

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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Pilgrimage honors St. Joseph the Worker

Hundreds trek between namesake Mishawaka, South Bend parishes

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Cardinal Turkson urges graduates to impact troubled world

BY DON CLEMMER

FORT WAYNE (CNS) — The head of the Vatican's justice, peace and human development efforts urged over 700 graduates of the University of Saint Francis to follow the example of their school's namesake and the advice of the pope who shares his name.

"Consider what impact you make in life," said Ghanaian Cardinal Peter Turkson, prefect of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. He urged graduates to be "sowers of hope" in his May 1 address at the commencement ceremony at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne.

"Impact provokes change and makes beneficiaries of this change full of hope for the future," he told the graduating class. He also noted how St. Francis of Assisi, in his poverty, found the means to impact all things.

"With no master but Christ and no possession but his own soul, Francis was free to relate to all things and all people," said Cardinal Turkson. He added that for the saint, "the only real relationship available for human beings to live in is the relationship of brothers and sisters, equal in dignity."

Cardinal Turkson, 72, has

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Cardinal Peter K.A. Turkson, prefect of the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, addresses 2020 and 2021 graduates of the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne during commencement exercises May 1 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum.

Bishop to USF grads: 'Keep the right priorities'

BY JENNIFER BARTON

The weather was fair and sunny, and even a chilly breeze did not seem to cloud the spirits of those attending a baccalaureate Mass for the 2021 graduating class of the University of Saint Francis on the morning of May 1 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades presided at the Mass, congratulating the graduates and commending them for starting their graduation day in the right manner: by giving thanks to God for the gifts and talents that He gave each of them. Cardinal Peter Turkson, university president Father Eric

Zimmer and university chaplain Father John Sheehan, SJ, concelebrated the Mass.

A selection of Saint Francis faculty led the procession into the cathedral, including many Franciscan sisters and Sister Elise Kriss, OSF, the university's former president, followed by the ecclesiastical procession.

As he began the Mass, Bishop Rhoades welcomed Cardinal Turkson, originally from the African nation of Ghana. Cardinal Turkson is Prefect of the Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development.

The bishop noted in his homily that the day was significant because it was the feast of St. Joseph the Worker, and those

who would be awarded their degrees would certainly be preparing to enter the workforce.

"Whatever your plans are, I invite you to reflect on the meaning of work and to see it as part of your vocation from God. We can learn from the example of St. Joseph the Worker," the bishop said.

He continued by stating how the Gospel readings referred to Jesus as "the carpenter's son," and that Joseph, and by extension Jesus, performed a simple trade and worked with their hands. "Maybe some of you graduates will work with your hands, maybe not in manual labor, but maybe with your hands on a computer. St. Joseph worked with wood and

made furniture. He shows us the importance of human work of whatever kind."

Reminding the new graduates that God created work to be a part of life, he encouraged them to remember that work is an opportunity to move toward holiness, as it was for St. Joseph. "He did his work for the glory of God and for the love of his family. St. Joseph shows us that all the work we do can be for the glory of God and the good of others. I encourage you, in whatever work you will do, to do it with the same goal."

He went on to relay the story of a young man he had confirmed

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Photos by Molly Gettinger

Pilgrims gather outside St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka, for the start of the inaugural Way of St. Joseph pilgrimage. Participants were greeted with refreshments, rosaries, pilgrimage wristbands and booklets, which were stamped at each of the locations where pilgrims paused for prayer.

Walking the Way of St. Joseph

BY JILL A. BOUGHTON

Over 400 pilgrims came to join in part or all of the Way of St. Joseph, a 5-mile walk from St. Joseph Church in Mishawaka to St. Joseph Church in South Bend, along the St. Joseph River, on May 1, the feast of St. Joseph the Worker. A blend of ages, races and states in life, they sang and prayed, renewed friendships and formed new ones, and shared laughter and profound insights.

On a sunny spring day with the temperature gradually rising, joyful gratitude was a common reaction. Several pilgrims were completing novenas or formally consecrating themselves to St. Joseph on the day, and some were to receive their first holy Communion the following day.

Father Matt Fase, CSC, parochial vicar at St. Joseph, South Bend, said he enjoyed forging a new connection with the church in Mishawaka, something more positive than occasionally redirecting callers who reach the parish by mistake, intending to contact the other.

Father Christopher Lapp, pastor of St. Joseph, Mishawaka, celebrated Mass at 7 a.m. The liturgy was followed by a time of adoration. The parish provided doughnuts, and there were colorful rosaries made and donated



After an opening prayer service led by Father Christopher Lapp, the pilgrims depart on their 5-mile trek along the St. Joseph River to St. Joseph Parish, South Bend.

PILGRIMAGE, from page 2

of St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, New Carlisle, and blessed by Deacon Frederick Everett. Volunteers handed out booklets with spaces for "passport" stamps at each of the stopping points along the route — churches, Veterans Memorial Park and Howard Park.

At 9 a.m. Father Lapp read the Gospel from Luke 24, about Jesus joining two disciples on their dispirited journey away from the community. In a similar way, He is just as eager to join us, who are all among His dearest friends, wherever we're headed, the pastor said. He urged everyone to treasure the moments of silence along the way, because they lead to reflection on the fundamental direction of one's life. The prayer service concluded with eucharistic benediction, and then the walkers set out.

Alejandra Rosales from St. Casimir Parish, South Bend, pulled a wagon in case her younger children grew tired; The

four range in age from 3 to 11. Michael and Maria McMahon's four children, age 6 and under, took turns in a double stroller. The family attends St. Matthew Cathedral Parish, South Bend.

Jim and Diana Klee, their daughter Lily and their labradoodles Poppy and Annie may have traveled the farthest. Parishioners at St. Peter Parish in Fort Wayne, they live in Angola and read about the pilgrimage in Today's Catholic. Because Jim is currently unemployed, they had an intention to lay at the feet of Joseph the Worker.

Several of the pilgrims had or were planning to also walk the famed Camino de Santiago de Compostela pilgrimage in Spain. St. Pius X, Granger, parishioner Joan Sniadecki and her husband, Paul, had walked a small portion before the pandemic struck, and David Echeverry, Sandra Polania-Reyes and their three daughters are leaving South Bend to walk the Camino in five weeks.

At Veterans Memorial Park near IUSB, Brother Jimmy Henke, CSC, led the group in

praying the litany of St. Joseph. At Howard Park, the Amigos de Jesus choir from St. Adalbert Parish, South Bend, sang two hymns honoring St. Joseph in Spanish.

Father Fase led the bilingual closing prayer service inside St. Joseph Church, South Bend. It included a singing of Psalm 122, a pilgrim's prayer approaching Jerusalem. The Andrew Polaniecki family led the prayer of the faithful, and then each pilgrim was invited to bring a written or drawn record of his intention to a basket in front of the statue of St. Joseph. Father Fase urged everyone to continue the forward impetus of their journey with the Lord and His saints, especially St. Joseph. As Sean Allen from the diocesan Young Adult Ministry put it, "I hope each pilgrim heard something from the Lord that he or she can bring back and integrate into the pilgrimage of daily life, walking more closely with the Lord afterward."

In the parish parking lot, members of the Knights of



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Monday, May 10: 12:30 p.m. — Virtual Meeting of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Advisory Group on the Eucharistic Initiative

Columbus served pulled pork, hot dogs and pierogies. Children played on the grassy playground while adults visited, with a backdrop of live music.

The idea for the pilgrimage came from Holy Cross seminarian David Murphy, who thought it might take place as a follow-up to a young adult walk last fall between Christ the King and St. Joseph parishes in South Bend. He shared the idea with Will Peterson, founder of the pilgrimage company Modern Catholic Pilgrim. Two days after Peterson had contacted Allen,

Pope Francis announced the Year of St. Joseph. Allen joked to Peterson, "Who's your inside man at the Vatican?"

Many individuals and organizations came together to make the ambitious event possible. Besides the individual parishes, Marian High School, Knights of Columbus councils 553 and 1878, Modern Catholic Pilgrim, the diocesan Young Adult Ministry, Marriage and Family Life Ministry and the Communications team were all involved in the planning and publicizing.

The experience of a pilgrimage

BY JILL A. BOUGHTON

It was a pilgrimage to Rome that eventually led Will Peterson to incorporate Modern Catholic Pilgrim, a company that helps Catholics plan and participate in pilgrimages all over the world. In preparation for the Way of St. Joseph Saturday, May 1, feast of Joseph the Worker, he shared his story and the moving stories of several other pilgrims.

Will Peterson

As a Notre Dame student, Peterson studied in Galway, Ireland. A 2013 pilgrimage brought him to Rome for the first triduum of Pope Francis' pontificate. On Easter morning, he had a powerful encounter with the Holy Spirit. "It was like lightning shooting right down to my fingertips." The more he reflected, the more convinced he became that the ancient tradition of pilgrimage offers a great deal to the modern Catholic, especially coupled with the charism of hospitality. Four years later, he spent four days walking 75 miles from Lexington, Kentucky, to Gethsemani Abbey, stopping overnight in two parishes and an interfaith homeless center. He and David Cable, a fellow University of Notre Dame graduate, co-founded Modern Catholic Pilgrim with the dual objective of deepening faith and building community.

David Murphy

A native of Atlanta, Murphy was a classmate of Peterson and Cable in the Notre Dame Class of 2014. After college, he became a



Navy helicopter pilot. When he was stationed in San Diego, he and Peterson reconnected. The two of them and a third friend agreed to walk from Mission San Diego to Mission San Louis Rey, 50 miles in two days in a beautiful setting. Because Peterson had been exploring the spiritual meaning of pilgrimage, their journey went far beyond tourism. At the time, all three were considering vocations to the priesthood; it was a key time for deep conversation and prayer. The other two men will soon be married. Murphy is now a seminarian with the Congregation of Holy Cross.

For his first-year field work, Murphy ministered to young

adults at Christ the King Parish, South Bend. He and a classmate assigned to St. Joseph Parish, South Bend, came up with the plan for a young adult pilgrimage between the two parishes. With the enthusiastic participation of Father Gilbrian Stoy, CSC, and Father Matt Fase, CSC, the walk came to include a Mass with Father Stoy's homily being specific to pilgrimage. Trying to figure out how to follow up on that success and expand it to more participants, Peterson credits Murphy with the inspiration for the Way of St. Joseph. "Looking at a map of Catholic churches in Michiana, it was pretty obvious," said Murphy.



and Lisa returned to the shrine to give thanks and consecrate their son to St. Joseph. Now a young adult in the Alliance for Catholic Education program at the University of Notre Dame, Joseph has developed his own devotion to St. Joseph and Brother Andre, whom he chose as his confirmation saint.

Caty Burke

When Burke was studying in Vienna, she got to participate in a meaningful trip to Poland. On one memorable day, "burned into my mind," she was very grateful that they began by praying at the shrine of the Black Madonna in Czestochowa. After that, they visited Auschwitz/Birkenau. "I felt very heavy," Burke admitted, "facing the reality of so much evil," but she was also moved by seeing St. Maximilian Kolbe's cell and remembering his generous self-sacrifice. "I could almost hear the songs he was singing to Our Lady." She found herself clinging to the bars of the cell and weeping in the face of so much evil — and so much holiness.

Patrick Hess

Patrick Hess of Knights of Columbus Santa Maria Council No. 553 saw a notice about the Way of St. Joseph in the diocesan young adult newsletter and asked right away how the Knights could assist. They helped pilgrims cross streets and provided water along the way and lunch outdoors at St. Joseph Parish, South Bend. "Our membership and their families have been very enthusiastic to partici-

Deacon Frederick and Lisa Everett

After an annual USCCB pro-life conference several years ago, the Everetts returned home by way of St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal. Since Lisa had recently suffered a miscarriage, they sought the intercession of St. Joseph and Brother Andre Bessette, CSC. Not long afterward, they conceived a son they named Joseph.

By the following year's gathering, Joseph was a baby in arms. Although it's a U.S. event, one of the speakers was unable to leave Canada, so the pro-life conference took place in Montreal. Naturally, Deacon Frederick

Church leaders offer prayers after Mexico City metro crash

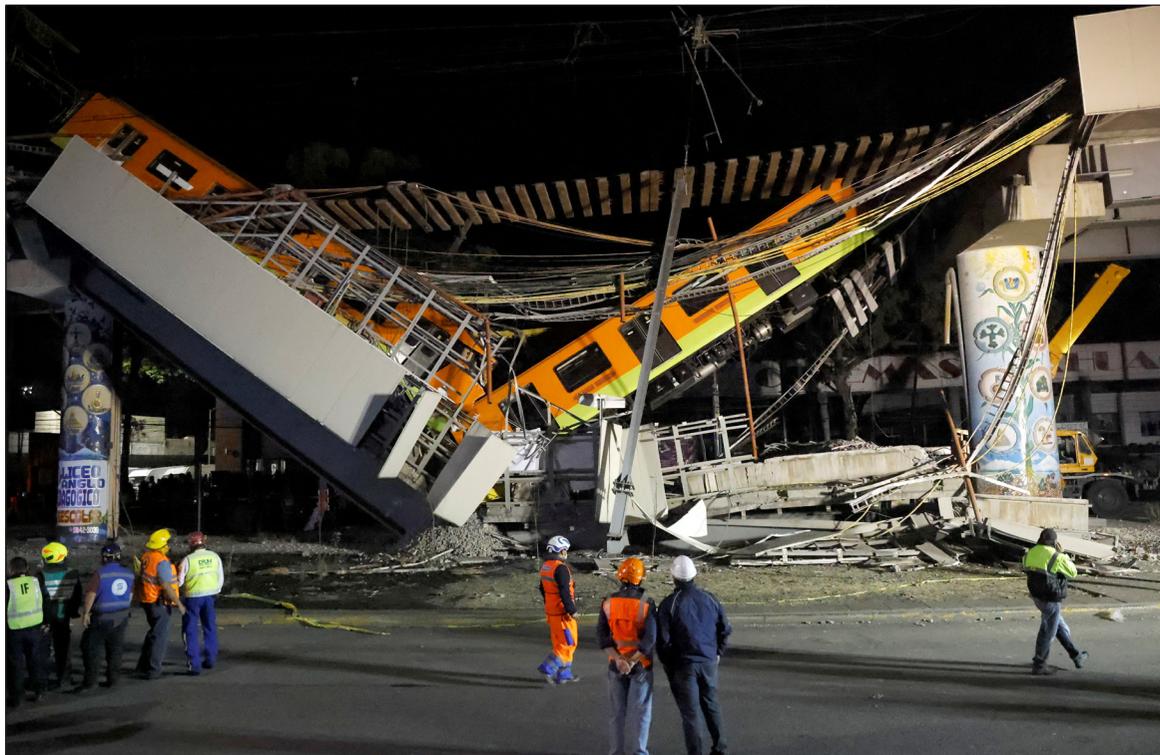
BY DAVID AGREN

MEXICO CITY (CNS) — Mexican Church leaders offered prayers for the victims of a metro line collapse that left at least 23 dead and more than 70 people injured.

Bishop Andrés Vargas Peña of Xochimilco — which serves three southern boroughs in Mexico City — offered condolences to the victims, while announcing each priest in the diocese would celebrate Mass three times May 4 “for the deceased, the injured and their families.”

The bishop asked parishioners to pray for the victims and also asked diocesan priests in the affected area and hospitals treating the injured to provide spiritual support.

An elevated portion of a metro line in Mexico City collapsed at around 10:30 p.m. May 3, sending two train cars crashing onto



CNS photo/Carlos Jasso, Reuters

a busy thoroughfare below and crushing at least one vehicle. Rescuers worked through the night to free trapped passengers and search for victims.

Mexico City Mayor Claudia Sheinbaum said the cause of the tragedy remains unclear. Line 12 of Mexico City Metro, where the accident occurred, has been plagued by construction problems since being inaugurated in 2012.

Half the stations in Line 12 were closed in 2014 due to construction issues. A strong earthquake in 2017 also damaged columns on the metro line, but Sheinbaum said repairs were made and the inspections occur daily.

“Absolutely nothing will be hidden,” President Andrés Manuel López Obrador said at his morning news conference May 4. “The people have to know the complete truth.”

The Mexico City Metro serves 4.6 million passengers daily, carrying armies of workers from far-flung suburbs to jobs in the Mexican capital.

The site where an overpass for a metro partially collapsed with train cars on it is seen at Olivos station in Mexico City May 4.



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Rescue workers carry a body at Olivos station in Mexico City, where an overpass for a metro partially collapsed with train cars on it May 3. Picture taken May 4.



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Jonathan Acierto

Pilgrims, some of whom walked several miles between St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka, and St. Joseph Parish, South Bend, gather at the latter for a concluding prayer service. The May 1 pilgrimage was meant to help participants draw closer to the holy spouse of Mary and took place on one of his feast days — the feast of St. Joseph the Worker.

EXPERIENCE, from page 3

pate as volunteers or pilgrims,” said Hess. “This pilgrimage is a wonderful opportunity to witness to the importance of St. Joseph as an example of humility and virtue so needed in the world today. Our council is blessed to be part of it.”

Hess made his own pilgrimage at the end of the year he spent in Rome when he was in Notre Dame’s architecture program. Growing up in St. Pius X Parish in Granger, he became interested in Giuseppe Sarto, who became Pope Pius X. Sarto was born into a poor family in Riese, northern Italy, where he walked 5 miles each way to attend school in the town of Castelfranco Veneto. To avoid getting his shoes dirty on the way, he took them off and carried them; a statue outside St. Pius X School shows the future saint as a barefoot lad.

For his personal pilgrimage, Hess took a train from Rome to Castelfranco Veneto and retraced Sarto’s route, visiting the cathedral where he was ordained, the house where he was born and

his childhood parish. “It was a pretty incredible experience, and a great last hurrah before heading back home.”

Kristah Quijada

Pilgrimages are often made to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. Kristah Quijada, administrative assistant in the diocesan Secretariat for Evangelization and Discipleship, made such a pilgrimage with her family. It was especially meaningful because the journey was undertaken to fulfill a “manda,” or “promise,” her father made to Our Lady when he was very sick. Since the pilgrims included her younger siblings and her elderly grandmother, they did not do much walking. However, when they reached the courtyard of the basilica, her father and grandmother dropped to their knees to complete the procession. Quijada said, “It was a beautiful experience seeing people from all over the country — and probably all over the world — making their way to the basilica to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe.”



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Cross Catholic Outreach Committed To Stopping “Silent Killer” of Guatemala’s Poor

The devastating consequence of Guatemalan poverty rarely gets covered in the news. Occasionally, the world is told about some act of crime or violence in the country, a symptom of the desperation poverty creates, but we seldom hear about the silent killer tragically impacting Guatemala’s poorest families — malnutrition.

Extreme hunger and the medical hardships it creates impact thousands



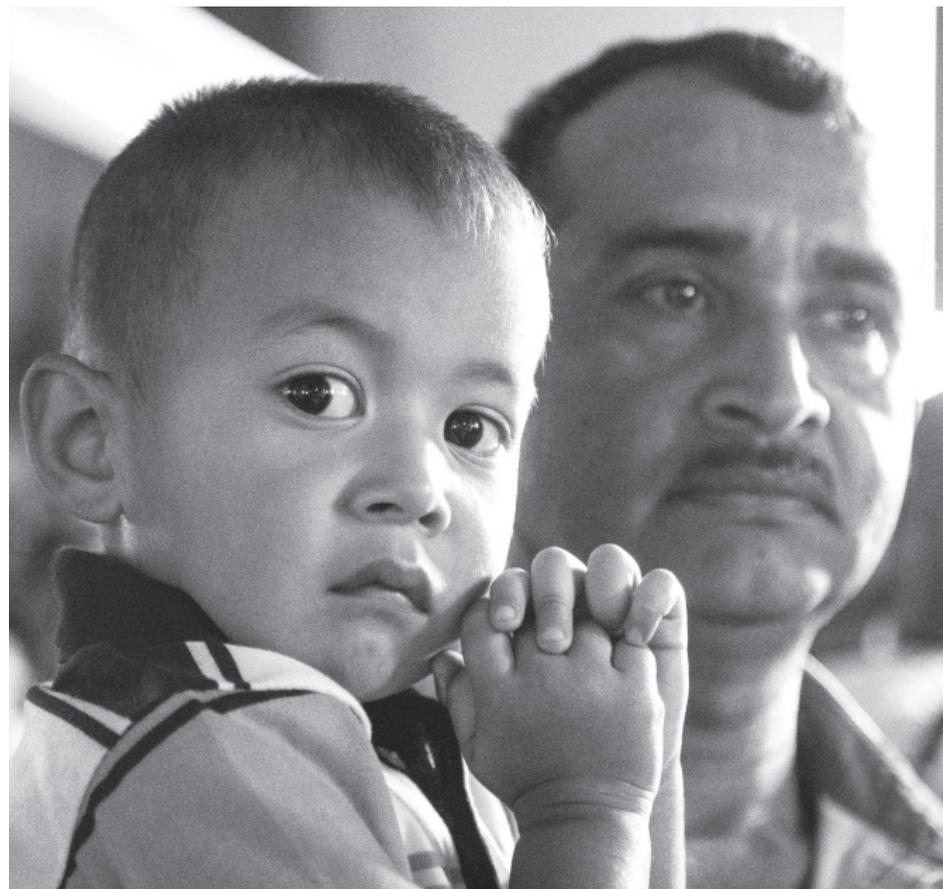
of Guatemalans without drawing much attention from the world at large, even though most of the victims are babies and young children. Only local Catholic leaders seem to have found solutions to this crisis, and it is their efforts to provide nutritious food to the poor on a regular basis that have begun to make a difference.

“Malnutrition has a terrible impact on poor children, and this crisis is particularly deadly in Guatemala’s remote, rural regions. There, where families live too far from hospitals or clinics capable of helping them, a serious lack of resources and inadequate food production create the perfect conditions for malnutrition to thrive,” explained James Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach, a major Catholic charity working with local leaders to find solutions. “Poor mothers are forced to choose which of their children to feed on a given day, and they watch in despair as their sons and daughters weaken, grow gaunt and lose the will to live.”

Cavnar went on to explain the major difference between hunger and malnutrition.

“Most Americans think of hunger as a temporary thing — a pain that will eventually be relieved — and praise God, that’s often the case. A child in the U.S. may go hungry at times, but that hunger isn’t usually a life-threatening issue,” he said. “Guatemalan children showing signs of malnutrition have typically endured hunger for weeks or months on end, and at that point, they begin to manifest signs of mental and physical damage that may become irreversible.”

Stunted growth is one of the most common physical problems Cavnar has seen, and the harm it does to a child’s body is lasting.



In the Diocese of Suchitepéquez-Retalhuleu, rural communities are relying on help to obtain the food they need to reduce the risk of malnutrition among children.

“You can imagine the pain this creates for parents. When they are poor and have no food to offer their children, they begin to feel powerless to stop the decline their sons and daughters are experiencing,” Cavnar said. “Travel into rural areas of Guatemala and you will meet many poor mothers who live in despair, feeling they will never be able to provide relief for their suffering little ones without some kind of outside help.”

Thankfully, Church leaders in Guatemala have a heart for the poor and marginalized, and they are working in partnership with Cross Catholic Outreach to distribute food where it is needed most. (see related story on opposite page.)

“Right now, we are developing a feeding outreach in the Diocese of Suchitepéquez-Retalhuleu to address the needs of its rural Guatemalan families,” Cavnar said. “These local Catholic leaders were eager to supply food to the vulnerable in their diocese,

but they needed help to put the right programs in place. Cross Catholic Outreach will be involved, of course, and we are hoping and praying American Catholics will want to add their support as well. The more who contribute to this mission of mercy, the more we can accomplish. So we are asking for people to be generous in their response.”

Readers interested in supporting Cross Catholic Outreach food programs and other outreaches to the poor can contribute through the ministry brochure inserted in this issue or send tax-deductible gifts to: Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC01720, PO Box 97168, Washington DC 20090-7168. The ministry has a special need for partners willing to make gifts on a monthly basis. Use the inserted brochure to become a Mission Partner or write “Monthly Mission Partner” on mailed checks to be contacted about setting up those arrangements.

Cross Catholic Outreach Endorsed by More Than 100 Bishops, Archbishops

Cross Catholic Outreach’s range of relief work to help the poor overseas continues to be recognized by a growing number of Catholic leaders in the U.S. and abroad.

“We’ve received more than 100 endorsements from bishops and archbishops,” explained Jim Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach. “They’re moved by the fact that we’ve launched outreaches in almost 40 countries and have undertaken a variety of projects — everything from feeding the hungry and housing the homeless

to supplying safe water and supporting educational opportunities for the poorest of the poor. The bishops have also been impressed by Cross Catholic Outreach’s direct and meaningful responses to emergency situations, most recently by providing food, medicines and other resources to partners in Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala impacted by natural disasters.”

Bishop Ronald W. Gainer of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, supports this mission, writing, “What a joy it is to

be part of the Lord’s redemptive work and to manifest his mercy on Earth by caring for our neighbors in need.”

In addition to praising CCO’s accomplishments, many of the bishops and archbishops are encouraged that pontifical canonical status was conferred on the charity in September 2015, granting it approval as an official Catholic organization. This allows CCO to participate in the mission of the Church and to give a concrete witness to Gospel charity, in collaboration with

the Holy Father.

“Your work with the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development is a strong endorsement of your partnership with the work of the Universal Church,” Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone of San Francisco said. “By providing hope to the faithful overseas by feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, delivering medical relief to the sick and sheltering the homeless, as well as through self-help projects, you are embodying the papal encyclical *Deus Caritas Est*.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

A “Neighbor in Need” Appeals to American Catholics for Help During Serious Food Crisis

In the department of Suchitepéquez, Guatemala, poor families typically rely on farming for survival, and because their remote villages are isolated, many become very dependent on the success of their local harvest. This becomes a very dangerous gamble in years when nature does not cooperate.

“When harvests are poor, work opportunities and crop yields literally dry up, leading to low household incomes and a critical shortage of food,” explained James Cavnar, president of Cross Catholic Outreach, a respected Catholic charity working in

have begun feeling hopeless. Some have resigned themselves to eating one small meal of tortillas each day, and they are in anguish, seeing their children languishing on the brink of starvation as a result.

Thankfully, Bishop Pablo Vizcaino and Caritas of the Diocese of Suchitepéquez-Retalhuleu have developed a strategic plan to rescue these children and set their families on the path to long-term health through improved nutrition. In partnership with Cross Catholic Outreach, major food shipments will be secured and



The men and women in Guatemala work very hard to provide for their children, but bad weather can destroy their crops and strip away their earnings. At those times, the Church must step in and help.



the region. “That’s the kind of situation the people are facing now. Their access to food has become very limited and families are suffering as a result.”

When Cavnar encountered this crisis on a visit to Guatemala, it immediately reminded him of a passage in Chapter 16 of the Gospel of Luke, he said.

“There in Luke, Jesus tells a parable about a poor man living on the doorstep of a man with plenty. The poor man’s needs are ignored, though he longs for something simple — just the scraps from the rich man’s table. When both die, the affluent man is rebuked for turning away from a situation he could easily have helped solve. Simply put, he ignores a neighbor in need. I believe we are faced with a modern-day example of that parable today in Guatemala, a country so close to our own.”

Statistics certainly back up Cavnar’s view. Guatemala — less than a three-hour flight from Houston or Miami — has the highest levels of extreme hunger in Latin America or the Caribbean, and the fourth-highest level in the world.

With their limited access to employment and educational opportunities, many of the country’s remote indigenous people

distributed to those who need help most.

“The story of Lazarus and the rich man taught us an important lesson about helping a neighbor in need, and we should take it to heart as we consider the suffering going on at our doorstep, there in Guatemala,” Cavnar said. “My team is committed to providing the food these desperate families need, and I’m confident Catholics throughout the U.S. will join our cause by helping to sponsor those shipments. This suffering must end.”

To combat Guatemala’s hunger crisis, Cross Catholic Outreach has a simple but effective plan to deliver scientifically formulated food packets they call Vitafood. This fortified rice product, specifically designed to reverse the effects of child malnutrition, can be packed in large shipping containers and cost-effectively sent to Catholic programs capable of bringing them through customs and effectively delivering them to the families with the greatest need. A single container of Vitafood can make a big impact, according to Cavnar.

“Vitafood is extremely flexible. It is rice or lentil based, and it comes in several different varieties. It can be

prepared straight from the package or flavored with additional ingredients to suit local tastes,” he explained. “No matter how it is prepared, its nutritional value remains the same, providing the optimal balance of vitamins, minerals, protein, fiber, fat and carbohydrates that a child’s hungry body needs. What’s more, because these Vitafood meals are donated to us, we only need to cover shipping costs to deliver the food to our ministry

partner in Guatemala. That means every \$0.15 cents donated can help put 6 nutritious meals in the hands of a family in need.”

Cavnar’s current goal, he said, is to secure the support of American Catholics to fund the effort.

“The diocese is eager for the help, and we have the logistics settled. What we need now is the support of compassionate Catholics willing to help a neighbor in need.”

How to Help

To fund Cross Catholic Outreach’s effort to help the poor worldwide, use the postage-paid brochure inserted in this newspaper or mail your gift to Cross Catholic Outreach, Dept. AC01720, PO Box 97168, Washington DC 20090-7168. The brochure also includes instructions on becoming a Mission Partner and making a regular monthly donation to this cause.

If you identify an aid project, 100% of the donation will be restricted to be used for that specific project. However, if more is raised for the project than needed, funds will be redirected to other urgent needs in the ministry.



NEWS BRIEFS

In-person Mass feels more 'grace-filled,' says Oregon parishioner

PORTLAND, Ore. (CNS) — It took courage for Leilani Arellano to return to Mass, but she is glad to be back. Over the summer, Arellano had COVID-19 and she still cannot breathe quite right. The prospect of worshipping in a room full of people, even properly distanced and masked, made her uneasy. But Father John Henderson and the rest of the staff at St. Anthony Parish in Tigard, remained so consistent and open-hearted in their outreach during the pandemic and so fastidious and firm on the rules for returning to Mass that Arellano felt both wanted and safe. During each Mass at St. Anthony, in a suburb outside of Portland and one of the largest parishes in the state, Father Henderson and other priests thoroughly explain safety procedures and the safest technique for receiving Communion. "It was hard for me to come into Mass," Arellano said. "But they have done a really good job for those who are panicked and scared as I was. It feels good to be in person, honestly. It feels a lot more grace-filled than sitting in front of a computer." Father Henderson opted to accept the pandemic as an opportunity for conversion. He started with himself, asking how he could grow closer to the Lord during a time of fear and isolation. Then he prayed about the entire 3,600-family parish and its three big language groups: English, Spanish and Vietnamese. "I feel we have to come out of this with a kind of newness, a freshness," he said.

Oklahoma archbishop praises state leaders for laws restricting abortion

OKLAHOMA CITY (CNS) — Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt signed three bills restricting abortion into law April 26. The measures require physicians who perform abortions to be certified in obstetrics and gynecology, place performing an abortion on the list of unprofessional conduct by doctors and prohibit abortions if a fetal heartbeat can be detected. With the fetal-heartbeat bill, any doctor who performs an abortion after detecting a heartbeat would be guilty of homicide. "We are fortunate in Oklahoma to have political leaders who understand and seek to protect our most vulnerable from abortion, which claims the lives of unborn children and too often endangers their mothers as well," said Archbishop Paul S. Coakley of Oklahoma City, in an April 26 statement. The archbishop called for "prayers for a renewed respect for the dignity of every human life" and for a rejection of the mentality that treats human beings as "disposable based merely on their use-

Pope will open an online meeting on 'demographic winter' in Italy



CNS photo/Ciro De Luca, Reuters

A woman and a child are seen at the beach in Naples, Italy, in this May 4 file photo. Pope Francis is scheduled to open a May 14 meeting discussing the challenges posed by Italy's low birth rate. "For more than a decade, Italy has become an increasingly elderly and less populated country, suffering from structural and legislative shortcomings at the fiscal, economic and social level," which have all exacerbated a drop in births, according to a news release. The meeting, it added, will "launch an appeal for co-responsibility in restarting the country beginning with new births" as well as studying the challenge of a "demographic winter" and look for a new way to talk about the issue of birthrates.

fulness, health, age or economic status. We must offer compassion and mercy to those in need," he added.

Christian meditation is path to meeting Christ, pope says at audience

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Meditation is more than just a method of stress relief for the body, it is a way of encountering Christ in one's soul, Pope Francis said. During his weekly general audience April 28, the pope said that although it has become a "widespread activity among people who do not have a religious view of life," meditation within the context of Christian prayer guides men and women "to advance, with the Holy Spirit, along the one way of prayer:

Christ Jesus. For us Christians, meditating is a way of encountering Jesus. And in this way, only in this way, can we find ourselves," he said. Continuing his series of talks on prayer, the pope reflected on meditation as a form of prayer Christians use to "seek meaning" within the sacred mysteries and from God's word. Meditation, however, is also practiced by non-believers as well "because it represents a high barrier against the daily stress and emptiness that is everywhere," he noted.

Pope urges altar servers to be signs of faith to their parishes

FATIMA, Portugal (CNS) — Being an altar server should be a "profession of faith" to the entire parish community, Pope Francis

told young men and women participating in Portugal's annual altar server pilgrimage to Fatima. "Don't follow negative people but radiate the light and hope that come from God," he wrote in a message read May 1 as about 1,000 altar servers sat socially distanced outdoors at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima. "Be holy. Be original" was the theme for the altar servers' 25th national pilgrimage and was the focus of Pope Francis' message to the young people, which was reported on the website of the Portuguese bishops' conference. The pope asked them to be particularly careful when serving at Mass to always behave in a way that "is fitting in the service of holy things," especially when they are near the altar, but also when they make the sign of the cross, kneel or are joining in the prayers and

hymns. "You have been taught — and it is true — that at holy Mass, that small piece of bread becomes the body of Christ and the wine in the chalice becomes the blood of Christ," he said. When serving at the altar, "your eyes do not see Jesus, but your heart and your lips adore Him."

Irish government to lift ban on Mass attendance May 10

DUBLIN (CNS) — The Irish government said a COVID-19-related ban on Catholics attending Mass will be lifted May 10. Irish Prime Minister Micheál Martin made the announcement in an address to the nation April 29 as he revealed a new road map for the reopening of society. Public worship has been banned since Dec. 26 amid increased cases — a move accepted by the Irish bishops' conference and other faith leaders. However, the government provoked controversy earlier in April when Health Minister Stephen Donnelly made it a criminal offense for a priest to plan a public Mass or a Catholic to leave home to participate in Mass. Archbishop Eamon Martin of Armagh, Northern Ireland, head of the Irish bishops' conference, described this move as both "provocative" and "draconian." The prime minister announced in a televised address that up to 50 people will be permitted to attend Mass beginning May 10. Up to 50 people will also be able to gather for funerals and wedding ceremonies; however wedding receptions will be restricted to just six people, or 15 people if the reception takes place outdoors.

Building new society begins with charity, fraternity, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Charity and fraternity in one's family and community is the first step in helping establish the kingdom of God in a world that is increasingly divided, Pope Francis said. Meeting with members of the Chemin Neuf community April 30, the pope said the group's "ecumenical openness" in welcoming different cultures and traditions can "transform the face of our society. I encourage you not to be afraid to walk the paths of fraternity and to build bridges between people in a world where so many walls are still being built out of fear of others," he said. Founded by a charismatic prayer group in 1973, the Chemin Neuf community boasts an estimated 2,400 members in 30 countries, according to its website. Praising its work with laypeople and religious men and women, as well as young people, the pope said the group's work is a service for the common good that helps build "a more just and fraternal world."

Schoolchildren rosary — 'Let the Children Lead'

FORT WAYNE — Schoolchildren of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend invite the faithful of every age to join them in prayer on the feast of Our Lady of Fatima, May 13, at 10 a.m. The children will lead a rosary for all participants.

All who wish to join in can pray together as the students help turn all eyes to Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of His mother, for peace and unity. The rosary, reflecting on

the luminous mysteries, will be said for the nation to be restored to living under God, in His truth, and so that all people of the world will come to believe, adore, hope in and love the Lord Jesus.

Mary appeared to the children of Fatima, Portugal, in 1917, during a time of war and unrest. She did not bring her message

from heaven to the adults, but to three young children. Why?

The answer may be found in Matthew 18:2-6. "He called a child over, placed it in their midst, and said, 'Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the

kingdom of heaven. And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives Me.'" So, the adults will pray that they might love and trust the Lord with the heart of a child, and the schoolchildren of the diocese will lead them in this prayer.

The webpage diocesefwsb.org/let-the-children-lead provides detailed information about this event, along with many resources for teachers, catechists and parents to use in preparing the students for the rosary and to help teach them more about the children of Fatima. It also provides resources to begin prayer of the daily rosary at home and to start school and parish rosary groups, so that the daily prayer of the rosary within the families of all students may continue, fulfilling the instructions of Our Lady of Fatima for a path to peace.

'Zoom and See' helps women discern call to religious life

ADRIAN, Michigan — Single Catholic women ages 19-35, who are trying to discern their call in life or who are feeling called to give their life to God are invited by the Adrian Dominican Sisters to spend the weekend with them and with other young Catholic women discerning their futures.

The virtual Zoom and See for Yourself weekend is Friday and Saturday, May 7-8. It will include time for prayer, silence, faith-sharing, and fun, as well as the opportunity to learn about the life of a sister and the Dominican life.

Register online at tinyurl.com/ADSDiscern. For information, contact Sister Tarianne DeYonker, OP, or Sister Katherine Frazier, OP, vocation co-directors, at vocations@adriandominicans.org.

PAID ADVERTORIAL

Saint Anne COO reflects on the vocation of motherhood

By Maria Nancarrow
FUND DEVELOPMENT/
MARKETING SPECIALIST

Mother's Day is very close to the heart of the Saint Anne Communities team, as St. Anne, the mother of Mary, is the facilities' patron saint.

To mother means to nurture relationships, the very things that give meaning to women's lives and their work. Anyone who has been loved by any kind of mother in this world — if a woman has seen a child, nurtured them, known them and loved them, they know her worth.

It is no small thing to be seen and known and loved; it is everything. Mothers play a vital role in forming children's souls, in keeping families in the faith and in guiding the next generation to heaven.

One of Saint Anne Communities' favorite mothers just happens to be its chief operating officer. Elaine Wilson accepted the role of COO in 2019. This Mother's Day, here is a little bit about her and her role.

Q: Why is the mission of Saint Anne Communities important to you?

A: Saint Anne's mission is important to me because I feel health care should all be mission-driven. Saint Anne's gives me the ability to run a long-term care facility with the residents in mind. As I work with our leadership team, we make decisions revolving around actual residents we care for. We know their names and their families and have real relationships with them. We have a very supportive board of directors. I love that Bishop Rhoades always brings it back to: What are we doing to fulfill our mission? Are we delivering health care with a Christian atmosphere? What can we do to continually improve the long-term care experience?



Elaine Wilson, chief operating officer of Saint Anne Communities, treasures being a mother to her two boys; Philip, 3, and Max, 5 months.

Provided by Maria Nancarrow

Q: Who was a positive maternal influence in your life?

A: My mother is such a wonderful example. She was able to stay home and raise myself, along with my three siblings, always putting us first: running us to practices, 4-H meetings, school events, church on Sundays and whatever else life threw our way. My mother taught me the value of a friendly smile. I think there are few in this world who have seen anything but cheer out of her. She taught the value of honesty and accountability. She was so uplifting to me and helped me to realize I can accomplish many things in life if I set my mind to it and put in the work.

Q: What interactions have you had with mothers who reside at Saint Anne Communities?

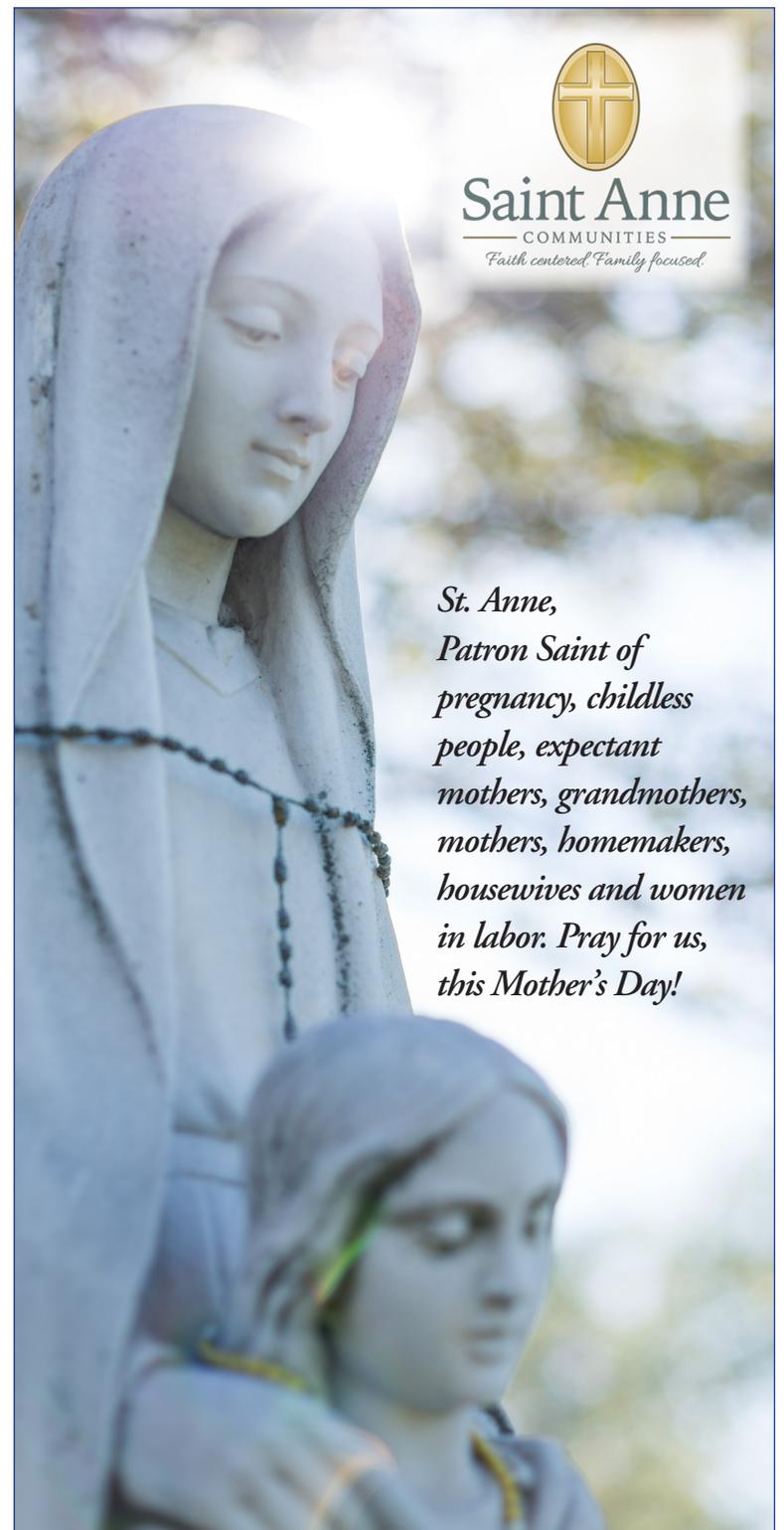
A: Working in long-term care, I have met so many amazing mothers and grandmothers. One of my favorite things to do with the residents is to ask them about life, what their biggest joys were, and through their many years, what advice they would give. Their answers always include such things as "life goes fast," and "love those around you." The mothers absolutely light up when speaking about their children. You can see the joy in their eyes and smiles. They

bring up stories of the past of how ornery their children were, followed by laughter. Their faces beam with pride as they talk about their children's accomplishments. When talking with residents in their rooms, I love asking them about their family pictures: It is always followed by stories of who is who, when the picture was taken and what their family members are up to now.

Q: What is your experience of motherhood while carrying the role of COO of Saint Anne Communities?

A: Motherhood is the absolute light of my life. I love being able to come home to my two boys, Philip, 3 years, and Max, 5 months. Pre-COVID-19, Philip would come to work with me on some weekends. I loved being able to introduce him to the residents. Children can brighten so many days. Once we have more ability, within the COVID-19 regulations, I can't wait to bring both boys in to meet the residents; to not only bring joy to the residents, but also to help teach my children all the valuable lessons and relationships that can be built with a person's elders.

Anyone interested in making a gift to Saint Anne Communities in honor of their mother or grandmother should visit www.sacfw.org to make an online donation or call 260-399-3232 for other ways to give.



*St. Anne,
Patron Saint of
pregnancy, childless
people, expectant
mothers, grandmothers,
mothers, homemakers,
housewives and women
in labor. Pray for us,
this Mother's Day!*

Mother's Day —

WOMANHOOD, MOTHERHOOD AND GOD

BY KATIE SLEE

St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross once stated, “the world does not need what women have, it needs what women are.”

The cultural worldview of “what women are” may have been to what St. Teresa was alluding. Society offers women no shortage of what they should resemble or how to act, but what women are goes far beyond the incomplete surface representations shown in mainstream outlets.

To clearly see “what women are,” it is necessary to view womanhood through a lens with a much deeper focus. The teachings of the Catholic faith, female saints, as well as representations of women throughout biblical history, offer a diverse and vibrant tapestry of God’s feminine creation woven together and held securely by the common threads of true beauty and dignity.

Pope St. John Paul II addressed this need for a counter-cultural view of womanhood in his 1995 “Papal Letter to Women,” stating, “When it comes to setting women free from every kind of exploitation and domination, the Gospel contains an ever-relevant message which goes back to the attitude of Jesus Christ himself. Transcending the established norms of his own culture, Jesus treated women with openness, respect, acceptance and tenderness. In this way He honored the dignity which women have always possessed according to God’s plan and in his love.”

Even through the most prayerful and faithful focus, God’s plan for every woman might not fall in line with that of His children here on earth. Mary found herself in this very position. As a bride to be, she, like any other woman, undoubtedly had a vision for what her life would look like. Her vision was changed when God’s plan was revealed to her, and she responded with a statement of faith: “Be it done to me according to thy word.” A model for any other Catholic woman, these words echo with both joy and sorrow throughout womanhood and, by extension, motherhood.

One need not look far within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend to find examples of Mary’s great faith in action each day.



Provided by Marissa Jarzynka

For Marissa Jarzynka, being a mother means “you do your best to make sure that your kids know that they are loved and have a purpose.” She is pictured with her children, August, Blaise and Gianna.



Provided by Jessica Marie

God’s plan for the Jessica Marie family of South Bend was different than she and her husband, Jim, had expected, but her prayers are of deep gratitude for it.

A cradle Catholic from a large, devout family, Jessica Marie, of Arcola had an image of what motherhood would be for her. She had met her husband, Jim, in college. He was also raised in a strong Catholic household.

Jim and Jessica had a shared vision of a large family and mutual openness to life. It wasn’t long before they discovered that God’s vision was different from their own, however, and they began carrying the cross of infertility together.

“We’ve learned that being ‘open to life’ means being open to both ‘yes’ and ‘no’ from God,” explained Jessica. “God took our openness to life and gave us a ‘no’ to biological parenthood. He instead called us to His ‘Plan A’ for us: adoption.”

Since their faithful “yes” to the new “Plan A” for their lives, Jim and Jessica have been blessed three times and are now parents to a daughter and two sons. Among Jessica’s prayers is unmistakable gratitude for those who have allowed the fulfillment of God’s vision of womanhood for her. “To the children who made me a mother: Thank you, my precious little souls, for teaching me the meaning of sacrificial, unconditional love. To the women who made me a mother: thank you for choosing life and us; for your brave sacrificial love for your child, and for entrusting them to me to be their mother. I pray for you every day. Your greatest loss in life is our greatest joy.”

The great joys of their journey did not come without struggle. “The verse from Psalms 128:3 used to give me a sorrowful twinge,” said Jessica. “‘Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home.’ I used to think that I was not fruitful because I

could not physically bear children for my husband. But I have begun to see that real fruitfulness comes from our thoughts, words and deeds — in my home and for my fellow man. All the behind-the-scenes actions we do as women is what makes us fruitful.”

Fruitful deeds are also what has helped Carrie Norton’s faith journey come full circle. Norton is well-known at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, Fort Wayne, as a strong advocate for her oldest child, Margaret. Margaret is a third-grade student and a “Purple Warrior” — someone who is affected by epilepsy. On June 8, 2011, Carrie and her husband, Dave, arrived at the hospital to welcome their little girl into the world. During birth, Margaret suffered a traumatic brain injury from a failed vacuum-assisted delivery. The baby suffered a lack of oxygen and external head trauma. Since delivery, she’s been diagnosed with mild cerebral palsy, seizure disorder, apraxia, 50% gross/fine motor loss on the left side of her body, and a cognitive processing delay.

“Immediately after Margaret’s delivery, we were told the next 72 hours would be critical,” remembered Carrie. “Her doctors were unsure if she would survive, and if she did, what the long-term effects of the brain damage would be. Dave and I were prepared for the worst.” During this time and for several years following, Carrie’s relationship with God came to a screeching halt. “I was angry at God,” she admitted. “I believed He was punishing me.”

Carrie was eventually able to cope with Margaret’s health issues by completely immersing herself in her recovery.

“While I couldn’t control her entrance into the

D'S PLAN

world, I could possibly control a better outcome for her," she recalled feeling. "As I developed a deeper sense of compassion — especially for parents raising children with special needs — my anger toward God lessened. Conversations with parents in similar situations made me feel understood and not so lonely. I felt supported, heard and validated. We could share our fears and failures, as well as our triumphs. I slowly started feeling less like a victim and more like a survivor. God chose me to be Margaret's mother for a reason, and I needed to be mindful of what that meant."

These days, Carrie is at Mass and in the parish school almost daily. She enjoys volunteering in every way, handing out epilepsy awareness bracelets and teaching Margaret's classmates about the special way God made Margaret. She has found both beauty and dignity on this unexpected path.

"I've learned I'm stronger and more fearless than I thought. I've learned that God never delivers the goods on a silver platter; His gifts are often hard to see, feel and hear. My faith journey has always centered around my ability to trust Him. In times of doubt, I think about Margaret. He made her to be my daughter, perfect just the way she is."

Like Carrie, Marissa Jarzynka has learned how strong and brave she is as well. A faithful member of St. Mary Parish in Huntington, Jarzynka can regularly be found at Mass or school with her three young children: August, Blaise and Gianna.

As a full-time registered nurse and newly single mother of three, Jarzynka's image of motherhood has shifted.

"I used to think that being a mother meant that I had to have everything perfect. I needed to make sure I had a clean house, dinner on the table and have it 'all together,'" she admitted. "I have come to the conclusion that being a mother means you do your best to make sure that your kids know that they are loved and have a purpose."

The challenges of divorce were never part of Jarzynka's plan. While she envisioned spending a married life raising children with her husband, she is accepting this new plan as part of her faith journey and is choosing to see the beauty and dignity in each hardship.

"I have come to understand that there are some things in life you literally have no control over, but you can control how you react," she explained. "I know that God is the author of my life and He is not done with my story. As I navigate this new and unknown territory, I know that God is guiding me. When I think of the future I planned and lost, I can't help but be overwhelmed by what I still do have. I have these three precious children who bring me so much happiness daily, and I thank God for that. Being a mother is my greatest honor, and I can only hope I do half as good a job as my own mother."

By reevaluating society's depiction of who they should be and accepting God's unexpected plans, all three women have been able to not only recognize but to fully embrace the unique beauty and dignity of their own womanhood. Jessica summed it up this way: "You do not have to be married. You do not have to be a mother. You, as a woman, are fruitful when you do little things for others. May we as women all see that our fruitfulness is not limited to the physical, but truly comes from performing acts of mercy in the everyday."

Motherhood as the wife of a deacon

BY SAMANTHA ROHLOFF

May 9 of this year is that annual special day reserved for women who hold the prestigious title of Mom. But for women whose husbands are ordained clergy, motherhood may look a little different.

Lori Giovannini, wife to Deacon Louis Giovannini, who is assigned to St. Pius X Parish in Granger, dubs motherhood "a calling." Underlining this idea, Annie Tardy, wife to Deacon Melvin Tardy Jr. of St. Augustine in South Bend, said, "I feel that I was chosen to be a mom, because not all women are mothers."

Just like with any vocation, motherhood holds tremendous responsibilities — a duty to her children being one of the greatest among them.

"My children are my reason to wake up every day, to help them and to take care of them," said Elvia Sandoval, wife to Deacon Victor Sandoval, who serves at St. Patrick in Fort Wayne. And while Deacon Victor and Elvia's children are no longer young ones, "They are still my little kids," continued Elvia, "I love them so much; they are the most beautiful part of my life."

Annie deepened the conversation of a mother's duty to her children. "You're molding children of God as best you can and preparing them for life on their own. It involves sacrifice and unconditional love, but the rewards are priceless."

How the role of mother develops within each family is unique, which can especially be seen among the wives of deacons. Lori said that being a mother married to a deacon has encouraged her to step up when helping to develop the faith of her children. She also said that because of the many expectations society places upon the children of clergy, things can sometimes be more difficult for them.

"My role as a mother is the same," said Annie. "I am always there for my kids, even though they are now grown." Annie continued, "I now also have a responsibility to assist my husband on his deacon's journey. If anything, the diaconate has enriched what we were already doing. I am involved in church, through youth ministry. Sometimes I am a mother figure to them, too."

Fathers who are deacons usual-



Provided by Annie Tardy

Annie Tardy of South Bend is pictured on Mother's Day in 2016 with son Trevor, in front, and in back with daughter Martell, husband Deacon Mel Tardy and son Antonio. The wives of deacons serving in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend say their husbands are deeply attentive to their responsibilities as fathers and husbands, just as they are to their ministries of service to the Church.

ly take their domestic roles as husband and father quite seriously, because of the same deep faith that compelled them to answer the call to the diaconate.

"He is a super dad," Elvia said about her husband. "He loves them very much and is there for them when they need it." She continued by saying, "He has a beautiful heart, he is very intelligent, responsible and is thoughtful. I'm very proud of him."

Along the same line, Annie shared this about her husband: "I admire the time that he devotes to our kids. And he doesn't budge on certain values like faith, family and education."

Annie spoke on the balance of family life and responsibilities to

the Church that a married deacon must undertake. "As a husband, he makes sacrifices so that our needs are met as a couple and family," she said.

Annie loves that her husband "is devoted to God and [is] truly dedicated to his role as a deacon. He lives it earnestly and is a real ambassador to Christ."

Mother's Day for the wife of a deacon is celebrated in the same way as other mothers do. Elvia said she is spoiled by her family with gifts and eating out. Annie's family comes together at home to recall fond memories, and they go to church together.

As is the case with any vocation, God is at its center.

"I thank God for choosing my husband to serve Him," said Elvia. Watching one's husband love the Lord and serve Him with his whole heart, mind, body and soul is beautiful, agreed Lori. Whether motherhood is served through marriage to a layperson or to a deacon, it is a blessed vocation.

"My children are my reason to wake up every day, to help them and to take care of them."

ELVIA SANDOVAL, WIFE TO DEACON VICTOR SANDOVAL, WHO SERVES AT ST. PATRICK PARISH IN FORT WAYNE



Photos by Jennifer Barton

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades addresses the students of St. John the Baptist Catholic school in Fort Wayne at Mass during a pastoral visit April 27.

Bishop to students: 'We are temples of the Holy Spirit'

BY JENNIFER BARTON

Students at St. John the Baptist School in Fort Wayne welcomed Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades to their first all-school Mass of the year during his pastoral visit April 27. Principal Mary Keefe said she was overjoyed that the entire school was able to celebrate Mass together at the start of the day. "We spaced today — had space between — but we did it. That was an accomplishment," she said.

During the Mass, Bishop Rhoades invited the student body to offer congratulations to the eighth graders he had confirmed about a month prior, and to the second graders who received their first Communion a couple of weeks ago.

Bishop Rhoades' homily centered around the readings from the Gospel of John from the previous Sunday, in which Jesus refers to Himself as the Good Shepherd. In the Gospel for Tuesday, Jesus reiterated His role as a shepherd to His flock.

"You're the sheep. Jesus is the shepherd. And Jesus says that no one can take His sheep out of His hands," he emphasized. "It's kind of amazing, because it means that Jesus protects us, that Jesus cares for us, that He holds us in His arms."

He went on to speak about the Acts of the Apostles, one of his favorite books of the

"They're loved, they're cared for, they're known. If somebody needs a little extra something, our teachers are on it. The whole place is a blessing — it just is."

— Principal Mary Keefe



Principal Mary Keefe shows Bishop Rhoades around the school. She introduced him to the teachers and staff members, whom she says are the heart of the school and what makes St. John the Baptist a special place to call home.

Bible, he said. The bishop encouraged the newly confirmed to read from it daily. He then gave a brief history of the early Church and how the faith spread to the gentiles, particularly in the city of Antioch, where they were first called Christians. He also shared with the students the meaning of being a Christian.

"Christ means 'the anointed one' — God's anointed one. And we who are Christians are all anointed." He explained how Christians receive this anointing at baptism and confirmation. "So, if we're Christians, if we're anointed ones, that means we're anointed with the Holy Spirit; that we are temples of the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit helps us and guides us to live as faithful followers of Jesus. That's what it means to be a Christian."

Bishop Rhoades exhorted the students to "take seriously the name of 'Christian'" by imitating Christ in their daily lives, especially through reception of the Eucharist, where Jesus "nourishes us and feeds us with His body and blood so that we can be like Him."

He concluded, "We are blessed to be Christians, to be united to Jesus, our good shepherd who laid down His life for our sake."

In light of the ongoing pandemic, St. John the Baptist School was blessed to have the bishop visit every classroom in

ST. JOHN, from page 12

the school after Mass. Keefer maintained a tight schedule to ensure that this could happen. "Everyone wanted to meet him, everyone wanted to have him chat with them and we did it. We were really lucky," she stated.

While visiting the younger grades, Bishop Rhoades inquired whether the students had learned any new prayers during the school year. A few students were brave enough to demonstrate their newfound knowledge by leading the class — and the bishop — in one of those prayers.

In some of the older classes, Bishop Rhoades elaborated on his homily by using classroom maps to teach the students a bit of the history and geography of the Holy Land and the spread of Christianity. At the middle school level, topics such as St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body and having a well-formed conscience were discussed as part of the religion curriculum they were studying.

Many of the school's students kept Bishop Rhoades busy with questions regarding his journey to becoming bishop, as well as the meaning behind the garments a bishop wears — most notably the zucchetto and miter. One boy asked why he took the miter off and put it back on several times during Mass, and the bishop guided him in answering his own question: The miter



The bishop points out locations in the Holy Land and the significance of them in Christian history to Lorri Nash's fourth grade class. Social studies is one of Bishop Rhoades' favorite subjects, and he has visited the Holy Land in person.

comes off out of reverence to God when the bishop is praying to Him. Bishop Rhoades was clearly impressed by the students' engagement and the thought-provoking questions they put to him.

In Cindy McAfee's second grade classroom, one girl asked the bishop if he would bless a rosary for her. One boy showed

More photos are available at www.todayscatholic.org



the bishop the cross he wore, which previously belonged to the late Father

Phillip Widmann. The fourth grade classes requested of him a blessing upon the scapulars

that their teachers were going to distribute to each student. The bishop did so, explaining how he himself began wearing the scapular many years ago. He also shared the meaning behind it.

Admiring the students' work displayed in the hallways, Bishop Rhoades advised the parish's pastor, Father Andrew Budzinski, to watch for potential candidates from among the students for possible vocations to the priesthood in the future.

A testament to the early parishioners' priority of educating their children, St. John the Baptist School was constructed in 1930 in the historic Southwood Park neighborhood a year after the parish was formally established and prior to the construction of the church itself. Today, the school has 230 students in its K-8 program. It is a Title I school and receives educational assistance for students who need remediation. There

are a wide variety of extracurricular programs offered to the students, including Catholic Youth Organization sports, Chess Club, Boy Scouts and a yearly theatrical production. Keefer said that the school's piano class is a popular option taught by two teachers and offering two concerts each year.

After four years of retirement and roughly 20 years serving as principal at nearby Bishop Luers High School, Keefer is in her second year as principal at St. John the Baptist. She believes it is a special place, largely due to the dedication of the school's staff. "I am blown away by how professional they are. Anything that is asked of them, they step up," she said.

Keefer commented that even Secretary for Catholic Education Carl Loesch, who was also present during the bishop's visit, noticed that her teaching staff was so "joy-filled." And regardless of the age of their 90-year-old building, the school is pristine, bright and welcoming — due to the diligence of the teachers and maintenance staff, Keefer said. The support of Father Budzinski and the parents are also essential to the school's family atmosphere, she said.

Spiritual life is the heart of the school. During this year's Catholic Schools Week celebration, St. John hosted a virtual rosary, in which the bishop led a decade. The school focuses on kindness toward each other, and that was clearly seen in many of the students' responses during conversation with the bishop. Service to others plays a large part of showing kindness to others, and St. John has acted on this, completing three community service projects this year.

Keefer is honored to be a part of a school that she boasts is "a good place for kids. They're loved, they're cared for, they're known. If somebody needs a little extra something, our teachers are on it. The whole place is a blessing — it just is."



With Bishop Rhoades and pastor Father Andrew Budzinski looking on, a student prepares to lead the class in a prayer from the prayer booklet used by Cindy McAfee's second-grade class.

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Several Catholic colleges will require COVID vaccinations in fall

BY CAROL ZIMMERMANN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As Catholic colleges grapple with how to reopen in the fall, many are already saying they will require their students to be vaccinated for COVID-19 and some schools are also mandating that staff members be vaccinated.

“Our goal is simple and twofold: to provide a COVID-safe environment in which our students, faculty and staff can pursue our mission; and to help protect the health and safety of our off-campus neighbors,” said Jesuit Father Joseph McShane, president of Fordham University, in an April 16 letter to the college community explaining that all students need to be vaccinated — “with some considerations for medical and religious exemptions” — by the start of the fall semester.

He noted that the pandemic year has been difficult for the campus community and its families and that the threat of COVID-19 still continues as more contagious strains are spreading.

“However, we see a path to the end of the pandemic. That path is vaccination,” he wrote. He also said the university would be providing vaccinations on campus this spring and for international students when they arrive if they were not able to be vaccinated in their home countries.

The number of private colleges requiring COVID-19 vaccinations continues to grow, numbering about 75 on April 27 on a list updated by the Chronicle of



CNS photo/Chaz Muth

A health care worker administers the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to a Marymount University student in one of the athletic buildings on the Catholic college's Arlington, Va., campus, during a coronavirus vaccine clinic April 21. The clinic, which was the result of a partnership with both Safeway and the Army National Guard, allowed a total of 1,174 individuals to get vaccinated — exceeding the initial goal of Marymount administrators.

Higher Education.

Only a handful of public universities initially said they would mandate the vaccine but by late April, this started to change as several big universities, following the decision of University of California and California State University to require students to be vaccinated for the fall semester.

Other Catholic universities with fall COVID-19 vaccine requirements include Georgetown University in Washington, Assumption University and Holy Cross College in Worcester, Massachusetts, Boston College, Chicago's DePaul University and Loyola University Chicago, Seattle University, St Mary's University in Notre

Dame, Indiana as well as the University of Notre Dame, Trinity Washington University, the University of San Diego and Le Moyne College in Syracuse, New York.

St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, was one of the first colleges to announce in late March that it was requiring students and faculty to be vaccinated for COVID-19.

On its website, it says the school's policy is “aligned with federal, state and local laws and committed to ensuring the health and safety of all students, faculty, staff, campus guests and the greater Central Texas community.”

It also said it will provide exemption for students and employees “related to religious beliefs, underlying medical conditions” and concerns associated with the vaccine's emergency use authorization granted by the nation's Food and Drug Administration before the vaccines are formally approved.

The school is following similar procedures for proof of vaccination as it does with the state law requiring students to show proof of their meningitis vaccination.

A message to the DePaul community from its president, A. Gabriel Esteban, said the university was requiring its students to be vaccinated for COVID-19 this fall “in the spirit of caring for each other and for our surrounding community.” To that end, the school was providing a vaccination clinic on campus at the end of April.

He said the university had not yet decided if it will require employees to be vaccinated but

noted that in a school survey in February, “the vast majority of our faculty and staff already have received or plan to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.”

The University of Notre Dame, which similarly issued a requirement for students to be vaccinated by the fall announced April 15 that 90% of its students had received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccinations and a result the school would be loosening some of its restrictions on gatherings and wearing masks outdoors.

Many schools and universities are still determining their vaccine policy for the fall.

At Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia, which hosted a mass vaccination clinic April 21 in the campus gym, the university's president, Irma Becerra, said school officials are “evaluating every day the issue of requiring vaccines or not.”

She said the university, which is currently operating in a hybrid mode with a mix of in-person and virtual classes this year, plans to resume completely in-person in the fall, which she said is how the students have said they learn best.

“This is a very important and necessary step for our return to normalcy,” she said of the vaccine clinic that was part of a partnership with Safeway grocery stores and the Army's National Guard.

She also said that 80-90% of students have expressed a willingness to be vaccinated, which is why the university wanted to make it easier for them by providing the vaccinations on campus.

“I hope everyone can get it and we can once again have social lives — you know, just be back together,” said senior communications major Ana Schneider Jerez from Málaga, Spain.

Lorena Gonzalez, a sophomore biochemistry major, said she woke up that day excited to get the vaccine.

“Everyone is eager to get vaccinated so we can get back to somewhat of a normal life,” she told Catholic News Service just after getting vaccinated.

The student, who had tennis practice about an hour after her Pfizer shot, hoped her arm wouldn't be numb. But mostly, she had a sense of relief from getting the vaccine and just hoped others would get theirs too.

Gonzalez, who had COVID-19 a year ago and was sick for a few weeks, said young people need to accept the fact that the coronavirus is serious, and people can't be indifferent about it.

“I would love for other students and faculty to get vaccinated,” she said, adding: “It's the only way return to normal life again.”

Contributing to this report was Chaz Muth in Arlington.

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CNS photo/Vatican Media

A statue of St. Joseph is seen as Pope Francis leads his general audience at the Vatican March 24. With the approval of the pope, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments has published several additions to the Litany of St. Joseph.

Vatican approves new invocations for Litany of St. Joseph

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Updating the Litany of St. Joseph, approved in 1909, the Vatican has added seven invocations, including two that address the guardian of Jesus and husband of Mary as “support in difficulty” and “patron of refugees.”

The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments published the additions May 1, the feast of St. Joseph the Worker.

The additions were approved by Pope Francis, the congregation said, and drew the new invocations mainly from modern papal texts about St. Joseph, including Pope Francis’ December apostolic letter proclaiming a

“To increase our love for this great saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and his zeal.”

— Pope Francis

Year of St. Joseph and St. John Paul II’s 1989 apostolic exhortation, “Redemptoris Custos” (“Protector of the Redeemer”).

Since Pope Francis wanted, as he wrote in his letter, “to increase our love for this great saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and his zeal,” the congregation said, it seemed appropriate to update the 112-year-old litany.

Providing only the Latin-language version of the invoca-

tions, the congregation said it would be up to bishops’ conferences to translate the phrases

and to add others if St. Joseph is invoked by their people in a particular way.

The Latin phrases are: “Custos Redemptoris” (Protector of the Redeemer); “Serve Christi” (Servant of Christ); “Minister salutis” (Minister of salvation); “Fulcimen in difficultatibus” (Support in difficulty); “Patrone exsulum” (Patron of refugees); “Patrone afflictorum” (Patron of the afflicted); and “Patrone pauperum” (Patron of the poor).

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Assisted suicide's not-so-hidden agenda

Most people have heard of the slippery slope. After making what seems a limited exception to a moral principle, we may find over time that it logically becomes far broader than we had in mind.

In his 1995 encyclical "Evangelium Vitae" ("The Gospel of Life"), St. John Paul II recounted how this can create a "culture of death" undermining the very idea that human life deserves respect.

On the issue of physician-assisted suicide, something even more troubling may be at work: The goal that proponents always supported is becoming clearer only gradually to the rest of us.

In 2008, voters in my home state of Washington approved a law allowing doctors to prescribe a lethal drug overdose for patients expected to have less than six months to live.

They were persuaded to approve it by a well-funded campaign emphasizing the law's strict "safeguards" against abuse: agreement on the diagnosis by two physicians, a two-week waiting period to give patients time to reconsider and evaluation by a psychiatrist or psychologist to detect impaired judgment due to depression.

We now have the state's annual reports on cases from 2009 through 2018 — after which the state, without explanation, stopped issuing reports.

Assisted suicide cases have increased fivefold; almost no one receives a psychological evaluation, because whether to order one is up to those first two physicians; and there is no record that anyone in a decade was dis-

qualified because of depression.

In 2020, the group End of Life Washington invited media to witness the assisted suicide process for cancer patient Robert Fuller. He received a sympathetic front-page write-up in *The Seattle Times*.

It turned out that Fuller had been subject to suicidal depression for much of his life, and twice tried to kill himself when he was physically healthy. He qualified for the lethal drugs.

In other words, such laws are riddled with loopholes. But assisted suicide advocacy groups in my state and others now declare that they are much too strict. The "safeguards" these groups once endorsed must be rescinded to expand "access" to "death with dignity."

The bills they support would reduce or eliminate the waiting period, allow nonphysicians to diagnose patients' physical and mental condition and provide the lethal drugs, and allow those drugs to be delivered by mail or parcel post. Some of their proposals have been approved, though they failed this year in Hawaii and Washington.

In Washington, voters should have realized that what they approved in 2008 was only a first step. The prime sponsor of that proposal, former Gov. Booth Gardner, had said as much to *The New York Times*, declaring that the law should later expand to assisting the suicides of people with chronic illnesses and disabilities.

Similarly, the current Oregon and Washington laws are limited to self-administration of the drugs by patients only because



A MORE HUMAN SOCIETY

RICHARD DOERFLINGER

earlier proposals in those states and California, authorizing lethal injections by physicians, had failed.

Supporting groups made a tactical decision to take that frightening proposition off the table — temporarily.

Is this a slippery slope? Not on the part of these advocates, who always knew where they wanted to go. But they have engineered a slope for the rest of us, as we become desensitized to the evil of those first steps.

It is said that if you want to boil a frog so he won't jump out of the water, you slowly increase the temperature so he never quite notices how deadly it becomes. These groups are the cook, and the rest of us are the frog. Let legislators and voters beware.

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

Celebrating Easter more than just one Sunday

Once all the eggs are found and colorful jellybeans enjoyed, and the chocolate bunny has lost his ears, Catholics still have Easter to celebrate. The Sunday that changed everything is brought into a fuller celebration in the liturgical calendar as an octave, that is, eight days, each remembered as Easter Sunday itself.

This special time invites the faithful to delve deeper and deeper each day, living in the paschal mystery.

But Eastertide doesn't end there. Easter Sunday is simply the first day that changed life completely, so it is properly celebrated for 50 whole days. The last day of the Easter season is Pentecost, the feast of the coming of the Holy Spirit, named in Greek for the word "50th" or "Pentecoste."

During these long 50 days are two other key feasts, Divine Mercy Sunday and Ascension Thursday. The Sunday after Easter was proclaimed Divine Mercy Sunday by Pope St. John Paul II. That Sunday, which takes place at the end of the octave, is the continuation of the same mercy and divine love that flowed from the washing of the feet to the cup at the Last Supper, through the cross on Good Friday and out through the side of Jesus in blood and water, to the whole world.

Ascension Thursday is 40 days after Jesus rose from the dead, returning with His resurrected body to guide and comfort



LIVING THE LITURGICAL LIFE

JENNIFER MILLER

His grieving friends and family. He reminded them that He would always be with them, to the end of time. Then He ascended into heaven on a cloud. The connection between Ascension Thursday and Holy Thursday, the sacred institution of the Eucharist and institution of the sacrament of service, the priesthood, is mirrored in the continual self-gift of Jesus' body again.

While His physical leaving might seem to signal the opposite, it is in fact where He was going that offers the faithful hope. Jesus left earth to be physically in and open heaven for all. He leaves knowing that nine days later, the Father will send the Holy Spirit to sustain His people for the future, creating a new birth of the Church at Pentecost.

This is where the concept of a novena comes from, Chapter 1 of Acts, where Mary and the Apostles pray together. The gifts that the Church now daily relies upon, such as exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, adoration, spiritual communion and many others, all have roots in this

MILLER, page 17

Truly loving God means loving each other



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Sixth Sunday of Easter John 15:9-17

The Acts of the Apostles once again provides the first reading for a weekend in the Easter season.

In this reading, the Apostle Peter enters the house of Cornelius, who falls to his knees to give homage to the leader of the followers of Jesus. Graciously, Peter lifts Cornelius to his feet. Then, Peter insists that he has no partiality among persons of various ethnic and national backgrounds, because God has no such partiality.

At the moment of this testimony of faith and of true discipleship, the Holy Spirit descends into the group present,

including the gentiles. Peter says that anyone so prompted by the Spirit cannot be denied baptism by water.

To set the stage for this reading, it is important to know that Cornelius was not Jewish. His name was Roman. He was a gentile, part of the detested occupying pagan power. His associates almost certainly were gentiles.

Despite all this, Peter entered the home of Cornelius, unbelievable for a devout Jew such as Peter. Peter went, nevertheless, insisting that everyone should have access to God, and that God welcomes all. Finally, God, in the Holy Spirit, comes into the hearts of all. The Spirit was with Peter. Peter brought all into the company of faith by baptizing them with water.

The First Letter of John is the source of the next reading. This reading is a moving and especially descriptive message about God's love. God is love. God is in Jesus. Love is in God. Marvelously, God shares this divine love with the faithful.

God's love, and living accord-

ing to God's love, brings joy, indeed a joy unequalled by anything on earth.

The test of loving God is in obeying the Commandments. God revealed the Commandments, and He perfectly revealed the divine plan for salvation through and in Jesus.

St. John's Gospel furnishes the last reading. As did the second reading, this proclamation of the Gospel centers upon the love of God.

In this reading, God's love is celebrated. The Lord's willing, sacrificial death on Calvary proved His love. "There is no greater than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."

Because of uniting with Jesus in faith and love, disciples are friends of God. For the ancient Jews, as well as others in their Mediterranean world, friendship arguably was much more powerful in its meaning than it is today. It meant an intense bond, a loyalty.

Truly loving God means to love others.

The image of the vine occurs again. Disciples are the branches.

Christ is the great, main vine. If linked to Christ, disciples live. They produce much fruit.

The reading closes with the wonderful admonition, and command, of Jesus to "love one another."

Reflection

Carefully and deliberately, the Church is leading us forward to the feast of the Ascension. It is if we Christians had been standing beside the Apostles in the days following the resurrection, hearing with them the words of the risen Jesus, seeing as they saw the wonder of life victorious over death.

Now, the mood slightly shifts. The Church is preparing us for life after the Ascension. The obligation of genuine discipleship is upon us. What does it mean?

Jesus calls us "to love one another." He is the model. Loving all others is a challenge for mere mortals, always and today. Yet, it is possible.

It is possible because strength and insight come to any true believer from the Holy Spirit

— insight that brings direction, stamina, peace and joy. Discipleship is outreaching and great in its compassion and service. It comes to anyone who earnestly seeks God, even if they are tempted by sin.

These words may seem charming and idealistic. They are demanding. The difficulty is in truly loving all, the strangers, the unwanted — even sinners — and serving all.

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 Ps 98:1-4 1 Jn 4:7-10 Jn 15:9-17

Monday: Acts 16:11-15 Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b Jn 15:26—16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34 Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8 Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1 Ps 148:1-2, 11-14 Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 18:1-8 Ps 98:1-4 Jn 16:16-20

Friday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26 Ps 113:1-8 Jn 15:9-17

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28 Ps 47:2-3, 8-10 Jn 16:23b-28

The public prayers of the Church

Not long ago, you probably noticed on a change made to the public prayer of the Church — at least in English — beginning this past Lent: Prayers addressed to the Father, like the Opening Prayer or Collect of almost every Mass, customarily end with the Trinitarian formula: “through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.”

Formerly we heard “One God, forever and ever.” But it is very clear that in the original Latin of the prayer, the word “One” is not found and, more importantly, the “God” refers to Jesus, the incarnate Son. So, the point of it all is that the “God” at the end of the prayer is not a reference to the Triune Deity (“One God”) but is used to emphasize the divine person of the Son who has taken upon Himself our humanity: Jesus, the Word made flesh, is God, forever and ever.

The public — liturgical — prayers of the Church seek to accomplish two things simultaneously: They reflect, and they effect. That is, they both make a claim about the truth of things and at the same time work to bring about that truth more fully in the lives of those who pray those words.

Now, most often at Mass the one who “prays” those words is the priest, but in reality, all the prayers the priest utters out loud are spoken out loud precisely because they are not merely his personal prayer, but rather he acts as the one who speaks on behalf of the people; this is one of the things that is expressed by calling the priest a “mediator.” There are some prayers that the priest says quietly, almost under his breath, at Mass, and these prayers are kept quiet precisely because they are his own, personal prayers: before and after reading the Gospel, as he washes his hands, before his own reception of Communion. These prayers, spoken softly, are not prayers on behalf of the people, which are ordinarily spoken in a voice to be heard by all.

There is, however, a kind of

“architecture” of prayer within every Mass, set prayers that begin and end the Mass, as well as fixed features with varying content throughout.

Take, for example, what is called the Collect or “Opening Prayer” at the beginning of any Mass, and which follows the invitation of the priest: “Let us pray.” These words, often related — especially during the special seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter — to the readings or the mystery celebrated on that day, both reveal the truth about God, humanity, the Church, the world or the life to come, and at the same time seek to make that truth more real, more vivid, more alive, in the minds, hearts and lives of those who pray them.

The Prayer over the Gifts reveals how what we offer to God has — and will have — an effect on our lives, precisely because of what He in fact accomplishes for us in return.

Apart from Ordinary Time, the Preface is also closely related to the feast or season and expresses the mystery in words that drive home its effect in our life. The Preface often encapsulates an aspect of the faith that we proclaim and so it teaches, often in more poetic, less didactic language, what the Church professes and believes to be true, and at the same time invites those who pray it to enter more deeply — with the mind and heart (and at Mass, even their body!) — into that truth. Truths of the faith, it is important to remember, are not abstract concepts — too often that’s how they are either portrayed or understood — but vibrant realities in some manner connected organically to a living person, Jesus Christ, whose Spirit enlivens the Church, deepening our faith in the Lordship of Jesus, dead and risen, who alone can lead us to the Father at whose right hand He sits in His (and our) glorified human nature.

The text of the Eucharistic Prayers (most common in our experience are the Roman Canon, also known as Eucharistic Prayer



THE HUMAN CONDITION

MSGR. MICHAEL HEINTZ

I, and Eucharistic Prayers II and III) also are a rich source for spiritual nourishment. It is worth reading them before Mass and praying over them. Some find it helpful to read along with them in a Missalette as the priest is praying them.

Finally, the post-Communion prayer almost always points out for our reflection just what the Eucharist we have celebrated and received also promises us for the future. There is often a noticeable “eschatological” tonality in these prayers: What we do here in an incomplete or shadowy way we long to be accomplished in us fully in the age to come.

You might notice also at Mass the way in which the public prayers often “borrow” or “incorporate” language from the Scriptures and employ them in prayer. This is hardly plagiarism, but rather reflects the fact that the idiom, the language and the speech the Church uses is always rooted in the sacred text. It’s how Christians speak, because the divine word should form all our words, and we should allow the language of the Bible to form and shape our imagination.

Perhaps it is worth investing in a subscription to Magnificat, Give Us This Day or the Daily Roman Missal, in order to enrich your own experience of the Church’s rich language of prayer.

Msgr. Michael Heintz is on the faculty at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary, Emmitsburg, Maryland.

MILLER, from page 16

Easter season.

While the world is still troubled by the coronavirus pandemic, Catholics have the unique opportunity to live the very real principal of “both/and.” We, as a people of the Resurrection, whose very hope and life hung on a cross, are still suffering too. Our family members and friends are sick and dying of the contagious virus, and there has been much mental and emotional strain the past year; our communities have been devastated by a loss of jobs, in-person friendships and security; and snowballed fear flourished in a world separated by more than 6 feet. We

know daily these struggles and sorrows.

But we know and believe too that neither death nor viruses, social distancing nor pandemics, have the last word. In this whole long, liturgical season of Easter, let us be an Easter people. Let us share the joy that we say with our Alleluias! Let us share the love that overcomes all shifting sadness, which even the tomb cannot contain. Let us live Easter well.

What this looks like in action is unique for each person, as it was for each saint. But sharing the truth of the Easter season surely stems from one’s contemplation, prayer and relationship with God. We can look to

the example of Mary and the Apostles, praying together for nine days straight, perhaps in uncertain times or fear. We can trust in Jesus’ words that He is with us until the end of time. We can grow into the reality of what a spiritual communion truly is, to value the future physical reception of the Eucharist even more.

“We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song!” preached St. Augustine around A.D. 400, and St. John Paul II echoed his words years later. In 2021, how can we be people of the Resurrection to our world, men and women with hope to bring?

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for May 9, 2021

John 15:9-19

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Sixth Sunday of Easter, Cycle B: The charge to bear much fruit. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

THE FATHER	MY LOVE	MY JOY
BE IN YOU	ANOTHER	NO ONE
GREATER	THAN THIS	LAY DOWN
LIFE	IF YOU DO	LONGER
MASTER	DOING	EVERYTHING
HEARD	CHOSE YOU	APPOINTED
TO GO	BEAR FRUIT	MY NAME

CHOSE YOU

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B E I N Y O U L G J O D
C E V O L Y M T R D E O
H E A R D L Y H E M V I
O L J R E W J A A R E N
S O A Q F K O N T K R G
E N Y Y T R Y T E R Y I
Y G L P D M U H R E T F
O E I G A O P I H H H Y
U R D S C H W S T T I O
J O T L I F E N O O N U
D E T N I O P P A N G D
R E H T A F E H T A D O
    
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ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

FEAST: MAY 27
D. 604

This monk was prior of a monastery in Rome until 596, when Pope St. Gregory the Great sent him and 30 other monks to evangelize England. They landed in Kent where they got permission to preach because the king’s wife had been a Christian before her marriage. Augustine’s preaching won over King Ethelbert, who became a Christian and gave the monks a house and church in Canterbury. Augustine built England’s first cathedral there; from this see missionaries and bishops were sent around England. He is known as “the apostle of England.”

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Queen of Angels Catholic Church in Fort Wayne is looking for a full-time Pastoral Associate. The Pastoral Associate functions as an integral member of the parish staff, assisting the pastor with religious education as well as the planning and implementation of his vision for parish ministries and operations.

The Pastoral Associate:

Works independently or part of a pastoral team; is flexible; professional and confidential; communicates effectively with stakeholders through verbal, written and digital means; multi-tasks to handle varied workload and demonstrates a high level of technology proficiency.

The Pastoral Associate must have a deep understanding of the Catholic faith and be an active practicing member of a Roman Catholic faith community. Three years' experience in parish work or related field is desired. A bachelor's degree in religious education or theology is preferred.

Apply at <https://diocesefwsb.org/careers>
Queen of Angels Church and School • 1500 W. State Blvd.
www.queenofangelsfw.org

For current job postings visit:
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SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL
CATHOLIC PARISH

Director of High School Youth Ministry

St. Vincent dePaul Parish – Fort Wayne

St. Vincent dePaul Parish in Fort Wayne is looking for a person with fire for Christ in the fullness of the Catholic faith and the passion and organizational skills to lead a vibrant program for high schoolers. The ideal candidate will hold a bachelor's degree or higher preferably in theology or a related field and have a minimum of 3 years of experience in high school youth ministry. Preferred candidates will be able to commit to the position for at least five years. Interested parties should review job description, complete job application and upload resume/cover letter at diocesefwsb.org/careers.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

Springs of Hope: virtual Mother's Day retreat

FORT WAYNE — This retreat is for all who long for motherhood. Whether you are experiencing primary or secondary infertility, miscarriage or loss, a diagnosis or unexplained and everything in between, this retreat is for you. Live and pre-recorded talks will explore "Belonging: To Christ in Marriage and in our communities." If you are carrying the cross of infertility, you are not alone. Free registration opened April 11. Visit www.springsinthedesert.org.

Annual eighth-grade Fatima essay contest

FORT WAYNE — An essay contest is now underway. All essays need to be submitted no later than Thursday, May 13, to Anita Senesac anitasenesac@yahoo.com. For details on the theme and specific directions visit www.fatimafwsb.org.

Rosary at Queen of Angels

FORT WAYNE — A public rosary will be recited on the front lawn of Queen of Angel's Church, 1500 W. State Blvd. Saturday, May 15, from noon to 1 p.m.

Contact Mary Nicholson at 260-432-6455.

America Needs Fatima to pray rosary

AUBURN — America Needs Fatima will pray a 15 decade rosary on the north side of the Auburn Courthouse, 100 Main St., on Saturday, May 15. Additional dates will be June 12, July 10, Aug. 14, Sept. 11 and Oct. 9. Rosary starts at noon — rain or shine. Masks and social distancing required. Contact Alice Post at 260-925-9252.

Elkhart Knights of Columbus fish fry

ELKHART — The Elkhart Knights of Columbus Council No. 1043 will host a fish fry on Friday, May 21, from 5-7 p.m. at Knights of Columbus Hall, 112 E Lexington. All-you-can-eat fish, scalloped potatoes, coleslaw, and bread for a cost of \$10 adults, \$5 kids 5-12, and those under 5 free. Carry-out and dine-in are both available. Contact Tom Sibal at 574-520-9711.

Memorial Day drive-thru breakfast

ANGOLA — The St. Anthony of Padua Knights of Columbus

will have a drive-thru breakfast Sunday, May 30, at the church, 700 W Maumee St., from 8 a.m. to noon. On the menu are scrambled eggs, sausage links, apple-sauce, french toast with syrup and orange juice for \$8. Visit www.stanthonyangola.com for details or contact Patti Webster at 260-665-2259.

Masses interpreted for the deaf

SOUTH BEND — Masses interpreted for the deaf are on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 11 a.m. at St. Matthew Cathedral, 1701 Miami St. A Mass interpreted for the deaf will also be celebrated on the second Sunday of each month at the 11:30 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne. Contact Allison Sturm at asturm@diocesefwsb.org or at 260-399-1452 for information.

REST IN PEACE

Fort Wayne

Dorothy L. Faurote, 86, St. Vincent de Paul

Patricia A. Howard, 78, St. Vincent de Paul

Peter James, 42, St. Charles Borromeo

Maria Kranjc, 97, St. Vincent de Paul

Granger

Matthew Payton, 55, St. Pius X

Mishawaka

Agnes Fry, 94, St. Monica

Tom Teeter, 82, St. Monica

South Bend

Judith M. Cytacki, 73, St. Jude

John Dzierla, 98, Christ the King

Patricia Fewell, 85, St. Matthew Cathedral

Anthony M. Herczeg, 84, Holy Family

Suzanne E. Klein, 70, Holy Family

Ursula M. Sharafinski, 96, St. Adalbert

Warsaw

Dr. Leonora Noel, 86, Sacred Heart

Waterloo

Ruth J. Richter, 96, St. Michael the Archangel



All Alumni, Parents & Friends of the Dwenger Family are invited to join us for the **Annual Saints Open Golf Outing!**

Friday, June 4, 2021
Riverbend Golf Course
Registration & Lunch 12:00 pm
Shotgun Start 1:00 pm

Hope to see you on the links!

Visit bishopdwenger.com/saintsopen for more details and to register for this event.
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led the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development since it was restructured out of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace in 2016, which Pope Benedict XVI named him to in 2009. St. John Paul II made him in a cardinal in 2003.

Encouraging graduates to use their impact on the world as the indicator of their success, the cardinal offered examples of Church leaders such as St. Paul VI in 1969 voicing concern for the development of every human being and Pope Francis in 2014 urging the World Economic Forum to adopt economic models driven by inclusion and the common good.

He also drew at length from the pope's remarks to young people from 115 countries at a virtual, Assisi-based conference held last November, where Pope Francis characterized the pandemic as an opportunity for discernment of how to transform society.

"He wanted them to become the protagonists of a new economic and a new social order — to serve people, and not people reduced to serving money," the cardinal said. "He exhorted them to regenerate economic order and a new culture."

Cardinal Turkson and the university's former president, Franciscan Sister Elise Kriss, received honorary degrees at the ceremony, which marked the first major gathering for the University of St. Francis since the pandemic's start, as well as the first commencement for the university's new president, Father Eric Albert Zimmer.

Nearly 50 members of the class of 2020, whose commencement was canceled due to the pandemic, also participated.

While the cardinal has ties to Holy Cross College at Notre Dame and has worked with Notre Dame's Mendoza School of Business on days of reflection for CEOs and other leaders of fuel industries, this was his first visit to the Fort Wayne-based university founded in 1890 by the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration.

"I told my students in the Catholic social teaching course

that he was coming," said Franciscan Sister Jacinta Krecek, chairman of philosophy and theology, who used the occasion for her students to delve into the efforts and issues led by the cardinal's dicastery. "And three of the class are graduating today, so they were ready for his arrival."

"It's nice that we have such an obvious Franciscan connection ... and on such a crucial issue," said theology professor Adam A.J. DeVille on Cardinal Turkson's widely credited role as drafter of the pope's 2015 encyclical on care for the environment, "Laudato Si'."

"It's incredible having a cardinal here. Being a Catholic institution and to have someone from the Vatican come and speak, I think that we're very blessed," said theology professor T. Alexander Giltner.

Cardinal Turkson's office has also led the Vatican's COVID-19 commission, which has coordinated with the church in over 50 countries, providing support where possible, and — in the Vatican's capacity as a state — has engaged in multilateral talks to advocate for inclusive vaccine distribution that doesn't leave poor countries behind.

Citing Pope Francis in his address, the cardinal said the pandemic "started as a health care issue, but it has also exposed a lot of other social issues: the fragility and unsustainability of a lot of our social structures."

Speaking to media prior to the ceremony, he addressed the Vatican's concern that as many people as possible get vaccinated, in order to end the pandemic.

"Unless we're all out of this, we're never going to be all out of this," he said. "We recognize there's a lot of hesitation about taking the vaccine, supported by a lot of conspiracy theories."

But ultimately, he said, personal freedom has to acknowledge moral responsibility.

"A health care decision is a personal decision, but we still say, although this is a personal decision, recognize the well-being and the good of the other," he said.

He also emphasized that the decision to be vaccinated against COVID-19 "has an impact and a responsibility toward your neighbor and those you live with."



BFA Commercial Photography

A baccalaureate Mass was celebrated for 2020 and 2021 graduates of the University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades Saturday, May 1. Concelebrating the Mass were, from left, university chaplain Father John Sheehan, SJ; Cardinal Peter K.A. Turkson, prefect of the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Human Integral Development; and right, Father Eric A. Zimmer, president of the university.

BACCALAUREATE, from page 1

in Pennsylvania who earned his degree from the University of Notre Dame. This young man, he stated, began to work for a big finance company in New York and made a great deal of money in only a couple of short years. However, he also found himself drawn further and further away from his loved ones and, most importantly, God. "He was becoming materially rich but was becoming poor in what really matters in human life. Thankfully, he saw what was happening and he quit his job."

That young man went on to co-found an app that has become well-known and greatly popular throughout the Catholic world — Hallow. "His life changed for the

better. ... He had learned that work is for life and that life is not for work," Bishop Rhoades remarked.

To those gathered, the bishop offered this advice to maintain joy in their careers and their lives overall: "I encourage you as you enter the work world to keep the right priorities. Relationships first: your relationship with God, your relationship with family and friends.

"Graduates, I pray you never lose sight of the higher goods of life, of the values you have learned at the University of Saint Francis, the values exemplified in the life of St. Francis of Assisi, and the values that St. Joseph teaches us. Don't focus on

earthly treasures that pass away or settle for a soft and easy life of self-indulgence. Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven by using your gifts for service of God and others, with devotion to the common good, including the care of creation. Take with you as you graduate the ideals and values of your Christian faith, the ideals and values that will give your life and your work meaning and true happiness."

Afterward, several attendees commented on the beauty of the Mass and many of the graduates and family members took advantage of the fair weather to greet Bishop Rhoades and Cardinal Turkson outside before heading to the commencement ceremony.



Jennifer Barton

Cardinal Peter Turkson greets graduates after the baccalaureate Mass.