dedicated to St. Andre Bessette, strives to imitate his charism of humble healing of both body and soul,” the Guild chaplain is Father Glenn Kohrman, pastor of Holy Family and St. John parishes in South Bend. The next meeting is at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 6 and will begin with Mass in the St. Joseph Regional Medical Center chapel, followed by a meeting in the education center.

Sincerely in Christ,

+ Kevin C. Rhoades

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

Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Monday, October 21: 12 p.m. — Mass and Lunch Meeting with Seven Sisters Apostolate Group, Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, Fort Wayne

Monday, October 21: 6 p.m. — Meeting of Diocesan Review Board, Wyndham Garden Hotel, Warsaw

Tuesday, October 22: 6 p.m. — Mass for Christ Child Society of Fort Wayne; St. John the Baptist Church, Fort Wayne

Wednesday, October 23: 10:30 a.m. — All Souls Mass, Purcell Pavilion, University of Notre Dame

Wednesday, October 23: 6 p.m. — Priest and Religious Appreciation Dinner with Knights of Columbus #5521, South Bend

Thursday, October 24: 8:30 a.m. — Pastoral Visit to Christ the King School, South Bend, with Mass at 9:45 a.m.

Friday, October 25: 7:30 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Corpus Christi Church, South Bend

Saturday, October 26: 10:30 a.m. — Jubilee Mass for Sisters of St. Francis, St. Francis Convent, Mishawaka

Saturday, October 26: 6 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr Church, South Bend
Foundation supports broadcast of chapel Mass

BY MIKE SHADE

A gift made possible by Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana’s generous donors has given Holy Cross Village residents one more way to become involved in their community. Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame strives to provide ways for its residents to form bonds with each other and those outside of the continuing care retirement community. A ministry of the Brothers of Holy Cross, Holy Cross Village is nestled in the heart of three well-known Catholic educational institutions: the University of Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s College and Holy Cross College.

In addition to offering independent living, assisted living, rehabilitation services and more to approximately 300 residents, the retirement community values its Catholic roots and provides a spiritual atmosphere. Our Lady of Holy Cross Chapel at Holy Cross Village is one place that spiritual atmosphere resides: Residents may visit for quiet reflection, prayer and, of course, Mass.

Mass is celebrated each morning at 11:30 a.m. by one of the Holy Cross Brothers. In addition, it is broadcast on television via the Chapel Channel. This channel broadcasts the Mass in real time so that residents watching the Mass can feel they are a part of the liturgy. The channel also covers any presentations or other events hosted in the chapel so that residents feel included even if they are unable to physically visit the chapel. In addition to the daily Mass offerings, resident funerals that are conducted in the chapel are televised through the Chapel Channel. These are important milestones, and through the Chapel Channel these “celebrations of life” for residents’ families can be shared by those who have been a part of their loved ones’ lives, sometimes for long periods of time.

Over the years the Chapel Channel developed several pressing technological issues. With the installation of a new TV system it became evident that broadcasting spiritual programming from the new Chapel TV to the residents was challenging. Lacking the necessary technology to broadcast, the sound quality was poor and the picture on individual televisions appeared very small, in the corner of the screen. As a result, as of late residents were not able to adequately see or hear the presentations.

David Null, president of Holy Cross Village, met with staff and technicians to discuss alternatives to improve the quality of the Chapel Channel. Converged Communication Partners developed a proposal for improvement in the technology and quality of service. The cost of the project was estimated at $3,500.

Providentially, the Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana reached out to Barbara Cassady, director of development at Holy Cross Village to determine if the need fit the purpose of the Christian Service Fund managed by CCFNEI. One of the purposes of the Christian Service Fund is to provide “opportunities for infirmed or shut-ins to participate in spiritual activities including Mass, holy Communion or other sacraments.”

The Christian Service Fund of CCFNEI provided a grant of $3,555 to Holy Cross Village to assist in the pastoral care of its residents. Cassady noted that, “This timely gift will provide for the purchase and installation of equipment that will result in a full-screen quality image of these special viewing events broadcast over the Chapel Channel to our residents, with greatly enhanced sound quality.”

Father Kenneth Grabner, CSC, a Holy Cross Village resident and celebrant of the chapel’s daily Mass, met with staff and technicians to discuss alternatives to improve the quality of the Chapel Channel. Father Kenneth Grabner, CSC, said he’s thankful for the upgraded system. The improvements “will enable us to share our eucharistic celebrations with all of the people here at Holy Cross Village … it will add much to the spiritual life of our village.”
Catholics need to recognize ‘ecological sins,’ synod members say

BY JUNNO AROCHO ESTEVES

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Synod members called for the Catholic Church to deepen its theology in a way that would help people recognize “ecological sins.”

According to a Vatican News summary of the Oct. 8 afternoon session, members said that an “ecological conversion” was necessary to ensure that Christians understand the “gravity of sin against the environment as a sin against God, against one’s neighbor and against future generations.”

“No to individualism or indifference that makes us look at reality like a spectator, like looking at a screen,” the summary said. “Yes to an ecological conversion centered on responsibility and an integral ecology that places at its center human dignity, which is too often trampled.”

At a Vatican press briefing Oct. 9, Paolo Ruffini, prefect of the Dicastery for Communication, said that a number of interventions given by bishops, observers and delegates from other Christian churches dealt with the issue of ecology and the need for a “profound ecological conversion that passes from a technocratic paradigm to a caring paradigm.”

Ruffini reported one member saying that Christianity is “a call to an ecological morality in the knowledge that ecological sins exist, which also can be described as ‘ecocide.’”

Through catechesis and particularly in the sacrament of penance, the reality and impact of ecological sins can be explained, he said a synod participant suggested. Like other sins, ecological sins “can be considered either minor or grave, but in any case they offend God and neighbor.”

Ecological conversion is, first and foremost, “a conversion to holiness,” one member said, citing the examples of German Salesian Father Rudolf Lunkenbein and Simao Cristino Koge Kudugodu, a lay member of the Bororo indigenous community in Mato Grosso, Brazil, where Father Lunkenbein served.

The German priest, known for his defense of indigenous reserves, was shot and killed in 1976 in the courtyard of the Salesian mission where he lived. Koge died attempting to save Father Lunkenbein’s life and, with his final breath, forgave his murderers.

Synod members called on the Church, especially the media, to highlight the lives of “good priests and not just the current scandals that unfortunately occupy so many pages in newspapers.”

Their lives, the Vatican News summary said, “have an enormous power of attraction among young people, who call for a renewed pastoral ministry (that is) more dynamic and attentive.”

Father Giacomo Costa, secretary of the synod’s information commission, told journalists that among the issues addressed during the synod’s Oct. 9 morning session was the theme of “intercultural and interreligious dialogue.”

One member addressing the synod, he said, stated that indigenous communities yearn for “a dialogue that calls for respect for other cultures,” a form of dialogue that, “in the end, is respect for the Gospel.”
Resettlement agencies await final word on refugee number U.S. will allow

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The people who help refugees from around the world resettle in the Nashville area and across Tennessee are waiting to see if the Trump administration’s decision to reduce the number of refugees to be admitted to the country to 18,000 in the next fiscal year, the lowest number since the resettlement program was created in 1980, will stand. The agencies are waiting and crossing their fingers, and in the meantime continue doing what they do. And they do it well,” said Holly Johnson, director of the Tennessee Office for Refugees, which oversees the resettlement program in the state. The U.S. State Department released the Trump administration’s refugee cap proposal Sept. 26 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. A moratorium on admitting refugees has been put in place until Oct. 22, according to Johnson. “The resettlement programs we have in Tennessee are exceptional,” she told the Tennessee Register, newspaper of the Nashville Diocese. “They are strong programs that serve a lot of people and serve them really well.” Catholic Charities of Tennessee’s Refugee and Immigration Services office is one of five resettlement agencies operating in the state and one of two in the Nashville area.

Little Sisters of the Poor again seek Supreme Court’s help

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Little Sisters of the Poor filed a petition with the Supreme Court Oct. 1 asking the court to once again protect them from the contraceptive mandate of the Affordable Care Act. This has a familiar ring because in 2016 the Supreme Court granted the sisters a religious exemption from the government’s mandate requiring them to include coverage of contraceptives in their employee health plans or pay hefty fines. Then, one year later, they were given further protection by an executive order issued by President Donald Trump requiring the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to write a comprehensive exemption that would benefit the Little Sisters and other religious ministries from the contraceptive mandate. HHS provided this exemption in 2018 but several states challenged it, including California, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, saying HHS didn’t have the power to give this exemption.

In death penalty discussion, U.S. bishops emphasize human dignity, mercy

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Catholic Church’s opposition to the death penalty stems from its view on the sacredness of human life and the value of mercy, said U.S. bishops in a roundtable discussion about capital punishment Oct. 10. The discussion, which was livestreamed by Catholic News Service, took place on the World Day Against the Death Penalty and highlighted not only the consistency of church teaching against capital punishment but also what Catholics could do to learn more about what the Catholic Church has to say on this issue. The panelists were Archbishop Paul Coakley of Oklahoma City and Wilton D. Gregory of Washington and Bishop Frank J. Dewane of Venice, Florida. Bishop Dewane is chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development and Archbishop Coakley is its chairman-elect. “The death penalty is wrong, I believe, in many different ways,” but particularly because it is “cursing society,” said Archbishop Coakley, who stressed that capital punishment is “not a way forward” and instead is compounding the violence already present in this country. When the bishops were asked how opposition to the death penalty can be seen as a pro-life issue, Archbishop Gregory said: “It makes us violent to do violence against another human being” whether that person is waiting to be born, has reached the end of life or has committed a serious crime. They all “belong to God’s creation,” he said.

Italian Americans call for New York to honor saint with statue

Sister Maria Loretta Caeti holds a relic of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, the patroness of immigrants who once lived in Brooklyn, N.Y., during an Oct. 6 procession in Brooklyn. She was one of 14 sisters from the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Mother Cabrini’s order, who joined a crowd of over 1,000 rallying in support of the saint getting a statue in Brooklyn as part of the She Built NYC project, following outrage over the snubbing of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini by New York City first lady Chirlane McCray’s commission. Many Italian Americans joined the march, led by Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio of Brooklyn and Msgr. David Cazzuto, director of the Brooklyn diocese’s Italian Apostolate.

8. Leaders of the parish, including parish administrator Sharon Benton, issued a public statement declaring its “long-standing commitment as a sanctuary parish.” While the parish has no plans to house migrants or immigrants, as it did for Central Americans in the 1980s, it will continue to be a voice for those fleeing violence and persecution, its leaders said. “St. William strives to embody the central principle of Catholic social teaching, which is to uphold the dignity of human persons,” said Dawn Dones, pastoral associate at St. William. In the 1980s, St. William and a number of other area churches housed Central American refugees who were fleeing oppressive governments in their countries. “In 2019, our commitment to sanctuary looks different. We are no longer equipped to house persons in the building adjacent to the church which is now a youth retreat center. ‘Our sanctuary declaration is instead a public rejection of the brutal and racist policies of the present administration, and a commitment to support the leadership of immigrant-led groups who work diligently to establish justice for all,” Dones said.

Journalist talks about reconciling faith and career of covering executions

HOUSTON (CNS) — Michael Graczyk, a parishioner at a Catholic church in Montgomery County, Texas, has personally witnessed more than 400 executions of Texas inmates in death penalty cases in his career as a journalist. An Associated Press reporter since 1983, Graczyk retired last year and still freelances for AP, continuing to witness executions, including nine scheduled through the end of this year. “When you walk into the death chamber, you check your emotions at the door. I usually check my emotions at the prison gate,” he said. “I’ve got to know many of the inmates through interviews. I also have sentiments for the families of the victims, who have to wait 10 or 20 years for the punishment to be carried out.” Since Catholic teaching is pro-life, from conception to natural death, Graczyk reconciles the two parts of himself with a Scripture passage. “I look to the biblical passage ‘render unto Caesar what is Caesar’s.’ Since this is the government doing this, I can remain faithful to the teachings of the Church,” Graczyk told the Texas Catholic Herald, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. The Catholic Church many times has been alone in its protection of life, respect for the expectation to natural death. Liberals opposed to capital punishment are often times in favor of abortion. Conservatives are against abortion, but then favor the death penalty,” he said.

Parish recommits to sanctuary; archbishop says immigration a pro-life issue

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (CNS) — St. William Church in Louisville reaffirmed its status as a sanctuary parish at a news conference on the steps of the church Oct. 10.
Discovery of additional fetal remains brings body count to 2,411

INDIANAPOLIS — Authorities have determined that new fetal remains discovered this week in the trunk of a car in Illinois are the bodies of 165 unborn children, Attorney General Curtis Hill said during a news conference Oct. 11. The total count of fetuses discovered in the belongings of the late abortionist Ulrich Klopfer is now 2,411.

During his career, Klopfer is believed to have performed tens of thousands of abortions. Like the 2,246 aborted fetuses found last month at a garage at Klopfer’s home, the most recently discovered remains are the result of abortions Klopfer performed from 2000 to 2002 at Indiana clinics located in Fort Wayne, Gary and South Bend. The remains found on Wednesday are believed to be from 2002.

“This is uncharted territory for all of us,” Hill said. “We are following the same protocol for these additional 165 fetal remains that we have already established. We remain committed to ensuring that all these unborn children receive a respectful final disposition here in Indiana.”

Klopfer died on Sept. 3 at the age of 79. On Sept. 12, Illinois authorities learned that family members going through his belongings found preserved fetal remains at his residence — prompting an investigation that is ongoing. On Oct. 2, Hill oversaw the transportation of 2,246 aborted fetuses back to Indiana.

Knights of Columbus Council 5521, South Bend, hosted the Northeast Regional Soccer Challenge Championship Oct. 5 at Fathers’ Field in Mishawaka. A total of nine children won their respective divisions and have qualified to compete in the Indiana Knights of Columbus State Soccer Challenge Championship Oct. 20. Pictured from left, in the front row, are Landon Grill, age 14 boys; Bryan Curylo, age 13 boys; Aydan Grill, age 12 boys; Nathaneal Crawford, age 10 boys; Anna Walczak, age 12 girls; Macey Vicsik, age 11 girls; Aryana Grill, age 10 girls; and Josephine Walkel, age 9 girls. In the back row are Mike Huzsar; Ryan Grill, Soccer Challenge chairman; Brian Krol, Frank Gormy and Bryan Walczak.

Rosary and life chain in Warsaw

Parishioners of Sacred Heart, Warsaw, gathered at a Marian grotto on parish grounds Oct. 6 to pray the rosary before taking part in a one-hour life chain through downtown Warsaw. Led by pastor Father Jonathan Norton, approximately 80 people took part — holding signs with messages like “Abortion hurts Women,” “Choose Life” and “Adoption, the Loving Option.”
October is the month during which the attention of Catholics is drawn to pondering the mysteries of the rosary. During the month of the holy rosary, catechists look to Mary, the mother of catechists, to help them guide their students to a closer walk with Christ.

Author Darcy Oseby shared in an article for “Catechist Journey” magazine: “Our primary goal as catechist is to lead others to Christ. Who better to serve as our model than Mary, who spent her life doing just that?”

Two catechists who emulate Mary’s example are Roger and Theresa Harmon. The couple has been guiding children in a closer walk with Jesus since their move to Bristol in 1993.

A job transfer led the Harmons to Bristol and to the small church of St. Mary of the Annunciation. Theresa came from a teaching position at a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Chicago. Although she accepted a new position in the public school system, she knew she wanted to continue sharing the Catholic faith with children. “Our first year at St. Mary’s, I taught preschool in the church basement,” said Theresa. “The following year Roger joined me in teaching the fourth grade. We would bring our youngest son, Billy, to class with us in the walker. Our two oldest sons, Chris and Matthew, were also in CCD, so each Sunday it was a special family time. Then in 2001 we welcomed our beautiful daughter, Elizabeth, and continued the tradition of having her with us in class.”

The Harmons began teaching the second grade first reconciliation and Communion class in the fall of 1995 and continue to teach it to this day. “The time I get to share the love of Jesus in the classroom on Sunday mornings refreshes me — every time I’m with them,” stated Roger. “I learn right along with the kids. Watching them receive the sacraments for the first time is so amazing.”

Roger is also a minister of holy Communion and is filled with joy, he said, when he offers the body and the precious blood to the children for the first time. “What excites me about teaching these sacraments is watching the kids start out not knowing very much about their faith, and then to see their growth and knowledge of Bible stories come alive in their hearts.”

“I get goosebumps just thinking about watching the children grow and learn about our faith and then receiving Jesus for the first time,” echoed Theresa. “It’s also heartwarming when they get so excited about receiving their first Bible. We like to bring the Scriptures to life by reading the text in their Bibles and then acting it out.

“One of my favorite lessons is the Good Shepherd and the lost sheep. Theresa continued. “We place a chair in the middle of the room and make an obstacle course to show how you can lose your way, but through the sacrament of reconciliation you can always find your way back to Jesus. He will come and find you with open arms,” she explained.

Four years ago, older children began coming to the program without having made their first reconciliation and received their first Communion. Roger and Theresa began teaching them the sacraments on Wednesday evenings, in addition to their Sunday morning classes. The candidates and catechumens attend their grade levels on Sunday and then come to the Harmons’ class on Wednesday.

“I really enjoy working with these students on Wednesday nights,” said Roger. “They get so excited about learning the Bible stories and can’t wait to receive Jesus.”

Theresa shared the example of one of the students. “Lucas came to us not knowing anything about the sacrament he was to receive. Now, in his second year, his hand is constantly raised ready to recall the Bible stories that were taught the previous week. He loves to get the other students involved as they retell the Gospel stories.

“I see the children grow year after year but I still get emotional watching them receive Jesus, especially the children that have special needs,” she said.

Members of the Bristol community beyond the parish know “Mr. Rogers,” as the kids call Roger, and Theresa as their teacher in elementary school. The couple has not only touched the hearts of the children at St. Mary since their move to Bristol, they have let their love for Jesus shine throughout the larger community; coaching Little League, leading Scout programs, becoming involved in the Bristol Summer Park Program and being marching band boosters, and volunteering their time and talent wherever else God leads them.

Having recently stepped down from their Sunday morning class, they continue teaching on Wednesdays. “We have been so blessed these past 26 years to teach the sacraments to so many children, including two out of three of our boys, our daughter and our granddaughter,” said Theresa. “When we’re out in the community, former students of all ages come up to us with hugs. ‘You were our CCD teachers’ they say. We feel so blessed to be able to be a part of helping guide these children to a closer walk with Jesus.”

Profiles in the CCD/Religious Education setting

Convenient grace

THERESA HARMON
Dear friends in Christ:

Once again, we are publishing an accounting of the financial operations of the diocese for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2019. As we have done in past years, we have also included a consolidated financial report of our high schools and parishes. This is done in the spirit of accountability and transparency.

For the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2019, our total gain was $3,511,871 (from our audited financial statements). This is only for the central operations of the diocese. It does not include the activity of the parishes, schools or missions in the diocese. Investments gained 3.8% versus a budgeted amount of 4%. A detailed breakdown of our financial picture can be found inside.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph G. Ryan, Chief Financial Officer

DIOCESAN FINANCE COUNCIL
Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades
Very Rev. Mark Gurtner
Deacon James Fitzpatrick, Business Owner
Mr. Thomas Skiba, CPA
Mr. Jerry Kearns, Executive Director, OSV Institute
Mr. George Witwer, Business Owner
Mr. Michael Hammes, Retired Banker
Ms. Linda Teeters, CPA
Mr. Christopher Murphy, Bank Chairman/President/CEO
Mr. Timothy Dolezal, CFA
Ms. Meg Distler, Executive Director, Community Foundation
Mr. Bob Doelling, Attorney
Mr. Tom Schuerman, Parish Business Manager
## SUPPORT AND REVENUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Without Donor Restrictions</th>
<th>Temporarily/With Donor Restrictions</th>
<th>Total Funds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parish Quotas and Assessments</td>
<td>$2,439,815</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations and Bequests</td>
<td>2,059,686</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Investment Income</td>
<td>414,193</td>
<td>5,354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealized Investment Gain (Loss)</td>
<td>1,258,163</td>
<td>13,412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising - Bishop's Appeal</td>
<td>5,491,342</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance Premiums</td>
<td>20,190,800</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest - Loans</td>
<td>474,004</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collections</td>
<td>290,659</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>116,943</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions</td>
<td>71,623</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale of Merchandise</td>
<td>365,343</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees/Rentals/Soup Kitchen</td>
<td>1,099,865</td>
<td>16,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>108,488</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Value - Beneficial Trust Interest</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(15,210)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on Sale of Assets</td>
<td>3,018</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets Released from Restriction</td>
<td>387,087</td>
<td>(387,087)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE</strong></td>
<td><strong>$34,771,029</strong></td>
<td>($366,331)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## EXPENSES

| Ministry Services | $3,165,380 | $0 | $3,165,380 |
| Educational Services | 4,552,586 | 0 | $4,552,586 |
| Other | 17,642,093 | 0 | $17,642,093 |
| Communications | 809,555 | 0 | $809,555 |
| Fundraising - Bishop's Appeal | 346,620 | 0 | $346,620 |
| Administrative | 4,376,593 | 0 | $4,376,593 |
| **TOTAL EXPENSES** | **$30,892,827** | $0 | **$30,892,827** |

| Change in Net Assets | $3,878,202 | ($366,331) | $3,511,871 |
| Net Assets at Beginning of Year | $20,329,201 | $7,132,524 | $27,461,725 |
| Net Assets at End of Year | $24,207,403 | $6,766,193 | $30,973,596 |

## GROUPS RECEIVING GRANTS FROM THE BISHOP’S APPEAL

- St. Vincent de Paul Society, Fort Wayne and South Bend
- Vincent Village
- Women's Care Center
- Christ Child Society, Fort Wayne and South Bend
- St. Augustine Soup Kitchen
- Little Flower Food Pantry
- Chiara Home
- Franciscan Center
- Sister Maura Brannick Health Center
- Catholic Charities
- COPOSH (Homeless Center, SB)
- Logan Center
- St. Martin's Health Clinic
- Hannah's House
- Life Athletes
- St. Mary's Soup Kitchen
- Dismas House of South Bend
- Matthew 25

## PARISHES RECEIVING GRANTS FROM THE BISHOP’S APPEAL

- Holy Cross, South Bend
- Our Lady of Hungary, South Bend
- Queen of Angels, Fort Wayne
- St. Monica, Mishawaka
- St. Adalbert, South Bend
- St. Michael, Plymouth
- St. Joseph, Fort Wayne
- St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend
- St. Catherine, Nix Settlement
- St. John the Baptist, New Haven
- St. Mary of the Assumption, Avilla

## CENTRAL DEPARTMENTS

- Tribunal
- General Administration
- Parish Assistance
- Personnel
- Diocesan Services Agency
- Data Processing
- US Catholic Conference/Indiana Catholic Conference
- Missions
- Archbishop Noll Catholic Center
- Miscellaneous Properties
- Accounting
- Bishop's Appeal
- Bishop's Office
- Safe Environment
- Archivist
- Today's Catholic
- Office of Catholic Communications
- Evangelization/Discipleship
- TV Mass
- Property Management
- Office of Vocations
- Office of Worship/Music Ministry
- Special Ministries
- Permanent Diaconate
- Ministry of Education
- Religious Education Office
- Seminarian Education/Priest Formation
- Continuing Ed/Priest Formation
- Catholic Charities
- Catholic Charities Property - South Bend
- International Priests Assigned to Parishes
- Youth Ministry
- Development Office
- Cathedral Museum
- Planned Giving
South Bend Financial Report

Expenses for the year ended June 30, 2019

### DIOCESAN HIGH SCHOOLS

#### INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition/Fees</td>
<td>20,397,376</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Diocesan Assistance</td>
<td>1,378,669</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Grants/Scholarships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
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<tr>
<td>Athletic/Other</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>28,143,597</strong></td>
<td><strong>28,143,597</strong></td>
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#### EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,274,486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of Employee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Administrative</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,366,086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Administrative</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,640,572</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,640,572</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Instructional</td>
<td></td>
<td>10,464,985</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cost of Employee-Teaching</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Department-Cost</td>
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<td>124,911</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Expense-Teaching</td>
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<td>404,712</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cost of Employee-Supportive</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Other Expense-Supportive</td>
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<td><strong>Total Instructional</strong></td>
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<td><strong>12,640,422</strong></td>
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<td>Operational</td>
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<td>Cost of Employee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Expense-Operational</td>
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<td><strong>Total Operational</strong></td>
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<td><strong>3,291,458</strong></td>
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<td>3,537,724</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital/Miscellaneous</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Miscellaneous</td>
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<td>3,537,724</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Miscellaneous</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,537,724</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,537,724</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>28,110,176</strong></td>
<td><strong>28,110,176</strong></td>
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</table>

#### SURPLUS/(LOSS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Diocesan Assistance</td>
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<td>1,378,669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishop Dwenger High School</td>
<td></td>
<td>417,199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bishop Luers High School</td>
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<td>274,330</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saint Joseph High School</td>
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<td>386,171</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marian High School</td>
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<td>318,969</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,378,669</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### 82 DIOCESAN PARishes

#### INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Church Income</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Income</td>
<td>51,171,491</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>111,484,706</strong></td>
<td><strong>111,484,706</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Church Expense</td>
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<td>School Expense</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSE</strong></td>
<td><strong>107,209,841</strong></td>
<td><strong>107,209,841</strong></td>
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</table>

#### SURPLUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budgeted</th>
<th>Actual</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4,274,865</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### LEGACY OF FAITH ENDOWMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Contributions</th>
<th>Distributions</th>
<th>6/30/19 Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Source – Hispanic</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>$173,334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priest Retirement</td>
<td>$955,400</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,357,515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Schools</td>
<td>$955,400</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,357,515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Charities</td>
<td>$1,908,800</td>
<td>(1,017,500)</td>
<td>$2,123,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious Education</td>
<td>$1,908,800</td>
<td>(665,529)</td>
<td>$2,082,251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic Ministry</td>
<td>$955,400</td>
<td>(205,540)</td>
<td>$1,274,446</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elementary Schools</td>
<td>$19,118,745</td>
<td>(10,235,601)</td>
<td>$18,452,227</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$25,902,545</td>
<td>(12,124,170)</td>
<td>$26,820,903</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Responsible stewardship serves Christ and His Church

DIOCESAN AUDIT
The diocese is audited every year by Leonard J. Andorfer & Company, a certified public accounting firm, and, as in the past, no exceptions were noted. This means that the diocesan books, records and accounting policies are conducted in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This audit, along with the management letter, is presented not only to the Audit Committee, but to the entire Diocesan Finance Council; and the council is given time alone with the auditor, without the presence of diocesan officials, to be sure that they were given full access to all appropriate financial records.

For the past several years, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has required that the Diocesan Finance Council sign a report indicating the following: 1) that the council has met quarterly; 2) that the audit and the management letter have been reviewed; 3) that the budget has been reviewed. This report and certification must then be sent to the Metropolitan Archbishop of the Province, which, in this case, is the Archbishop of Indianapolis. We require similar reporting from our parishes to the diocese.

PARISHES
It is also important that there be accountability and transparency in parishes. According to canon law, every parish must have a Parish Finance Council. We have an internal auditor who does a financial review of every parish every two years; in addition, every parish is audited at the time of a pastoral change. During the past 12 years, we have sent this financial report, done by our auditor, to each member of the Parish Finance Council. This enables the review to be discussed at a regular meeting. As indicated above, controls have now been established similar to the accountability of each diocese.

It is important to understand how the Annual Bishop’s Appeal has sustained the parishes. It was the hope of our lay leadership prior to the institution of the appeal that the parishes would benefit. This has become a reality. The appeal has increased the incentive of parishes to seek funds. During the 33 years since the appeal began, our parishes have engaged in major capital fund drives. Since the appeal began, fund drives for parishes have brought in over $173,906,794 for new buildings and renovations approved by the Diocesan Finance Council. This includes parish initiatives linked to the Legacy of Faith. Also, over $231,571,837, which would have been paid to the diocese under the previous system, now remains in the parishes. In addition, $6.2 million from the appeal has been given in grants to parishes in need. The 32nd Annual Bishop’s Appeal attained $6,149,292.

TWINNING PARISHES
A number of parishes have agreed to twin with certain targeted parishes to help them provide a full Catholic education. From January 1999 thru March 2019, a total of $3,256,580 has been received by 16 parishes. This is true Christian stewardship; and most of the parishes making these contributions do it as part of their parish stewardship effort. These parishes give a proportionate gift to other parishes in need. This twinning program has saved several parish schools.

HIGH SCHOOLS
Over $84 million has been raised for building projects in our four high schools. The four high schools continue to flourish; but not without challenges. The Annual Bishop’s Appeal gives $1.7 million to the high schools every year, which has created a sense of stability. Next year, tuition will increase by $200-$400 in our high schools. Our high schools are audited every year by an independent CPA firm. Each high school has presented a balanced budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019. Two high schools have debts to the diocese and are paying on those debts. Two high schools have done pledge financing with an external source in connection with capital campaigns.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF NORTHEAST INDIANA
Both the Development Office and the Business Office helped put in place the Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana, which enables parishes, high schools and other Diocesan institutions to raise funds for an ongoing endowment. Currently, there are 169 endowments in the Catholic Community Foundation. Talk to your pastor or school board about establishing an endowment for your parish and/or parish school. To establish an endowment and experience endowment growth involves planned giving - bequests, annuities, remainder trusts, as well as gifts and other creative ways by which you can make contributions. Funds placed in this trust will remain there and grow, and the interest realized will continue to fund the designated purpose for years to come. These are gifts that keep on giving. Those who contribute will determine the area where these funds are to be restricted. Regular annual reports and semi-annual newsletters are sent to the donors. The Catholic Community Foundation now contains $52,263,087 as of 06/30/19.

INVESTMENTS
Our investments are overseen by Catholic Investment Services. Investments are placed carefully so as to avoid excessive risk. We have a very diversified portfolio, fully in keeping with Catholic moral teaching. CIS meets with our Investment Committee on a quarterly basis. In the fiscal year in question here, investments gained 3.8%. The current asset allocation is detailed in the pie chart below.

Learn more about the work of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
Visit diocesefwsb.org/ministries
Top reasons to oppose assisted suicide

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The deadly and dangerous practice of assisted suicide is now legal in five states: Oregon, Washington, Vermont, California and Colorado, and the District of Columbia, the nation’s capital. Montana’s highest court, while not officially legalizing the practice, suggested in 2009 that it could be allowed under certain circumstances. With new momentum and lots of money, assisted suicide proponents are pursuing an aggressive nationwide campaign to advance their agenda through legislation, ballot measures, litigation and public advertising, targeting states they see as most susceptible to their message.

Some polls indicate that the public is receptive to the general concept of assisted suicide. But the same polls show that when the public learns about the dangers of assisted suicide, especially for those who are poor, elderly, disabled or without access to good medical care, their views shift against the practice. The following dangers are among the top reasons to oppose assisted suicide.

A deadly mix with profit-driven health care systems

Some patients in Oregon and California have received word that their health insurance will pay for assisted suicide but will not pay for treatment that may sustain their lives.

Puts vulnerable persons at risk of abuse and coercion

Once lethal drugs have been prescribed, assisted suicide laws have no requirements for assessing the patient’s consent, competency or voluntariness. What would know if the drugs are freely taken, since there is no supervision or tracking of the drugs once they leave the pharmacy and no witnesses are required at the time of death?

Despite a reporting system designed to conceal rather than detect abuses, reports of undue influence have nonetheless surfaced in Oregon. In one case, a woman with cancer committed suicide with a doctor’s assistance even though she had dementia, was found mentally incompetent by doctors, and had a grown daughter described as “somehow unaware” in pushing her toward suicide. Elder abuse is considered a major health problem in the United States, with federal estimates that one in ten elder persons are abused. Placing lethal drugs into the hands of abusers generates an additional major risk to elder persons.

Assisted suicide laws often allow one of the two witnesses to the request for lethal drugs to be an heir to the patient’s estate. Therefore, an heir or friends of the heir can encourage or pressure the patient to request lethal drugs and then be a witness to the request.

Dangerously broad definition of terminal illness

Assisted suicide laws typically appear to limit eligibility to terminally ill patients who are expected to die within six months but don’t distinguish between persons who will die within six months with treatment and those who will die within six months without treatment. This means that patients with treatable diseases (like diabetes or chronic respiratory or cardiac disease) and patients with disabilities requiring ventilator support are all eligible for lethal drugs because they would die within six months without the treatment they would normally receive.

Pain not primary issue

Untreated pain is not among the top reasons for taking lethal drugs. Per official annual state reports, in 2016, 90% of Oregon patients seeking lethal drugs said they were doing so because they were “less able to engage in activities making life enjoyable” and were “losing autonomy,” and 49% cited being a “burden” on family, friends or caregivers. And in Washington, 52% cited being a “burden” as a reason, while only 35% cited a concern about pain.

No psychiatric evaluation or treatment required

Despite medical literature showing that nearly 95% of those who commit suicide had a diagnosable psychiatric illness (usually treatable depression) in the months preceding suicide, the prescribing doctor and the doctor he or she selects to give a second opinion are both free to decide whether to refer suicidal patients for any psychological counseling. Per Oregon’s official annual report, from 2013-16 less than 4% of patients who died under its assisted suicide law had been referred for counseling to check for “impaired judgment.”

If counseling is provided to patients seeking assisted suicide, its goal isn’t to treat the underlying disorder or depression; it’s to determine whether the disorder or depression is “causing impaired judgment” [emphasis added]. “The doctors or counselors can decide that, since depression is a “completely normal response” to terminal illness, the depressed patient’s judgment is not impaired.

Threatens improvement of palliative care

There is compelling evidence that legalizing assisted suicide undermines efforts to maintain and improve good care for patients nearing the end of life, including patients who never wanted assisted suicide.

Fosters discrimination

Assisted suicide creates two classes of people: those whose suicides we spend hundreds of millions of dollars each year to prevent and those whose suicides we assist and treat as a positive good. We remove weapons and drugs that can cause harm to one group, while handing deadly drugs to the other, setting up yet another kind of life-threatening discrimination.

There are many more reasons why legalizing assisted suicide is a bad and dangerous idea. For further information, visit www.usccb.org/toliveeachday and www.patientsrightasaction.org.

Information provided by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

"Hold fast to the hope that lies before us. This we have as an anchor of the soul, sure and firm."

HEBREWS 6:18-19

From the time we are knit together in our mother’s womb until we take our final breaths, each moment of our lives is a gift from God. While every season of life brings its own challenges and trials, each season also gives us new opportunities to grow in our relationship with God.

Today the gift of life is threatened in countless ways. Those who are most vulnerable, rather than receiving the protection they deserve, are all too often seen as a burden and as expendable. As new attacks on human life continue to emerge, we can be tempted to despair, but Christ instead offers us unfailing hope.

Hope is not false optimism or empty positivity. Christian hope is something much more profound and goes to the very depths of our identity as followers of Christ.

Hope is the virtue “by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ’s promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit” (CCC, 1817).

Like us, Christ entered the world through the womb of a woman. He willingly experienced the fullness of human suffering. He breathed his last on the Cross of Calvary in order that he might save us. Therefore, “God is the foundation of hope: not any god, but the God who has a human face and who loved us to the end: (Spe Salvi 31).

Christians know “they have a future: it is not that they know the details of what awaits them, but they know in general terms that their life will not end in emptiness.” (SS 2).

For this reason, a woman experiencing a difficult pregnancy can find the strength to welcome her precious child into the world. A man facing a terminal diagnosis can see that the end of his earthly life is only the beginning of eternal life with Christ.

The Church teaches us that “the one who has hope lives differently” (SS 2). Christ’s promises of salvation do not mean that we will be spared from suffering. Rather, the promise of salvation ensures that even in the darkest moments of our lives, we will be given the strength to persevere. By virtue of this Christian hope, we can face any challenge or trial. When the seas of life swell and we are battered by the waves, hope allows us to remain anchored in the heart of God. May we hold fast to Christ our hope, from the beginning of life to its very end.

RESPECT LIFE REFLECTION
St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School

Success through service encouraged during pastoral visit

ELKHART — On the feast day of its patron, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades visited St. Vincent de Paul School in downtown Elkhart and encouraged kindergarten through eighth grade students to be like St. Vincent by caring for the poor and serving.

In his opening prayer, the bishop implored: “Like St. Vincent, may we live what he lived and put into practice what he did.”

St. Vincent de Paul School was founded in 1881 by the Sisters of Holy Cross, 13 years after St. Vincent de Paul Church became the first Catholic church in Elkhart. The population of the parish and school at that time was German and Irish; around the year 1900 large numbers of Italian families moved into the area, and soon the language was heard around the church and school.

Today the Hispanic community has infused the school with a new language and culture. Enrollment was at its peak in 1989, with a total of 526 students. In 1971 the Sisters of Holy Cross left St. Vincent de Paul School. Amid the financial difficulty of hiring lay replacements, the parish chose to keep the school open, but discontinued grades seven and eight.

Persevering, the school was able to add a kindergarten class in 1977, preschool in 1985, build a gym and parish center in 1996 and, finally, reinstate grades seven and eight in 2016. Currently, several classrooms are at maximum capacity of 24 students.

An environment that’s ‘positive and relational’

“Thriving” is the word principal Tara Lundy uses today to describe not only the school in general, but its mostly Hispanic student body. Pastor Father Matthew Coonan attributes to success — evidenced in part by a high retention rate — to the “positive and relational feel” across the parish.

St. Vincent students feel particularly connected to their teachers, Lundy said, something that’s encouraged by weekly classroom meetings. For those meetings, students are organized into cross-grade family groups that are led spiritually by a patron saint. Having just one section per grade allows the students in the family groups to become very involved with each other across grade levels, Father Coonan believes, and develops mentorship among the older students while at the same time helping younger students to feel safe and loved.

The staff of St. Vincent de Paul School recognize their mission as sharing the Catholic faith and imparting academic wisdom, but also encompassing foundational needs of the student body.

Once a quarter, parents are invited to the school for engaging back-and-forth discussions on parenting and supporting their child’s education, and on a monthly basis, the entire family is invited to spend an evening at the school family nights. The purpose of parent discussions and family night, Lundy said, is to infuse into the inner-city environment the message that success is possible: success as a parent, success as a student, success as a family and success as a community.

For family night, the staff plans a range of activities around a school subject such as reading, math, religion or wellness. On a family night dedicated to math, number games geared for different ages were played and more were prepared to be taken home and enjoyed. On a past religion-themed family night, participants made sugar skulls and papel picado in observance of Mexican All Souls Day traditions.

Bringing higher education into focus

Because most of the St. Vincent School students and their families are bilingual, the academic focus of the school is language: specifically, the ability to read, comprehend and compose in English. Parents are encouraged to develop the same skills in Spanish, at home.

“We want to strengthen their confidence academically and have them take ownership of their learning,” said Howe.

College readiness is stressed, with the goal being “no matter what your path is, you can be successful when you leave St. Vincent’s,” added Lundy.

By the time students graduate, 80% to 90% of them have internalized the message, Howe guessed, based on the number who sign up for the 21st Century Scholars college scholarship program for income-eligible students.

Mission of St. Vincent and the Church

During his pastoral visit to the school on Sept. 27, Bishop Rhoades noted that in the Gospel reading for the day, Luke 9:18-22, Jesus went around preaching and saw many people who were poor, sick and suffering.

“He said they were like sheep without a shepherd, and it said His heart was moved to compassion and pity,” said the bishop. “We are the Body of Christ, so our hearts also should be moved to compassion for the poor and suffering.”

The mission of St. Vincent was the same as the mission of the Church, he added — to proclaim the Word of God, to celebrate the sacraments and to love: “to bring Christ’s love to the world.” He noted that the Church has a preferential option for the poor.

Visiting the children’s classrooms, the bishop asked what they were learning about their religion. Together they prayed some of their new prayers, and he encouraged them to ask him questions.

He asked Melissa Roberts’ first grade class how to get to heaven. One child exclaimed, “Be a priest!”

Sheila Iannarelli’s second grade class is preparing for their first confession, so asked to pray the Act of Contrition with them. “You know that prayer really well,” Bishop Rhoades told them. Father Coonan explained that all students pray the Act of Contrition at the end of the school day.

Leslee McCaffery-Burghdul’s fifth graders asked questions about being a bishop, like how hard a job it is. Bishop Rhoades responded that it’s “a big responsibility: We have 81 parishes and 43 schools across 14 counties.” But he told the students he had helped in the priests, as well as God’s grace. Fifth grader Manuel Ramirez knew that it was the sacrament of holy orders that priests receive, and Bishop Rhoades asked, “Do you think you’re being called to be a priest? How about a bishop?” He placed his zucchetto on his head.

Natalie Jaska’s sixth grade class asked lots of questions for the bishop. One wondered what classes the bishop had to take to become bishop; he explained that he was appointed by St. Pope John Paul II. Another asked if Halloween was a bad holiday to celebrate; the bishop said no, if it is kept fun and nothing bad is done. One girl asked why girls can’t be priests; the bishop explained that Jesus appointed 12 men as apostles, but women had other important roles in His ministry. He also pointed out that over the years, it was often religious sisters who started schools and hospitals.

“We’re all equal in dignity, but we have different roles,” he said.

Denise Fedorow contributed to this story.
Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades answers a question asked by a St. Vincent de Paul School sixth grade student during a pastoral visit to the Elkhart school Sept. 27. The student asked about the steps toward becoming a priest and bishop. Principal Tara Lundy looks on.

The bishop greets the students and adults attending Mass at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Elkhart on the feast day of its patron, Sept. 27. From left are pastor Father Matthew Coonan, Bishop Rhoades and parochial vicar Father Eloy Jimenez.

A fifth grader smiles after Bishop Rhoades placed his zucchet to on his head for being the student who answered correctly when asked the name of the sacrament that ordains a priest. The bishop then asked the young man if he thought he might be called to be a priest.
God or the vending machine?

H ere at the seminary, there are two vending machines just right when I walk into the building. If it’s been a long day of pastoral assignments or classes, there is nothing better than reaching in my pocket for a couple quarters to get a soda and a candy bar. For whatever reason, there’s a certain satisfaction in putting in the right change, pressing the right buttons and receiving the sweet treats. Come to think of it, that also sounds a lot like my all-too-often experience of shopping online.

Unfortunately, this system of transaction — as satisfying as it may be — is not conducive to our spiritual lives. Far too often, in my experience, it’s very easy to slip into this kind of mentality when relating to God. For instance, have you ever had these kinds of thoughts?

“If I say these certain prayers, in this certain way, then God will give me what I ask for.” And if it doesn’t work out the first time, then perhaps you think: “Maybe I didn’t say the prayers right, or maybe God didn’t want to listen to me.”

As common as this problem may be, it could not be a further deviation from the reality of prayer. At its most fundamental level, prayer is the relationship between persons. No, I’m not talking about some random person and some generic god. I’m talking about the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. When we enter into prayer, we are entering into the eternal love that already exists between the Trinity — a love to which we are always invited. In fact, all prayer begins with God’s initiative. He makes the invitation to this eternal communion, and we make the response.

With this in mind, entering into prayer can no longer be a transaction-based relationship, but rather must be more akin to entering into the most beautiful family imaginable. Are the answers always clear-cut in a family relationship? I don’t think so. However, in the ideal family, what is the one unchanging foundation? Unconditional love. And that’s merely on a human level: We cannot even begin to imagine the depths of that love existing in the Blessed Trinity, save for the tiny glimpse we can see by looking at the eternal Son of the Father hanging on the cross for each one of us, personally.

For me, and I would venture to say for most 21st century Americans, the problem with prayer is it’s seeming lack of efficiency. I don’t typically judge the goodness of a family based on efficiency. The same should be true of the Blessed Trinity.

We should consider prayer not in relation to efficiency or demonstrable results, but rather in regard to the love and intimacy of the relationships between the human person and the divine person.

God does not merely want to give us candy bars or sodas, like a vending machine. He wants to give us Himself. This is, of course, most profoundly made manifest in the gift of the Eucharist in which Christ gives Himself to us in His body and blood, soul and divinity of the Holy Spirit, so that we can be reconciled to the Father. In a certain sense, through the Eucharist, we are invited into the greatest family dinner of all, the Blessed Trinity.

If I ever get over my own selfishness and worldly tastes, perhaps I will begin to enjoy that eternal feast more than this melted Snickers and outdated Sierra Mist.

Brian Isenbarger

A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

was a sophomore in college when I received a little blue book, a gift from a friend who also wanted to be a writer. At the time I was editing the student newspaper, poring over buried leads and doodling modifiers.

Written by the legendary Madeleine L’Engle, the title of this little book — “Walking on Water: Reflections on Faith and Art.” It promised something deeper behind my mad dash to produce a paper. Perched on the top of a bunk bed in a dark dorm, I highlighted this affirmation: “God is constantly creating, in us, through us, and co-create with God is our human calling.”

As I was writing headlines and wrangling reporters, I was answering a calling. I was creating with God, who formed cosmos out of chaos. My late-night work had a spiritual underpinning.

I pressed on.

Every few years I return to the book. It is the same, but I am different. A reporter. A graduate student. A newlywed. A mother.

I always pick up the Catholic themes wisdom from saints, a clear-eyed endorsement of icons and a meditation on Mary’s fiat. But I find different messages for different seasons. This time I need courage. A longtime contract came to an end this year, and I have pushed myself to drum up new work. I’ve been re-examining my writing, my rate, my capacity for competing deadlines. I’m welcoming new ideas and new people. And for the first time in years, I’m contemplating new kinds of creative work. I’ve watched YouTube tutorials and signed up for a class, my chest throbbing.

There’s an edge to the excitement that I actually like because it is unfamiliar. I haven’t challenged myself like this in so long. The fear is a sign of the possibility.

And once again, “Walking on Water” resonates with me. “Unless we are creators, we are not fully alive,” L’Engle writes.

I’m creating, and I feel fully alive.

Lack of experience is not an issue, she reassures. “In a very real sense not one of us is qualified, but it seems that God continually chooses the most unqualified to do his work, to bear his glory.”

It’s not about talent or training. It’s about creativity and courage. It’s feeling unqualified but still accepting the invitation of a blank canvas.

CAPECCHI, page 17

Wonderfully made: finding courage to create

WONDERFULLY MADE

BRIAN ISENBARGER

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CAPECCHI, page 17

Pray always, without becoming weary

‘Pray always, without becoming weary’

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 18:1-8

T he Book of Exodus is the source of this weekend’s first reading. One of the first five books of the Hebrew Bible, its concepts are absolutely portrayed to Moses himself. As such, it is part of the Torah, or fundamental document of Judaism. As the title implies, its focus is upon the flight of the Hebrew people from Egypt. They had been enslaved and were going to the land promised them by God as a haven and as their own homeland, a land “flowing with milk and honey.”

The journey from Egypt to the Promised Land was not at all easy. First, the natural elements themselves often assailed the retreating as a bishop. The reading stresses that Jesus alone is the hope of the redeemed, indeed of all people. St. Luke’s Gospel furnishes the last reading. In first century A.D. in Palestine, widows were very vulnerable. Poverty was rampant. There was no “social safety net.” Since women could not inherit property or money from their husbands under the law, they were forced to rely upon their children to survive. Virtually nothing was available to a woman to make her own living.

Therefore, the woman in this story surely was desperate. Frantic in her circumstances, she boldly confronted this judge. It was a time when women were not expected to speak, indeed, rarely to be seen.

The judge hardly is to be admired. Evidently, he was a minor judge, and he was not an observant Jew. The Torah would have required him to be particularly solicitous about widows, yet he was not at all interested in this widow. He was more interested in polishing his own image than in responding to her plight.

Jesus uses the story to illustrate a lesson about God. Prayer does not require constant, loud pleas. Unlike the judge, God always is merciful. Sincerity, not repetition, is the key to the power of prayer. Anyone who prays must believe in God and trust that God will provide truly what is needed.

The readings from Exodus and St. Luke’s Gospel this weekend may create several rather simplistic, childish and incorrect views of God. Exodus might give the impression that some seemingly foolish act on our own judgments. Instead of illustrating a trusting relationship with Almighty God, Moses’ outreach of his arms symbolized his belief in God’s dominion over everything.

St. Luke’s Gospel cannot be construed to suggest that people must flood the kingdom of heaven with thundering calls to obtain God’s mercy.

Instead, these two readings call us to develop an attitude about prayer that is both humble and trusting. In humility, we recognize we can do little on our own. While we can do some things, but we cannot fully control our destiny. As did Moses, we must depend on God. We also must trust. We are inclined to dictate what God must provide us, but in this we act on our own judgments. God will not forsake us. He will supply our genuine needs.

READINGS

Sunday: Ex 17:18-13 Ps 121:1-8
Tm 3:14—4:2 Lk 18:1-8
Monday: Rom 4:20-25 (Ps) Lk 169:19
Lk 12:13-21
Tuesday: Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19,
20b-21 Ps 40:7-10, 17 Lk 12:35-38
Wednesday: Rom 4:20-25 (Ps)
Lk 12:35-48
Thursday: Rom 6:19-23 Ps 11:4, 6
Lk 12:24-43
Friday: Rom 7:18-25a Ps 119:66, 68,
76, 77, 93, 94 Lk 12:25-34
Saturday: Rom 8:1-11 Ps 24:1b-4b,
5-6 Lk 13:1-9

October 20, 2019
How not to have a heart attack

Dr. David Kaminski

The No. 1 killer in America remains coronary heart disease. If your family history includes coronary events such as heart attacks, bypass surgery or coronary stent placement, your risk is significantly increased and prevention is a must. Although a person cannot change their genetic predisposition, there are many risk factors that can be controlled.

The major reason for a heart attack is plaque buildup in coronary arteries. What triggers the clotting cascade? It is that which occurs just seconds after the onset of a heart attack. This cannot be changed. Staying near ideal body weight, most would agree, is highly correlated with coronary artery disease and coronary events. The American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association have easily accessible risk calculators available. The guidelines recommend that if a person’s 10-year risk of Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease calculates to be greater than 7.5%, then a cholesterol-lowering medicine called a statin should strongly be considered.

Statins prevent thousands of heart attacks each year. Statins are actually well-tolerated without side effects in 90% of the people who are prescribed one. A survey at one of the national ACC meetings a few years ago found that well over half of all cardiologists attending were on a statin. Maybe they know something? A statin may be right for you. Diabetes is also a major risk factor. Type 2 diabetes (adult onset) accounts for 90%-95% of all diabetics. The first recommendation for a newly diagnosed diabetic should be weight loss. Nearly 90% of all diabetics are overweight.

Here is the truth: If every person, at the time of being diagnosed with diabetes, lost 15% of their body weight, most would no longer even have diabetes. Staying near ideal body weight, along with exercise, will dramatically lower the risk of ever getting diabetes — and a heart attack.

High blood pressure is linked closely with cardiac events. Blood pressure over 130/80 is hypertension, based on the latest guidelines. Salt restriction, weight loss if needed, and exercise are the first line of treatment, although most people will still need medicine. There are dozens of highly effective meds that are cheap and efficacious, so there is no reason to have high blood pressure in 2019, but sometimes it may take three or four different meds to get to goal. If your family physician cannot get your high blood pressure under control then you need to consult a specialist.

Let’s move on to everybody’s favorite subject: diet. It seems like nutritional guidelines are changing all the time. Here are some dietary recommendations to prevent heart disease that are unlikely to ever change.

Minimize red meat and stay away for processed meat. Eat more fatty fish like salmon but skip fried fish. Eat lots of vegetables. Avoid fast food. Reduce the carbohydrate load to prevent weight and weight gain. It’s really that simple.

Finally, exercise prolongs life. Regular exercise will lower blood pressure, help keep weight in check, increase brain endorphins to bolster mood and lower the risk of cardiovascular disease so that you can have a more productive earthly life to better serve the Lord.

Dr. David Kaminski is a board-certified cardiologist and member of the Dr. Jerome Lejeune Catholic Medical Guild of Northeast Indiana, www.fortwaynecma.com.

CAPECCHI, from page 16

My friend Jackie is on a similar journey. For too long, she’d been an art major trapped in retail. Now she’s a working artist. She summoned the courage to quit her job at Hobby Lobby, where she’d made $17 an hour as an assistant manager, unloading merchandise and surveying shoppers.

Jackie celebrated her newfound freedom with a trip to Mexico, where she landed a gig to paint two murals on a hostel: a cactus and an octopus. She hadn’t painted much before, but the murals turned out beautifully — and she had a blast. A business was born. She reserved the domain muralsbyjackie.com and posted a Craigslist ad that she had a blast. A project will be a nursery.

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota.
**New film on St. Faustina makes one-night-only debut Oct. 28**

BY MARK PATTISON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A new film on the life of St. Faustina Kowalska, the Polish nun whose visions of Jesus led to the Divine Mercy devotion, will have a one-night-only showing Oct. 28 on more than 700 screens across the United States.

The 90-minute movie, “Love and Mercy: Faustina,” will also have some features about St. Faustina surrounding it, according to Marian Father Chris Alar, who is seen on-screen during the film.

Shot in Poland, Lithuania, Belarus, Mexico, Colombia and the United States, “Love and Mercy: Faustina” was filmed twice, with the actors speaking in English or Polish, said Father Alar in an Oct. 3 phone interview with Catholic News Service from his native Michigan, where he was giving a retreat. “That makes it fairly unique,” he added.

The movie was directed by Michal Kondrat, who may be familiar to some Catholics as the director of “Two Crowns,” a 2017 film biography of St. Maximilian Kolbe, a Polish priest who died in a Nazi concentration camp during World War II.

Father Alar said Kondrat had read the diaries of St. Faustina and was interested in developing a film based on the life of another Polish saint.

The filmmaker approached the Marians of the Immaculate Conception — Poland’s first native-founded religious order for men back in 1670 — which as a congregation has a special devotion to St. Faustina. It was a member of this order who weaved his way through Nazi- and Soviet-occupied Eastern Europe to journey to the United States and spread the word of the nun, for whom he had been her spiritual director.

After some initial storyboards, the Marians brought out a documentary on St. Faustina and the congregation had produced in the 1980s, “Divine Mercy: No Escape,” to flesh out added details, Father Alar said. He added news of the Divine Mercy devotion — which is simply “love in action” — is “great and powerful and incredibly necessary,” because St. Faustina was told by Jesus the message for the end times: “If you don’t pass through the doors of my mercy, you must pass through the doors of justice.” Very few people are aware of it. Even Catholics.

Father Alar called the Divine Mercy devotion “technically, the fastest grassroots movement in the history of the Church, and its growth has been phenomenal. “Compared to other movements in the Church, like the Sacred Heart, it’s incredible what has been done in such a short period of time,” he noted. “That being said, it is still not known by many people, because many people are not practicing their faith. If they were practicing their faith, they’d hear about it in Church. Father Alar wanted to caution potential viewers about one theme the runs through part of “Love and Mercy: Faustina” they may find problematic: the suicide of the painter who, at St. Faustina’s direction, painted the image of Jesus with red and white rays emanating from his heart to represent the blood and water that flowed from his side during his crucifixion.

The painting, Eugene Kazmierowski, was indeed a Mason, as the film noted, “but he converted” before being called upon to paint the Divine Mercy image, Father Alar told CNS. It is also true that he painted himself as Judas, but “ not because he was siding with Judas and wanting to betray Christ, but because he was a sinner and wanted to repent of his sins.”

As for the suicide, “what isn’t said in the movie, not out of despair or lack of trust in God’s mercy (did he kill himself). The Nazis were coming, and he was so sure in an area the Nazis were occupying and he would have been taken prisoner,” Father Alar said. “And he had information about different things that the Nazi knew he knew. He knew for sure he would have been taken, detained and tortured. It’s never a good decision to take your life, but one that he did fully and freely of his own free will.”

To find a nearby theater and to order tickets, go to https://www.fathomevents.com/events/faustina-love-and-mercy.
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

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

Faith in Encounter: Disciples in the Field Hospital, not just the Pews
HUNTINGTON — Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters will offer a workshop led by Father Kevin Sandberg, CSC, Saturday, Oct. 19, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is $10 per person. Lunch will be served. For more information call 260-356-0628, ext. 113 or victorynoll@olvm.org.

Chili supper
MONROEVILLE — The St. Rose Monroeville Altar and Rosary Sodality will have a chili supper on Saturday, Oct. 19, in the new parish hall located next to the church at 205 Mulberry St., from 4-7 p.m. Contact Linda Johnson at lindajohnson07@frontier.com for information.

Chili and hot dog supper
CHURUBUSCO — St. John Bosco Parish, 216 North Main St., will have an all-you-can-eat, free-will donation, chili and hot dog supper Saturday, Oct. 19, from 6-9 p.m. All proceeds will benefit Catholic education.

Trivia night
COLUMBIA CITY — A trivia night will be served. For more information please call 260-610-3777 or spygcc@outlook.com.

Fall clean-up at Sacred Heart Cemetery
SOUTH BEND — The Sacred Heart Cemetery will conduct the Fall cleanup Oct. 21-26. Please have all spring and summer decorations removed from the graves by this time.

Chicago bus trip
FORT WAYNE — St. Peter Parish, 518 E. DeWald St., is sponsoring a bus trip to Chicago on Wednesday, Dec. 4. Enjoy a day in downtown Chicago to shop, visit the museums or see a show. Round-trip transportation, coffee and doughnuts prior to departure and a boxed dinner on the return trip are included in the $50 per person fee. Bus will depart from St. Peter’s Catholic Church at 7 a.m. and will return at approximately 10 p.m. Call the parish office at 260-744-2765, or email stpeter1872@frontier.com to reserve a seat by Oct. 21.

St. Gaspar Fancy Fair craft bazaar and cookie bar
ROME CITY — St. Gaspar’s 36th annual Fancy Fair craft bazaar and cookie bar will be Saturday, Oct. 26, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Gaspar Church, 10871 N State Road 9. Luncheon with homemade desserts, soups and sandwiches will be offered in the Parish Hall and classrooms. Table Rental is $20. Call Carol Sievert at 260-854-3767 for information.

VIOLINS of HOPE FORT WAYNE

NOVEMBER 9-23

A stirring testament to the strength of the human spirit and the power of music, Violins of Hope is a collection of instruments that tell remarkable stories of the defiance, resilience and legacy of Jewish musicians during the Holocaust, and of the Israeli violinmaker dedicated to bringing these inspirational Strings of the Holocaust back to life.

Jewish-Catholic Prayer Service
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church
Wed., Nov 20 | 7 p.m.

Rabbi Paula Jayne Winnig from Congregation Achduth Vesholom joins Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, in a prayer service that focuses on the beauty of the Psalms, and the religious connections shared and revered by the Jewish people and Catholics. Music will be performed on the Violins of Hope, with selections from both Jewish and Catholic faith traditions.

For more information, hours and all events, visit violinsofhopfw.org.

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NEWMAN, from page 1

ing families, said Sister Manjula, whose ministry is “counseling and visiting houses and helping solve problems. We help all families — non-Christian, non-Catholic, anyone.”

Gregory K. Hills, a professor of theology at Bellarmine University in Louisville, Kentucky, was representing his university at the Mass, but his presence was very personal, too.

“Newman is important to me theologically and for my spirituality,” he said. “And I like his conversion story” of how, as an Anglican priest, he became a Catholic at the age of 44. “I became a Catholic 13 years ago, and Newman was an important guide. He converted, but maintained his friendships, his respect and love for the tradition that he left.”

“Tired of converts who hate the tradition they left.”

An official delegation of Anglican bishops and priests also attended the Mass, and Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury, leader of the Church of England, recorded a message.

Canterbury, leader of the Church of England, recorded a message.

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Also attending the Mass, and Archbishop Justin Welby of Canterbury, leader of the Church of England, recorded a message.

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As is his custom at Mass, including at canonizations, Pope Francis used his homily to reflect on the day’s Scripture readings and only made passing reference to the people being declared saints.

The day’s short Gospel reading from Luke recounted the story of 10 lepers who, seeing Jesus approach, cry out to him for healing. He tells them to go show themselves to the priests and, as they go, they are healed. But only one returns to thank Jesus.

“Like those lepers,” Pope Francis said, “we, too, need healing, each one of us. We need to be healed of our lack of confidence in ourselves, in life, in the future; we need to be healed of our fears and the vices that enslave us, of our introversion, our addictions and our attachment to games, money, television, mobile phones, to what other people think.”

The story also illustrates how, “on the journey of life, purification takes place along the way, a way that is often uphill since it leads to the heights,” he said.

“Faith calls for a journey, a ‘going out’ from ourselves, and it can work wonders if we abandon our comforting certainties, if we leave our safe harbors and our cozy nests.”

And, finally, he said, the story teaches that returning to Jesus with a heart full of gratitude is the culmination of the journey of faith.

“To give thanks is not a question of good manners or etiquette; it is a question of faith,” the pope said. “To say ‘Thank you, Lord’ when we wake up, throughout the day and before going to bed, that is the best way to keep our hearts young.

“This also holds true for families, and between spouses,” he added. “Remember to say thank you. Those words are the simplest and most effective of all.”