

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Volume 95 No. 23

TODAYSCATHOLIC.org

New secretariat

Loesch to head Pastoral
Ministries and Catechesis

Page 4

Diocesan Museum director appointed

"Come and be inspired"

Page 9

Summertime reads

Stories for kids of all ages

Page 16

College Crew

Summer program for young
adults kicks off

Page 18

Summer print schedule

Digital email June 20;
next print issue June 27



Ordination to priesthood

John Martin

'Harvest day' for the diocese as seven ordained

BY JENNIFER BARTON

Ordination of a new priest is always an extraordinary event, but this year on June 5, the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne was packed full as seven men took their final step into the priesthood. In great joy and gratitude, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

ordained Fathers Michael Ammer, Paolo Degasperi, Daniel Koehl, Benjamin Landrigan, Keeton Lockwood, Augustine Onuoha and Logan Parrish.

"Brothers and sisters, today is the harvest day of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend," Bishop Rhoades said. "It shows the vitality of the Church in our diocese. This is the largest ordination class in our diocese since 1962."

Bishop Rhoades opened the Mass of ordination by thanking the parents and families of the priestly candidates. He gave a special acknowledgement to the families of two deacons who were unable to attend due to international travel restrictions but were present via livestream. He addressed Deacon Degasperi's family in Italian. His words to Deacon Onuoha's family and

friends in Nigeria were met with enthusiasm by the priests and friends from that nation in attendance, eliciting a boisterous response from the crowd and earning a broad smile from the deacon. Although their families could not be present, the two men received tremendous moral sup-

ORDINATION, page 2

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

(ISSN 0891-1533)
(USPS 403630)

Official newspaper of the
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
P.O. Box 11169
Fort Wayne, IN 46856

PUBLISHER: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Editorial Department

EDITOR: Jodi Marlin
STAFF WRITER: Jennifer Barton
PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

Business Department

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

Website: www.todayscatholic.org
260-456-2824

Published weekly except for the last Sunday in December; and every other week from third Sunday in May through fourth Sunday in August, by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, 915 S. Clinton St., P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, IN 46801. Periodicals postage paid at Fort Wayne, IN, and additional mailing office.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46856-1169 or email: circulation@diocesefwsb.org

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

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

News deadline is 10 days prior to publication date. Advertising deadline is nine days before publication date.

Today's Catholic may be reached at:
Today's Catholic,
P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN
46856-1169; or email:
editor@diocesefwsb.org

**Find us on Facebook**

www.facebook.com/todayscatholicFWSB

Follow us on Twitter

@diocesefwsb

Follow us on Instagram

@diocesefwsb



Photos by John Martin

Priestly candidates Logan Parrish, Augustine Onuoha, Keeton Lockwood, Benjamin Landrigan, Daniel Koehl, Paolo Degasperri and Michael Ammer stand before Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades prior to being formally elected for ordination.



The seven men lie prostrate during the Litany of Saints, symbolizing their humility and their reliance on the help of God and the prayers of the Church.

ORDINATION, from page 1

port from fellow classmates at their respective seminaries and the diocese in general.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades noted that June 5 is the feast day of St. Boniface, traditionally known as "the Apostle of the Germans," who serves as an example of a fruitful priesthood. He called upon the great saint's intercession for those who were about to be ordained.

"Celebrating this ordination on the memorial of a priest and bishop who was tireless in his apostolic activity reminds us that, by its very nature, the priesthood has a missionary nature," Bishop Rhoades stated. "By the laying on of hands and prayer of ordination, these young men are consecrated today to share in the mission entrusted by Christ to the apostles. They are anointed today to lead God's people in love, to nourish them

More photos are available at
www.todayscatholic.org



with His word, and to strengthen them with the sacraments."

Speaking directly to the priestly candidates, he proclaimed, "My sons, you are consecrated in the truth today and sent by Jesus as His ambassadors in the world. You are to press forward in the world toward the city of God. As priests, you will do so by announcing the death and resurrection of the Lord in your preaching, celebrating the Paschal Mystery in the sacraments, and living this mystery by laying down your lives for God's people."

He further instructed them to "be intentional priests," since "the Church needs resolute priests, priests who are inten-

tional every day in their mission and purpose, like Jesus was resolute in His mission and purpose to do the will of the Father, to be the Good Shepherd of the people and to give His life for them. In our lives, such intentionality and resoluteness is not only inspirational to our people, it allows the Lord's grace to cause our ministry to bear much good fruit."

The candidates then came before the bishop to profess their obedience to him and his successors before prostrating themselves before the altar during the Litany of Supplication. When Bishop Rhoades laid his hands on each of them and said the prayer of ordination over them, the seven were officially

consecrated into the priestly life. This was symbolized by the new priests exchanging their diaconal stoles for priestly chasubles, aided by a priest whom they had chosen to assist them.

As the hands of a priest bestow great blessings and will consecrate the Eucharist countless times throughout their priesthood, their hands were consecrated by the bishop with the oil of chrism and cleansed with a white cloth called the maniturgium, which the priest gives his mother at his first Mass.

A sizable contingent of priests was present at this joyous celebration, and each of them participated in the laying of hands and the kiss of peace. By the end of the ceremony, the number of priests assembled, including the newly ordained, exceeded 100.

Six of the new priests completed their studies at Mount

ORDINATION, page 10



In his homily, Bishop Rhoades called upon the seven men being ordained to strive toward "intentional priesthood."



Michael Ammer pledges obedience to the bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, both now and throughout his priestly life.



In the apostolic tradition, Bishop Rhoades lays his hands on Paolo Degasperi.



The hands of Father Benjamin Landrigan are anointed with sacred chrism, the symbol of strength and wisdom.



Father Daniel Koehl receives the paten and chalice from Bishop Rhoades with the words "Understand what you do, imitate what you celebrate, and conform your life to the mystery of the Lord's cross."



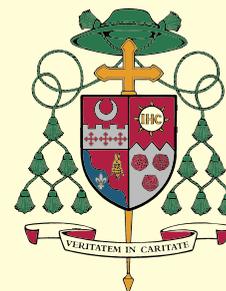
After being ordained as a priest, Father Keeton Lockwood is vested by Father Robert Van Kempen.



Father Louis Fowoyo cheerfully embraces Father Logan Parrish at the kiss of peace.



Bishop Rhoades kneels to receive the first blessing from Father Augustine Onuoha after the ordination ceremony.



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Monday, June 14: 11 a.m. — Virtual Meeting of Our Sunday Visitor Governance Committee
 Tuesday, June 15: 6:30 p.m. — Virtual Meeting of United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Religious Liberty
 Wednesday – Friday, June 16-18: Virtual Meeting of United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Plenary Assembly
 Saturday, June 19: 5:30 PM — Mass, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Lebanon, Pennsylvania
 Monday-Friday, June 21-25: Annual Priest Retreat, Potawatomi Inn, Pokagon State Park, Angola
 Thursday, June 24: 4 p.m. — Meeting of Board of Directors of Catholic Charities, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
 Friday, June 25: 11 a.m. — Virtual Meeting of Bishops Advisory Group on the Eucharistic Initiative



Priest assignments

The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, has made the following assignments of priests, effective June 21, 2021:

- Reverend Michael Ammer**, to Parochial Vicar, St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Reverend Paolo Degasperi**, to Parochial Vicar, St. John the Baptist Parish, Fort Wayne, and part-time Chaplain at Bishop Luers High School, Fort Wayne.
- Reverend Daniel Koehl**, to Parochial Vicar, St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, and part-time Chaplain of Catholic Students at Purdue Fort Wayne.
- Reverend Benjamin Landrigan**, to Parochial Vicar, St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Elkhart.
- Reverend Keeton Lockwood**, to Parochial Vicar, St. Therese Parish, Fort Wayne, and Parochial Vicar, St. Henry Parish, Fort Wayne.
- Reverend Augustine Onuoha**, to Parochial Vicar, St. Pius X Parish, Granger, and part-time Chaplain at Saint Joseph High School, South Bend.
- Reverend Logan Parrish**, to Parochial Vicar, St. John the Evangelist Parish, Goshen.



Priest appointments

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

- Reverend Kenneth Amadi** to Parochial Vicar, St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka, effective May 26, 2021.
- Reverend James Fenstermaker, C.S.C.**, to Spiritual Advisor/Chaplain for the South Bend-Elkhart Chapter of Legatus, effective June 15, 2021.

Providing personal care for the whole family



Dr. David J. Moran, MD
Nicholas M. Lesch, PA-C

Dr. Andrew J. Mullally, MD
Cassie A. Herber, FNP-C



CREDO
FAMILY MEDICINE

(260) 4- FAMILY

credofamilymedicine.com

PRIVATE

INDEPENDENT

PRO-LIFE

Loesch appointed to head Secretariat for Pastoral Ministries and Catechesis

FORT WAYNE — Carl Loesch has been appointed to lead the Secretariat for Pastoral Ministries and Catechesis, a new secretariat of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.



CARL LOESCH

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades decided to combine the offices and ministries of the prior Secretariat of Catholic Education and Secretariat of Evangelization and Discipleship into one new secretariat, named the Secretariat for Pastoral Ministries and Catechesis. In doing so, the Catholic Schools Office will no longer be within a secretariat. The superintendent of schools will now report directly to the vicar general, rather than to a diocesan secretary, and will serve on the Bishop's Cabinet.

The Secretariat for Pastoral Ministries and Catechesis will encompass the offices and ministries of the two former secretariats, with the exception of the Catholic Schools Office. It will also be a liaison with men's ministries like Rekindle the Fire, women's ministries like Kingdom Builders, and the Cursillo movement.

Bishop Rhoades expressed deep gratitude to Deacon Fred Everett for his outstanding service to the diocese for the past 33 years, most recently as secretary for evangelization and discipleship. With the support of

Bishop Rhoades, Deacon Everett will be retiring from diocesan ministry to pursue wider service to the Church's mission.

Bishop Rhoades expressed deep gratitude to Loesch for accepting the new position of secretary for pastoral ministries and catechesis. The changes will be effective July 1.

Loesch is looking forward to serving the diocese in the new capacity, he shared.

"Our focus will be to implement Bishop Rhoades' vision for evangelization and catechesis and to support the important ministerial work done in our parishes. I have a great amount to learn, but I will be blessed to work with and learn from my new co-workers who serve in these diocesan offices."

Dr. Joseph Brettnacher will continue to lead the Catholic Schools Office. After an especially challenging year, that leadership is something for which Loesch is deeply grateful. He is also appreciative of the dedication shown by the principals and teachers who were the face of Christ to the children entrusted to their care.

"It was tough, but I am thankful for all that they did for the children of our Catholic schools and parishes. I am also grateful to our priests who continued to offer the graces of the sacraments during the pandemic," he said.

"I have found great solace and encouragement attending daily Mass in parishes in Fort Wayne and in South Bend during the pandemic. I pray, especially in

this Year of St. Joseph, that we may all follow his example of quiet, humble service, and trust in God's plan so that we may bring the joy of Christ to others."

A theology teacher for nine years at Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, Loesch also coached wrestling and served as the school's service coordinator. He was principal of Marian High School in Mishawaka for 10 years and led the Secretariat for Catholic Education for seven.

He received a bachelor's and master's degree in theology, as well as a master's in education and one in educational leadership, from the University of Notre Dame, studying for one undergraduate semester at the Tantur Ecumenical Institute outside of Jerusalem.

The roots of the Loesch family in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend go back to the 1860s and St. Aloysius Parish, although he was baptized at Queen of Angels Parish and his mother sang at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Both parents taught math at the University of Saint Francis in the early 1960s.

Loesch grew up in Chicago and met his wife, Marie, when they were freshmen in high school at Marian Catholic in Chicago Heights. Marie directs the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program at St. Matthew Cathedral Parish, South Bend, where the couple and their four boys are members.

Indiana's Premier Butcher Shop and Deli

Freder's MEATS CATERING, MEAT BUNDLES, PREPARED FOOD, AND MORE!

Make This Weekend Memorable
Visit us and avoid the long lines at the big box stores. We have a full stock of beef, pork and chicken in this time of uncertainty.

4924 S. Calhoun St., Ft. Wayne | 260-456-9009
2820 Maplecrest Rd., Ft. Wayne | 260-485-0003
Mon-Sat 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. | Sun 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

CUSTOM PROCESSING, WILD GAME, HOG ROASTS
16619 Lima Rd, Huntertown | 260-338-0022

Parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne

Rediscover the Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana



Your LEGACY starts here

Our team is here to help you establish a financial giving plan that will help your personal Catholic cause continue to grow and thrive for years to come.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
OF NORTHEAST INDIANA

www.cfnei.org



High-Efficiency Windows



Jim Bushey



Jeff Bushey

Save on your energy bills now and let your windows pay for themselves later.

With the high cost of today's cooling and heating bills, our high efficiency vinyl windows pay for themselves in practically no time at all!

And right now we're offering **Zero Percent Down and 0% Interest For One Full Year.**

So you save on your energy bills now, and let your windows pay for themselves later. What a concept! Call today for a free estimate or call store for details.

Bushey's will donate \$50.00 to Catholic Charities for an order of five or more windows.



260-456-1247 www.busheysfw.com
1701 Fairfield Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN 46802



Sunrooms ■ Room Additions ■ Decks ■ Pergolas ■ Interior Remodeling ■ Basement Finishing

GET THE FREE DIGITAL EDITION
TodaysCatholic.org/Subscribe

'Solidarity in Freedom' is theme of USCCB Religious Freedom Week June 22-29

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops invites Catholics "to pray, reflect and act to promote religious freedom" during Religious Freedom Week, which is set for June 22-29 and has as its theme "Solidarity in Freedom."

"Solidarity means much more than engaging in sporadic acts of generosity," the USCCB said in a June 2 news release about the annual observance.

"It means thinking and acting in terms of community," it said, quoting Pope Francis' encyclical "Fratelli Tutti." "Religious freedom allows the church, and all religious communities, to live out their faith in public and to serve the good of all," the release added.

The first day of the observance is the feast of two English martyrs who fought religious persecution, Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher. The week includes the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, June 24, and ends with the feast of two apostles martyred in Rome — Sts. Peter and Paul.

Each day of the week focuses on different religious liberty topics of concern for the U.S. Catholic Church. Resources prepared by the USCCB for Catholics to "Pray — Reflect — Act" on the day's theme can be found at: www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek. The topics are:

— June 22: Adoption and foster care — "Pray that children waiting to be placed in a loving home and the caregivers who serve those children will find strength and support from the church."

— June 23: Catholic social services during the pandemic — "Pray that God would continue to grant Catholic institutions the wisdom and courage to serve a world suffering the effects of the COVID pandemic."

— June 24: The Equality Act — "Pray that the dignity of all people will be respected in our country," including "people of faith."

— June 25: Church vandalism — "Pray that Christian witness in the face of attacks on our churches will convert hearts to faith in Jesus Christ."

— June 26: Catholics in Nicaragua — "Pray for our Catholic sisters and brothers who are suffering in Nicaragua."



Eric and Anne Waxman recite the rosary while participating in a roadside prayer rally marking Religious Freedom Week at St. James Church in Setauket, N.Y., June 24, 2020.

CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz

— June 27: Conscience rights for medical professionals — "Pray that governments would respect the consciences of all people who care for the sick and vulnerable."

— June 28: Pope Francis'

solidarity with beleaguered Christians in Iraq — "Pray for Christians in Iraq and that people of all faiths in the land of Abraham may live in peace."

— June 29: Free speech — "Pray that Christians will have

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS are ALIVE in ROME CITY!

Our Lady the IMMACULATE VIRGIN PATRONESS of AMERICA

awaits you at the Mother of Mercy Chapel

2730 E Northport Rd, Rome City, IN

July 3rd at 11am EDT for Holy Mass and Devotions.

Confessions beginning at 9:30 am.

More info @ www.patronessofamerica.org

Good Shepherd

BOOKS · GIFTS

40% off

all in stock

First Communion items through June 30

www.goodshepherdbookstore.org

915 S. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, IN

260-399-1442

FREE PARKING

Free parking in the garage

Hours: Monday-Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

the courage to speak the truth with kindness and clarity, even in the face of adversity."

The USCCB resources aim "to help people understand religious liberty from a Catholic perspective, pray about particular issues and act on what they learn by advocating for policies that promote religious freedom," the news release said.

"Through prayer, education and public action during Religious Freedom Week, the USCCB hopes to promote the essential right of religious freedom for Catholics and for those of all faiths," it added.

Catholics can connect with the USCCB Committee for Religious Liberty by texting FREEDOM to 84576 to sign up for First Freedom News, the committee's monthly newsletter.



Make a **legacy gift** to the
Saint Mother Theodore Guerin
FOUNDATION

You make an irrevocable gift of \$10,000 or more.



You receive payments for life based on your age; a portion of those payments are even tax free.



You receive a charitable deduction; you are building the future of the sisters through a gift to the Sisters of Providence.



ONE LIFE

AGE	60	65	70	75	80	85	90+
RATE	3.9%	4.2%	4.7%	5.4%	6.5%	7.6%	8.6%

Rates Subject to change based on the ACCGA.

In exchange for a gift of cash or appreciated stock, you will receive immediate tax savings and a guaranteed, partially tax-free income stream for life. Best of all, while you're doing something good for yourself, you'll be doing something wonderful for our sisters.

Your gift today will have an impact on the Sisters of Providence for years to come! Please call us for two-life or deferred gift annuity rates.

To request a free proposal, contact Connie Gualano, manager of planned giving, at 812-535-2811
PlannedGiving.SistersofProvidence.org

LIKE TODAY'S CATHOLIC

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

NEWS BRIEFS

Catholic leaders: Biden budget aims to help vulnerable but excludes unborn

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The chairman of the U.S. bishops' pro-life committee called on Congress May 28 to preserve the Hyde Amendment in any federal budget proposal and "to work toward a budget that truly builds up the common good of all." The head of the Catholic Health Association of the United States likewise called on Congress to support "the long-standing prohibition of federal funding for abortion and maintain the Hyde Amendment." Earlier the same day, President Joe Biden unveiled his proposed budget of \$6 trillion for fiscal year 2022 that would include spending to improve and modernize the nation's infrastructure, provide free pre-K and community college, and increase domestic programs. His plan does not include the Hyde Amendment, which has been included in spending bills since 1976 to prohibit federal tax dollars from directly funding abortion except in cases of rape, incest or when the life of the woman would be endangered. In their respective statements, Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, and Mercy Sister Mary Haddad, CHA's president and CEO, said the Biden proposal has a number of provisions to help vulnerable Americans but is remiss in leaving out Hyde, which protects the most vulnerable — the unborn.

Virtual tours open doors of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's shrine to the world

EMMITSBURG, Md. (CNS) — They say when one door closes, another door opens. When the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg closed its historical buildings to public tours last year due to the pandemic, its team opened a window, a Zoom window. Rather than bringing people to the shrine, they decided to bring the shrine to the people. The solution: virtual tours of the basilica and the historical buildings at the shrine. Launched on Mother Seton's feast day, Jan. 4, the shrine's live virtual tours have been a streaming success — so much so shrine officials intend to make the virtual tours a permanent option for those who want to learn about America's first native-born saint. Over 3,000 people from 21 states have taken a virtual tour of the shrine, and the tours continue to attract school groups and others from as far away as Alaska and Oregon. Virtual or in-person tours can be booked at www.setonshrine.org/virtual-tours. While the shrine is currently open to in-person visitors again, the virtual tours

Pope Francis celebrates the feast of Corpus Christi



CNS photo/Giuseppe Lami, Reuters pool

Pope Francis celebrates the Eucharist during Mass on the feast of Corpus Christi in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican June 6.

have become an important way of showing how Mother Seton's experiences as a wife, mother, convert, servant of the poor and teacher make her relatable to people today, shrine officials said.

The write stuff: Catholic school students win national handwriting contest

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In our modern, high-tech society, it turns out some students still have good penmanship. And the winners of this year's Zaner-Bloser National Handwriting Contest, announced this May, have very good penmanship. Students' entries were judged by how they wrote: "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog." That sentence has been the standard criteria in the educational company's annual handwriting contest for the past 30 years because it contains every letter of the alphabet. The judges examine the letters in each of

these nine words carefully, eyeing the shape, size, spacing and slant to determine the best elementary school handwriting across the country. Students in kindergarten through second grade submit manuscript or print entries in the contest, while students in grades three through eight submit cursive entries. They also were asked to answer, in their best penmanship, how their handwriting makes them a better reader and writer and why this is important. To be in the contest, students first had to win best in their grade in their school's handwriting contest. In this year's contest, three students from Catholic schools won the grand national championship as the top writers for their grade level. The winners were: Rhys Acas, a kindergarten student at St. Thomas More Catholic School in Elgin, Illinois; Caitlyn Ngo, a fifth grader at St. Edmund Elementary School in Brooklyn, New York; and Soldae Givens, an eighth grader at St. Benedict the Moor School in Pittsburgh.

Pope dedicates June prayers for soon-to-be newlyweds

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — While uncertainty in the world may deter young couples from taking the next big step in their relationships, the vocational call to marriage is a risk worth taking, Pope Francis said. Marriage "is a challenging journey, at times difficult, sometimes even confrontational, but it is worth the risk," the pope said. "And in this lifelong journey, the husband and wife are not alone: Jesus accompanies them." In a video message released by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network June 1, the pope offered his prayer intention for the month of June, which he dedicated to "the beauty of marriage." The pope said that marriage and sharing one's life "is a beautiful thing. Marriage is not just a 'social' act," he said. "It is a vocation that is born from the heart, it is a conscious lifelong decision

that requires a specific preparation. Please, never forget! God has a dream for us — love — and he asks us to make it our own."

Ecumenical service remembers victims of Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921

TULSA, Okla. (CNS) — Ahead of a May 30 ecumenical prayer service to recall the Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921, Bishop David A. Konderla said it was important "to pause and reflect on how such an unspeakable horror could take place so that we can avoid any such evil in our own day. It is hard to believe that 100 years ago people could think and act in such a way. It is unthinkable. Still, it happened," he said. The Tulsa bishop led the service at Holy Family Cathedral with the Rev. Robert Turner of the Historic Vernon Chapel A.M.E. Church, which remains a visual reminder of the massacre of Black people in an area of the city known "Black Wall Street," Tulsa's prosperous Black neighborhood of Greenwood. At the time, it was the wealthiest Black community in America. Rev. Turner's church is the only standing Black-owned structure on Historic Greenwood Avenue from that era. Bishop Konderla said the prayer service was "a time to acknowledge a grave evil that took place and mourn the lives lost and destroyed as well as a time to celebrate the courage of those people who served as shining lights in that dark time to help the victims." The Tulsa Race Massacre, one of the most severe incidents of racial violence in U.S. history, began May 31, 1921, and lasted for two days. It left somewhere between 30 and 300 people dead, mostly African Americans, and destroyed over 1,400 homes and businesses.

California bishop prays for victims of another 'senseless' shooting

SAN JOSE, Calif. (CNS) — San Jose Bishop Oscar Cantú urged prayers for the victims and their families after a gunman opened fire the morning of May 26 at a rail yard operated by the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, or VTA, north of downtown San Jose. At least eight people were dead and several others injured by the shooter, who was later identified by law enforcement as VTA employee Samuel Cassidy, 57. "May God comfort their families and loved ones and bring healing," the bishop tweeted. "Pray also for all the first responders and law enforcement officers. May shock & grief give way to healing and grace, as we work together to protect the innocent and prevent such senseless acts in the future, so that peace may prevail in our hearts and communities."

New priests ordained in Nebraska



Provided by Brian Eichman

Five new priests of the Priestly Fraternity of Saint Peter stand alongside Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, Joseph Perry, who ordained them to the priesthood at North American Martyrs Church in Lincoln, Neb., May 28. From left are Rev. Mr. Nicholas Eichman, Rev. Mr. John Audino, Rev. Mr. Thu Truong, Archbishop Perry, Rev. Mr. Joseph Dalimata, and Rev. Mr. James Eichman. The Eichman brothers are natives of Fort Wayne and members of Sacred Heart Church.

Tenth anniversary of ordination



Provided by Christine Bonahoom-Nix

Ten deacons of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend celebrated the 10th anniversary of their ordination May 21 with a Mass at Sacred Heart Church, Warsaw. Father Spenser St. Louis celebrated the Mass. In the front row, from left, are Deacon James Fitzpatrick, Deacon Stanley LeMieux, Deacon David Elchert, Deacon Jerome Kohrman and Deacon Melvin Tardy. In the back row, from left, are Deacon Robert Byrne, Deacon William Gallagher, Deacon James Tighe, Deacon James Fuchs and Deacon James Kitchens. Deacon John Hilger was a member of the same class but is deceased.

Thirty-nine years of faith-filled education: Karen Lohmuller

BY KATIE MURRAY

For almost four decades, Most Precious Blood School in Fort Wayne has had the joy of having Karen Lohmuller as part of its teaching staff. Her contributions to the student body and administrators have helped to improve education for the children and support staff through faith and teamwork.

For Lohmuller, Christ-centered education has been a staple in her life. Originally from Gary, she attended St. Luke School for grades one through 6, St. Mary of the Lake school for junior high, and in Merrillville she graduated from Andean High School.

"I was fortunate to receive a Catholic education my whole life. My faith is important to me. I knew I would likely teach in a Catholic school, so that God could be a part of my classroom," she said.

Her passion for faith-filled education led her to the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne, where she completed her Bachelor of Science degree in 1981 and her Master of Science in 1986. Before completing her undergraduate work, Lohmuller did micro-teaching experiences at Most Precious Blood. This learning technique is used for aspiring teachers: It is a process where student teachers can gain real-world experience hands-on in the classroom.

After completing her student teaching requirements in the fall of 1980, the principal of Most Precious Blood at the time, Ed Habrowski, hired Lohmuller to



KAREN LOHMULLER

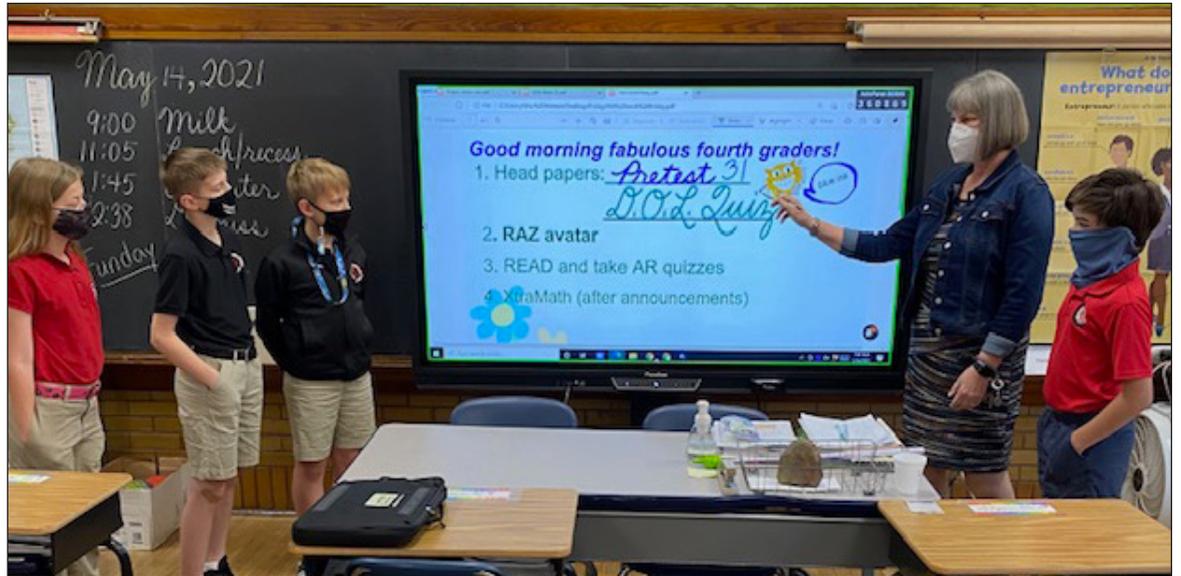
teach third grade starting in the fall of 1981. From there, she began her journey as a pillar of Most Precious Blood School and parish.

She has spent her whole adult life as a member of the parish, from getting married to her children attending the school and receiving their sacraments there. She has made many connections over the years with other parishioners, parents of her students and former students.

"It is heart-warming to see so many of the families sitting in church who I have a connection to because I taught someone in their family or they were former students themselves," she said, adding, "Yes, I am at the point in my life where I have been teaching children of former students."

During her tenure, Lohmuller taught several levels of education. In her first year, she taught general education subjects for third grade: In her second year, she applied for a homeroom position for the sixth-grade class, a time she looks back on with joy. "Former students from those years had a reunion with three of us former teachers in September 2019, and we shared fond memories," she said.

In her 39 years, she has taught not only third and sixth grades, but she has also taught students at the fourth and fifth grade levels, staying in her



Photos provided by Karen Lohmuller

Teacher Karen Lohmuller goes over the day's agenda with her fourth grade students at Most Precious Blood School, Fort Wayne, last month. Lohmuller retired at the end of the school after 39 years in the classroom.

fourth grade position these last few years because that was the grade she had originally longed to teach.

Lohmuller received the Light of Learning Award during the 2001-02 school year and in 2011-12. In 2016, she received the Educator of the Year Award from the American Legion Fourth District.

Being a part of the Most Precious Blood family has been a centering experience for her. One of her favorite parts of teaching, and working at a Catholic school, is "being able to share my faith and talk about Jesus with students and parents. It's something I treasure."

The pandemic was a trying time, however, and it made retiring a little different for her than

it might have been for others in years past.

"Teaching during a global pandemic has been a challenge for all teachers, including me. Last spring, I embraced the opportunity to use technology to teach remotely. I attempted to keep a connection with students, but it wasn't easy. And the staff are not eating lunch together nor socializing like we used to. I miss that."

Other things she will miss, she said, are reading books with her class and teaching math. Seeing the expression of, "Oh, I get it!" when math concepts begin to make sense is something she said makes her feel proud. She will also have memories of "being with awesome co-workers, learning to use

the latest technology to enhance learning, sending an experiment to the upper stratosphere with a weather balloon, and having former students greet me in the hallway."

Although Lohmuller will miss her home with Most Precious Blood School, she is ready to start the next chapter of her life by traveling, seeing far-away family and doing many activities with her husband, like fishing, bike riding and hiking.

As she transitions to this next phase, she is confident that "the future looks bright as new faces join the staff. I have poured my heart and soul into this beloved school, and others continue to do the same."

ADVERTORIAL

The Legacy of a Father, a Fort Wayne legend and a man of faith

By Maria Nancarrow
FUND DEVELOPMENT/
MARKETING SPECIALIST

Eddie Long, otherwise known as "Mr. Komet," was born and raised in Ottawa, Ontario, with three brothers, Harry, Gus and Brady, and one sister, Margaret. Both of his parents were devout Catholics, never missing a Mass or a family rosary. His father, Augustus, referred to as "Captain," was a World War I veteran and a captain in the Canadian army. His mother, Muriel, was a convert, homemaker and gourmet cook. His parents were 42 and 44 when Eddie, the last of five children, was born in 1933.

Eddie has never known a life without hockey. At the age of 1, he was already on "bob skates" on the homemade ice rink his father made in their backyard.

"I remember my dad flooding the rink. It was 100 feet by 25 feet. We had lights out there and everything. We were very fortunate, very lucky. Children from 15 blocks out would come together to form their own neighborhood league called the 'Our Gang Hockey League,'" he said. Eddie and his friends would spend every weekend on this rink.

One Sunday, while attending Mass at St. Joseph Parish as a family, Eddie's mother, Muriel, received a vision of the Blessed Mother. In this vision, Mary stood with two crosses in the palm of her hands. His mother was unsure of what this vision could represent, until a few years later when tragedy struck.

When Eddie was just 8 years old, in April 1941, his brother Brady, who was overseas fighting the war in Europe, was killed after his ship was torpedoed by a German U-boat that tore the vessel completely in two. Brady was among 83 Canadian servicemen killed that day.

Three short years later, in February 1944, his parents were visited by two men delivering a telegram regarding his brother, Harry. It read "Your son is missing in action. Presumed dead." Eddie remembers his parents crying and the change in his father after these events. Eddie's father blamed himself for the deaths of his sons. At Brady's request, his father had used his connections in the Army to get Harry sent overseas.

In hindsight, the family now believes the two crosses held in the Blessed Mother's hands, in Muriel's vision years before, represented the two sons that she would lose. Muriel would now share in Mary's sorrow for the rest of her life.

"What happened after that was important, though — how my parents handled the loss of two sons," Eddie said. "They never blamed God, and that helped me spiritually. It really gave me a head start with my faith. They prayed. We continued to say the rosary every night after dinner. But they never blamed God."

Eddie went on to attend St. Patrick High School. Since the high school did not have a hockey league, Eddie was asked to join a junior hockey team. He



Provided by Maria Nancarrow

The Eddie Long family is pictured at Easter several years ago. In the front row, from left, are Tina, Therese and Michelle. In the back row, from left, are Kathy, Eddie, Brady, Gayle and Valerie.

was 16 years old and served as the team's captain, playing with much older athletes.

He also played with players twice his age, while on a local baseball league, where he happened to catch the eye of coach

John Denofrio of the Golden Manitou Mines. In 1951, Eddie was signed to a professional baseball league, making \$55 a month, including room and board.

A year later, Alex Wood, a hockey coach from Toledo, approached Eddie about moving to Fort Wayne to join a startup hockey team. In 1952, Eddie and his dad sat down and signed the contract to play for the Komets. Eddie was just 19 years old. He would make \$95 a week.

This was a turning point not only for Eddie's hockey career but for the relationship with his father. Eddie's father would travel to Fort Wayne and attend every one of Eddie's games, be interviewed on the Bob Chase Radio Show about Eddie and spend time with Eddie, his wife and their children.

Eddie recalled a defining moment with his father. "After my brothers had died, my dad was emotionally dead for 10 years. But something happened when he watched me play hockey, it was like he came back. I

believe God placed me in sports to strengthen my relationship with my dad. When he'd come to Fort Wayne to see me play, we got to know one another in a way we hadn't growing up and he came back to life."

He played for with the Komets from 1952-66. He made the first all-star team in 1962 and 1963 and led the Komets to two IHL Turner Cup championships in 1963 and again in 1965, as the Komet's head coach.

After the 1966 season, Eddie retired from professional. In 1988, as the Fort Wayne second-highest point-getter in franchise history, Eddie was inducted into the newly established Komet Hall of Fame. He was honored with having his jersey, No. 16, retired. He played hockey with his son and grandson up until the age of 82.

Eddie resides at Saint Anne Communities, in the Assisted Living Apartments. His wife, Gayle, is close by in the nursing facility. This month, they will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary. They are enjoying this slower phase in their lives and watching their family continue to grow. They have six children, 12 grandchildren and recently celebrated the birth of their 13th great-grandchild.

He credits God for the legacy he holds, and his parents — especially his father, for the example of his steadfast faith. As a young boy, he recalled watching his father in his room, kneeling by his bed, every night, to pray. Eddie continues this legacy, as he is still in the battle, praying for his family every night and attending daily Mass.

As a suggestion for young fathers, Eddie said, "You have been given a miracle. Each child is a gift. No one can design a child like the good Lord. You've been given a responsibility, and when I was young, I didn't recognize the responsibility I had, raising kids. But now I see it. Teach your kids respect, carve out family time and sit and have a meal together. Limit the technology, say the rosary, but most importantly, listen to your children. Take the time with your children and be a man of faith."

To read more about the life of Eddie Long, purchase "The Boy Who Became Mr. Komet," by Wendy Luley, on Amazon.



**Congratulations
Mark Hellinger ('14)**

ONCE A KNIGHT, ALWAYS A KNIGHT!



BISHOP LUERS
HIGH SCHOOL

Congratulations!

The prayers of Holy Family and St. John the Baptist Parishes in South Bend are with our new priests

Michael Ammer, Paolo Degasperi,
Daniel Koehl, Benjamin Landrigan,
Keeton Lockwood, Augustine Onuoha
and Logan Parrish.

Imler appointed Diocesan Museum director

FORT WAYNE — With the opening of the doors of Cathedral Museum in 1981, Father Phillip Widmann saw a dream — his dream — come to fruition. As the museum's new director, Kathryn Imler intends to further Father Widmann's lifelong mission of preserving the past and informing the future.

A history buff, as early as 1956 Father Widmann began collecting artwork, chalices, vestments and other older items that could be displayed in a diocesan venue. The earliest iteration of Cathedral Museum opened in a classroom in the old Cathedral School in Fort Wayne. Following a couple more moves, first to MacDougal Chapel on Cathedral Square and then to nearby Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, on March 12, 2019, the museum opened in the former diocesan chancery, also on Cathedral Square and next door to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

When it came time to pack and move the treasures to the current location, Father Widmann called on assistance from friends at St. Peter, an historic parish at which he had served for 17 years. Among those who responded was Imler. "I just showed up. He had asked me before if I wanted to become a docent," but she had demurred, she said. In short order, her decision would change to the affirmative.

Father Widmann passed from this life to the heavenly kingdom March 16 of this year. In early May, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades appointed Imler director of what

has become the priest's legacy.

She will be responsible for administrating all affairs of the museum, including receiving and cataloging donated items, maintaining public display of museum pieces, marketing and the supervision of staff and employees.

A graduate of Central Catholic High School and a lifelong Fort Wayne resident, Imler retired from 15 years of teaching English at Bishop Luers High School to develop what she calls her "creative side." She is a local artist and published author, and has composed and recorded children's songs. Some of those talents have already proven adaptable to caring for the museum's treasures.

Diocesan Museum enjoys a steady stream of visitors, Imler said, including school tour groups, those visiting the cathedral or the nearby convention center, and residents who participate in local promotions such as Be a Tourist in Your Own Hometown.

"It's a wonderful place for both Catholics and non-Catholics to come and be inspired and see all the history,"

KATHRYN IMLER

"It's a wonderful place for both Catholics and non-Catholics to come and be inspired and see all the history," Imler said. But she sees more potential.

"There's so much more that can be done. Parishes that aren't represented, histories ... there's a lot of interest in that. The Crosiers — there was a seminary here — it would be nice to do something on that. I'd like to have a display about the environment and what the Church is doing to protect it."

The museum location is in a beautiful and convenient downtown location, she feels.



Photos by Jodi Martin

Kathryn Imler, former docent and an English teacher for 15 years, has been appointed director of the collection of diocesan treasures accumulated by the late Father Phillip Widmann. Diocesan Museum is open to the public in downtown Fort Wayne.

"And we're free, we're accessible — even on foot. It's an easy museum to go through."

Although the foot traffic is fairly consistent, there are also quiet days at the museum. Those are the days during which Imler researches artifacts like an extensive Vatican stamp collection, or works on the displays. "But the days when people are in here are just great. They like to talk and ask questions."

Many are not Catholic but are there to learn a little about the faith, she noted. "It's very engaging. They all have stories to tell."

Imler considers herself blessed to have been part of the team that assisted with the museum's move to the former chancery, because it gave her the opportunity to learn from him the background of certain items. "I just had a sense of what he (Father Widmann) wanted accomplished."

She brings her own faith experience to the position as well.

"I grew up pre-Vatican II. The nun dolls we have from that time, those were the habits of the nuns I had in high school. I'm happy to point out things like that, that people might not realize."

"It's just a really fun job, I had the opportunity to say at one time to Father Widmann. He

responded, 'You know, every day is different.'"

This year, Imler would like to finish setting up displays located in a room of the museum that isn't yet opened to the public. The cataloging system also needs to be updated — a strength of one of the docents, she said — and an inventory completed. Imler also hopes to learn from the experiences of other Catholic museums in the region.

"Father Phil made it look easy, because he spent so much time and bothered so few people about it," she said.

She spoke of his dedication to preserving and displaying artifacts of the past. She stated that he was in the museum "all the time. He would be here at five in the morning, tacking up vestments or working on displays."

In addition to his love of history, she said Father Widmann had a great talent for setting up displays of religious artifacts — a much different talent than typical decorating. Imler indicated that he was a man who knew what he wanted and was driven to get things done. He also had a fantastic memory for minute details about each artifact and knew how to separate them by category, she said.

"It was such an honor and a privilege to work with him," she said. "He had a mission and a purpose that you wanted to be a part of."



Diocesan Museum
FREE ADMISSION AND PARKING

Open Tuesday – Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
and by appointment
1103 S. Calhoun St., Fort Wayne

Visit diocesefwsb.org/diocesan-museum



Jennifer Barton

Bishop Rhoades greets the seven priest candidates as they join the procession into the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, prior to their ordination.



Congratulations!

FATHER KEETON LOCKWOOD

Love your
St. Mary's family

ST. MARY OF THE
ANNUNCIATION CHURCH

BRISTOL

CONGRATULATIONS

Father Augustine!

"You are a priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek."
PSALM 110:4



Many blessings and prayers for you as you begin your priesthood.

You always have a home at Sacred Heart. We are so grateful for your "yes"!

ORDINATION, from page 2

Mary's in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and one finished his formation at Mount St. Mary's Seminary of the West in Cincinnati, Ohio. Msgr. Michael Heintz and Msgr. Anthony Frontiero represented the seminary in Maryland, and rector Father Anthony Brausch represented the Ohio seminary, along with Father Andrew Moss, JCL, and Father Ryan Ruiz, SLD.

Post-ordination, Bishop Rhoades accepted the first blessing from the new priests, then each of them took their appointed spaces outside the cathedral to bestow blessings on all who came forward.

Though still somewhat awed by his new status as a priest, Father Ammer professed that he felt "pretty good" after ordination and is fully prepared to begin his new assignment at St. Jude in Fort Wayne. "I'm very excited; finally done with seminary and can get to work. I'm looking forward to that."

To prepare for his big day, he spent the previous week with extra prayer time, speaking to other priests, and attending the ordination of a friend. "That really helped things get rolling," he remarked.

For Father Lockwood, the reality of his new vocation "hit me during the ordination Mass when I got to go up to the altar and receive the host that I was consecrating up there with my brother priests. That's when I would say that it really hit – going up there to receive Jesus for the very first time at the Mass that I got to celebrate."

He expressed that he felt "enthusiastic and just total excitement, on cloud nine. So full of joy and so full of happiness that the smile hasn't faded yet; it's still there."

His first assignment will be as parochial vicar of St. Therese and St. Henry parishes in Fort Wayne. "I'm looking forward to being there, because even though Father Matt (Coonan) will keep me busy, he's a very, very solid priest and when I

leave there, I will be very well-formed under his tutelage," he stated.

The other new priests will fill much-needed positions throughout the diocese. Father Onuoha will serve at St. Pius X, Granger; Father Parrish at St. John the Evangelist, Goshen; Father Koehl at St. Charles Borromeo, Fort Wayne; Father Landrigan at St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart; and Father Degasperri at St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne.

According to Father Andrew Budzinski, director of vocations for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, this year's ordination class is the largest the diocese has seen in nearly 60 years, surpassing the group of five in 2018, though future graduating classes could see even greater numbers. During a time when many other dioceses have few seminarians, the large numbers of men seeking religious vocations in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is greatly encouraging for the faithful.

"It's wonderful. It's a true joy," Father Budzinski commented. "At the same time, it's just as joyful when one man is ordained to the priesthood. I'm just so grateful to God for calling these men."

While both he and the bishop are optimistic about the increasing number of young men discerning priesthood in the diocese, Father Budzinski is also realistic about the multitudes of young people leaving the Church at the same time. "But we already know how the story ends: Jesus wins. In the meantime, there's a lot of work to be done."

These seven new priests will almost certainly be a part of that work, difficult though it may be at times. "But it is also joyful and always good because it is God's work. And God never fails."

Video coverage of the ordination is available to view on the diocesan YouTube channel and Facebook page @diocesefwsb. To read Bishop Rhoades' full homily, visit diocesefwsb.org/bishop.



Jennifer Barton

Joy shone on the faces of the newly ordained priests as Bishop Rhoades announced their new assignments to those assembled outside the Cathedral after ordination.

Congratulations and thank you to the newly ordained priests



Michael Ammer
Paolo Degasperi
Daniel Koehl
Benjamin Landrigan
Keeton Lockwood
Augustine Onuoha
Logan Parrish



Prayerful congratulations to
Father Keeton Lockwood and Father Paolo Degasperi

as well as
Father Michael Ammer,
Father Daniel Koehl,
Father Benjamin Landrigan,
Father Augustine Onuoha and
Father Logan Parrish
on your ordination to the
Priesthood of Jesus Christ.




Father Keeton Lockwood
(Summer Seminarian 2018)

Father Paolo Degasperi
(Summer Seminarian 2020)

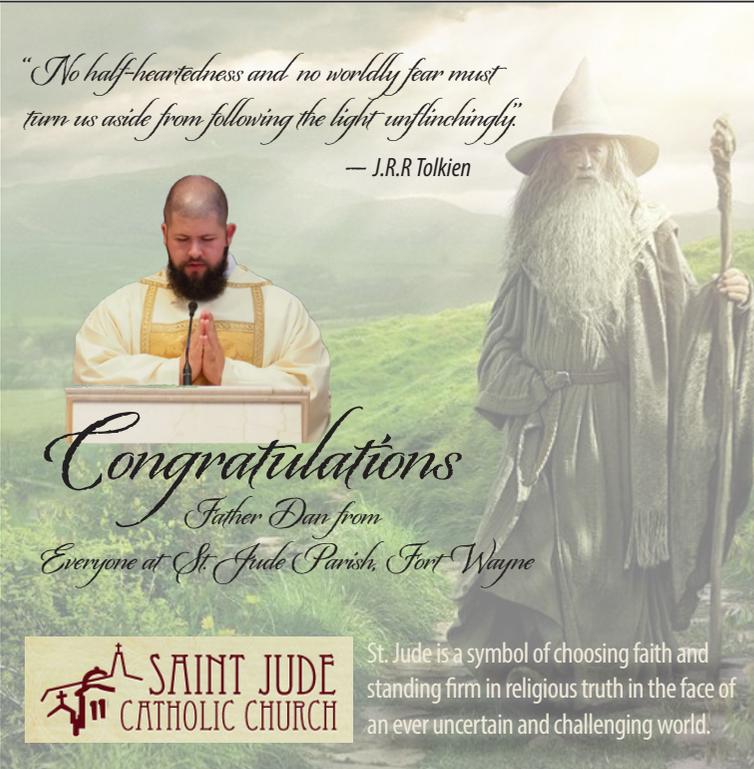
*From Father Daryl Rybicki, Sister M. Cecilia Clare Stoffel, OSF
and the People of the Corpus Christi Catholic Community, South Bend*



Congratulations on your ordination into the Priesthood

FATHER PAOLO DEGASPERI
FROM MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD PARISH

"No half-heartedness and no worldly fear must turn us aside from following the light unflinchingly."
— J.R.R Tolkien



Congratulations
Father Dan from
Everyone at St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne



St. Jude is a symbol of choosing faith and standing firm in religious truth in the face of an ever uncertain and challenging world.

Congratulations!



Father Michael Ammer



Father Paolo Degasperi



Father Daniel Koehl



Father Benjamin Landrigan



Father Keeton Lockwood



Father Augustine Onuoha



Father Logan Parrish

Barrett McNagny congratulates Father Michael Ammer, Father Paolo Degasperi, Father Daniel Koehl, Father Benjamin Landrigan, Father Keeton Lockwood, Father Augustine Onuoha and Father Logan Parrish on their ordination to the Priesthood.



Barrett McNagny

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

215 E. Berry St., Fort Wayne, IN 46802 | 260.423.9551

barrettlaw.com



Congratulations Fathers!

ST. MARY OF THE
ANNUNCIATION CHURCH
BRISTOL, IN

MICHAEL AMMER, PAOLO DEGASPERI, DANIEL KOEHL,
BENJAMIN LANDRIGAN, KEETON LOCKWOOD, AUGUSTINE ONUOHA
AND LOGAN PARRISH



Congratulations

*St. John the Baptist, New Haven, rejoices in
welcoming their parish son to the priesthood.*

Father Michael Ammer

St. John the Baptist
CATHOLIC CHURCH
Masses Sat. 5:00PM Sun. 7:30AM 9:30AM 11:30AM
PEACE BE WITH YOU



SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON WELCOMES
SON OF THE PARISH

**FATHER
BEN
LANDRIGAN**

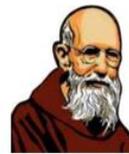
Your holy service to the Lord touches so many hearts and inspires so many lives. Congratulations on your Ordination to the Priesthood.

CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2021

Congratulations to our new priests!

Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

Father Michael Ammer • Father Paolo Degasperi
Father Dan Koehl • Father Ben Landrigan
Father Keeton Lockwood
Father Augustine Onuoha • Father Logan Parrish



**SOLANUS CASEY
VOCATION SOCIETY**

For information about the
Solanus Casey Vocation Society
Email: fscvs.fw@gmail.com | Follow us on FACEBOOK

Congratulations to Logan Parrish on his ordination to the priesthood!

**May God bless you abundantly
for answering the call
of the Holy Spirit!**

*With love from your friends at
St. Dominic Parish in Bremen*



*"Do not neglect the gift you have, which was conferred on you through the prophetic word with the imposition of hands of the presbyterate."
~1Timothy, 4:14*



THE SERRA CLUB OF SOUTH BEND Congratulates



Father Michael Ammer Father Paolo Degasperi Father Daniel Koehl Father Ben Landrigan Father Keeton Lockwood Father Augustine Onuoha Father Logan Parrish

as you enter the priesthood

Glory and Praise Forever

"We should spend as much time thanking God for His benefits as we do in asking Him for them."

— St. Vincent de Paul

Each day through the passing of years, the people of St. Vincent's ask the Lord to send His Church good and holy Priests.

Today we thank the Lord boundlessly and forever for

FOUR PARISH SONS

ordained to the Holy Priesthood:

Father Keeton Lockwood



Father Daniel Koehl



Father Augustine Onuoha

Father Logan Parrish



Together with Fathers Michael Ammer, Paolo Degaspari,
and Benjamin Landrigan

Ordained by Bishop Rhoades on June 5, 2021

May the prayerful pleading and ancient heartfelt longing of the Psalmist be fulfilled in them:

"How I would lead the rejoicing crowd into the house of God, amid cries of gladness and thanksgiving, the throng wild with joy!"

— Psalm 42:4



Jennifer Barton

Priests, deacons and seminarians from within the diocese and those visiting from outside it fill the side pews of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, to celebrate the ordination of the diocese's newest priests on June 5.

Legatus

Do you want to be part of an exciting organization dedicated to helping business leaders boldly live their Catholic identity? Then Legatus is the place for you!

Legatus is an international organization of Catholic laymen and laywomen who are Mission-Driven: to study, live, and spread the Catholic faith in their business, professional and personal lives.

We are seeking a part-time **Chapter Administrator** for our South Bend-Elkhart Chapter. This position is responsible for the efficient and successful management of the chapter under the direction of the Regional Vice President and in collaboration with the local Chapter President. Participation in the membership growth and retention of the chapter along with the execution of the monthly chapter event is a primary responsibility of this position.

More information can be found here: legatus.org/join-our-team.



Once a Saint... Always a Saint!

Congratulations to our BD Alumni!



Rev. Daniel Koehl '11



Rev. Keeton Lockwood '12



Rev. Logan Parrish '13

May God bless them as they enter the Order of the Priesthood through the Sacrament of Holy Orders.

bishopdwenger.com

saints@bishopdwenger.com

(260)496-4700



DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS MINISTRY

It is the responsibility of this position to create, implement, and maintain a vision for the Department of Campus Ministry that reflects and promotes the University's core values as a Catholic Franciscan institution.

Major Responsibilities/Activities

- Provides innovative leadership which enhances the University community's spiritual and faith formation.
- Oversees departmental administration, staffing, and policies, including the annual operating budget.
- Leads, manages, coordinates, and evaluates the work of the different Campus Ministry staff, teams, and programs.
- Develops and oversees programs/activities in both faith formation and service in which every member of the Saint Francis community has the opportunity for spiritual development.
- Provides or ensures provision of pastoral care and support to students, staff, and faculty.
- Works in harmony with the university's Catholic and Franciscan values and mission.
- Provides instructive guidance regarding matters of religion and faith in collaborative initiatives, including student orientation, leadership programs, community conversation series, and other opportunities as they arise.
- Supports the service and justice opportunities for the University, including immersion trips, partnerships with local agencies, specifically develop a robust chapter of the Catholic Relief Services student ambassador program.
- Develop a vigorous and healthy retreat program for all students.
- Assists in the preparation for liturgical celebrations.

Community Outreach

- Provides pastoral presence and cultivates relationships with students through programming and ministry of presence.
- Maintains relationships with the outside community for the collaboration of service opportunities for students. Cultivates relationships with the local religious groups to support the faith life of Saint Francis students.
- Develops regular communication with Diocese of Fort Wayne/South Bend and the local Catholic parishes.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Practicing Roman Catholic in good standing with the Catholic Church
 Education: Masters' degree in a related area required.
 Experience: 3-5 years of experience in university campus ministry work required

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Possesses ability to work closely with students, faculty, staff, and parents
 Possesses the necessary skills to be a part of a dynamic Campus Ministry team and Division of Student Affairs.
 Demonstrates organizational skills to effectively manage the department, daily operations, work flow and communications.
 Demonstrates strong leadership skills and ability to work collaboratively
 Demonstrates well-developed interpersonal and communication skills
 Demonstrates strong knowledge of computers and office equipment.
 Skilled in use of Microsoft Office computer programs, social media and website maintenance.
 Must be self-motivated and reliable

For a complete job description visit: <https://hr.sf.edu/job/director-of-campus-ministry>



Jennifer Barton

Sebastian and Maximus Rader choose books to read during the summer from Good Shepherd Books & Gifts in Fort Wayne.

Enlightening summertime reads

BY JENNIFER BARTON

The long days of summer approach, complete with visions of lazy days on the beach, relaxing nights around a campfire – and bored kids on car trips. Hot and humid summer days are a perfect time to encourage children to keep their minds engaged with the pastime that is completely cord-free – a good book.

Whispers of God's presence can be found in any aspect of life and many books bespeak His existence, whether intentionally or embedded in a story's narrative. Author C.S. Lewis once said that: "A good story which will give innocent pleasure is a good thing." He believed that a written work did not always need to be theological in nature, but elements of a Christian writer's beliefs would undeniably find their way into a good story, as seen in the allegories in his "Chronicles of Narnia" series.

J.R.R. Tolkien, a Catholic writer and lover of mythology, wrote his "Lord of the Rings" trilogy without the intention of making it a decidedly Catholic read. But he could not deny that his faith permeated the story, "unconsciously at first, but consciously in the revision. ... the religious element is absorbed into the story and the symbolism."

Encouraging children to read books based on faith and morals or even to see such allegories buried in a good novel can nourish the inclination to look for God in everyday life. Many of these titles can be purchased at local Catholic bookstores or special ordered through places like Good Shepherd Books & Gifts and Divine Mercy Gifts.

"A good story which will give innocent pleasure is a good thing."

— C.S. Lewis

Fiction

Grade school

- "This I Know: Seeing God in the World He Made," Clay Anderson: Based around the children's song "Jesus loves Me," Anderson explores how the world that God created shows His love for all mankind.

- "Prince Martin" series by Brandon Hale: Follow a young prince as he undertakes adventures to protect his kingdom and learns virtues such as courage and loyalty along the way.

- "Gospel Time Trekkers" series by Sister Maria Grace Dateno: Four siblings are transported back in time to the days of Jesus, following Biblical stories such as the Nativity and the Resurrection.

- "The Dead Sea Squirrels" by Mike Nawrocki: At an archeological dig in the Holy Land with his father, young Michael finds two petrified squirrels that he takes home and discovers are still alive. Full of humor and moral lessons, these fun stories are appropriate for young readers ages 6-10.

Middle school

- "Will Wilder" series by Raymond Arroyo: Written in the vein of "Percy Jackson," Will Wilder is a 12-year-old who discovers "otherworldly" powers and the impact even a child can make in the world.

- "The Chronicles of Narnia," C.S. Lewis: Brimming with

Christian allegory, the Narnia series originally follows the Pevensie children's adventures in this magical land, but explores the ideas of heaven and creation, right and wrong, love and self-sacrifice.

High school

- "The Lord of the Rings" by J.R.R. Tolkien: The trilogy that virtually gave birth to the fantasy genre; written by Catholic author Tolkien and chock-full of Christian imagery, flawed and noble characters and flowery prose, not to mention the excitement of a battle for the fate of the world as a group of Hobbits know it.

- "The Shadow of the Bear," "The Midnight Dancers," "Waking Rose" by Regina Doman: Catholic writer Doman's retelling of fairy tales with a modern take and an emphasis on morality. Note: "Rapunzel Let Down" is not recommended due to mature content.

Historical-based fiction

*There are numerous fictionalized accounts of saints and historical events appropriate for young readers; too many to list all here.

Grade school

- "The Weight of a Mass" by Josephine Nobisso: Beautifully written and illustrated, this children's story is based on a tale of a similar miracle at the butcher's

shop in Luxembourg, proving the power of a single Mass devoutly attended.

- "Chime Travelers" by Lisa Hendeby: Twins Patrick and Katie are swept up in time-travel adventures to aid saints such as Francis and Clare of Assisi in their God-given missions and find their way back home.

Middle school

- "The King's Prey" by Susan Peck: A fictionalized story about the life of Saint Dymphna, whose father went insane after the death of his wife and attempted to marry his own daughter. This is the story of Dymphna's flight across Ireland from his unthinkable plans.

High school

- "The Sword and the Serpent" trilogy by Marshall Taylor: Travel back to the Roman Empire, when persecution of Christians was at its height. This novelization of the life of young St. George introduces other saintly figures such as Catherine of Alexandria, Christopher and Nicholas of Myra. It is an epic adventure that spans the borders of Rome and keeps the pages turning for any reader who enjoys books in a similar vein as "Lord of the Rings."

Non-fiction

Grade School

- "Brilliant! 25 Catholic Scientists, Mathematicians and

Supersmart People" by David Michael Warren: Beautifully illustrated in black-and-white portraits, this work features many great Catholic thinkers who have shaped the scientific world, proving that faith and science can easily work hand in hand.

- "Holy Mysteries! 12 Investigations into Extraordinary Cases" by Sophie de Mullenheim: For the child who is into mystery stories, this book is a wonderful introduction to unexplained phenomena within the Catholic Church, including select Marian apparitions and other wonders they may not yet know about. Arranged with short text boxes and actual photographs, it is meant to be engaging for young readers.

High School

- "The Shadow of his Wings" by Gereron Goldman: The true story of a young German seminarian who managed to stay the course of his priestly training, even while drafted into Hitler's SS during World War II. The graphic novel of this book could be appropriate for middle school students.

Social/Family/ Relationships

Middle School into High School

- "A Single Bead" by Stephanie Engelman and "Agnes' Gift" by Kristelle Angelli: Both of these stories focus on loss, relationships and the journey two young women make in deepening their Catholic faith through the power of the rosary and the devotions of the lost loved ones.

Indy 500 Festival Princess stands out for her faith

BY COLLEEN SCHENA

With the Indy 500 in 2021's rearview mirror, Brittany Alvarez, a third-year Driscoll Scholar at the University of Notre Dame, added her "up-to-the-bricks" experience of the race to the long list of unique things she has done: "Not a day goes by that I'm not grateful for all the cool things I've been able to do."

These "things" include singing first soprano with the Indianapolis Children's Choir in Carnegie Hall and the Cathedral of Vienna, Austria, moving ever closer to her degree in civil engineering at Notre Dame, and working with moon rocks in a professor's office. Her most recent "cool thing": representing Indiana as a 500 Festival Princess.

The 500 Festival Princess Program, a highly competitive and attention-grabbing ambassadorship for the Hoosier State's biggest attraction, accepts hundreds of applications each year. The program closely examines leadership abilities, civic engagement and academic prowess through rigorously written applications and an intense interview process, narrowing a pool of incredibly gifted and community-minded young women from triple digits to 33, one for each racer.

Alvarez, who applied for the first time this year after considering it for years, was thrilled to open an email from program Director Laura Bliss with an acceptance and a welcome.

"Every day I wake up and I'm like, can someone pinch me?" Alvarez laughed. "All the other women are role models to me; I love them to pieces."

The program has been home to numerous women in STEM — science, technology, engineering and math — and business or management. Alvarez fits perfectly into these categories, but what has made her stand out within this group of high-achieving young women is her die-hard commitment to the Catholic faith.



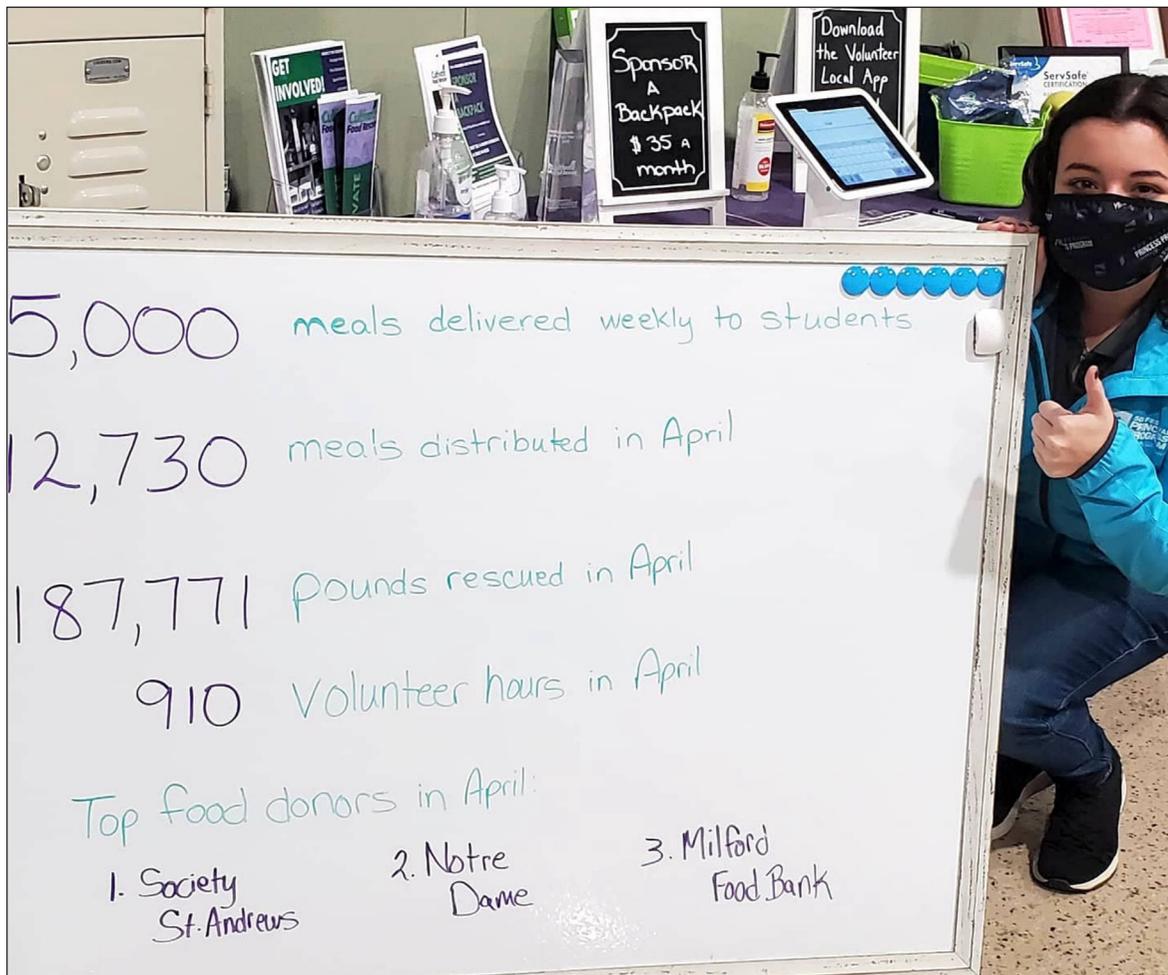
Provided by Brittany Alvarez

Brittany Alvarez, who will be a civil engineering student at the University of Notre Dame this fall, was one of 33 young women for the 500 Festival Princess Program this year. She is active at St. Monica Parish and in local community service projects.

A cradle Catholic, Alvarez found her first true glimpse of a youthful, vibrant community of faithful in Michiana, most notably at St. Monica Parish. Its connectedness to the Mishawaka community and its young parishioners, especially through homilies and actions of pastor Father Jacob Meyer, left her alight with the glow of vibrant fellowship and whole-hearted worship. In her life, it provided and continues to provide a great foundation for her acts of service, whether it vary from knitting hats for patrons of Our Lady of the Road to leading theological discussions on peace and justice.

No matter what, Alvarez does not stop moving in living out her faith.

"I like my faith in a very active form," the princess noted, nodding to Holy Cross College and Notre Dame's commitment to active faith as well as the required activity the program asks of her. Alvarez attended HCC for the first two years of the



Alvarez holds up the total meal distribution board after an outreach event with Cultivate Food Rescue.

Driscoll Scholars program and will transfer to Notre Dame this fall.

Each princess must create or participate in four outreach events, which may be anything from speaking engagements to creating cars out of vegetables. Repeatedly, Alvarez has been reminded that the tiara of a 500 Festival princess is a megaphone, attracting attention to causes, events or people; she directed hers toward her existing passions, literacy and food accessibility.

Alvarez' outreach events, completed within the South Bend area, included service with Cultivate Food Rescue in preparing and distributing a weekend's worth of healthy meals for families struggling with food insecurity and collecting several hundred covers for the Center for Civic Innovation's literacy

collection. She was regularly involved in both organizations as a student prior to her time as a princess, but now that her tiara that magnifies all, Alvarez has recently met with great success in her endeavors.

"Knowing that I don't even live here [full-time] and to get to give back, especially to kids — that was what made me feel like a princess. Not the tiara," she said.

Even as Race Week concludes and her duties as a princess draw to a close, Alvarez has no intention to stop living her active faith. In her time at Holy Cross College, she was and continues to be an active participant in Campus Ministry-sponsored programs as an intern and as an attending faithful. Her favorite spiritual experience is praying the "Lucinarium," a Liturgy of the Word-modeled prayer service

with a focus on the charism of fraternity from the Congregation of the Holy Cross.

Alvarez was quick to mention how enjoyable the themed fellowship nights that follow the prayer are as well. "It's a quiet, contemplative moment and then fellowship activity. A nice pause and a great refresher."

As the engineer-in-training looks forward, graduate school is on her horizon — as is work for NASA or as an eco-friendly Disney Imagineer, she hopes, developing sustainable alternatives to park transport and general upkeep.

Regardless of where the future might take her, Alvarez looks forward to spending her remaining academic years in northern Indiana, finding new ways to engage the community and act as Christ to others.

America's Choice in Homecare.

Visiting Angels
LIVING ASSISTANCE SERVICES

Up to 24 hour care - Meal Preparation
Bathing/Hygiene Assistance
Light Housekeeping - Errands/Shopping
Respite Care - Companionship - and much more!

Now with three offices serving all of northern Indiana!
Call toll-free
844-866 CARE (2273)

Wygant
FLORAL

Fresh Cut Flowers | Custom Silk Arrangements | Plants | Gourmet Fruit Baskets | Balloons | & more!

Mary Green
Owner

574.232.3354
800.994.2687
www.wygants.com

College Crew kicks off at St. Charles Borromeo

BY MACENZIE LANE

The parking lot of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, buzzed with excitement Monday, May 24, as College Crew launched its kickoff event. College Crew is an eight-week series focused on building communities and reigniting a spark of faith in college-age students for the summer. Speakers will include Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, Father Andrew Curry and a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration.

"The summer is an opportunity not to just remain stagnant, but to keep growing their relationship with Christ," said Stacey Huneck, youth and young adult minister at St. Charles.

Before the pandemic, Huneck's role was to primarily focus on the youth of the parish, she said. That focus shifted to young adults during the pandemic, adding to her title.

COVID-19 forced her to cancel a retreat for high school students last year in March, then again in June. So, instead, high school students had a virtual gathering with only adoration taking place in person and socially distanced. To continue to minister to them throughout the pandemic, Huneck and her brother-in-law, Bishop Dwenger High School chaplain Father David Huneck, began using Zoom to meet virtually once a week with everyone. The students enjoyed it so much she started doing it every day and built unique and fruitful relationships with the young people, who were about to go off to college or enter the workforce.

Father Huneck and Stacey stayed in touch with the students as they went off to college, whether virtually or meeting up for coffee whenever they were in town again. They brainstormed how they could continue to minister to the young adults with whom they had built strong relationships. That's when the idea of doing a College Crew series came up. Father Huneck already had experience running a College Crew series at a previous parish and thought it to be very successful in engaging young people.

Stacey reached out to young adults who might be interested in starting the group, and 30 participants later they were having their first virtual meeting and getting feedback.

The young people took ownership and ran with it. A task list was created to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of the events, with everyone to be assigned to committees. Some of the various committees were snacks, logistics, marketing and welcome crew. Each committee was essential to the overall success of College Crew.

The college-age people worked



Photos by Macenzie Lane

College Crew participants are signed in at the welcome table for the first night of the eight-week long series focused on building communities for college-age students.



College Crew participants gather for praise and worship at St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, May 24 – the first night of the summer program for young adults in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

hard to form a series that they could be proud of, she said. They came up with the name, created the logo and shirts and promoted the group on social media platforms. All the themes planned for this summer were shaped by the different individuals in the group.

To the first College Crew summer event, they wore coordinating bright green shirts with a logo. One of the volunteers brought in a stage. Several were at the welcoming table, greeting everyone and helping them sign in. Many conversed before the event started and caught up with old friends.

Jennifer Litchfield, another volunteer, and Father Huneck opened the night's festivities.

Introductions included an icebreaker. A red dot was chalked into the parking lot, repre-

sented St. Charles Borromeo. Participants took a step for every two miles and stood in an approximate spot of where they lived in relation to the parish. This exercise showed who their neighbors were and encouraged them to make connections.

Knowing who your neighbors are helps "to build communities at home in Fort Wayne," said Litchfield.

Following the icebreaker was the speaker of the night, Father Matthew Coonan, a Bishop Dwenger graduate and pastor of St. Therese Parish, Fort Wayne. His talk was focused on the longings of one's heart and how to appropriately respond to these longings while at home for the summer. He gave the college students helpful tips for living a life of integrity.

Father Coonan's first tip

young adults to spend quality time with one family member and one friend once a week. Then he challenged everyone to spend one hour with the Lord once a week.

The next tip was to stop using social media by 11 p.m. He said this encourages a person to fall asleep earlier and have more time the next day. In hand with that tip went one about waking up at a consistent hour during the week. This helps get a body on a schedule and makes a person more productive, he said. The last tip was to enjoy and have fun during the summer, but to remember to live a life of purpose and significance.

Following Father Coonan, Paxton Simerman gave a witness testimony. She is a recent graduate of Indiana Tech and spoke about how she was constantly getting hit with the big question, "Why are you Catholic?" In response, she started learning more about her faith and built an on-campus organization called Catholic Warriors. She went from being shy about her faith to proud and outgoing. She wrapped up her testimony by saying, "Ask yourself what you're going to do to grow your faith."

The night finished with praise and worship from Natali and Caleb Perkins and seminarian Samuel Martinez. Afterward, people stayed to play outdoor games and socialize.

"This was very cool. I'm glad this is offered to everyone," said one participant, explaining that she was a recent high school graduate with the intention of entering the workforce.

Other participants buzzed about how they couldn't wait to go to the following week's College Crew gathering.

College Crew takes places on Mondays at 7 p.m. at St. Charles and is open to all college-age people, whether they are in college or not. Bring a lawn chair.

More information can be found on the College Crew's Facebook and Instagram pages.

was to invest in relationships intentionally. He challenged the



Beekeeping a form of contemplative prayer for candle-maker

BY JENNIFER BARTON

The prolific writer St. Francis de Sales, a doctor of the church, once wrote of bees: "The bee collects honey from flowers in such a way as to do the least damage or destruction to them, and he leaves them whole, undamaged and fresh, just as he found them." The bishop, known for his tireless work of reconverted Calvinists in France, had much in common with the hardworking insects.

The spiritual connection that St. Francis de Sales found with bees is part of what attracted Anne Therese Stephens to the art of beekeeping. "There's just a lot of analogies that you can use to see your faith life reflected" in the lives of bees, she said. "They're such hard workers and they're not lazy at all. Bees obviously cannot be virtuous, because that's something just a human can be, but they do exemplify virtue in that."

Stephens, director of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults at St. John the Baptist Parish in Fort Wayne, tackled a new endeavor this year: making the paschal candle for her home parish out of beeswax from the hives she maintains.

Stephens enjoys the great outdoors and wanted to find a way to bring a touch of country living to her life in the city. Her sister, who lives in Wisconsin, started keeping bees before she did, but she wanted to be more involved in their day-to-day care than the occasional visit allowed. So, when a friend connected her with a local farmer who allowed her to keep the hives on his property, she got started with her own beekeeping. She has been maintaining her hives for about three years now and has four hives at present.

In that time, she has become fascinated with honeybees and the complex system that keeps the hive running smoothly. Each of the insects knows the part they play in it, she said.

Much of what she has learned about the bees has come from independent study, particularly reading books about the subject. Interestingly, bees are considered livestock, though they are the easiest to keep due to their self-sufficient nature.

"The saddest part," she remarked, "is not being able to live on the place where my bees are, just because it would be so much fun to have a lot of land and have bees and see them - just sit with a book and just watch the bees work. Bees are just fascinating. I feel like there's still a lot for me to learn."

She collected their honey in prior years but had not dabbled in candle making before last fall. Using the beeswax to make candles, she said, had "always been in the back of my mind," but she wanted to go further, stating, "I had the idea of making the paschal candle."



Photos by Jennifer Barton

The paschal candle at St. John the Baptist Parish, Fort Wayne, was made by hobby beekeeper and parishioner Anne Therese Stephens this year from wax harvested from her hives. Fellow parishioner Art Ciso, right, decorated the finished candle with images of St. Joseph and the Holy Family prior to its first lighting at the Easter Vigil.



Photos provided by Anne Therese Stephens
The candle rests in its stand at St. John the Baptist Parish, Fort Wayne.

Anne Therese Stephens with her beehives. Beekeeping has given Stephens a deeper insight into nature and God's hand in all of creation.

Stephens started out small, teaching herself how to make little candles, which progressively became larger. But to make the paschal candle, she had to get pastor Father Andrew Budzinski to agree.

He had a previous interest in beekeeping, so they had common ground to begin the discussion. "I was talking to Father Andrew in the fall of last year and somehow in the conversation he said something about how he would be totally fine if I would make the paschal candle."

Making the candle was a bit of a learning experience for Stephens, as beekeeping has been. But with the help of internet tutorials, she was able to successfully melt and pour the 10-pound candle into a PVC pipe mold. "There were a couple of points in time that I was nervous because Father Andrew was counting on this candle. ... Even the night of the Easter Vigil, when Father Andrew was lighting it, I was like, 'Is it going to light?' because you don't test it beforehand; you want a fresh candle."

It did light, and things turned out so well that Stephens plans to make next year's candle, too. She said she will adjust her process from what she has learned this year.

Not only was the candle handcrafted, but the artistic adornments were created by another St. John parishioner, Art Ciso. He has been designing and painting the parish's Easter candle for around five years. At the suggestion of Father Budzinski, Ciso created six scenes featuring the Holy Family and St. Joseph in particular, in honor of the Year of St. Joseph.

The candle is a bit different in that beeswax is more of a yellow color than the pure white that most people are familiar with. But Karen Eckrich, parish administrative assistant, said that "it was a cool unveiling at Easter Vigil" and that the candle itself "smells absolutely wonderful."

Beekeeping has given Stephens a deeper insight into nature and God's hand in all of creation.

"It's very contemplative, and being able to meditate on the way God created these little creatures and just being able to work with them. ... There's an appreciation," of their work.

Making the paschal candle was another opportunity to combine prayer and work. She spent much of the time meditating about the candle's meaning as she melted and poured the wax into her homemade mold.

"It was just a beautiful experience at the Easter Vigil, during the Exultet, when it talks about the candle quite a bit and it talks about the wax that was made by honeybees and the work of the servant's hand. I was just thinking and meditating upon that; that it was me who made the candle," she said proudly.

Going buggy with Brood X

When I first learned of the imminent arrival of the 17-year cicadas, Brood X according to those who name such things, it brought to mind my years in the Midwest. There the whir that accompanied their annual appearance was comforting. It was nature's Muzak, soothing background noise as summer drew to a close.

Brood X is to the normal summer cicada what King Kong is to Tarzan's Cheeta: something else entirely.

First of all, they don't wait until late summer. After their 17-year hibernation, they start making their appearance in spring when the ground warms and the last thing you are thinking about is a billion bugs taking over the yard.

The holes appear first. The soil is punctuated with neat circular holes from which the nymphs have crawled out after 17 years deep in the soil, feeding on tree roots and biding their time for reasons unknown to scientists. Nymph is the technical name for this stage in Brood X's life, but they strike me more as zombie critters, crawling out of the earth and robotically heading for high ground.

It is there that they shed this exoskeleton that has been growing all those years far beneath our feet. Like a butterfly emerging from its cocoon, only grosser, the adult cicada emerges from the shell that has been covering them.

These husks are shed fairly quickly but left scattered in piles at the base of trees, or locked in a frozen position on the trunk

itself. Affixed to the bark six or 10 or 15 feet up the trunk, the shell splits to allow the adult to emerge.

Upon emergence, the adult cicadas are suddenly mobile, now blessed with wings and no longer forced to crawl. They weave about in slightly drunken fashion high above the street, and then land on the sidewalk like it was the deck of a sea-tossed aircraft carrier, wobbling to a stop or simply flipping on their backs.

It is anyone's guess if they are smart enough to get right-side up again. Which explains all the bodies of the grown cicadas that fill the lawns and sidewalks. Many more are snacks for the rest of nature — birds, squirrels, even house pets.

But if billions make it to earth's surface as nymphs, then many hundreds of millions make it into the trees, which begin to resemble Daytona Beach during spring break. The males make a throbbing noise to attract mates, kind of like teenagers with a boom box. This noise sounds fairly aggressive when heard by itself, but in a chorus of millions, it sounds a bit like Mother Nature's got a case of tinnitus, a constant buzz that continues from dawn till dusk.

Once procreation has taken place, many, many larvae are birthed. They will, like salmon, make their way back from whence their parents came, heading down into the dark loam for another 17 years and a long suck on tree roots.

I am not enamored of this insect tide, but that they exist



GREG ERLANDSON

AMID THE FRAY

is in its own way marvelous. They are a mysterious part of the great ecosystem, which God has given us to take care of. I do not always understand his ways, but perhaps the Book of Sirach (42:22-25) explains it best:

"How beautiful are all his works! / ... Everything lives and abides forever; / And to meet each need, each creature is preserved. / All of them differ, one from another, / Yet none of them has he made in vain, / For each in turn, as it comes, is good; / Can one ever see enough of their splendor?"

To which I must answer, for this season, yes.

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

Finding God in the wilderness

The sense of place and pull to the wild that inspired Nick Ripatrozone's new book are tucked in his very name. The rip-roaring surname is the name of a mountain town in central Italy, which the 40-year-old writer has visited.

Like his ancestors, Ripatrozone is drawn to the mountains, living with his wife and 8-year-old twins in Andover Township, New Jersey, in a colonial house on the edge of woods that have captured their imagination. It's part of Bobcat Alley, a forested region with a distinct feel from urban New Jersey and a high incidence of bobcats. He's got the wildlife cameras to prove it.

Paying attention — to their comings and goings, to the shifting seasons, to the winding brook — is crucial to Ripatrozone's craft and creed, as a writer and as a Catholic.

"The wild reminds us to be in awe of things beyond ourselves," said Ripatrozone, a member of Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Sparta, New Jersey. "It gives us the opportunity to renew ourselves. It's been a real influence for me as a writer and as a person of faith."

Nature softens the information age that constantly churns out notifications, headlines and soundbites, he said. "It's not something that responds to the minutiae of daily anger or outrage that happens in the world. It transcends us."

Ripatrozone is grateful



CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

TWENTY SOMETHING

his daughters have a love of nature, fostered by their daily "pilgrimage" to what they call "the magic tree" in their backyard. Their desire to be in the woods together, as a family, warms his heart and offers the hope that it will remain as adolescence nears.

The wilderness is a powerful antidote to social media and the endless pursuit of "likes." Ripatrozone understands this well, as a high-school English teacher.

His students describe their Instagram and TikTok habits as "almost an existential battle," he said. "One of the dangers of what we're experiencing now is that our visual frame of reference is defined by the screen we're looking at, and it becomes very, very narrow. We've become convinced that that's where our attention should be, and it's such a small and insignificant part of existence. When you go outside, the scope expands tremendously, along with all the layers and depth."

That expansion is a timeless

CAPECCHI, page 21

God wills us to be mighty in holiness



MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Mark 4:26-34

The first reading for this weekend's liturgy is from the Book of Ezekiel. Ezekiel is regarded as one of the great Hebrew prophets.

Not interested in themselves, but only in relaying the revelation of God, the prophets rarely left any biographical details about themselves. This does not mean, however, that utter mystery surrounds them all. For example, clearly, Ezekiel was active as a prophet during the Hebrews' captivity in Babylon. Apparently born in Judah, he was in Babylon as one of the

original exiles rather than being descended from an exile who came earlier while he himself was born in Babylonia.

It is interesting to imagine the psychological state in which the exiles lived in Babylon, and how their mental frame of mind affected the fervor of their religious belief and practice. Since they were humans, as are we, despite all the difference between their time and our own, basic human feelings pertained for them as they would for us.

Ezekiel encountered great faith, without doubt, but he also most surely met despair, anger and disbelief in the power and fidelity of the God of Israel among his contemporaries.

The prophet in preceding verses bemoans the unfaithfulness of the kings of Judah and their people, never accusing God of infidelity or indifference. In this reading he insists that God will restore the people to security. God is faithful. People must be faithful as well to God.

St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians offers the second reading. In the background is an

obvious interest in earthly death and its consequences. By the time Paul wrote and preached, Christians already were being held in suspicion by the culture, and even more ominously, by political authorities.

The apostle urges the Corinthian Christians to see heaven as "home," and to prepare for an end of earthly existence when they will have to answer before the judgment throne of Christ.

For the last reading, the Church presents a parable from St. Mark's Gospel. It is the familiar story of the mustard seed. The Lord likens the kingdom to the growth of a plant into a mighty bush. The implication for us is that we grow, rooted in our place in the kingdom, if we follow Jesus.

This story confronts us with our own potential and with our responsibility as disciples. The growth of the mustard seed from the moment of being planted, to budding and then to full maturity, is inevitable. It is God's will and God's plan, unfolding in nature. Belonging to God,

planted by God, it will become the greatest of all plants.

In our humanity, we are small, and we are limited. Still, God wills us to be great and mighty in our holiness, to grow into the strength and majesty of the fully developed bush. This is God's will and God's plan. We must make of ourselves the rich produce to be gathered by God in the great harvest that will come at the Last Judgment.

Reflection

The Church in these readings brings us to face that event common to all things living but rarely acknowledged and always feared by humans: death, loss of life on this earth, the source of ultimate dread.

The long, dreary year of the pandemic reminded us of the reality of death.

Never veiling reality, but facing fact, the Church, the teacher of genuine truth, places in context life, death and survival. Straightforward with us, it notes that we all will die, but earthly life is not the be-all and end-all.

Life shall endure after physical death. What exactly will this mean? It is a question to be answered personally, by every person, deep from within each heart. It will mean everlasting life — if we live now with God.

READINGS

Sunday: Ez 17:22-24 Ps 92:2-3, 13-16
2 Cor 5:6-10 Mk 4:26-34

Monday: 2 Cor 6:1-10 Ps 98:1, 2b, 3-4 Mt 5:38-42

Tuesday: 2 Cor 8:1-9 Ps 146:2, 5-9a
Mt 5:43-48

Wednesday: 2 Cor 9:6-11 Ps 112:1bc-4, 9 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: 2 Cor 11:1-11 Ps 111:1b-4, 7-8 Mt 6:7-15

Friday: 2 Cor 11:18, 21-20 Ps 34:2-7
Mt 6:19-23

Saturday: 2 Cor 12:1-10 Ps 34:8-13
Mt 6:24-34

Five ways to pray for marriages in June

June is a special month for my husband and me, because we, like so many others, celebrate our wedding anniversary. Our date is extra meaningful because we share it with my husband's grandparents. Though their impressive 61 years makes our five look positively infantile, I am proud of reaching a mini-milestone that, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 20% of married couples never achieve.

For the month of June, Pope Francis has made his prayer intention for young people "who are preparing for marriage with the support of a Christian community" that they may "grow in love, with generosity, faithfulness and patience." In the spirit of this intention, let's make it a point to pray this month for couples who are preparing for marriage. Here are a few suggestions of how.

Pray a marriage novena for the couple to be married. The St. Josemaría Institute in Illinois offers a "Novena for a Happy and Faithful Marriage" with reflections throughout by St. Josemaría Escrivá, priest and founder of the Opus Dei movement. The novena is "inspired by St. Josemaría's desire to help all married couples, and those preparing for marriage, to find meaning and encouragement in their vocation through a commitment to daily prayer and friendship with God, especially when

facing inevitable difficulties and times of trial." Each of the nine days of prayer is directed toward the couple praying (married or engaged), but the pronouns can easily be shifted to enable prayer for others.

Suggest to the couple that they schedule a Holy Hour ahead of their wedding. This was one of the best things my husband and I did during our "wedding week" festivities. We slowed down for an hour, participated in eucharistic adoration, prayed the rosary — and the best thing is that we did it with our community present. It set the tone for a truly prayerful event, one with Jesus at the center. And, of course, if the couple takes you up on your idea, be sure to make it a priority to attend.

Pray a weekly or even daily Rosary for the engaged couple, offering your prayers for their intentions, to ease their anxieties and to help them keep their eyes fixed on the Lord during a time that can be stressful and all-consuming.

Pray to St. Agnes, virgin and martyr, who is the patron saint of engaged couples. A common prayer in the tradition of the Church can easily be amended to pray for the couple: "O glorious St. Agnes, you served God in humility and confidence on earth and are now in the enjoyment of his beatific vision in heaven because you persevered till death and gained the crown of eternal life. Remember now the dan-



GUEST COMMENTARY

GRETCHEN CROWE

gers that surround [couple] in the vale of tears, and intercede for [them] in [their] needs and troubles. Amen."

Pray the Our Lady, Undoer of Knots prayer to ask Mary to assist the couple in working through any challenges or difficulties. My favorite lines are: "Mary, Mother to whom God entrusted the undoing of the knots in the lives of his children, I entrust into your hands the ribbon of my life. No one, not even the evil one himself, can take it away from your precious care. In your hands there is no knot that cannot be undone." Mary is a powerful intercessor, and asking her to work on any rough spots in an engaged couple's relationship can be a prayer that you can continue for them even after they are married.

May the Lord and his Blessed Mother accompany all who have been called to this great vocation of marriage.

Gretchen R. Crowe is editorial director for periodicals at OSV. Visit OSVNews.com.

CAPECCHI, from page 20

phenomenon. Ripatrozone realized many of his favorite writers were inspired by the wild — great minds with varying styles and backgrounds. "What does that say about the wild as a place of storytelling and creativity?" he wondered.

The answer is in his book "Wild Belief," a new release from Broadleaf Books. It illuminates the impact of nature on Gerard Manley Hopkins, Thomas Merton, Wendell Berry and Mary Oliver, among others.

The book began with

copious research in 2019, when Ripatrozone pored over microfilm in the library for hours, producing a mound of yellow legal pads. It was completed in the early months of quarantine, which provided the time for in-depth revision. Ripatrozone holed up behind the Mac in his home office when the girls slept, fueled by coffee and the adrenaline of a night owl.

"Writing is part craft, but there's definitely some magic when it works right," he said. "I feel like the late-night hours are when, as a person, you open up to the things you don't think

about during the day. For me it's been a way to get into the spiritual experiences of these writers and try to inhabit their lives and how they experience the wild."

Summertime invites us to follow their lead, Ripatrozone said. "I hope my readers will be inspired by these writers and will explore outside and be like kids again. It feels like the right time."

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for June 13, 2021

Mark 4:26-34

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: the mustard seed parable. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

SCATTER	SHEEP	NIGHT
SPROUT	FULL GRAIN	RIPE
SICKLE	HARVEST	PARABLE
USE FOR IT	MUSTARD	SEED
SOWN	SMALLEST	ON EARTH
BRANCHES	BIRD	SHADE
THE WORD	ABLE	PRIVATE

FULL GRAIN

```

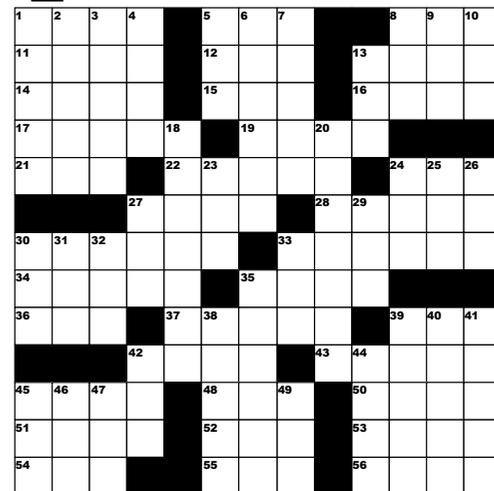
P R R I P E T A V I R P
N A D E B R A N C H E S
E D R A T S U M S E E D
Y L I A N N I G H T O R
U H B A B K E S K W R O
S T C A H L M N A N E W
E U H T R A E N O A T E
F O H C L K R D A J T H
O R M L S F R V E R A T
R P E O H C M M E H C P
I S W F E L K C I S S Q
T N I A R G L L U F T K
    
```

The Cross Word

June 6 and 13, 2021

55 Fish eggs
56 Corned beef

- DOWN**
- "___ offerings"
 - Plant hormone
 - Moses did with God's words
 - Not any
 - Referee
 - Shudder with cold
 - Ancient Mesoamerican
 - Misery
 - Estimated arrival time
 - Shun
 - Unwell
 - Ashes sanctify the ___
 - Runner
 - Disciples found man carrying a water ___
 - Mongrel dog
 - Utilize
 - Cat or dog
 - Cutting to ol
 - Rowing device
 - Environmental agency
 - Scientist hangout
 - Incorporated (abbr.)
 - Communication Workers of America (abr.)
 - Annual storm causing current
 - An eagle broke off the crest of a ___
 - Aram in Bible
 - Golf tournaments
 - Nest egg
 - Holds the grain
 - Cut
 - Upside-down sleeper
 - Kimono sash
 - Compass point
 - "His ___ is on the sparrow"



© 2021 tri-c-a-publications.com

Readings: Ex 24:3-8; Heb 9:11-15; Mk 14:12-16, 33-36 and Ez 17:22-24; 2Cor 5:6-10; Mk 4:26-34

ACROSS

- Chessman
- America
- Spider's net
- European monetary unit
- Megacycles per second
- Small particle
- Nerve fiber
- Olive's stone
- Tilt
- Given a ticket
- Young beef
- East northeast
- Throw out
- Jesus blessed the one ___
- Far away

28 "___ of David"

- Medicinal drink
- Dry red wine
- Jury
- Pitcher
- Alphabet
- Brilliant effect
- Distress call
- Eve's garden
- The Flight to ___
- ___ fide
- Give up life
- Domain
- Abbreviate
- ___ one of these
- Transgressions
- Dead heat



June 22-29

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK

Visit www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

NOW HIRING: MAJOR GIFTS OFFICER

The Congregation of Holy Cross, US Province, seeks a creative and outgoing development professional to join its Mission Advancement Office located in Notre Dame, IN. For more information and to apply, submit your resume to klauss@holycrossusa.org.



CONGREGATION of HOLY CROSS
UNITED STATES PROVINCE OF
PRIESTS AND BROTHERS

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR NEEDED



Saint Theres Church
2304 Lower Huntington Rd
Fort Wayne, IN 46819

St. Theres Catholic Church in Fort Wayne is looking for a full time Business Administrator. Responsibilities include the general accounting function to include accounts payable, bank reconciliations, budgeting, and processing payroll. This person is also provides administrative support in the parish office to include greeting visitors, maintaining parish database and sacramental recordkeeping. The ideal candidate will have a bachelor's degree in a business related field or previous work experience in a parish setting. Apply online at diocesefwsb.org/careers.

Director of Operations St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Lima

St. Charles Parish is seeking a Director of Operations. This position provides leadership and day-to-day supervision of the business, human resource, financial, and administrative functions of the parish. Carried out in an accurate, efficient, thorough, professional and timely manner, this position provides the appropriate administrative foundation to support the pursuit of the parish's mission, ministry and growth. The successful candidate will have a BA/BS degree in Business, Finance, Human Resources, Accounting, or related discipline from an accredited college, and a high level of computer expertise in QuickBooks as well as Microsoft Office and Google products. A practicing Catholic and registered member of the Catholic parish faith community is preferred. Cover Letter with compensation requirements and resume can be sent to search@stcharleslima.org or to **Rev. Kent R. Kaufman**. Position is available immediately. Priority will be given to resumes received by June 15, 2021.

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Advertise in Today's Catholic
With a variety of options for web and print advertising, let us help you reach YOUR demographic. Call 260-399-1449

Closest Concepts

YOUR STORAGE SPACE SPECIALISTS



Catholic Family Owned since 1988 • Jon & Shelley Ross – St. Joseph Roanoke Parishioners
Fort Wayne 260-483-6763 Indianapolis 317-849-8444
www.closestconceptsinc.com



LINDA RILEY
Senior Loan Officer
NMLS: 234665

C: 574.551.9330
O: 574.268.9033
F: 574.268.2955

310 Enterprise Drive
Warsaw, IN 46580

lriley@ruoff.com
ruoff.com/lindariley



NOTRE DAME
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Matt Kaiser

Director of Business Services
NMLS# 1087744

Business Development Direct (574) 400-4919
P.O. Box 7878 Fax (574) 575-4538
Notre Dame, IN 46556 mkaiser@NotreDameFCU.com

800/522-6611 • NotreDameFCU.com



HOOSIER
PHYSICAL THERAPY

MICHAEL F. BARILE
DC, PT

3030 LAKE AVE SUITE 26
FORT WAYNE, IN 46805

PHONE: 260.420.4400
FAX: 260.420.4448

www.hoosierpt.com



RE/MAX RESULTS

Andrea "Andy" Hall
260-417-5093
AHallResults@gmail.com

Caitlin Berghoff
260-403-9898
CaitlinBerghoff@remax.net

Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

Katie Brown
REALTOR® | Broker

260.437.5025

www.katiebrown.net
katie@katiebrown.net

@KatieBrownFortWayne
@Katie45Brown

Call me when you're thinking of making a move!



Peerless CLEANERS

Ft. Wayne, Auburn,
Angola & Warsaw

4121 Hillegas Rd.
Ft. Wayne, IN
46808

260.422.9374

www.peerless-cleaners.com



JUST FILL
THE BAG,
WE'LL DO
THE REST!

*FREE Pick-Up
& Delivery

*Select areas of Ft. Wayne Only



USB UNION SAVINGS BANK

David Egts

Low Closing Costs & Great Rates

"MORTGAGE CLOSING COST CRUSHER"

260-418-6191

CERTIFIED RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE PROFESSIONAL



Expertise you can rely on.

Mike Kendzicky
Michael Kendzicky
Samantha Hengen, CFP®

Private Wealth Management
4220 Edison Lakes Parkway, Suite 100
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574-247-6830 . 800-866-9022
rwbaird.com

BAIRD

©2018 Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated. MC-260563.

MORKEN, inc.
Commercial & Industrial
ROOFING

3303 Freeman Street • Fort Wayne
432-2885



FULL SERVICE
PRINTING
CREATIVE
ARTWORK
EDDM/STANDARD
MAILING

OFFSET ONE, INC.

www.offset1.com

260-456-8828 | 1609 S. Calhoun St | Fort Wayne, IN 46802

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.

America Needs Fatima rosary

AUBURN — America Needs Fatima 15 decade rosary will be Saturday, June 12, beginning at noon on the north side of Courthouse Square in Auburn with distancing required. Bring your own lawn chair.

St. Monica hosts rummage sale

MISHAWAKA — St. Monica Parish will host a rummage sale June 18-20 in the school gym, 222 W. Mishawaka Ave. Friday, June 18: early bird special (\$5 entrance fee). 4-7 p.m.; Saturday, June 19: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Sunday, June 20: 8 a.m. to noon.

Saints and Scholars Institute

NOTRE DAME — Saints and Scholars Institute is a weeklong retreat for high school students to provide an understanding of how the Catholic faith impacts the world, specifically in the areas of public health, media, ecology, human rights, education

and leadership. Registration cost for diocesan students is \$325. Register by Monday, June 14. Ask us about financial assistance. Contact Andrew Ouellette aouellette@hcc-nd.edu.

Director of Sacred Music and Liturgy

**St. Joseph Catholic Church
1300 N. Main St., Bluffton**

seeks a full time **Director of Sacred Music and Liturgy**. The position reports directly to the pastor in actively leading the sacred music ministry program as well as being actively engaged in assisting the pastor structure the liturgical life of the parish. The primary objective is to lead the parish community in dynamic and transcendent worship through sacred music. The ideal candidate must be a practicing Catholic deeply rooted in faith, have strong proficiency playing both piano and organ professionally and have a versatile knowledge of traditional Catholic music, traditional hymns and Praise and Worship style music. A Bachelor's degree in music or related field is preferred with a strong knowledge of Catholic worship and liturgy.

Apply online at diocesefwsb.org/careers or send resume to Father David Violi at frdavidvioli@gmail.com.

The CrossWord

Jne 6 and 13, 2021

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

REST IN PEACE

Auburn Edward W. Geist, 64, Immaculate Conception	Nancy Gorny, 87, St. Joseph	Julie Rudasics, 94, Christ the King
Arcola James Vaughn, 67, St. Patrick	Gary Groshans, 74, St. Joseph	Frances Sain, 83, Christ the King
Fort Wayne Gary N. Dunno, 70, St. Vincent de Paul	Margaret Moore, 80, St. Joseph	Joseph Shafer, 102, Christ the King
Thomas Maniscalco, 92, St. Charles Borromeo	Angela Weber, 92, St. Joseph	Guy Stancati, 88, St. Adalbert
Alexis Meis, 25, St. Vincent de Paul	South Bend Jane Aaron, 69, Cathedral of Saint Matthew	Stanley Leszczynski, 89, Holy Family
Miriam Patton, 87, St. Charles Borromeo	Devon Birk, 90, St. Adalbert	Norbert J. Kalmar, 84, Holy Family
DeWayne Turk, 81, St. Charles Borromeo	Charles Fazio, 81, St. Anthony de Padua	Warsaw Carol Pfefferkorn, 86, Sacred Heart
Mishawaka Ron Gerstbauer, 65, St. Joseph	William Myers, 62, Holy Cross	

THE GALLEY
Famous Fish & Seafood
Chicken & Steaks • Banquet Facilities
Set Sail Soon!

We now have served over
4,000,000 lbs. of our
FAMOUS FISH!
Celebrating 42 years in business!

622 North 13th Street • Decatur • (260) 724-8181
www.thegalleydecatur.com

**Make a difference in a life,
in the world**

NOW HIRING House Parent in Fort Wayne

**GUADALUPE MEN'S
VOCATION DISCERNMENT HOUSE**

- Housing including all utilities, board, \$200/week stipend
- Long term applicants preferred.
- Must have deep Catholic faith, strong personal skills, flexibility and computer literacy.

Send resume with three references to
copenitents@yahoo.com 260-739-6882

FranciscanVocationHouse.com

**A trusted local team that
treats you like an individual.**

At D.O. McComb & Sons, we offer personalized funeral and memorial services arranged by our compassionate staff. We believe every final tribute should be as unique as the life it represents.

Serving Fort Wayne families since 1925.

McCOMB & SONS
FUNERAL HOMES

260-426-9494 McCombCares.com

McElhaney-Hart
FUNERAL HOME

715 North Jefferson
Huntington

(260) 356-3320

www.mcelhaneyhartfuneralhome.com

Celebration on feast of Corpus Christi includes renovation blessing

BY DENISE FEDOROW

It was a full house at Blessed Sacrament on June 6 for the feast of Corpus Christi and the blessing of the newly renovated social hall by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

Bishop Rhoades told parishioners at the Albion parish, "It's wonderful to be here on your patronal feast — the feast of Corpus Christi."

The bishop said it was a special honor to celebrate the Lord in the Eucharist, "the great gift to us the day before he died and one that is central to our faith."

During his homily, Bishop Rhoades said, "'This is my Body ... This is my Blood.' We have just heard these words in St. Mark's account of the Last Supper. With these words, Jesus instituted the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. At every Mass, we hear the priest repeat these words spoken by Jesus at the Last Supper. These words resonate with special power today as we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. They lead us in spirit to the upper room on that first Holy Thursday night when, celebrating Passover with His disciples, Jesus mystically anticipated the sacrifice that was to be consummated the next day on the cross when His body would be broken, and His blood poured out."

The bishop went on to say that Jesus was anticipating a very brutal death but He "accepted this in His heart and He transformed what was going to happen into an action of love."

"Jesus' Body and Blood is given to us so that we will be transformed, like the bread and wine was transformed. Christ's dynamic enters into us and then seeks to spread outward to others by our living what we receive, by our living Eucharistic lives, lives of self-giving love. That's what the Eucharist strengthens us to do. It's the center of our lives as disciples of Jesus," said Bishop Rhoades.

Bishop Rhoades said, "It's important to remember that at Mass, we celebrate not only the passion and death of Jesus, but also His Resurrection ... the bread Jesus gives us at Mass is the bread of life. Jesus promises that He who eats this bread will live forever and He will raise Him up on the last day. The Eucharist is, in fact, an anticipation of the glory of heaven. It unites us, even now, to the Church in heaven, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and all the saints."

Corpus Christi Procession

After Mass, Bishop Rhoades, pastor Father J. Steele, CSC, and the congregation processed with the Blessed Sacrament outdoors, praying the Litany of the Saints. At the Benediction, they also prayed the Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and stopped at



Photos by Denise Fedorow

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and members of Blessed Sacrament Parish pray the Litany of the Saints as they process on the feast of Corpus Christi. The blessing of a newly renovated social hall was included in the celebration.



Bishop Rhoades elevates the monstrance containing the Blessed Sacrament before processing to another stop during the Corpus Christi procession and Blessing of the Fields at Blessed Sacrament Parish.

five altars set up where Bishop Rhoades offered prayers. He also invoked blessings on the families of the parish who lived in each direction — north, south, east and west while Father Steele mentioned the families by surname.

"Lord we ask your blessing on the homes, gardens and fields of these families," Bishop prayed.

Father Steele said afterwards it was a combination of the Blessing of the Fields since they are a rural parish and Corpus Christi procession. He said the parish used to do both separately but, "It seemed simpler to combine the both of them."

Bishop Rhoades also asked the Lord to bless the towns of Albion and Kendallville, the civic workers and emergency responders of those towns, as well as our nation and all the governmental leaders.

Blessing of the Hall

Bishop Rhoades then blessed the newly renovated social hall after which the congregation joined together for lunch.

"After much work and prayers by many members of Blessed Sacrament Parish, we gather now to inaugurate and bless this renovated parish social hall. It



Bishop Rhoades prepares to bless the new social hall at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Albion on June 6. Standing at left is pastor, Father J. Steele, CSC.

will house many of the parish community activities and be a place where many will come to know one another and give witness to their faith in Christ," he said. "May all who come here know the presence of Christ, experience the joy of His friendship and grow in His love. Grant this through Christ our Lord."

Father Steele said the parish raised a quarter-million dollars in three years without holding any formal fundraisers. A major accomplishment for the parish with 150 families. They started raising funds for the social hall renovation right after the new church was dedicated in August 2018.

He compared it to renovating a room in a home and then the rest of the house looks shabbier — after the new church was dedicated, the need for renovations at the social hall was more apparent. The renovations began in February of this year and were completed April 16. The

new social hall encompasses the old church and social hall and a couple of classrooms.

Father Steele said Bishop Rhoades chose this date for the dedication. "It was very generous of him to spend the Feast of Corpus Christi with us," he said. "We're honored he came on the feast day."

Father Steele said the Corpus Christi procession alternates from his other parish, Immaculate Conception in Kendallville and Blessed Sacrament in Albion, and this year was Albion's turn. This is the first time the bishop celebrated Mass on the feast day with the parish.

Organist Sue Avery said she thinks the renovations are "wonderful. I'm surprised we raised the money so quickly, but everyone's been giving." Avery spoke of the many graces that came to be during the church renovation and said, "We've just been so blessed."