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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly: A time for small acts of kindness



CNS photo/Paul Haring

An elderly woman reacts as she meets Pope Francis during his general audience in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican in this March 22, 2017, file photo. The pope has chosen the theme "I am with you always," for the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, to be celebrated July 25.

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Try a little tenderness. That's basically how Cardinal Kevin J. Farrell, 73, summarized Pope Francis' vision for what older people, their grandchildren and friends should do to change the world after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The cardinal, prefect of the Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life, used the word "tenderness" nine times when he presented to the press the pope's message for the celebration July 25 of the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

Pope Francis did not use the word at all in his 1,800-word message, but it came through as he acknowledged the suffering, loneliness and fear many

older people experienced during the worst of the pandemic, and also when he reminded older Catholics that, like him, they still have a vocation to share the faith and care for others.

The Vatican as a whole, not just the pope or Cardinal Farrell's office, are making a big deal out of the world day. Pope Francis will celebrate Mass with older people, his message — as a text and as a video — was available in eight languages by June 23 and the dicastery has published a 43-page pastoral kit with suggestions for homilies, for prayers of intercession and for action.

The action focus is all about tenderness, too: Visit your grandparents and any older person living alone. Offer them a ride to Mass. Take them a flower. And, for those who cannot go to

"Tenderness has a social value.

It is a remedy we all need,

and our elderly are those

who can provide it."

CARDINAL KEVIN J. FARRELL

church, take them the Eucharist. "In places where health emergency measures still make it impossible to visit in person, love can use imagination to find ways of reaching lonely elderly people

by phone or social media," the pastoral kit says.

That is precisely what Maria Sofia Soli has been doing since March 2020 when Italy initiated its first COVID-19 lockdown.

Soli, who is 88, volunteers with the Community of Sant'Egidio in monitoring the situation of about 6,500 people who are over 80 and living alone in Rome. The project involves regular telephone calls and home visits, but also organizing outings and celebrations. Since Soli could not make her regular phone calls from the Sant'Egidio offices during lockdown, she told reporters June 22, younger community members set up her computer so she could keep track of the calls from home.

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Father Tirabassi passes into eternal life

BY JODI MARLIN

The South Bend parishes of St. Hedwig, Corpus Christi and Holy Family, along with the faith community of Saint Joseph High School, are mourning the passing of priest and friend Father Camillo Tirabassi. Father Tirabassi was received into eternal life July 10 following a decline in health and a stroke.

He was born Feb. 25, 1931, the youngest of Camilo and Angelica Tirabassi's six children. Father Tirabassi grew up a parishioner at Holy Redeemer Parish in Cleveland, Ohio. After graduation from Holy Redeemer Grade School in Cleveland and Brunnerdale Seminary High School in Canton, Ohio, he attended college at Our Lady of the Lake Seminary in Syracuse, Indiana. He completed his formation for the priesthood at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Norwood, Ohio, and was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend May 30, 1959, by Bishop Leo A. Pursley at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne.

In June 1959 the bishop appointed Father Tirabassi chaplain of a Catholic Youth Organization summer camp that took place annually on Lake Wawasee. Later that summer he was asked to assume a pastoral leadership position at St. Joseph Parish, Fort Wayne.

In 1969 he was appointed the Fort Wayne Deanery Moderator of CYO. September of 1972



FATHER CAMILLO TIRABASSI

brought assignment to pastor St. John Bosco Parish in Churubusco and Immaculate Conception Missions Church in Ege. Five and a half years later, he was welcomed as pastor of Queen of Peace Parish, Mishawaka.

For 31 years he celebrated Mass for the students at Saint Joseph High School, and for several years for the Sisters of Saint Francis of Perpetual Adoration as well.

His longest parish assignment began in February 1988, when he was appointed administrator of Corpus Christ Parish, followed five months later by his appointment as its pastor. He would lead the faith community until his retirement in 2009. For three years before his retirement, Father Tirabassi also served on the Saint Joseph High School Board of Education.

When Father Daryl Rybicki

was assigned to succeed Father Tirabassi as pastor of Corpus Christi, he remembered that it was not easy, as a priest, to follow a legend into a new assignment.

"I had known Father Cam for 30 years at that time, from my various assignments in the South Bend area and his service at Queen of Peace Parish, Mishawaka, as well as Corpus Christi for 21 years. His love for the priesthood, his reputation as a pastor, his love for and involvement with young people were all well known.

"When I attended his golden jubilee celebration in June 2009, I thanked him for taking such good care of Corpus Christi for those many years. He was somewhat surprised by my comment and did not quite understand it at the time, because that was the same weekend that we were allowed to announce our upcoming transfer and new assignment in our present parishes, and Father Cam had not yet heard that I would be following in his footsteps at Corpus Christi. We later laughed about that, and he was very gracious in helping me become acclimated to my new assignment."

Father Tirabassi took up residence at St. Hedwig Parish in 2012 and began concelebrating two Masses daily with Father Fernandes until his eyesight and health weakened.

At Saint Joseph High School, he had long since become very well known and much loved. "He knew the names of the kids and their families. He was asked to

officiate at so many weddings," said Father Fernandes. "He rarely missed a game: football, basketball, all the sports. He wanted to be there for the kids."

In recent years, Father Fernandes said, Father Tirabassi would ask to be taken to the school so he could sit in the hallway and talk with students. "I would sometimes say, Father, it's cold out, you don't have to go today — but his response was always 'I don't care. Drop me off, please.' Once inside the school, he would sit in a chair in the hallway and talk with everyone.

Very giving and generous, Father Tirabassi was apologetic when physical limitations began to intrude on his willingness to assist at Mass or in parish ministries," remembered Rose Burns, secretary at St. Patrick Parish, which shares an office and a pastor with St. Hedwig.

"He was so devoted — very prayerful. He was so loved here, and was always willing to help out with Masses, confessions — he always stepped up and never hesitated."

He was also known for of sharing food with fellow priests and friends. An invitation to his annual Christmas party and dinner was prized.

He was very welcome at Macri's Deli, Father Fernandes shared, "and would walk around like he owned the store. He pretty much did," he joked.

Although Father Tirabassi enjoyed cooking, "it wasn't for

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Pope expresses closeness with Cuban people as unrest continues

BY JUNNO AROCHO ESTEVES

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis expressed his closeness to the people of Cuba a week after protests erupted on the island nation.

In his first public appearance after his release from Gemelli hospital, the pope told pilgrims in St. Peter's Square July 18 that he was "near to the dear Cuban people in these difficult moments, in particular to those families suffering the most."

"I pray that the Lord might help the nation construct a society that is more and more just and fraternal through peace, dialogue and solidarity," he said, as a large group of pilgrims in the square held Cuban flags.

The pope encouraged the people of Cuba to entrust themselves to the maternal protection of the island's patroness, Our Lady of Charity, who "will accompany them on this journey."

Thousands of Cubans in Havana and elsewhere took to the streets July 11 to protest eco-



CNS photo/Remo Casilli, Reuters

People gesture and hold Cuban flags ahead of Pope Francis' midday recitation of the Angelus in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican July 18. After speaking about the day's Gospel reading and leading the prayer, the pope expressed his closeness to the people of Cuba a week after protests erupted on the island nation.

omic hardships, lack of basic freedoms and the Cuban government's handling of the coronavirus outbreak, making for what

some have described as the most significant unrest in decades.

Since the protests, the government reportedly has responded

by arresting people, including clergy, not only on the streets but also in their homes. There was at least one confirmed death after police shot a man taking part in the anti-government protest.

Before praying the Angelus, the pope reflected on the Sunday Gospel reading in which Jesus shows concern for his disciples and "their physical and interior tiredness" after returning from preaching.

Jesus does this, the pope said, to make them aware of the danger of being "caught up in the frenzy of doing things, falling into the trap of activism where what is most important are the results that we obtain and the feeling of being absolute protagonists."

"How many times this happens in the Church: we are busy, we run around, we think that everything depends on us and, in the end, we risk neglecting Jesus and we always make ourselves the center," he said.

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Appealing to need for unity, pope restores limits on pre-Vatican II Mass

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Saying he was acting for the good of the unity of the Catholic Church, Pope Francis has restored limits on the celebration of the Mass according to the Roman Missal in use before the Second Vatican Council, overturning or severely restricting permissions St. John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI had given to celebrate the so-called Tridentine-rite Mass.

“An opportunity offered by St. John Paul II and, with even greater magnanimity by Benedict XVI, intended to recover the unity of an ecclesial body with diverse liturgical sensibilities, was exploited to widen the gaps, reinforce the divergences and encourage disagreements that injure the church, block her path and expose her to the peril of division,” Pope Francis wrote in a letter to bishops July 16.

The text accompanies his apostolic letter “Traditionis Custodes” (Guardians of the Tradition), declaring the liturgical books promulgated after the Second Vatican Council to be “the unique expression of the ‘lex orandi’ (law of worship) of the Roman Rite,” restoring the obligation of priests to have their bishops’ permission to celebrate according to the “extraordinary” or pre-Vatican II Mass and ordering bishops not to establish any new groups or parishes in their dioceses devoted to the old liturgy.

Priests currently celebrating Mass according to the old missal must request authorization from their bishop to continue doing so, Pope Francis ordered, and for any priest ordained after the document’s publication July 16, the bishop must consult with the Vatican before granting authorization.

Pope Francis also transferred to the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the new rules.

In 2007, Pope Benedict XVI issued “Summorum Pontificum” on the use of the pre-Vatican II Roman liturgy. It said any priest of the Latin-rite church may, without any further permission from the Vatican or from his bishop, celebrate the “extraordinary form” of the Mass according to the rite published in 1962. The Roman Missal based on the revisions of the Second Vatican Council was published in 1969.

The conditions Pope Benedict set out for use of the old rite were that there was a desire for it, that the priest knows the rite and Latin well enough to celebrate in a worthy manner and that he ensures that the good of parishioners desiring the extraordinary form “is harmonized with the ordinary pastoral care of the parish, under the governance of



CNS photo/Paul Haring

Msgr. Peter B. Wells, left, a U.S. priest who works at the Vatican Secretariat of State, leaves a Tridentine-rite Mass celebrated at the Altar of the Chair in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican May 15, 2011.

the bishop in accordance with Canon 392, avoiding discord and favoring the unity of the whole church.”

The now-retired pope also insisted that Catholics celebrating predominantly according to the old rite acknowledge the validity of the new Mass and accept the teachings of the Second Vatican Council.

In his letter to bishops, Pope Francis said that responses to a survey of the world’s bishops carried out last year by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith “reveal a situation that preoccupies and saddens me and persuades me of the need to intervene. Regrettably, the pastoral objective of my predecessors, who had intended ‘to do everything possible to ensure that all those who truly possessed the desire for unity would find it possible to remain in this unity or to rediscover it anew,’ has often been seriously disregarded.”

“Ever more plain in the words and attitudes of many is the close connection between the choice of celebrations according to the liturgical books prior to Vatican Council II and the rejection of the church and her institutions in the name of what is called the ‘true church,’” Pope Francis wrote.

To promote the unity of the Church, Pope Francis said, bishops should care for those Catholics “who are rooted in the previous form of celebration” while helping them “return in due time” to the celebration

of Mass according to the new Missal.

The pope also indicated he believed that sometimes parishes and communities devoted to the older liturgy were the idea of the priests involved and not the result of a group of Catholic faithful desiring to celebrate that Mass.

Pope Francis asked bishops “to discontinue the erection of new personal parishes tied more to the desire and wishes of individual priests than to the real need of the ‘holy people of God.’”

However, he also said that many people find nourishment in more solemn celebrations of Mass, so he asked bishops “to be vigilant in ensuring that every liturgy be celebrated with decorum and fidelity to the liturgical books promulgated after Vatican Council II, without the eccentricities that can easily degenerate into abuses.”

The liturgical life of the Church has changed and developed over the centuries, the pope noted.

“St. Paul VI, recalling that the work of adaptation of the Roman Missal had already been initiated by Pius XII, declared that the revision of the Roman Missal, carried out in the light of ancient liturgical sources, had the goal of permitting the church to raise up, in the variety of languages, ‘a single and identical prayer’ that expressed her unity,” Pope Francis said. “This unity I intend to re-establish throughout the church of the Roman Rite.”



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

- Monday, July 26: 10:30 a.m. — Mass, Saint Anne Communities, Randallia Place, Fort Wayne
- Tuesday, July 27: 9:45 a.m. — Meeting and Presentation to Catechists, Theology Teachers and Youth Ministers of Diocese, Sacred Heart Parish, Warsaw
- Tuesday, July 27: 11:30 a.m. — Mass, Sacred Heart Church, Warsaw
- Tuesday, July 27: 6:30 p.m. — Theology on Tap, St. Therese, Little Flower Church, South Bend
- Wednesday, July 28: 3 p.m. — Virtual Meeting of Our Sunday Visitor Institute Committee
- Thursday, July 29: 8:30 a.m. — Meeting of Board of Directors of Our Sunday Visitor, Our Sunday Visitor, Huntington
- Thursday, July 29: 6 p.m. — Changing Lives Scholarship Dinner for Ancilla College of Marian University, Swan Lake Resort, Plymouth
- Friday, July 30: 1 p.m. — Mass for Damascus Catholic Youth Summer Camp, Centerburg, Ohio
- Saturday, July 31: 5 p.m. — Mass, St. Paul Chapel, Fremont
- Sunday, August 1: 3 p.m. — Talk at Father and Son Retreat, St. Patrick County Park, South Bend
- Monday, August 2: 1:30 p.m. — Mass with Perpetual Profession of Sisters of St. Francis, St. Francis Convent, Mishawaka
- Monday, August 2: 5:45 p.m. — Welcome and Prayer for Redeemer Radio Bocce Ball Tournament, South Bend
- Tuesday, August 3: 11 a.m. — Mass for Seminarians, St. Martin de Porres Church, Syracuse
- Wednesday, August 4: 11 a.m. — Mass for School Principals, Sacred Heart Church, Warsaw
- Thursday, August 5: 10:30 a.m. — Mass for Opening of 100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters, Victory Noll, Huntington
- Friday, August 6: 12 p.m. — Mass for Archbishop Noll Center Employees, Good Shepherd Chapel, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne

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two or three people,” according to Father Fernandes. “There would be 15-20 priests and friends over. He enjoyed their company. He cooked Italian mostly — had his own sauce and made pasta from scratch, from tomatoes he grew in his garden.”

Those weekly dinners alternated between his home at the rectory and the rectory at nearby Holy Family Parish, where Msgr. Bernard Galic was assigned as pastor at the time. That close friendship continued, even once both found themselves in retirement.

“We loved to cook, and I loved it when he cooked Italian. But he wouldn’t share his grandmother’s recipes, so I finally just said, ‘Stand beside me here while I try and cook them and tell me what to do and what to add.’”

Father Tirabassi did so. But what the “very selfless and humble” priest wouldn’t do is talk much about himself, Msgr. Galic said.

He was a man who never forgot people, Msgr. Galic added. “There would be couples he had married 55 years ago who were celebrating an anniversary, and he would remember them and their whole family. The students at Saint Joe — he especially loved them too and remembered all of them.”

Father Fernandes concurred that Father Tirabassi’s affability

was appreciated and reciprocated by many. When the St. Patrick hosted an event to celebrate his 60th jubilee, Father Fernandes remembered, the parish hall’s capacity of 700 persons was quickly reached with still more being asked to wait outside.

Father Tirabassi was orthodox in his theology and traditional in his spirituality, recalled the Derda family of South Bend. He was a champion of the pro-life cause, inspired by his mother’s choice to choose life for him rather than listen to the voice of others who encouraged her otherwise. He repaid his mother’s love for him by caring for her in his own home at St. John Bosco and then at Queen of Peace during her final years.

After his dedication to promoting vocations throughout his priesthood, Father Tirabassi was happy to host the first Mass of his parishioner, Father Christopher Derda, on May 14, 2006.

Visitation for Father Tirabassi took place July 20. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated a Mass of Christian Burial for Father Tirabassi Wednesday, July 21, at Corpus Christi Church.

Visitation and a Mass of Christian Burial also took place July 23 at Holy Redeemer Parish, Cleveland, followed by burial at All Souls Cemetery, Cleveland.

A memorial service is planned for a later date at St. Hedwig.

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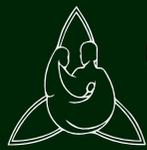


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A man and woman walk on Foster Memorial Beach in Noyack, N.Y., June 1. World Environment Day was celebrated on June 5. The annual observance was established by the United Nations in 1972 to raise awareness of global issues related to the environment. The theme for World Environment Day in 2021 was "Ecosystem Restoration."

Environmental situation is a call to act 'with urgency,' pope says

BY JUNNO AROCHO ESTEVES

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A failure to act in protecting creation now will have dire consequences for the planet and for future generations, Pope Francis said.

In a message sent June 4 to mark the launch of the "U.N. Decade on Ecosystem Restoration," the pope said the current situation "calls us to act now with urgency to become ever more responsible stewards of creation and to restore the nature that we have been damaging and exploiting for too long."

"We need to take care of each other, and of the weakest among us. Continuing down this path of exploitation and destruction — of humans and of nature — is unjust and unwise. This is what a responsible conscience would tell us," he said.

According to its website, the U.N. Decade on Ecosystem Restoration "aims to prevent,

halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems on every continent and in every ocean."

The initiative will run from 2021 to 2030, "which is also the deadline for the Sustainable Development Goals and the timeline scientists have identified as the last chance to prevent catastrophic climate change."

In his message, the pope said all men and women are "part of this gift of creation," and by not protecting the environment, we risk destroying the very basis on which we depend."

"We risk floods and hunger and severe consequences for ourselves and for future generations," he wrote. "This is what many scientists tell us."

The pope also said the exploitation and destruction of Earth's natural resources, as well as the global pandemic, reveal "the unjust consequences of some aspects of our current economic systems and numerous catastrophic climate crises that

produce grave effects on human societies and even mass extinction of species."

Nevertheless, he added, new engagement and commitment by countries and the promotion of an integral ecology has brought awareness of the shared responsibility "as human beings, toward ourselves, toward our neighbor, toward creation and toward the Creator."

Although "we have little time left," Pope Francis expressed his hope that the decade-long initiative, as well as the upcoming COP26 conference on climate change in Glasgow, Scotland, "will help to give us the right answers to restore ecosystems both through a strengthened climate action and a spread of awareness and consciousness."

"Ecosystem degradation is a clear outcome of economic dysfunction," the pope said. "Restoring the nature we have damaged means, in the first place, restoring ourselves."

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The Gospel reading, the pope continued, is a reminder that physical rest also implies remaining in silence and in prayer to "return to the heart of things."

"Let us beware, brothers and sisters, of efficiency, let us put a halt to the frantic running around dictated by our agendas. Let us learn how to take a break, to turn off the mobile phone, to contemplate nature, to regener-

ate ourselves in dialogue with God," the pope said.

In doing so, he added, Christians can view others with compassion because "only a heart that does not allow itself to be taken over by hastiness is capable of being moved," and rather than being preoccupied with self, "is aware of others, of their wounds, their needs."

"Compassion is born from contemplation," Pope Francis said. "If we learn to truly rest, we become capable of true com-

passion."

"If we cultivate a contemplative outlook, we will carry out our activities without that rapacious attitude of those who want to possess and consume everything; if we stay in touch with the Lord and do not anesthetize the deepest part of ourselves, the things we need to do will not have the power to take our breath away or devour us," he said.

NFP support: national NFP Week celebrated locally

BY JENNIFER MILLER

Those who know, know. Often misunderstood and mistaken, natural family planning is a positive, refreshing gem of the Catholic Church.

Natural family planning is the general term used for the moral, ethical and scientific methods that can help a married couple either achieve or postpone a pregnancy. Working with, rather than against, a woman's natural cycle, it understands fertility to be a gift, rather than a problem to be mitigated.

NFP holistically treats each menstrual cycle as unique, supporting natural reproductive health. In accordance with the teachings of the Church, as explained most recently in Pope St. John Paul II's 1968 encyclical "Humanae Vitae," no drugs, devices or surgeries are used in NFP, so there are no harmful side effects. The methods support both the unitive and procreative nature of the conjugal embrace, deepening the couple's relationship thus reaffirming God's design for marital love.

Any married couple can use NFP. The husband and wife commit to NFP together, growing in clear communication and charitable cooperation. NFP helps the couple to interpret their combined fertility so they may discern when to attempt or postpone a pregnancy. In NFP, both the husband and wife have a shared responsibility to educate, observe and be attentive to their fertility on a daily basis.

There are three main methods of NFP, organized by the focus of each. The cervical mucus methods focus on the ovulation cycle of the wife. The well-known Creighton and Billings methods both use this style of observation. The symptom-thermal method observes various signs of fertility and cross-checking them, such as the basal temperature, cervical mucus and changes in the cervix. Couple to couple league teaches this charting methodology. Lastly the symptom-hormonal method uses several observations along with an ovulation predictor kit or fertility monitor to identify reproductive hormones. The Marquette model is best known for this type of NFP.

Each method though has innumerable benefits, even for a couple who are having trouble conceiving, as the information gathering from NFP can help pinpoint underlying medical conditions.

Emotionally and spiritually, NFP can strengthen a marriage. Supporting a couple's communication and behavior changes, a husband and wife can learn to intimately lean in on one another, beyond the physical, and cooperate, even during times of periodic sexual abstinence. Honest and frank conversations about their sexual desires, hopes



NFP Awareness Week begins this Sunday!

The methods of NFP support God's gifts of love and life in marriage!

for children, size of their family and prayerful discernment with God about God's will for their family is encouraged. NFP is also environmentally friendly and often inexpensive, when compared to contraception.

Lisa Everett, director of Marriage and Family Ministry for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, describes NFP as "one of the best kept secrets in the Catholic Church ... which doesn't mean it is a cakewalk, but rather like the G.K. Chesterton quote about Christianity: 'it has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult and has not been tried.' Like many things in life, it is precisely because NFP is a challenge that it is impactful. The virtues you develop from practicing NFP benefit your marriage far beyond the bedroom."

In response to requests, the Marriage and Family Ministry will begin offering an online, monthly support group for couples on July 28, from 8-9:30 p.m. Couples can together attend the Zoom gathering and engage in discussions in a safe environment, support each other as they live out NFP, ask for clarity of what the Church teaches and enjoy fellowship with other Catholic couples. Each month will offer a topic to focus the discussion around, and Everett and Associate Director Caty Burke will moderate and facilitate the meeting. They will discuss the various NFP methods, abstinence, discerning family size, NFP apps and practical life information through the Catholic emotional and spiritual lens.

"It will be a discussion with a safe space for talking through emotional, spiritual and practical issues, for support, clarity and fellowship... to help each other, understand what the Church teaches and live it out," Everett explained. Couples can register by emailing Burke at cburke@diocesefwsb.org.

The office of Marriage and

Family Ministry also runs a curated website of NFP resources within the diocese at diocesefwsb.org/marriage-and-family-ministry/.

The NFP on-line support group is intentionally starting during national NFP week, sponsored by the USCCB, July 25-31. This week occurs over the anniversary of "Humanae Vitae," the lifegiving encyclical, as well as during the feast days of Sts. Joachim and Anne, Jesus' maternal grandparents. To culminate NFP week, the office of Marriage and Family Ministry is cosponsoring with St. Thérèse, Little Flower Parish, South Bend,

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING WEEK St. Thérèse, Little Flower Parish, South Bend

Monday: An introduction to natural family planning with FEMM instructors Ryenn Andreassi and Lauren Cox, certified nurse midwife.

Wednesday: Families of Two: Catholics + Infertility. A night of encouragement and healing for couples struggling to conceive or maintain a pregnancy.

Thursday: Adoption and foster care panel

Friday: Date night: "The Sinner's Guide to NFP" with author Simcha Fisher. Dinner and child care provided. \$20 admission at the door. RSVP required: <https://littleflowerchurch.org/year-of-the-family>

All events begin at 7 p.m.

a talk by acclaimed author of "A Sinner's Guide to NFP," Simcha Fisher.

Fisher, in the introduction to her book, lays out a typical scenario that she will address during her talk: "You love each other, but your sex life is kind of a mess. You refuse contraception out of obedience to the churches teaching and you truly believe that NFP is better than those awful chemicals everybody uses anyhow, but...you're having no fun at all. Your husband is angry and confused. Your wife is bitter

and perplexed; and the whole thing has become an aching knot of misunderstanding, hurt feelings, and alienation. When you hear the glowing report of the marriage-building effects of natural family planning, they only make you laugh. Or cry."

All are welcome to the presentation, but reservations are requested. Dinner and child care will be provided. Cost is \$20 at the door. To register, visit littleflowerchurch.org/year-of-the-family.

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NEWS BRIEFS

CRS gradually restores services in Haiti amid series of crises

CLEVELAND (CNS) — A series of debilitating crises in recent weeks — from a surge in COVID-19 cases to the assassination of a president — has left Haiti reeling again in uncertainty and forced Catholic Relief Services to curtail its outreach efforts. “As I told someone, this is like the perfect storm. Everything is coming together to put people on their knees,” Akim Kikonda, CRS’ country representative in Haiti, told Catholic News Service July 14. Beyond the pandemic, Kikonda pointed to rising gang violence in neighborhoods primarily in and around Port-au-Prince, the capital, and damage from Tropical Storm Elsa, which swept through southern Haiti and the Dominican Republic July 3, tearing off roofs, downing trees and flooding farms. Four days after the storm, in the early hours of July 7, 28 foreign mercenaries, including specially trained Colombian soldiers, assassinated President Jovenel Moïse, creating a deeper vacuum in the country’s governance. Kikonda said any one of the occurrences would pose serious challenges to daily life, but that the back-to-back crises the country is facing is paving the way to a deepening humanitarian crisis. The number of reported cases of COVID-19 in the Western Hemisphere’s poorest nation surged in June, to its highest level in a year, according to data compiled by the Johns Hopkins University Coronavirus Resource Center.

Spending bills without Hyde seen as move to expand abortion on demand

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In eliminating the Hyde Amendment in spending bills for fiscal year 2022, the “pro-abortion” Democrats on the House Appropriations Committee “destroy over 40 years of previously unprecedented bipartisan support for a measure aimed at saving human lives,” said the president of National Right to Life. “This is a campaign by pro-abortion Democrats to ensure that abortion is available on demand, for any reason, at any time and paid for with taxpayer dollars,” Carol Tobias said. She made the comments late July 15 after the committee marked up the legislation. “The most egregious aspect of the bill presented today is the removal of the Hyde Amendment, which protects lives and prohibits taxpayer funding of abortion,” said Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla., during the markup session. Hyde first became law in 1976 to prohibit federal funds appropriated through the Labor Department, the Health and Human Services Department and related agencies from being used to cover abor-

Floods destroy towns in western Germany



CNS photo/Wolfgang Rattay, Reuters

People look over an area affected by flooding in Bad Münstereifel Germany, July 19. More than 195 people have been confirmed dead, while hundreds more remained missing after a record rainfall caused dams to burst and rivers to overflow into towns and streets across western Germany, Belgium, as well as parts of the Netherlands, Switzerland and northern France.

tion or fund health plans that cover abortion except in cases of rape, incest or when the life of the woman would be endangered. Hyde has been reenacted in spending bills every year since it was first passed. The USCCB’s Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities has an online petition people can sign, www.notaxpayerabortion.com, to urge Congress not to let federal funds be used to pay for abortions.

Maryland parish, Catholic schools rooting for their own Olympic swimmers

WASHINGTON (CNS) — It may seem like a coincidence that two U.S. Olympic teammates bound for the Summer Olympics in Tokyo attended the same Catholic elementary school and high

school. But for soon-to-be three-time Olympian Katie Ledecky, 24, and Phoebe Bacon, 18, swimming in her first Olympics, their similarities represent many shared, God-given talents that drive them to persevere and excel. Ledecky’s and Bacon’s paths have intertwined for several years while they attended Little Flower School, swam for the high school team at the Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart and have been parishioners at Church of the Little Flower, all in Bethesda, Maryland. Ledecky graduated from Stone Ridge in 2015 and Bacon graduated in 2020. Currently, the two are in Honolulu with the U.S. Olympic Swim Team preparing for the swimming events taking place July 24 through Aug. 1. The opening ceremony is July 23 and the Games end Aug. 8. “We’ve had the honor and joy of watching Katie and Phoebe evolve as ath-

letes for a very long time,” said Catherine Ronan Karrels, head of Stone Ridge School. “When they compete in Tokyo, the world will witness their incredible strength as the athletes they are today, but we’ve had the unique opportunity to watch step by step, year over year, what it takes to become an Olympian.” Karrels said she admires the remarkable fortitude and commitment both athletes have put into their swimming from a very young age.

Institute aims to overcome modern challenges to effective catechesis

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Accompaniment is the key to addressing modern catechetical challenges, a method that’s at the center of a new entity being cre-

ated under the direction of Bishop Frank J. Caggiano of Bridgeport, Connecticut, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Subcommittee on the Catechism. A proposal to create an Institute for the Catechism was presented at the bishops’ spring meeting in June, which took place virtually. Rather than a physical structure, the institute will be a new process by which publishers of catechetical materials and the developers of catechetical content will work with the subcommittee to address modern challenges to catechesis. The second main component of the institute will be a yearly, in-person training conference and retreat for diocesan catechetical leaders, with a separate track for publishers. Current challenges to effective catechesis are many, Bishop Caggiano said, including the fact that parish resources often don’t allow for extensive formation of catechists and that catechetical resources in Spanish lack crucial cultural considerations. Other barriers to effective catechesis include the influence of the secular world, the strain families are under, and the fact that many parents, teachers and catechists were part of a generation that was not well catechized. The bishop presented the idea of launching the institute on the last day of the bishops’ June 16-18 virtual spring assembly, but it has been in discussion since 2017.

First-person accounts of religious repression punctuate summit

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Many people may not think about religious repression since it doesn’t happen in the United States. For those who may argue that it does, then it doesn’t happen on the scale and terror of those living in countries with authoritarian regimes. Testimony from survivors of religious repression punctuated the July 13-15 International Religious Freedom Summit in Washington. One of the most compelling first-person accounts came from Joy Bishara, who grew up in the northern Nigeria town of Chibok, as a member of the Church of Christ. Bishara was one of the 276 Christian teen girls abducted by the Islamist terror group Boko Haram from their school in 2014. She managed to escape her captors. Today, there are still 112 girls whose whereabouts remain unaccounted for. “Whatever happened to the Chibok girls in 2014 was just the beginning,” Bishara said. “When you go to the government to complain, they say they are going to do something about it, but they never do. ... All The Muslim people get all the help that they need from the government, and Christians never get any help. Bishara said of herself and her fellow students, “We had committed no crime. Our crime was going to school and getting an education. Education is a taboo, so school is a taboo.” Bishara is now studying in the United States.

OSV Challenge announces semifinalists

HUNTINGTON — OSV Institute for Catholic Innovation has announced the next phase of the 2021 OSV Challenge, a multi-round entrepreneurial competition designed to accelerate unique project ideas in any stage from Catholics whose faith has motivated them to make a difference.

Out of 182 innovators from round two, 24 applicants have been selected to advance to the semifinal round and compete for one of three prizes of \$100,000 each to advance their missions.

The semifinal round includes the six-week OSV Challenge Accelerator, for which the University of St. Thomas in Houston is coordinating the curriculum and mentoring process for this year.

The OSV Challenge Accelerator offers the next-level professional guidance, spiritual formation and personal development needed for optimal impact on the Church and the world.

This year's pool of 24 semifinalists consists of the following: St. Joseph's Home for Artisans, The Innovative Catholic Lab School, Tabella, My Catholic Doctor, FemCatholic, Safe Passage Project, Quo Vadis Catholic, Simple Small Group, Red Bird Ministries, Faith Journeys Foundation, Perfect Love Casts Out Fear, Iskali Ministry Program, Cycle Prep, Springs in the Desert, Visible Miracles for the Mass, Dragon Slayers, Bendecida, Fiat Project, Catholic in Recovery, Dropout, De Porres Project, Hem of Christ Ministry, Connect and Accepting the Gift.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

SS. Peter and Paul murals blessed



Jodi Marlin

Two new 8-by-14 foot murals completed in the sanctuary of SS. Peter and Paul Parish, Huntington, were blessed during a June 29 Mass celebrated by Father Daniel Koehl, a former seminarian of the parish, and concelebrated by pastor Tony Steinacker and Father Thomas Zehr, pastor of St. Mary Parish in Huntington. The murals depicting St. Michael the Archangel and Blessed Solanus Casey, a former Huntington resident, complete a recent, extensive renovation of the sanctuary. They were designed and painted by Fort Wayne artist Peter Lupkin.

Springs in the Desert is a ministry for couples experiencing infertility that is actively supported by Stacey and Phil Huneck of Fort Wayne and Anna McKeever of Hope for the Journey in South Bend.

Twelve finalists will be announced Aug. 30 who have demonstrated their ability to blaze a trail, leave a legacy and actualize their ideas, best representing the core values of the OSV Challenge.

This year's contest will conclude with the OSV Innovation Summit, a weekend of special festivities taking place Sept. 17-19 in Houston. The OSV Challenge Showcase will be the featured event for the weekend on Sept. 18, in which the finalists present their sharpened pitches to a panel of five judges in the presence of their peers and investors in pursuit of one of three \$100,000 prizes and/or further investment. A limited number of tickets are available to the public for \$79 each and can be purchased at osvinstitute.com/summit.

Collaborative brings six to HCC campus

NOTRE DAME — During the second half of June, six Holy Cross College Fellows participated on campus in two elementary education courses. The fellows are part of the American Indian Catholic Schools Network Fellows Program, a partnership project between the Alliance for Catholic Education at Notre Dame and the Education Program at Holy Cross College. Participants came to the campus for an intense two to three-week academic session in which they earned college credits toward their degree or licensure.

State award for Goshen Knights of Columbus



Provided by Jim Wheeler

Grand Knight Jim Wheeler and St. John the Evangelist Parish Moms Group project coordinator Amanda Woodiel hold an award given to the St. John Knights of Columbus council in June. Representatives from the Knights' state council presented the Goshen council with its "Best New Idea" Family Award for the Boxes of Joy project on which the Knights partnered with the Moms Group for the second year. This past year, 123 boxes were filled with small toys, treats and toiletries by parish members and families, who included checks for \$9 to cover the cost of shipping; a large shipping cost still remained, however, which was covered by the Knights.

St. Pius X plans fifth annual Flyin' Lion 5K and 1 mile fun run/walk

GRANGER — St. Pius X Catholic Church will welcome the entire Michiana community back to the fifth annual Flyin' Lion 5K and 1 mile fun run/walk on Saturday, Aug. 21. The 5K race starts at 8 a.m. and the 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk begins immediately following the start of the 5K. Featuring a chip-timed race and a post-race celebration, this community event kicks off a day of "welcome back" festivities for the parish. The Solemnity of St. Pius X will be celebrated at all regularly scheduled Sunday Masses as well on Aug. 22 at 8 and 10 a.m., noon, and 5 p.m.

Proceeds from the annual Flyin' Lion event will benefit the youth and young adult pilgrims planning to travel to Panama to participate in World Youth Day 2023 and those participating in the Youth Ministry's Annual Mission Trip. The World Youth Day pilgrimage, taking place roughly every three years, gathers over a million young Catholics

from around the world with Pope Francis to grow in faith through prayer, teaching, and fellowship. The Flyin' Lion event provides an exciting opportunity for the church, school, and local community members to come together in an active way, while supporting young adults in the area.

Pastor of St. Pius X, Msgr. William Schooler, commonly known as "Father Bill," said, "I am excited again to ride my bike, serving as the pacer for the Flyin' Lion 5K this year!"

Everyone, from the competitive runner to the recreational runner or walker, is welcome to participate. Post-race celebrations including refreshments, awards for the top overall male and female finisher and additional prizes for male and female age-group winners will culminate the morning's events.

Those interested in learning more about the Flyin' Lion 5K may contact Megan Sorg, St. Pius X assistant director of stewardship and engagement and race director, at msorg@stpious.net or by contacting the parish office at 574-272-8462.

Bilingual principal a first for St. John the Evangelist School

BY DENISE FEDOROW

Virginia Muñoz of Goshen has many roles — educator, wife of Deacon Giovanni Muñoz, mother of six, director of religious education at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Goshen, and recently, new principal of St. John the Evangelist School.

She assumed the leadership duties of the principals several weeks ago. Virginia said she hadn't really considered becoming a principal before; instead, she had applied a couple of times for the position of English as a Second Language director in the local public schools but didn't get hired. Another parishioner, who is also in the education field, encouraged her to apply for the principal position when it became available. He was very encouraging, she said, and asked her to discern if God was calling her to this role.

"Now, after doing this, I realized I was looking for jobs where God wasn't calling me and I was not seeing God's plan," she said. "I told Giovanni, I realized this is what God called me to do."

Into the American classroom

Virginia was born in Mexico and lived in her birthplace of Santiago Capitiro, Guanajuato, until she was 9 years old. At that time her family moved to West Columbus, Texas, and when she was 16, they moved to Plymouth, Indiana. She graduated from Plymouth High School in 2002. Virginia graduated from Ball State University with a bachelor's degree in elementary education and Spanish and a K-12 ESL license. In 2013 she received her first master's degree in curriculum and instruction with an emphasis in ESL. In 2016 completed a master's in bilingual education and will be completing a master's in educational leadership and getting her license in the same this fall.

She taught at Waterford Elementary in Goshen for seven years — one year as an ESL teacher for kindergarten-second grade and the other six years as a first-grade teacher. After that, she worked at Goshen Community Schools Central Office for two years. She was a second- and third-grade ESL instructor at Chamberlain Elementary school for two years and worked one day a week with Goshen Online Academy students at the Boys and Girls Club. During the last three years added three children to their growing family, and Virginia worked at Merit Learning Center three evenings a week, as well as serving as director of religious education for St. John the Evangelist Parish.

Virginia and Giovanni married in June of 2008 and became parishioners at St. John the same

year. They have six children — Camila, 12, Xochiti, 11, Carim, 9, Gianni, 3, Geraldine, 2, and Angelo, 9 months.

Vision for St. John school

She said St. John enjoys the advantage of having staff members with longevity.

"A lot of school districts have teacher shortages — we don't have that. We have good teachers who are very committed to the students and to the school and to the faith," Virginia said.

One area she feels can be improved upon is leadership to guide and help teachers. She said she likes challenges, and one she might encounter is the possibility of staff is not being open to new ideas.

"If things are not working, we can't just keep doing it," she said. But, she added, her goal isn't just to make changes. "I'm here to support the staff."

"At the end of the day what happens at the school reflects on me," she added.

Catholic education is important to Virginia because it acts as a foundation that parents can build on. As director of religious education, she has heard parents say they don't have time to teach their children the faith: She knows from her own family's experience that talking about what her children learned at school opens up those discussions. "The school (lays) the foundation for parents to build on and reinforce."

Coming from teaching in public schools, she said, "It's nice to be able to say to students 'let's pray about it' if they're nervous before a test, for example, of if they're having a hard time at home."

When asked what it meant to her that she was the first bilingual principal in the school's history, she replied, "I think it's everything — a mix of emotions. I'm honored, but at the same time, nervous." She said the nerves come from high expectations.

She can mediate between parents and teachers, if necessary,



Provided by Virginia Muñoz

Virginia Muñoz is the first bilingual principal at St. John the Evangelist School, a Goshen Catholic elementary at which 78% of the student population is Hispanic. She hopes to encourage staff collaboration and believes Catholic schools lay a faith-based foundation for students that parents can reinforce at home.

in a school where 78% of the students are Hispanic.

Pastor's praise

"Our hiring committee was very impressed with Mrs. Muñoz's professional qualifications, experience in teaching and administration, ability to solve problems quickly, her commitment to continued growth

development for herself and for others, the value she places on making connections and her excellent communication skills," said Father Royce Gregerson,

pastor of St. John the Evangelist. "We think that she will be a fantastic fit for this role because of the deep connections she and her family have in our community. As soon as we announced her hiring, the response was overwhelming. Parishioners have been thrilled to see a member of their own community who is so deeply invested in our parish be chosen for this leadership role."

"I think that Mrs. Muñoz being our new principal is a particularly great example to children in our community to aspire to a high level of achievement — maybe higher than previously thought possible," he added. "The fact that Mrs. Muñoz is bilingual and bicultural will be an enormous asset to our school. We are excited to see her use her ability to communicate across languages and cultures to bring people together in our community and help more families find a home in our parish school. She is very well positioned as well, both because of her own language and cultural background and her training and experience in English learner education, to help our school better serve the critical area of our English learners."

What she hopes to bring to the school is unity and collaboration. She said in the public schools there is more than one class per grade level, so there was more collaboration among teachers. She believes teachers at St. John can share ideas even if they're not at the same grade level. "I believe sharing ideas and collaborating makes for better teachers and better people."

She recently thanked an English-language program director she has worked for in the past, because a lot of things he had her do is some of the same things she's now doing in her new role as St. John's principal, she said. She can now see that "God led me to the people who prepared me for this job."



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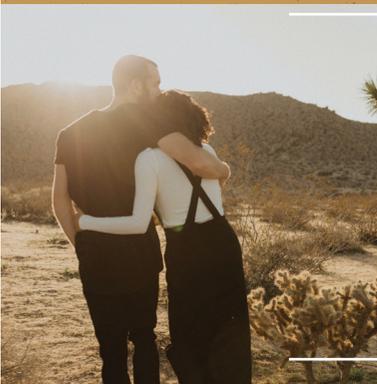


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Fifty years of service and worship

BY MARY-KATE BURNS

Mike Mittleman's favorite hymn is "The Servant Song," which opens with the lines "will you let me be your servant; let me be as Christ to you."

Mittleman is very familiar with hymns and with the call to service. For 50 years he has served as the music director in three parishes in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

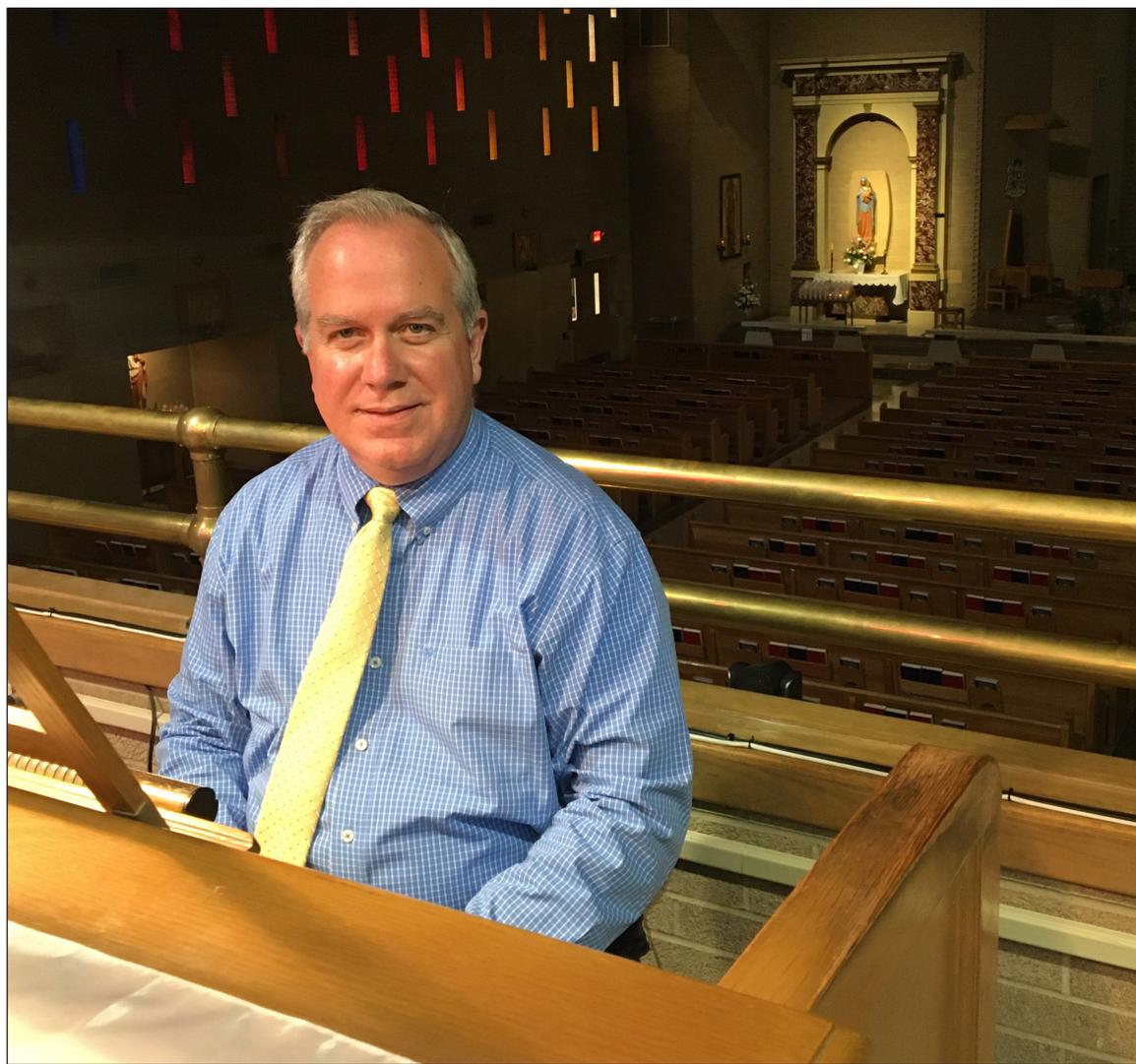
Mittleman's ministry began in 1971 when he was 12 years old. He loved to watch the organ player at Queen of Peace in Mishawaka, his home parish, and began taking organ and piano lessons himself. Eventually the organist gave him a missalette to take home and practice. It was a Saturday night in August when Mittleman played his first Mass at Queen of Peace.

For the first 35 years of his career, Mittleman served as a music minister part time while also working in the RV transportation industry in Elkhart. His free moments were busy preparing music not only for Sunday liturgies, but also for a variety of events and performances. A favorite memory from his time at Queen of Peace is when the choir performed at a Valentine's Dessert Card Party. He played Kenny Rogers alongside someone playing the role of Dolly Parton, singing "Islands in the Stream."

Mittleman assumed he would stay at Queen of Peace his entire musical career. He had served there for 17 years when, in 1989, he felt an intuition that something else was pending — "something more majestic and gothic," he said. Soon after, he got a call from St. Joseph Parish in Mishawaka requesting his services. In the spirit of a servant, he said "yes."

In his 27 years at St. Joseph, Mittleman found an abundance of blessings and friendships. The choir adopted a stuffed Cookie Monster as their mascot, and Mittleman recalled the time Cookie Monster was taken hostage. He paid the ransom with cookies for the choir.

Building community is important to Mittleman's work. The St. Joseph Choir served parish-



Mary-Kate Burns

Mike Mittleman is the music minister at St. Matthew Cathedral Parish, South Bend. He was first drawn to music ministry as a child five decades ago: At St. Matthew, he is honored to have played for ordinations and for Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

ioners by playing at weddings, annual concerts for the feast of St. Joseph, the popular holiday craft bazaar and fun events like bowl-a-thons. They Christmas caroled for homebound parishioners and played other charitable events like the St. Vincent de Paul Society food drive and Toys for Tots drives. They played with other Catholic, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches and enjoyed fellowship dinners after.

The highlight of Mittleman's career, he said, came during his time at St. Joseph. He had the idea that he wanted to do something big with the choir, so for two years, he planned and fundraised for a pilgrimage to Italy. Thirty-five choir members and 45 parishioners made the 11-day trip to Milan, Assisi and Rome. They sang the High Mass in St. Peter's Basilica with St. Pope John Paul II. That performance



Provided by Mike Mittleman

The choir of St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka, performed in Rome for Pope St. John Paul II under Mittleman's direction. During the trip, they also sang at the church of Saint Ignatius in Campo Marzio, above.



Provided by Mike Mittleman

Mittleman is pictured during the early years of his music ministry at Queen of Peace Parish, Mishawaka.

required immense preparations, including a familiarization tour in Italy so he could get a feel for the acoustics.

The practices and fundraising paid off. Mittleman said it was an opportunity to "get to the core or heart of the Catholic Church in Rome," and that it was "a beautiful pilgrimage of music and prayer."

In 2017, Mittleman again had the feeling that things were about to change. He got another call, this time from St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend. On Sept. 1, 2017, he went to the cathedral, where he eventually became a full-time music director for the first time in his career.

Though leaving the community at St. Joseph was a sacrifice, there have been different blessings at St. Matthew, Mittleman said. He has played Masses for ordinations and for Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, for example. In his full-time position, he can also now play funeral Masses.

Many things currently occupy Mittleman's working hours. One of his favorites is rehearsing with the 48-student school choir. He wants to make music engaging for the kids, so he ends each rehearsal with a game of musical "Jeopardy." The winner gets a candy bar.

Preparing music for the Sunday liturgy is a big part of the job. Mittleman said he begins by looking at the suggested hymns from major publishers, then goes to the readings. He wants the music and readings to "come together spiritually in prayer." He ascribes to the adage that "singing is praying twice," and believes that music lifts the soul to God in a unique way.

Mittleman has never interviewed for a job in music. He lets the Holy Spirit guide him wherever he's meant to go, and he intends to continue doing that. After 50 years of service, he has no intentions to retire.

"I might move to part-time or start subbing, but I will always play music for God as long as I'm able to," he said. In August, he will play three Masses of thanksgiving at Queen of Peace, St. Joseph and St. Matthew Cathedral to celebrate his golden anniversary in music ministry.

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Provided by Christopher Elliott

Fort Wayne has memorialized the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. by naming a bridge in his honor on the north side of the city's downtown.

Teacher's book explores 1963 MLK visit to Fort Wayne

BY KEVIN KILBANE

When he was 15 years old, Christopher Elliott joined his father to watch a PBS television special on the 20th anniversary of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1963 "I Have a Dream" speech.

"It was the first time I had heard the speech," recalled Elliott, now 52 and a teacher of world and U.S. history at Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne.

King's words inspired an interest in the civil rights movement that still drives Elliott today. He explores the topic in his first book, "Before the Dream: Martin Luther King's 1963 Speech, and Civil Rights Struggles in Fort Wayne, Indiana."

The book, which is scheduled for release July 26, focuses on King's visit and speech in 1963 in Fort Wayne, the civil rights movement in the city at that time, and civil rights progress in the city and nationally from the 1960s through the tumultuous year of 2020.

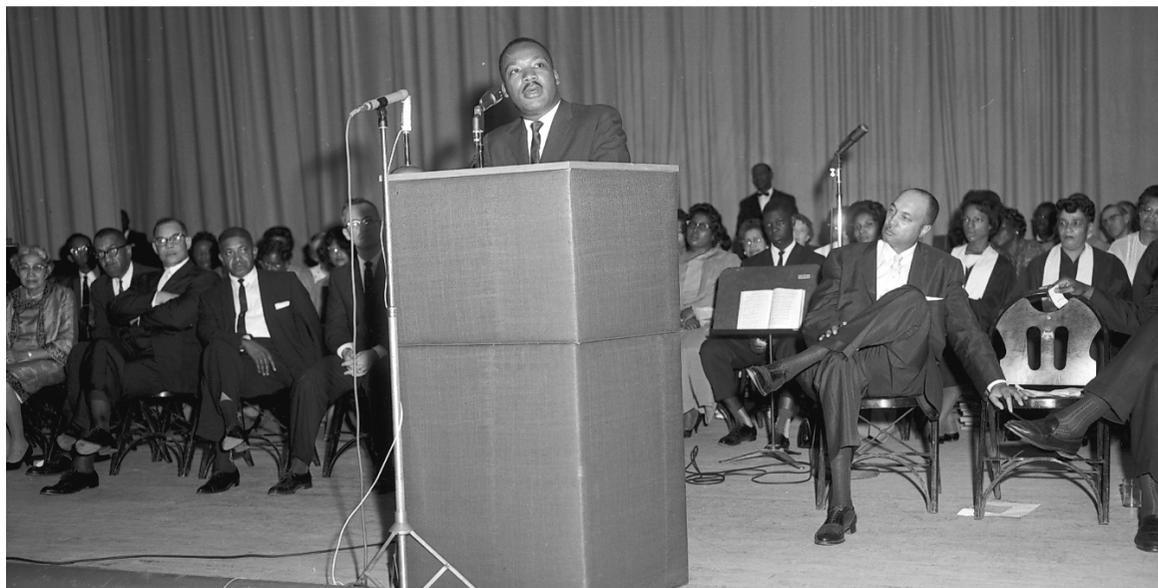
Racism goes against Christian and Catholic value, Elliott knows. "Christianity tells us we should treat each other well."

"Every racist act — every such comment, every joke, every disparaging look as a reaction to the color of skin, ethnicity or place of origin — is a failure to acknowledge another person as a brother or sister, created in the image of God," the U.S. Catholic bishops said in late 2018, in "Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love, A Pastoral Letter Against Racism."

The bishops reinforced that position last year as racial violence and police killings of

"Dr. King's visit to Fort Wayne came at a very crucial time in history."

— Bennie Edwards,
president of Fort Wayne's Martin Luther King Jr. Club



The Journal Gazette | Fort Wayne, Ind.

Late civil rights leader the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. spoke June 5, 1963, in Fort Wayne. Bishop Luers High School teacher Christopher Elliott explores that visit and the civil rights movement in Fort Wayne and nation in a new book, "Before the Dream: Martin Luther King's 1963 Speech, and Civil Rights Struggles in Fort Wayne, Indiana."

people of color sparked protests around the nation, including Fort Wayne.

"I think it is important to realize the civil rights movement is still going," Elliott said. "I think we have not made as much progress as I thought, and a lot of others thought."

Elliott said a combination of factors led him to write his book.

In mid-April 2020, he and most Americans sheltered in place to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. He taught his Bishop Luers classes from home and had a little extra time in his

day. Then the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, a nonprofit organization that encourages K-12 history education, announced plans to create a civil rights calendar featuring local communities' history.

He started work on a brief item for the calendar about MLK's 1963 visit to Fort Wayne. The trip and speech had come after an invitation from local Black leaders.

Elliott thought there was a bigger story in MLK's visit.

King spoke June 5 at what was then the Scottish Rite

Auditorium in downtown Fort Wayne. The building now is owned by University of Saint Francis and is known as the USF Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center.

King, already known nationally as a civil rights leader, called for an end to racial segregation and for freedom for Black Americans, local news coverage reported. The remarks took place less than three months before his famous "I Have a Dream" speech on Aug. 28, 1963, during the March on Washington in Washington, D.C.

"Dr. King's visit to Fort Wayne came at a very crucial time in history," said Bennie Edwards, president of Fort Wayne's Martin Luther King Jr. Club and one of the local people Elliott interviewed while researching his book. The MLK Club promotes and honors King's legacy through community activism, youth engagement and multicultural educational activities, its mission statement said.

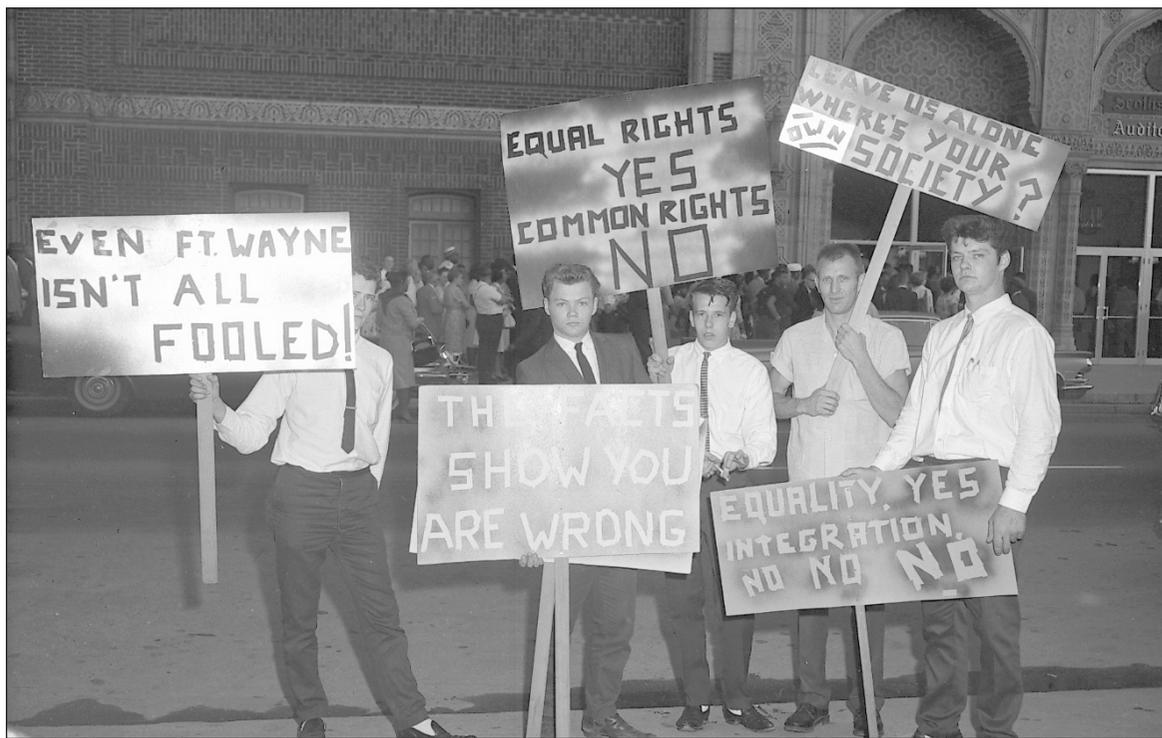
"His (King's) visit changed Fort Wayne forever," added Edwards, who said he is looking forward to Elliott's book. "It got us interested in what was going on in the South and all over the country."

To gather information to write the book, Elliott pored over news coverage and materials in the archives of the Journal Gazette and The News-Sentinel, the major local newspapers in Fort Wayne during the period covered in the book. He researched material at the Allen County Public Library.

He tracked down and interviewed local civil rights leaders from the 1960s or their surviving relatives, such as Marshall White, son of late local civil rights leader the Rev. Jesse White. Elliott also found and interviewed people who attended King's speech, including former Fort Wayne Mayor Paul Helmke, who was then a boy.

Information for more recent history covered in the book came from internet research. Elliott also organized a Zoom videoconference meeting with several Fort Wayne Black leaders to discuss current issues, such as the Black Lives Matter movement, racial profiling by law enforcement and redlining in housing discrimination.

"There was a wealth of infor-



The Journal Gazette | Fort Wayne, Ind.

Protesters identifying themselves as “Citizens for Equality Through Separation” marched across the street from the Scottish Rite Auditorium as Martin Luther King Jr. gave his 1963 speech. A group spokesman said they were “rightists.”

mation available,” Elliott said. “It was a labor-intensive process, but I enjoyed it.”

In addition, he joined the Fort Wayne MLK Club’s board of directors. He began working with a coalition organized through the club that seeks to have Calhoun Street in Fort Wayne renamed in honor of King rather than John C. Calhoun, a former U.S. vice president and Southern congressman who also was a slave owner.

Overall, Elliott found racial prejudice in Fort Wayne “probably was not as hostile as in the South. We did not have examples of violence.” However, local leaders still had to push to ensure people of color received equal treatment at local movie theaters and restaurants.

He also found fascinating the extensive negotiations that took place between the late Rev. Clyde Adams, a local civil rights leader, and the owner of the former Van Orman Hotel.

Here’s Elliott’s account of those meetings included the following: that for much of its life before demolition in 1974, the Van Orman had been one of the leading places to stay in downtown Fort Wayne. Adams and other local Black leaders wanted Martin Luther King and those traveling with him — including civil rights leader Ralph Abernathy — to stay at the Van Orman during their 1963 visit to Fort Wayne.

The hotel owner reportedly previously refused to allow Black people to stay there. After conversations with Adams and some encouragement from the Fort Wayne Police Department, the Van Orman owner reportedly decided MLK and his group could stay there, but they couldn’t eat in the hotel restaurant.

Adams went back to the hotel owner again. The owner reportedly relented and opened the restaurant to all people.

“One of the problems I believe we have with race relations is too many white Americans already have their mind made up,” noted Elliott, who said he feels fortunate to have a number of friends who are Black. “They think they understand the Black experience, but they don’t.”

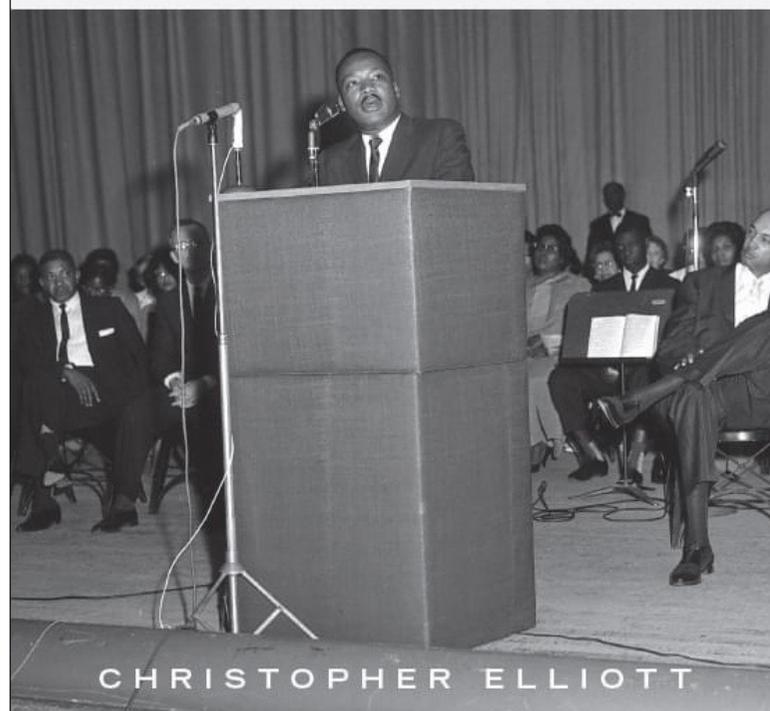
During last summer’s protests, for example, “I heard white people say it was awful what they were doing — burning down buildings,” Elliott said. “Nobody condones burning buildings or violence. You have to understand where the anger was coming from.”

He believes white people can gain a better understanding if they listen to people of color talk about their experiences.

“I think people will stop jumping to conclusions as much,” he added. “Bigotry is rooted in ignorance.”

BEFORE THE DREAM

MARTIN LUTHER KING’S 1963 SPEECH, AND CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLES IN FORT WAYNE, INDIANA



Provided by Christopher Elliott

The cover of the book features a photo of the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. speaking during his 1963 visit to Fort Wayne.



Kevin Kilbane

Elliott’s book exploring the civil rights movement from the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.’s visit to Fort Wayne in 1963 through the events of 2020 is set for release July 26 and is available to preorder at Barnes & Noble bookstores in Fort Wayne and online at Amazon.com. Retail price is \$22.99. He also hopes to make it available at other local retailers. Check for more information on Twitter at @chriselliottFW.



The Journal Gazette | Fort Wayne, Ind.

Levan Scott, Frontiers Club secretary, left, and Dr. Allan O. Wilson, Frontiers president, right, welcome the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King and Ralph D. Abernathy, second from right, before a speech in Fort Wayne June 5, 1963.

Father/son retreats planned for Year of St. Joseph

BY JULIA AKER

Typically, retreats take place over a weekend and remove the participants from their daily lives, to focus on their faith and relationship with the Lord, for at least a couple of days. But the Year of St. Joseph has a special surprise in store for fathers and sons of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend: a six-hour retreat dedicated to the foster father of Jesus and offering an opportunity for fathers and sons to connect with each other and with Christ, all within a Sunday afternoon and evening.

The retreat, offered in Spanish Aug. 1 and in English Sept. 19, is designed to be a hands-on experience for fathers — or male relatives — and boys between the ages of 13 and 17. It will take place at St. Patrick's County Park, South Bend, from 2-8 p.m.



**FATHER/SON
RETREAT**

**Sunday, Sept 19
2-8 p.m.
St. Patrick's County Park
South Bend**

Join Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades for a father/son retreat to celebrate the Year of St. Joseph! The retreat is open to boys aged 13-17 and their father/male relative.

**Learn more:
diocesefwsb.org/joseph-retreat**

This retreat is designed for men to grow closer to one another and be more confident in their role as the masculine figure in the young lives they currently or will one day mentor. The retreats were inspired by Pope Francis' declaration of 2021 to be the year of St. Joseph, patron of the universal Church.

The recognition of St. Joseph in this way inspired the director of Marriage and Family Ministry, Lisa Everett, to organize an event that would bring together fathers and sons to learn about manhood and the profound example given by St. Joseph. Director of Hispanic Ministry Esther Terry joined in the effort to create a similar event for the Hispanic community. Everett, Terry and their teams met with men in the diocese to brainstorm engaging activities those attending would do as they explored the landscape of St. Patrick's park.

A cost of \$20 per family is

requested upon arrival and includes the entry fee to the park, snacks, dinner and a keepsake crucifix. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will be present to give a talk dedicated to the example of St. Joseph. After Bishop Rhoades' reflection, fathers and sons will have a chance to discuss what stood out to them.

St. Patrick's County Park is uniquely situated within the Indiana Birding Trails. Following the bishop's talk a brief introduction to bird watching will be offered, encompassing different bird calls, and the groups will look for local bird species as they take a leisurely walk along the St. Joseph River.

Upon returning to the site, participants will learn more about the life of St. Joseph as a carpenter. Jon Adamson, a local woodworker, will provide a phys-

RETREAT, page 13



**Let's get together and talk.
What's important to you
is important to us!**

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Father Fernandes now diocesan priest

BY JILL A. BOUGHTON

Following a brief process of incardination, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades recently declared Father Cyril Fernandes, pastor of St. Hedwig and St. Patrick parishes in South Bend, a priest of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Father Fernandes came to serve the diocese from Jamshedpur, India, where he was ordained in 1987 and ministered until 2001. Although he remained a priest of that diocese, many factors went into his decision to live out the next two decades of his vocation in Fort Wayne-South Bend. Both southern India, where he was raised, and northern India, where he was ordained, currently have an abundance of priestly vocations despite the fundamentalist Hindu government's antagonism to Christianity.

Much of Father Fernandes' work in India involved starting and running Catholic schools. Although these schools are staffed by the Church, the government is heavily involved in finances and administration. One government regulation is that no one over the age of 60 can work in a school. Having passed this milestone influenced Father Fernandes' decision.

Father Fernandes recently returned from a visit to his parents in India's Karnataka state, a region with a Catholic heritage dating back to St. Francis Xavier. At 96 and 89, they are living in their own home with help from Father Fernandes and his six siblings. If the priest's own health permits, he said he would be happy to eventually retire in India and continue ministering as he is able.

The young Fernandes was surrounded by good examples, includ-



**FATHER CYRIL
FERNANDES**

ing an uncle who was a priest and innumerable religious sisters in his extended family. The youth worked as cook for his parish priest, whose compassion strongly influ-

enced him. This pastor always had a drink for a stranger at the door, he said, hot or cold — depending on the season.

As the eldest son, he was expected to support his parents, so he enrolled in engineering school at age 16. But after only a few days he decided he didn't like the atmosphere there, so he pursued a religious vocation instead. Priests were so plentiful in Karnataka that he decided to become a missionary priest in northern India, where there was poorer education and greater poverty. His father allowed him to decide his own future, but his mother didn't become reconciled to the idea until after he was ordained and she observed the fruit of his ministry.

After being ordained at age 27, Father Fernandes' Jesuit bishop gave him joint assignments, simultaneously ministering in a parish and a school. At St. Xavier's School in Chaibasa he was the first priest-principal.

An ongoing challenge was turning away students who wanted to attend the excellent schools in which he taught and served as principal. Most of these families weren't Christian but valued the fine education and values. He wound up founding many more schools and eventually filled a new diocesan role as secretary of education. "When you educate one child in India,"

he explained, "you put food on the table for a whole family."

In addition to his roles in parishes and schools, Father Fernandes was president of Samajik Samanway Samiti, an organization of 36 nongovernmental organizations trying to uplift the poor, as well as a sports association and a district cultural celebration of tribal feasts.

When he was diagnosed with diabetes, Father Fernandes was told by his bishop he needed to take a year-long sabbatical. But where, he wondered? His friend Father Lourdino Fernandes (not a relative) told him the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend needed priests.

Bishop John M. D'Arcy welcomed Father Cyril and assigned him to pastor St. Patrick in Arcola while he worked on a master's degree in education from Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne. His two years there stretched into eight, then he became pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish, Fort Wayne. He was glad to be back in a parish with a school, he said, and he joked that Bishop D'Arcy, who often attended Mass there, was his associate pastor.

Since 2013 Father Cyril has served as pastor of St. Patrick and St. Hedwig in South Bend. Along the way he earned a doctorate in school administration from Concordia University in Portland, Oregon, which has a flexible program for remote students.

"I like to keep busy," Father Cyril admitted. "Every day is a learning day for me." He also expressed appreciation for his parochial vicar, Father David Kashangaki, CSC, his supportive staff and for active parishioners who show up when there's a special event or work to be done.

Sister of St. Agnes jubilarians served in the diocese

FOND DU LAC, Wis. — Six Sisters of St. Agnes who have served in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend celebrate jubilees this year.

Sister Collean Walsh was born in Yonkers, New York. She graduated in 1943 from Sacred Heart High School in Yonkers and went on to receive a bachelor's degree in education from Marian College, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and a master's degree in administration/education from Marquette University, Milwaukee. She also attended several other colleges and universities. From 1990-92, she served as principal of Most Precious Blood School in Fort Wayne.

During her 75 years of ministry, Sister Collean found the words of Blessed Solanus Casey to be a guide to living the best she can: "Life is to live, and life is to give, talents are to be used for good, if you choose. Every day you will wonder at yourself for the richness of your life that has come to you through the grace of God."

"God has and is walking with me each day," she said.

Sister Colleen

Braun was born in Kohler, Wisconsin. She graduated from Marian College; Fond du Lac, in 1971 and received a bachelor's degree in elementary education from St. Francis College; Fort Wayne, in 1980. In 1989 she received master's degrees in learning disabilities and pastoral studies from Loyola University, Chicago. Sister Colleen taught at St. Joseph School, Decatur, from 1977-83.



SISTER COLLEAN WALSH

Since 2011 she has served as the director of faith formation at St. Benedict Parish, Phoenix, Arizona.

She considers the time she spent working in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults process a tremendous gift in her ministry and encourages others to make sure they are working with their eyes on Christ in all they do, especially when things get difficult. Among her many blessings she counts the gift of a family that brought her up in the Catholic faith, her education and a community that supports ministries, and numerous friends. She aspires to continue to minister with an open heart to everyone, with hospitality and a zeal to spread the Gospel through love.

Sister Donna Myjak was born in Manistique, Michigan. In 1969 she graduated from Marian College, Fond du Lac, with a bachelor's degree in elementary education. In 1983 she earned a master's degree in science from St. Francis University, Fort Wayne.

In 1989 Sister Donna won a principal award for outstanding teacher. She also holds catechetical certifications from three dioceses: from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, a teachers' certification; from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, advance certification and professional certification; and from the Diocese of Green Bay, Wisconsin, advance certification in religious education. She also has nursing credentials from the home care assistant training program of Bay de Noc Community College, Escanaba, Michigan; and from the Michigan Assisted Living, Kingsford, Michigan, LPN Program.

From 1977-82 she taught



SISTER DONNA MYJAK

first grade religious education at St. Joseph School, Decatur. When she was young, she had started fourth grade wanting to be a good teacher and was an astute observer of methodology and classroom management. She continued to be a witness of hope, offering prayers and sacrifices to beg God to have mercy on the world, to forgive offenses, and give peace and harmony to all.

Sister Loraine Pfannenstiel was born in Munjor, Kansas. She graduated from Marian College, Fond du Lac, with a bachelor's degree and from Creighton University with a master's degree in education. She served from 1984-87 as the principal of St. John the Baptist School, New Haven. She is enjoying retirement in Wisconsin.

Sister Loraine said she always remembers that in the Gospel of Mark it promises, "Everything is possible to one who has faith." "It is with the help of God that we can accomplish what we set out to do," she said.

She considers herself blessed to have had parents who had great faith. "In my journey through life I always realized that I was not alone. No matter what challenges I faced, God was always there."

Sister Mary Ellen Johnston was born in Ballymote, Sligo, Ireland, and graduated with a certificate from Carrowmore National in 1938. She obtained a diploma from Secretarial Business College; Chicago, Illinois, in 1940; a diploma from



SISTER LORAIN PFFANNENSTIEL



SISTER MARY ELLEN JOHNSTON

St. Agnes High School, Fond du Lac, in 1949; and a bachelor's degree in education from Marian College, Fond du Lac in 1964. From 1981-84 she served as the secretary at St. Joseph School, Fort Wayne.

She truly treasures being a religious sister, Sister Mary Ellen said, and is inspired by the way the Sisters of St. Agnes teach the other sisters how to walk in God's presence.

Sister Nancy Butz is a native of St. Cloud, Wisconsin. She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin/Oshkosh, from which she earned a bachelor's degree in education and mathematics; she also graduated from DePaul University; Chicago, with a master's degree in human services and licensure as a clinical professional counselor, as well as a holistic health practitioner



SISTER NANCY BUTZ

certification through the TIBIA School of Massage/Bodywork/Healing Therapies in Madison, Wisconsin.

Among her ministries, Sister Nancy taught computer skills to students in grades K-8 at St. Joseph School, Fort Wayne, from 1981-84. From 2012 through the present, she works with Renew Life Holistic Therapies, Kenosha, Wisconsin. She was recognized in 2021 with a Best of Kenosha award in the category of Alternative/Holistic Health.

Sister Nancy believes everyone is called to follow their heart, listen attentively to the Holy Spirit and respond with grace, gratitude, compassion and forgiveness. "I believe we are all responsible for building up all that is of God. That translates for me to caring for humanity and all of creation, sharing in the journey of encouraging the best in everyone, welcoming challenges as invitations for growth, honoring the earth and remembering that every moment is gift. This is our mission."



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RETREAT, from page 12

ical and a spiritual lesson about the construction of the crucifixes, with step-by-step guidance and corresponding meditations.

"We really need to do what we can to build up families," said Caty Burke, associate director for Marriage and Family Ministry and part of the planning committee. "It's important to make sure they know that they have a place in the Church and that the Church is here for them: that they belong and they're not alone, and the life that they live and the vocation that they have is a really beautiful call."

Everett hopes the retreat can become a reoccurring opportunity for the men in the diocese to deepen their faith and the bond between father and son. For that to become a reality, this first encounter's success is essential.



Molly Gettinger

For more information or to register, visit diocesefwsb.org/joseph-retreat. Everett is also asking men of college age and older

who are interested in volunteering at the retreat to contact her at leverett@diocesefwsb.org.

Teaching the 'truth, beauty and goodness' of Catholicism

BY JENNIFER BARTON

History is messy. It is filled with imperfect people motivated by morals and values that sometimes differ from those of modern society. Yet these historical figures and institutions, some of which were Catholic, often shaped the world for the better, which is why Catholic schools in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are choosing to incorporate a curriculum that teaches history through the lens of Catholicism.

St. Mary of the Assumption in Avilla is one such school. The principal, Andy Adams, spoke to Today's Catholic about the importance of educating children in the role the Church has played in forming modern civilization, particularly Western civilization. The school needed new history textbooks, and Adams recalled an email from the Catholic Schools Office that endorsed the Catholic Textbook Project.

"We wanted to update our textbooks and thought, 'what better way to do it than to find a textbook that is imbued by the faith; that helps students understand the world around them?'" he stated

Adams asked Mary Yoder, who serves a dual role at St. Mary as kindergarten teacher and member of the diocesan school board, to examine the Catholic Textbook Project history books and see if they would fit the school's needs. Yoder was pleased to find that the textbooks bridged the gap between faith and history.

"History is salvation history, and these books take the students through it so that they know their faith as it works with history," she said. "It will show how influential the Catholic Church has been throughout history, and I think that's a real gift to give our students."

Adams agreed and pointed toward the texts' "rigor" and how they will challenge students

to grow in their views of history, language arts and reading comprehension. "It's thick reading and I like that for our students. ... We're a 4-Star building, and we want to keep it that way."

He continued, explaining the mission of St. Mary's school as it pertains to incorporating the Catholic faith in all aspects of the classroom: "We're remodeling religion, social studies and science to better reflect the truth, beauty and goodness of the Catholic faith."

Yoder added, "And if you show truth, beauty and goodness, (the students) will be attracted. We do have to work really hard because we're losing the kids; we've seen the Pew research, and I think this is one way to address that."

The upcoming school year will be the first full year students will be equipped with the new books, beginning with the middle school classes. Staff for grades three through five will be



Jennifer Barton

St. Mary School principal Andy Adams displays history textbooks from the Catholic Textbook Project that show how influential the Catholic Church has been throughout history. Finding textbooks that share the Catholic perspective as it pertains to academic subject areas is a gift to the Avilla school's students, he believes.

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equipped with teachers' manuals to use as supplemental materials this year before switching to new books in coming years.

Sixth-grade teacher Brittany Ort has already found ways to bring the Catholic faith into her science and social studies classes. A graduate of Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ort's classroom this year was decorated with posters featuring prominent Catholic scientists such as the father of modern genetics, Father Gregor Mendel. She began using the new textbooks in her classroom lessons once they arrived.

Huntington Catholic School will also introduce the textbooks in fifth- through eighth-grade classrooms for the upcoming year. Principal Derek Boone stated they will be added as supplemental materials.

The Catholic Textbook Project provides an opportunity to "infuse our Catholic identity in all subjects," Boone said. He appreciates the books because of their "robust, good Catholic material" and has already received positive feedback from some of his teachers, whom he quoted as saying that the books provide "a better knowledge of the history of the Church. They reinforce what we're already teaching, but with a Catholic standpoint."

Currently, Huntington Catholic plans to use the texts in grades five through eight as teaching tools in small reading groups and other educational areas. Boone expects that the books will help challenge students of higher reading levels to better prepare them for high school.

More than that, however, he believes it is "very important" for a Catholic school to find opportunities to build its students' foundation of faith in every subject.

Standards for history curricula vary from state to state, and there are distinct gaps between what the Catholic Textbook Project materials cover and the Indiana state guidelines for history, mostly in regard to Indiana history. To close this gap, Adams purchased other teachers' manuals and some student texts to be used as supplemental classroom materials. The Catholic Textbook Project is looking to address these shortfalls by tweaking the books in the future.

For now, it is of great importance for diocesan Catholic schools to look at history from a Catholic standpoint and the undeniable, monumental impact the Church has had on it. Many people are unaware that even the modern university and hospital systems began with the Catholic Church, Yoder pointed out.

Forming and informing students in the greatness of their faith is the mission of a Catholic school, and St. Mary is striving to greater heights in that area.

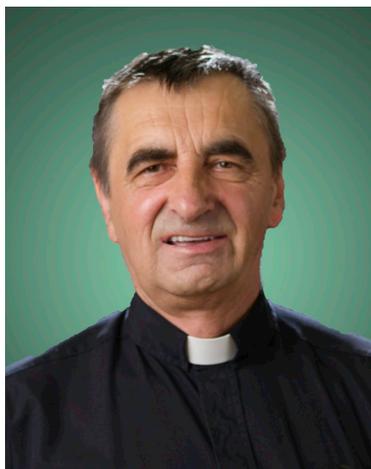
"In a Catholic school, too, most important is formation, and so it just makes sense that we would want to do that as much as possible within the traditional four-core subject areas: social studies, science, math and language arts," Adams explained. "We see religion – our faith – as the first subject, with the other four secondarily. So, we see that we really have five strong areas, and that first area — faith — runs through all of them."

Father Jan Klimczyk observes 40th jubilee

BY COLLEEN SCHENA

Father Jan Klimczyk, a retired priest currently in residence at Holy Family Parish, South Bend, observed his 40th jubilee May 17. Father Klimczyk has had the privilege of serving in his ministerial role on both sides of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend since he arrived in the diocese in the late 1990s.

His first assignment was to St. Adalbert Parish in South Bend; from there he was associate pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, from 2000 to 2002. His next assignment, a true highlight of his decades of wholehearted service and humble love, moved him back to the South Bend side of the diocese and to St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, New Carlisle, where Father Klimczyk said he gladly took on an ambitious and fruitful undertaking: the refurbishing of the parish,



FATHER JAN KLIMCZYK

where he was primary rector from 2002 to 2007.

He spearheaded the re-shingling, retiling and general cleanup of the church building as well as the school building. It was a massive undertaking, but Father Klimczyk was determined to do it, he said, and did so with a responsible appreciation of

Church resources, both fiscal and volunteer. His mindfulness and care for the church and its congregation stood out in the memories of the parishioners and staff who worked with him.

His restorative efforts did not stop at tiling floors and cleaning walls, but also included the smallest and most intimate of details. Accompanying the altar of St. Stanislaus Kostka sits a hand-carved wooden depiction of the Last Supper, which Father Klimczyk commissioned from a skilled woodworker in his native Poland. The parish has held it in special reverence ever since, thankful for his commitment to making the love of Christ come alive in the fundamentals of the parish's building and for diligently bringing the medium-sized structure with him from a trip to Poland.

Father Klimczyk is also credited with expanding the number of lay ministers in the parish and hiring new staff before his move

to St. Hedwig and St. Patrick parishes in 2007.

Father Klimczyk called South Bend his home for the next four years until his move to Blessed Sacrament in Albion in 2011. He was then appointed associate pastor at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne in 2012. Later, he filled the need for a new pastor at St. Patrick Parish, Walkerton, in early 2014, and served as chaplain at Saint Anne Communities at Victory Noll, Huntington, in 2016. His retirement from active ministry in 2017 took him to Holy Family Parish, South Bend.

Even in retirement, his ministry remains active. Father Klimczyk celebrates daily Masses at Holy Family Parish, often with the school students at both Holy Family and St. John the Baptist schools, and is around at the drop of a hat should one of his fellow priests need his assistance.

The family of the parishes to which he has been appointed are

deeply important to him, as is his own family — which lends itself to frequent visits to see family members in the Chicago area and to travel to Poland.

He keeps Christ at the forefront of his ministry, embodying the Gospel of Matthew's emphasis on secret action: "your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

Known for his generosity in time and his prudent care for Church resources, Father Klimczyk is praised by former parishioners and rectors who worked with him for his deep love of the Church, seen through his time spent talking with parishioners, his talent for moving projects forward and for his intercessory prayer — often seen in the Holy Family parking lot as he takes his morning walk, praying for the students and faculty on the grounds. Father Klimczyk has always appreciated a ministry in the background, one that is primarily showing over telling, doing over seeing.

Jubilees of consecrated life celebrated at Sisters of the Holy Cross order

NOTRE DAME — Ten Sisters of the Holy Cross were honored for anniversaries of 50 and 25 years of consecrated life July 17 during a virtual jubilee celebration. Two of the jubilarians, Sister Sharon Ann Mihm, CSC, and Sister Linda Kors, CSC, served in the Diocese of Fort Wayne — South Bend.

Sister Sharon Ann Mihm, CSC, currently in the Spiritual Care Department with Holy Cross Health, Silver Spring, Maryland, is celebrating more than 50 years of consecrated life as a Sister of the Holy Cross.

Sister Sharon Ann has served nearly 50 years in education. She started teaching in South Bend as a postulant and as a novice at Saint Mary's Campus School. Her teaching ministry took her on to North Carolina, where she taught for three years at Our Lady of Lourdes School, Raleigh, and served as principal of Immaculata School, Durham, from 1983 to 1992. She also taught for nine years at Holy Trinity School, Norfolk, Virginia, and for 16 years she served as principal for several schools in the Archdiocese

of Washington, including Holy Cross School, Garrett Park, Maryland, and St. Martin of Tours, Gaithersburg, Maryland, where she served from 2005 to 2013. Since 2014, she has provided pastoral care and served as a eucharistic minister at Holy Cross Health, Silver Spring.

Sister Sharon Ann was born in Washington, D.C. She came to the congregation shortly after earning her Bachelor of Arts degree from Dunbarton College of Holy Cross, Washington, D.C. She also earned a master's degree in education and pastoral studies from Emmanuel College, Boston, Massachusetts, and studied at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland. Sister Sharon Ann made her initial profession of vows with the Sisters of the Holy Cross on Aug. 15, 1970, and her perpetual profession on Aug. 6, 1975.

Sister Linda Kors, CSC, who currently serves as a long-term care ombudsman for Real Services, South Bend, will also be honored for more than 50 years of consecrated life as a Sister of the Holy Cross.



SISTER SHARON ANN MIHM, CSC



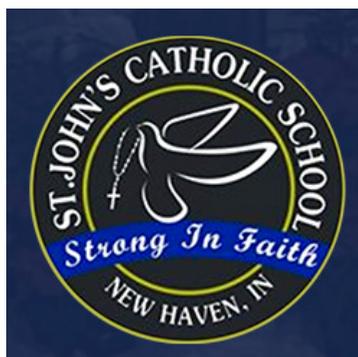
SISTER LINDA KORS, CSC

Sister Linda has ministered as an occupational therapist for 10 years, serving in Ohio, Idaho, California and at Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, South Bend. She also served as director of Campus Ministry for Mundelein College, Chicago, Illinois, for six years, and in a similar ministry for five years with Saint Joseph's College, Rensselaer. From 1997 to 2007, she coordinated and direct-

ed volunteer service programs for Saint Mary's College, South Bend, and the volunteer center of St. Joseph County. Beginning in 2012, she shared her gifts as interim and then executive director of Forever Learning Institute. She has been in her current ministry since 2018.

Sister Linda was born in Hammond. Before entering the congregation, she was a stu-

dent. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in occupational therapy from Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Indiana, and a Master of Arts from Mundelein College, Chicago. Sister Linda made her initial profession of vows with the Sisters of the Holy Cross on Aug. 15, 1970, and her perpetual profession on Aug. 3, 1975.



PRINCIPAL NEEDED

St. John the Baptist Catholic School in New Haven is looking for a principal to begin work immediately.

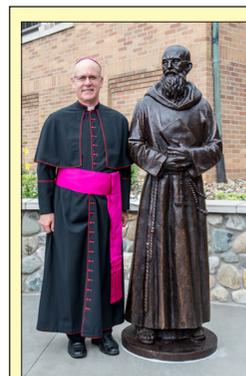
- Parish school within the diocese
- Enrollment: 215 students K-8
- State Grade: A
- Experienced and dedicated faculty of 17 plus additional school support staff

Qualifications:

- A practicing Catholic in full communion with the Church and active in their current home parish within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend with belief in the Catholic Church and her teachings and doctrines.
- Minimum of five years teaching experience – previous administrative experience helpful.
- The candidate will possess or be eligible for an Indiana Elementary Administrative License.
- Evidence of strong leadership, communication and organizational skills needed to form and guide teachers and staff in the Church's mission and academic excellence.

For information contact the Catholic Schools Office at 260-422-4611 ext. 3316 or email: kderose@diocesefwsb.org.

Application deadline is Aug. 1, 2021.



Celebrate the 4th Annual Blessed Solanus Casey, Feast Day July 30, from 12:30-9:30 p.m.

Hosted by the Father Solanus Guild at St. Felix Catholic Center, 1280 Hitzfield St. in Huntington

Special guests include: Father Daniel Whelan, Father Louis Fowoyo, Father Thomas Zehr, Father Philip DeVolder and Madeline Nugent. Activities for all ages provided by Huntington Youth Ministry.

Preorder boxed lunches by July 25th or feel free to bring your own picnic. Tours will be available all day. Mass at 5 p.m.

Contact Jan Scher at 260-450-3045

Advice for avoiding the 'rotten fruit' of our digital age

The Eighth Commandment is taking a beating on the internet. So is the fifth. Lying and defaming are no longer sins. They are clickbait.

The crisis of fake news and media manipulation is starting to get the attention of U.S. bishops, and it couldn't happen a minute too soon. Manufactured conspiracies like QAnon are dividing families and communities. False assertions about COVID-19 are still filling intensive care units. And it doesn't stop there.

Last year, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Arlington, Virginia, issued a pastoral letter titled "In Tongues All Can Hear: Communicating the Hope of Christ in Times of Trial." Bishop Burbidge praised the benefits of the digital world but also warned that social media can be easily manipulated, calling attention to "fake alerts and false crises, provoking strong reactions before the truth or falsehood of an assertion can be established."

Now Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron of Detroit, vice president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, has gone a step further. In his new pastoral letter titled "The Beauty of Truth: A Pastoral Note on Communicating Truth and Love in the Digital Age," the archbishop declared that "words matter" because the consequences of those words matter.

Calling "the uncivil nature of our civil discourse" a "rotten fruit" of "ill-used words," he warned of a "a world awash in deceptions of all kinds."

"There are innumerable media outlets, including many claiming to be Catholic, that threaten to steer us away from Christ and his church if we accept their messages indiscriminately," he wrote.

Indeed, particularly when it comes to news, the changing landscape of Catholic communications is leading some Catholics to turn to untrustworthy news outlets filled with allegations and distortions that leave them angry, confused and distrustful.

The shrinking number of diocesan newspapers and news sites is creating a vacuum for the ideologically unscrupulous.

Archbishop Vigneron suggested five warning signs to be alert for when engaging social media, news outlets, blogs or discussion groups.

Warning: "Any proposition out of harmony with the teachings of Christ and his church."

Archbishops Vigneron advised consulting the Catechism of the Catholic Church when presented with questionable teachings. I would add seeking the counsel of a trusted pastor or religious educator as well.

Warning: "Unsubstantiated claims or allegations."

Talk is cheap, particularly in the anonymity of social media. "We have seen allegations of all kinds, even extremely grave accusations, leveled against people without the benefit of supporting evidence," the archbishop said.

These charges are meant to attract eyeballs to a site or



GREG ERLANDSON

AMID THE FRAY

demonize an opponent. The same holds true for news stories even on Catholic sites: Are there named sources, and are these sources credible?

Warning: "The manipulation of facts to deceive or harm."

Sometimes even facts can be turned into lies by how they are presented or manipulated. The archbishop warned particularly of video presentations using music and images to "steer the emotional response of viewers" and narratives that allege conspiracies or corruption.

Such media often pose as documentaries, pulling the viewer along to conclusions that are neither true nor Christian.

Warning: "Ad hominem attacks."

Catholics can engage in spirited debate, but such debate should never include "gratuitous personal attacks," Archbishop Vigneron wrote. "Charity must always animate our public communication." I might add that this also holds true as well for those who email or write letters to bishops or pastors.

Warning: "The spirit of divi-

ERLANDSON, page 17

A return to what kind of normal?

Excitement about returning to some form of normalcy has invaded our society and our faith communities. The recent COVID-19 pandemic has truly tested our lives.

It is amazing how much we take for granted: health, others, the structures that regulate our coexistence, the small things of life, etc. Doing so gives us a sense of normalcy.

We have done well as a society controlling the virus in recent months. Nonetheless, a large portion of the U.S. population remains unvaccinated. Most people worldwide still lack access to the vaccine and to adequate medical treatment in case of contracting the virus.

Any return to normal must go hand in hand with a sober acknowledgment that for millions in our society, life will not be as it was prior to the pandemic. Hundreds of thousands of people are gone forever. Millions will not recover their jobs. We lost Catholic churches, hundreds of Catholic schools and many Catholics may simply not return to religious practice.

We have learned a lot since the pandemic began. I strongly disagree with the suggestion that 2020 was a "lost year" or "the year that was not." No, we cannot forget or ignore 2020. We are different as individuals, as a society and as a Church, because of it.

We have an obligation to affirm the lessons learned. The generosity that many shared with those in need, the profound



HOSFFMAN OSPINO

JOURNEYING TOGETHER

sense of solidarity that many exhibited during difficult times, the courage of essential workers, the inspiring work of scientists and medical personnel, the resilience of families and the creativity of believers to practice their faith, among many others.

A return to normal also needs to account for our shortcomings. The pandemic revealed how fractured our society and even our Church are, largely a result of the poisonous ideological polarization that appears too willing to sacrifice the common good to advance particular interests.

Many dysfunctional realities in our society and our Church preceded this global health crisis, of course. The pandemic, however, revealed that much of what we considered normal should not be or should not have been, and we must reckon with the implications of such renewed awareness.

A return to normal demands that we ask: To what normal do we exactly want to return?

Prior to the pandemic, many of our Catholic communities

OSPINO, page 17

Jesus is the source of our sustenance



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time John 6:1-15

The Second Book of Kings is the source of this weekend's first biblical reading. The two books of Kings originally were one volume. At one point in the evolution of the Bible, they were divided into two books.

These two books are historical, but their purpose was religious. They attempted to look through the reigns of the kings and proclaim the fidelity of God to the nation. Thus, the prophets, who spoke for God, were prominent in these books.

This weekend's reading does not even mention a king.

Instead, it recalls the life of Elisha the prophet. As an act of faith in and homage to God, a devout man brought the first products of the harvest to Elisha as a gift to God. These products were in the form of 20 barley loaves.

Elisha accepted the offering but told the man to distribute the loaves among the people, who numbered 100. The man of course doubted that only 20 loaves would suffice for so many people. Nevertheless, he complied.

Rather than being insufficient, the loaves were plentiful enough to satisfy the crowd.

For its second reading, the Church this weekend presents a passage from the Letter to the Ephesians.

This letter was directed to the Christian community of Ephesus, in the first century A.D. a major city in the Roman Empire and an important port on the Asian coast of the Mediterranean Sea. Crowning the city was the magnificent temple of Diana, the Roman goddess.

Throng came as pilgrims to this great pagan shrine. Ephesian Christians were surrounded by intense pagan fervor and sinfulness as well.

Understandably, the letter called upon these Christians to be strong in faith and not to yield to the temptations that most certainly overwhelmed the city.

St. John's Gospel furnishes the last reading. In this story, Jesus encountered a crowd on the shore of the Sea of Galilee near the ancient and still thriving city of Tiberias. The Gospel pointedly notes that Passover was near.

The crowd was hungry. Philip, an Apostle, approached Jesus with this fact. Another Apostle, Andrew, noticed that a boy had five barley loaves and a few fish. Jesus instructed the Apostles to distribute these loaves and fishes among the crowd, numbering 5,000. Before this distribution, the Lord blessed this food.

The five loaves and few fishes, obviously meager given the number of hungry people,

satisfied the multitude. Indeed, after all had had their full, an abundance remained.

Reflection

The Church reassures us this weekend. God is never distant from us unless we willfully distance ourselves from God by our own selfishness and sin. God is with us today in Jesus, the risen Lord.

God gives us life and all that we need to maintain life. We are not left to struggle as best we can.

In Kings, and in the Gospel, people were hungry and unable to meet their needs on their own. God entered the story in each case, magnificently. All had their fill.

The connection between Jesus, and the Apostles, and their role in salvation, is clear. The Apostles, through the Church, still bear our concerns to Jesus and still convey to us all the blessings of the Lord.

Links between this event in John and the Eucharist are many. First, bread is food. Food is vital for life. Secondly, the

gathering of the people on the shore in this story occurred near Passover.

The Eucharist is the great Passover meal.

Next, Jesus gave thanks, the same gesture that appears in all the accounts of the Last Supper. Finally, all partook in the Lord's gift of this food and were completely satisfied, and much was left over, revealing the lavishness of God's love and mercy.

READINGS

Sunday: 2Kgs 4:42-44 Ps 145:10-11, 15-18 Eph 4:1-6 Jn 6:1-15

Monday: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34 Ps 106:19-23 Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28 Ps 103:6-13 Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday: Ex 34:29-35 Ps 99:5-7, 9 Mt 13:44-46

Thursday: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38 Ps 84:3-6a, 8a, 11

Friday: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37 Ps 81:3-6, 10-11b Mt 13:54-58

Saturday: Lv 25:1, 8-17 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8 Mt 14:1-12

Ordinary Time, growing time

With long summer days upon us, pregnant with hazy, humid air and green grass growing long in the field, the Church's liturgical calendar celebrates Ordinary Time. For weeks upon weeks, in fact the longest stretch of any season of the liturgical year, ordinary time is marked by the color green.

For the faithful in the Northern Hemisphere, the green color coordinates well the spiritual desire hoped for in this season, that is, a time of growth and maturation, living deeper and the life of Christ. New growth in nature often holds a light green hue, while the green of summer is bright, fresh and full of life, almost an illuminant, kelly green, from the maple leaves on the full trees, fields of barley and grain to the lush grass soaking up the sun and the rain.

Well-trained gardeners emphasize numerous, different shades of green and leaf shapes during this time of year to showcase the beauty of the verdant, summer growth. The Gospels proclaimed through the summer days also show depth and the variety of Christ's own example of how to be His disciple.

In the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Ordinary Time is described to children as "the growing season." This simple descriptor highlights well the truth of the everyday, Christian life. During this season, we celebrate the complete mystery of Jesus Christ, His life, teachings, miracles and words, in order to better follow Him as disciples. This is a time of daily labor and hot toil but also rest and recreation. How are we to orientate ourselves to the new, verdant life?

Ordinary Time is derived from the word "ordinal," meaning to count. The word "ordinary" is used as the weeks are ordered or numbered, from Christmas to

Lent and Easter to Advent.

In common American English parlance, the word "ordinary" often has a bad rap as meaning dull or boring. But the Catholic understanding of the word is rich and bountiful, especially in light of this liturgical season.

Two highlights of this season can enrich our spiritual lives. The first is observing and pondering God's own life in human history. By re-reading sacred Scripture slowly and inviting the Holy Spirit to be present, we can remember God's awesome and incredible actions in the everyday and the ordinary days of human life.

In the Bible, God came to people who were busy with the daily tasks of their life. He came to Abraham while he kept his flocks, Joseph while he slept. God sent His messenger angels while people were working in the fields, watching their sheep or praying silently in their homes, hidden from the pomp and show of flashy public view. As recorded in the book of Kings 19:12, God came to Elijah not in a loud earthquake or visually, stunning fire, but in "a light silent sound," sometimes translated as a whisper.

God is mysterious and ultimately ungraspable, but present to the quiet and simple of heart, those who attune their ear to His sound.

Reading God's word in the Bible can renew and refresh us in a way unlike anything else. The Holy Spirit can speak to us through His word, which is ever living and ever new. Mediating upon the daily or Sunday Gospel throughout one's week is a small practice that can remind our souls of Christ's choices in His life and better direct ours.

Secondly, Ordinary Time is a period for such careful retuning, a return to a correct ordering of our lives. From the very first book of the Bible, God shows a



LIVING THE LITURGICAL LIFE

JENNIFER MILLER

divine order to the natural world. As humans, men and women, we fit well into that order and do well to know our place. We are created beings, created by God. In our own lives, we find joy in keeping His order in our souls, our actions, our words, but also daily areas, such as our homes, our closets, cars and monthly financial budgets. And what a peace we can experience when we follow God's commandments and celebrate the Sunday as a day of rest and recreation, instead of commercial trade and work.

This summer can serve as an opportune time to re-order our lives back to God. We can choose to rest and be re-created in His image during our vacation or time off from work and school. Like the teeming grass and lilies along in every country road, we can choose to thrive in God's order and hope for our lives. This might mean pulling some weeds of sin and bitter roots entrenched deep in our souls: But the mercy and love of God is stronger and available daily through the sacraments that can aright our wills back to the One who made them, especially through reconciliation and holy Eucharist.

We, too, can choose to flourish in Ordinary Time, to strengthen our souls with rich words of Scripture, sitting in the presence of the Son at adoration and growing good fruit for our beloved God.

OSPINO, from page 16

struggled to be truly welcoming to the fast-growing Hispanic population. Many of our pastoral leaders found it difficult in their homilies and activities to address and denounce unambiguously the sin of racism.

Many Catholics allowed themselves to be swept up by discourses that treated immigrant, refugees and the poor as threats. Others seemed too much at peace with discourses that disregard life and the dignity of every human person, from womb to tomb.

For decades, our Church has seen how millions of young Catholics and their families walk away from our communities. We seem unable to engage them and fall short in addressing their questions and concerns. Catholics seem to desire much

more than Masses inside a building.

If returning to normal means a return to the pre-pandemic status quo, I sense little appetite for that, especially among the young. If it implies ignoring the lessons learned during this crisis, the suffering and the losses of those for whom life will not be "normal" again, then I do not want to be part of that normalcy.

I encourage pastoral leaders, educators, parents and others in the following months to engage in thoughtful conversations about what it means to return to normal and create the spaces to do so. Let us not miss this opportunity to accompany one another.

Hosffman Ospino is a professor of theology and religious education at Boston College.

ERLANDSON, from page 16

sion."

Which brings us to the bottom line: "God's Holy Spirit unites. Satan divides," the archbishop concluded. "Zeal for a good cause neither requires nor excuses purposefully sowing seeds of division, especially division within" the Church.

Perhaps we need an Eleventh Commandment: Thou shalt not ignore these warning signs.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for July 25, 2021

John 6: 1-15

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: Feeding many out of little. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

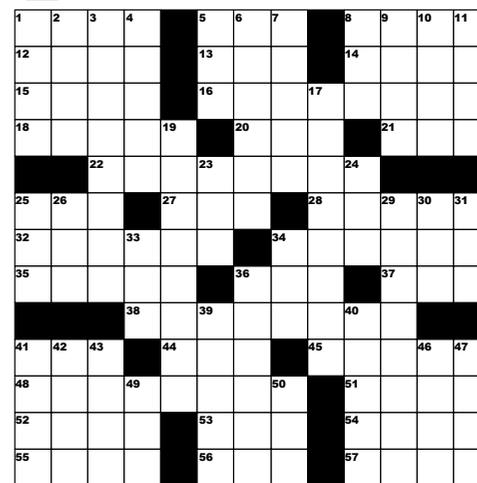
FOLLOWED	PASSOVER	EYES
TEST	TWO HUNDRED	A LITTLE
LOAVES	TWO FISH	MANY
GRASS	FIVE THOUSAND	THANKS
FILL	GATHER	FRAGMENTS
LEFT OVER	TWELVE	BASKETS
TO COME	WORLD	KING

THEIR FILL

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

The Cross Word

July 18 and 25, 2021



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Readings: Jer 23:1-6; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34 and 2Kgs 4:42-44; Eph 4:1-6; Jn6:1-15

ACROSS

- 1 Blacken
- 5 Abridged
- 8 Steering mechanism
- 12 Jesus did, on donkey, into Jerusalem
- 13 Not against
- 14 Opera solo
- 15 Oil producers
- 16 Monarch supporter
- 18 Seasoned rice
- 20 Cat takes
- 21 Abbr. for Ephesians
- 22 The Twelve
- 25 Luau dish
- 27 Fish eggs

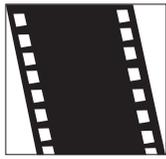
- 28 Indian prince
- 32 Without question
- 34 Slang for money
- 35 Adolescents
- 36 Wager
- 37 Representative
- 38 Definite
- 41 Abbreviation for Books of Kings
- 44 Deer relative
- 45 Longest bone
- 48 Chicago state
- 51 Morass
- 52 Legible writing
- 53 Central nervous system
- 54 Enact a law
- 55 Precious stones

- 56 Baby fox
- 57 Not this

DOWN

- 1 Plants for harvest
- 2 American Indian people of NE Arizona
- 3 Capital of South Australia
- 4 Summary
- 5 Easter month
- 6 Author of "Wuthering Heights"
- 7 "Once in ___ David's city"
- 8 Nickname for Henry
- 9 A Great Lake
- 10 Speech defect
- 11 Arithmetic
- 17 Pre-meal drink
- 19 Prophesied
- 23 Patch of turf
- 24 ___ Francisco (means "saint")
- 25 Gehenna
- 26 "We believe in ___ God"
- 29 The weeping prophet
- 30 "Blessed ___ you"
- 31 Bunny movement
- 33 "Until the ___ of the age"
- 34 Thief's hideout
- 36 Tiny swimsuit
- 39 God's sheep
- 40 Satan did to Eve
- 41 David was appointed as ___
- 42 Rejoicing
- 43 Close the door hard
- 46 ___ Minor (Little Dipper)
- 47 "___ a while"
- 49 That (possessive)
- 50 Fast jet

Answer key can be found on page 19



MOVIE CAPSULES

NEW YORK (CNS) — Following capsule review is by the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"Black Widow" (Disney)

With the Avengers ensemble of superheroes temporarily in disarray, one of its members (Scarlett Johansson), from whose moniker the film takes its title, battles a Russian villain (Ray Winstone) bent on world domination. She finds potential allies in the ostensible sister (Florence Pugh) and parents (David Harbour and Rachel Weisz) with whom she posed as a family in childhood while the grown-ups worked as sleeper agents in the United States. Large-scale special effects and intrepid derring-do are wedded to themes of clan solidarity, compassion toward adversaries and contrition for past misdeeds in director Cate Shortland's Marvel Comics-derived action adventure. But the former overshadow the latter, weakening the impact of the morally respectable points screenwriter Eric Pearson seeks to make. Frequent stylized but

sometimes harsh violence, a few mild oaths, about a half-dozen uses each of crude and crass language. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

"Space Jam: A New Legacy" (Warner Bros.)

Strained sequel to the 1996 sports comedy once again blends live action and animation as well as basketball and the Looney Tunes gang of cartoon characters. This time out, LeBron James plays himself, as Michael Jordan did in the original, while Don Cheadle portrays the artificial intelligence that controls the Warner Studios' "server-verse." Resentful at a rebuff from James, the anthropomorphized algorithm concocts a scheme to absorb both the hoops star and his young son (Cedric Joe) into the virtual realm he rules and exploit a temporary rift between the two to pit them against each other on the court, with James leading Bugs Bunny (voice of Jeff Bergman) and his friends while the lad heads a far more formidable squad. Worthy, though obvious, messages about teamwork, altruism, good parenting and the need to give youngsters the freedom to pursue their own

goals are ham-handedly driven home amid frantic but harmless mayhem. A few unsuitable words in the script, credited to fully half a dozen screenwriters, make director Malcolm D. Lee's annoyingly self-referential film unfit for the little kids who might be oblivious to its obvious flaws and thus most likely to enjoy it. Cartoonish violence, a few mild oaths. The Catholic News Service classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

"In the Heights" (Warner Bros.)

Vibrant musical, set in northern Manhattan's Washington Heights, charts the efforts of a youthful bodega owner (Anthony Ramos) to return to his native Dominican Republic, the scene of his idealized childhood, and reopen the beachside bar his father once ran there. But this "little dream" has complicated implications for his warmhearted adoptive grandmother (Olga Merediz), the younger cousin (Gregory Diaz IV) he mentors and the aspiring fashion designer (Melissa Barrera) for whom he's fallen. Director Jon M. Chu's sweeping adaptation of composer and lyricist Lin-Manuel Miranda's award-winning 2008 Broadway hit, scripted by the

writer of the stage show's book, Quiara Alegría Hudes, also follows the parallel romance linking the protagonist's best friend (Corey Hawkins) with a gifted college student (Leslie Grace) and introduces a variety of neighborhood characters. As it touches on themes of racial dignity and the plight of immigrants who lack legal papers, the generally upbeat and uplifting film maintains a solid moral core. But a few rough spots around the

edges make it safest for grown-ups. Possibly acceptable for older teens. Brief sexual references, including to homosexual activity and contraception, a couple of profanities, about a dozen milder oaths, several crude and a few crass terms. The Catholic News Service classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

Friday Night Praise

FORT WAYNE — Friday Night Praise will take place at the St. Vincent de Paul Parish parking lot Friday, July 23. Food trucks will be available from 5:30-7:30 p.m. with live praise and worship to follow. For more information visit facebook.com/groups/friday-nightpraise.

Father Solanus feast day celebration

HUNTINGTON — Celebrate the fourth annual Blessed Solanus Casey, feast day Friday, July 30, from 12:30-9:30 p.m., hosted by the Father Solanus Guild at St. Felix Friary, 1280 Hitzfield St. Special guest speakers include Father Daniel Whelan, Father Louis Fowoyo, Father Thomas Zehr, Father Philip Devolder and Madeline Nugent. Table activities and games will be provided for all ages. Preorder boxed lunches by July 25 or feel free to bring your own picnic. Tours will be available all day.

Blessed Solanus Casey canoe pilgrimage

HUNTINGTON — Celebrate the feast day of Blessed Solanus Casey with a canoe trip down the Salamonie River in Huntington on July 29 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., sponsored by diocesan Youth Ministry. This pilgrimage is open to eighth grade graduates through high school graduates and will begin at St. Felix Catholic Center with Mass and include a canoe lunch and games and races on the river with some of the diocesan priests and seminarians. Cost is \$50 per person and includes rental fees and lunch. To register, go to diocese-fwsb.org/canoe-pilgrimage.

For information contact John Pratt at jpratt@diocesefwsb.org.

Ask a Nun: Q and A about women's religious discernment

FORT WAYNE — Annunciation House, 2637 Schele Ave., will host a question-and-answer session on religious vocation discernment, moderated by Sister Veronica of Jesus, a professed sister in the Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth, to address the topics of vocation awareness, decision making, exploring vocation and narrowing vocation inquiries. Rosary will be prayed in the house chapel at 8:15 p.m. All women wishing to learn more about a religious vocation are welcome. Visit www.FranciscanVocationHouse.com. Contact Elizabeth Lemire, house parent at 425-248-3909 or elemire3@gmail.com.

Adoration Under the Stars:

Christmas in July
FORT WAYNE — Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, 7215 Saint Joe Rd., will host adoration Saturday, July 31 from 8:30-9:45 p.m. Bring your blankets, your chairs, your rosaries, your hearts and spend some time with Jesus Christ in the monstrance under the night sky on the lawn in front of the church. This will be an evening of listening to sacred Christmas songs and prayer. The evening will close with Benediction. In case of inclement weather, the adoration will take place within the church. Contact Father Daniel Whelan 260-485-9615 padredww@yahoo.com.

The CrossWord
July 18 and 25, 2021

C	H	A	R	A	B	R	H	E	L	M	
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G	E	M	S	K	I	T	T	H	A	T	

REST IN PEACE

Decatur
Bernadette Lengerich, 91, St. Mary of the Assumption

Mishawaka
Naomi DeNeve, 95, St. Bavo

Tom Haluda, 76, Cathedral of Saint Matthew

Fort Wayne
Janet Dembickie 74, St. Jude

New Haven
Gloria Lothamer, 89, St. Louis, Besancon

Philip Haney, 94, Christ the King

Doug Haywood, 62, Our Lady of Good Hope

Notre Dame
Sister Joanne Becker, CSC, 78, Our Lady of Loretto

Helen J. Isban, 97, St. Adalbert

Dr. Andrew J. McCanna, 46, St. Vincent de Paul

Sister M. Carmen, CSC, 97, Our Lady of Loretto

Irene Ziolkowski, 99, St. Casimir

Ronald G. Minton, 76, St. Vincent de Paul

South Bend
Arlan Banes, 82, Cathedral of Saint Matthew

Wabash
William W. Unger, 76, St. Bernard

Granger
Clarke Dippell, 81, St. Pius X

Michael P. Fodroci, 97, St. Jude

Alex Gattman, 22, St. Pius X

Elena Gonzales, 70, Cathedral of Saint Matthew

Geraldine Struever, 93, St. Pius X

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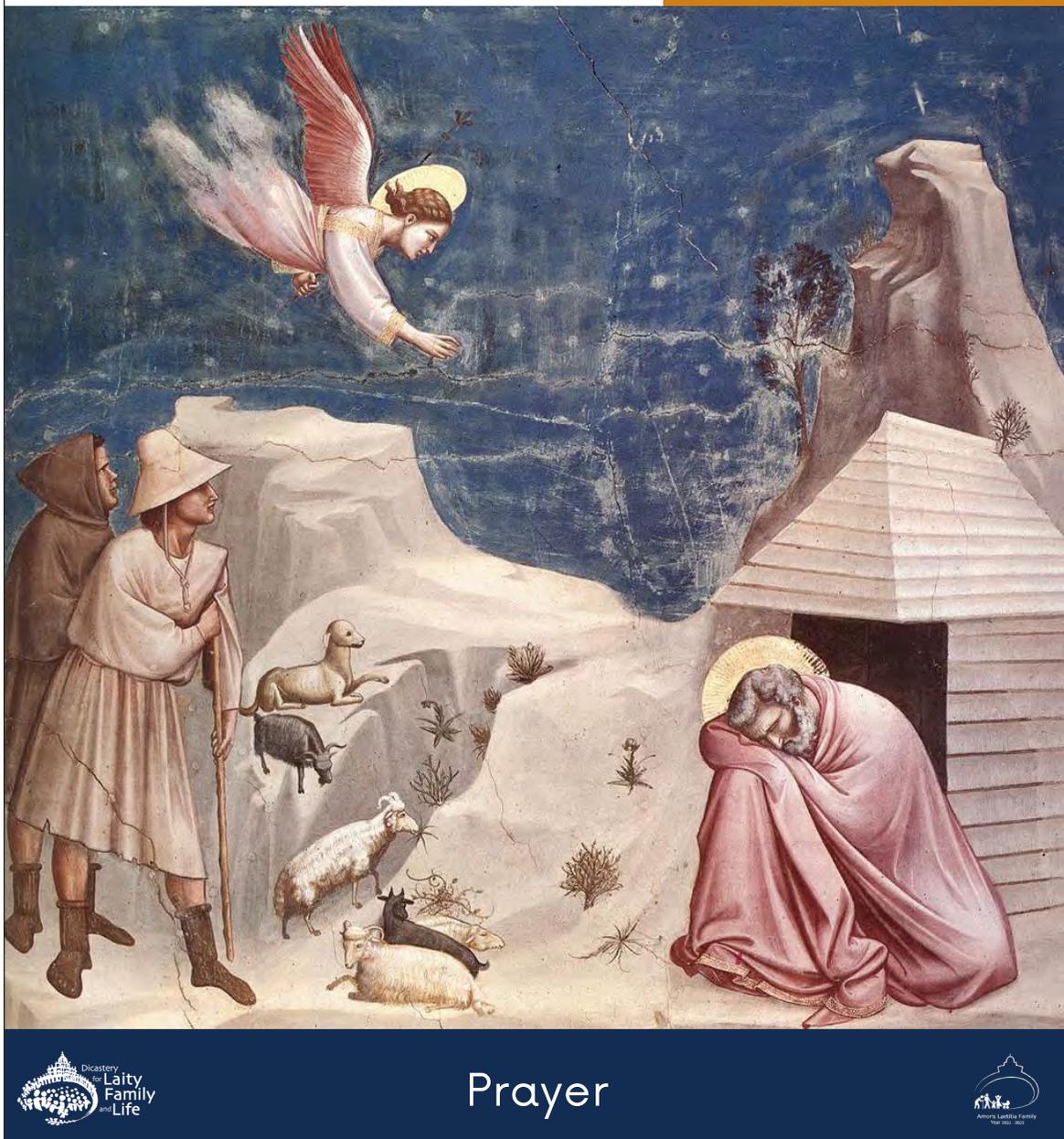
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I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

#IAMWITHYOUALWAYS



Prayer



CNS photo/courtesy Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life

This is the cover for pastoral guidelines issued by the Vatican's Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life for the July 25 celebration of World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Pope Francis and the dicastery called for all Catholics to celebrate the new observance with small acts of kindness.

GRANDPARENTS, from page 1

At the presentation of Pope Francis' message, Soli said she and her peers are on board with the pope's focus on helping humanity come out of the pandemic better off.

"We must try to direct humanity toward a better future with less selfishness and conflict and more fellowship. Yes, the future," she said. "The elderly do not only look to the past. Neither fatigue nor frailty can prevent us from dreaming for the sake of our grandchildren and for the generations to come."

Calling Catholics around the world to mark the day after "dramatic months of difficulty," Cardinal Farrell told reporters, Pope Francis invites people to embrace tenderness, especially

toward the elderly, who suffered so much during the pandemic.

But, he said, the day also is about "the tenderness that grandparents show toward their grandchildren, of the solid guide that the elderly can be for many disoriented children, especially in a time like the one we are living in, in which personal interaction has become rare."

"Tenderness is not just a private feeling, one that soothes wounds, but a way of relating to others, which should also be experienced in public," Cardinal Farrell said. "We have become accustomed to living alone, to not hugging each other, to considering the other as a threat to our health. Our societies, the pope tells us in 'Fratelli Tutti,' are now fragmented."

"Tenderness has a social

value," the cardinal insisted. "It is a remedy we all need, and our elderly are those who can provide it. In a frayed and hardened society emerging from the pandemic, not only is there a need for vaccines and economic recovery — albeit fundamental — but also for relearning the art of relationships. In this, grandparents and the elderly can be our teachers. This is also why they are so important."

PRAYER FOR THE FIRST WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

I thank You, Lord,
for the comfort of Your presence:
even in times of loneliness,
You are my hope and my confidence,
You have been my rock and my fortress since my youth!

I thank You for having given me a family
and for having blessed me with a long life.
I thank You for moments of joy and difficulty,
for the dreams that have already come true in my life and for those that are still ahead of me.
I thank You for this time of renewed fruitfulness to which You call me.

Increase, O Lord, my faith,
make me a channel of your peace,
teach me to embrace those who suffer more than me,
to never stop dreaming
and to tell of your wonders to new generations.

Protect and guide Pope Francis and the Church,
that the light of the Gospel might reach the ends of the earth.
Send Your Spirit, O Lord, to renew the world,
that the storm of the pandemic might be calmed,
the poor consoled and wars ended.

Sustain me in weakness
and help me to live life to the full
in each moment that You give me,
in the certainty that you are with me every day,
even until the end of the age.

Amen.

Plenary indulgence

The first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated online with the hashtag #IamWithYouAlways. It is the hope of Pope Francis that this theme clearly expresses that, during the pandemic and in the better times that will hopefully follow, every ecclesial community wishes to be with the elderly always. This World Day is an opportunity to reaffirm that the Church can never remain distant from the elderly or from anyone who carries a cross.

On this day, July 25, younger adults and children are encouraged to engage in that visible outreach of the Church, a visit to their elderly family and friends.

The Apostolic Penitentiary also promulgated a Decree granting a plenary indulgence on the occasion of the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. The elderly can obtain an indulgence by participating in one of the Masses celebrated on the occasion of this world day. The indulgence will be granted under the usual conditions: sacramental confession, eucharistic communion and prayer.

In view of the continuing health emergency and the fact that some elderly people are unable to attend Mass in person for health reasons, the indulgence is extended to those who participate via television, radio or the internet.

The indulgence is also granted to all those who perform a work of mercy on this World Day by visiting an elderly person who is alone.

In places where visiting in person is expressly forbidden by the public authorities to avoid contagion, it is also possible to obtain the Indulgence through a virtual meeting by uniting spiritually to the sacred functions of the world day, offering prayers, pains or sufferings, through Masses celebrated on television, radio and social media.

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