



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Volume 95 No. 27

TODAYSCATHOLIC.org

Recognizing God's providence

Former Pedro Pan teens give thanks for extraction from Cuba
Page 14

Taxpayer-funded abortion

Pro-life appropriations bill riders fail in House
Page 3

Papal trip

Pope heads to Hungary, Slovakia in September
Page 5

School choice

Expansion puts Catholic education within reach
Page 12

Summer schedule

Digital email Aug. 15; next print issue Aug. 22



CNS photo/Bob Roller

A priest prepares to distribute Communion during Mass in Washington in this 2011 photo.

Eucharist document should unite, not divide, the Church, panelists advise

BY DENNIS SADOWSKI

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, in the middle of drafting a teaching document on the Eucharist, received words of advice from a panel convened July 28 to discuss the challenges facing the American Church as it emerges from the coronavirus pandemic and seeks to overcome divisions that threaten Church unity.

They heard about the importance of bishops being pastors

rather than “chaplains to factions,” the need to communicate Church teaching clearly and without fear, and hearing from as many voices as possible in the weeks remaining before they consider the document during their fall general assembly in November.

The 75-minute discussion left Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana, with ideas to share with the document’s drafters working to strengthen the foundation of the Eucharist being the source and

summit of Catholic life.

Bishop Rhoades is chairman of the bishops’ Committee on Doctrine, which is charged with drafting the document.

He acknowledged the path ahead poses challenges, but it is one the doctrine committee is prepared to address.

“The goal of the document is to contribute to the eucharistic revival,” he said, recapping the USCCB strategic plan for 2021-24 that is focused on the Eucharist being the foundation of Christian life.

“We’re striving to write a document that will contribute to a real eucharistic revival in the Church in our nation by highlighting the truth about the amazing gift that Jesus gave on the night before He died, the importance of beauty and reverence in our celebration of this great mystery, and the wonderful graces that we receive in the Eucharist to grow in our Christian lives,” he explained.

While the document will

EUCCHARIST, page 20

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

(ISSN 0891-1533)
(USPS 403630)

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

PUBLISHER: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Editorial Department

EDITOR: Jodi Marlin

STAFF WRITER: Jennifer Barton

PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

Business Department

BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION: Geoff Frank
circulation@diocesefwsb.org

BUSINESS SALES MANAGER: Erika Barron
ebarron@diocesefwsb.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Find us on Facebook**

www.facebook.com/todayscatholicFWSB

Follow us on Twitter

@diocesefwsb

Follow us on Instagram

@diocesefwsb

Widows profess lives of prayer for priests

BY JENNIFER BARTON

In biblical times, a widow occupied an undesirable place in society. God had commanded that they were to be treated with respect and cared for, but they were not considered productive members of the community.

Not so, the Widows of Prayer. Their stature may not be that of giants, but their prayerful contribution to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is mighty — especially in the eyes of the priests who benefit from those prayers.

"It's wonderful to have a dedicated group of ladies to pray especially for us as priests," said Father Tony Steinacker, pastor of SS. Peter and Paul in Huntington. He calls the ladies "prayer warriors" and praises their dedication to the life God called them to.

The Widows of Prayer are not religious sisters, but sisters in Christ who have committed themselves to a devout prayer life and have made personal promises to live lives of simplicity, chastity and obedience.

The process to become a Widow of Prayer involves three years of discernment; three promises made to the apostolate after her first, second and final year.

Of course, to become a member, one must first be a widow, so many of the members are older women who can dedicate themselves to a sacred prayer life. They also promise never to remarry, believing their vocation to now be spiritual rather than an earthly one.

On Wednesday, July 28, a handful of members made their promises to the Widows of Prayer at St. Mary, Mother of God Parish in Fort Wayne. One was a remote member, from the South Bend area, who made her final promise.

Mass was concelebrated by Father Steinacker, chaplain of the Huntington chapter of Widows of Prayer, and Father Glenn Kohrman. The general servant leader of the order, Alice Peeters, and the assistant servant leader, Carlotta Stricker, drove from Appleton, Wisconsin, where the ministry was founded and is now based, to witness the event.

Stricker explained how the Widows of Prayer are a re-creation of the order of widows from Jesus' time that has lasted for 300 years. The apostolate's focus is praying for the priests who serve the Church.

Stricker said, "We have to pray for our priests. We need more good priests, because without them, we would not have the Catholic Church. And this is what our Blessed Mother has asked of humanity from the very beginning."

One prayer warrior in attendance that day declared that she faithfully prays not only for



Photos by Jennifer Barton

At a Mass July 28 at St. Mary, Mother of God Church in Fort Wayne, Janice Martin, WP, left, professed her second promise with the aid of the Huntington chapter chaplain, Father Tony Steinacker, and local servant leader Catherine Fitzgerald, WP.

priests, but for all the bishops in their sometimes-difficult roles as leaders of the Church.

There are two local Widows of Prayer chapters; Huntington was the first, and later the Fort Wayne widows established their own group. It is hoped that the South Bend area will see a community established soon. Father Kohrman attended the Mass to witness Kathy Heying make her final profession, because Heying is a member of his parish of Holy Family and the only professed Widow of Prayer in the South Bend area for now.

When she was searching for a religious community that accepted older vocations, Heying learned about the Widows of Prayer from Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. It took her about five years to finally explore the apostolate and decide that it was right for her.

"I'm very happy, I'm very at peace," she remarked. "I guess all those years of searching, this is where God really wanted me. I love praying for the priests and praying for my family."

Father Kohrman provides spiritual direction to Heying spiritual direction and strongly supports the formation of a chapter in South Bend.

"Clearly, I think the tradition in the Scriptures would be the holy widows," he said. "Anything to foster that kind of devotion to prayer would be a good thing. I'm certainly more than open to doing whatever I can to facilitate that on the South Bend side of the diocese."

After the Mass, Father Kohrman learned that his mother Bonnie, who died in 2004, was a Widow of Prayer candidate — although another widow said she believed Bonnie made her final promise on her deathbed.

"She was very much a prayerful woman, and anyone could talk to her, she was very easy to talk to," Father Kohrman said of



Fitzgerald leads other members of the apostolate in prayer for the deceased members of each of the seven chapters.

his mother, stating that it was "kind of a cool thing" to learn about her dedication to the ministry and he was eager to share the discovery with his siblings.

Bonnie was not the only mother of a priest who became a Widow of Prayer. Mary Elizabeth Voors, the recently deceased mother of Father David Voors, was a member of the apostolate. Her obituary reads that after her husband's death, she began "meeting, praying and working together for mutual support and common prayer for the Catholic Church and its leaders."

This is what draws many of the widows to the apostolate.

"I like my prayer life. I think I'm doing what the Lord wants me to do in the present time of my life. I like being with all the ladies; they're all wonderful, wonderful women," said Mary Lou Sohn, servant leader of the Fort Wayne chapter and a professed Widow for around 15 years. She was introduced to the apostolate through a friend in Huntington and helped start the chapter in Fort Wayne. While she is a member of St. Jude, she speculated that nearly every parish in the city is represented by at least one member of the Widows of Prayer.

According to Peeters there are seven communities of Widows of Prayer, mostly in the Midwest, and 56 insignia-wearing members. She would love to see increased growth, knowing the power of prayer.

At one time there were 120 members, but many have passed on and were remembered in prayer after the Mass on Wednesday.

Peeters gets to witness the joy of new members making their pledges and has deep admiration for the members, describing them as "beautiful women, being able to make promises, coming from devastation sometimes because of all the downfall when you lose a spouse, but getting up and going on from that."

Today, these strong women contribute to the Catholic Church by lifting up priests, seminarians, bishops and Church leaders in prayer each day. The diocese has seen an increase in vocations in recent years, attributed in part to the intercession of the women who seek to emulate the holy widows of the Bible, particularly the Blessed Mother.

To learn more or become a Widow of Prayer visit widowsofprayer.org, which lists the contact information for local

House's refusal to include Hyde in spending bills is called an 'injustice'

BY JULIE ASHER

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The refusal by the U.S. House to include the Hyde Amendment and other pro-life riders in appropriations bills before lawmakers passed the measures is an "injustice" that overshadows the provisions that help "vulnerable people," said the chairmen of two U.S. bishops' committees.

Late July 29, the House voted 219 to 208 in favor of H.R. 4502, a package of appropriations bills that currently exclude the Hyde, Weldon and Helms amendments and other longstanding, bipartisan-supported pro-life language.

Eliminating these provisions would force taxpayers to pay for elective abortions and would have the effect of forcing health care providers and professionals "to perform and refer for abortion against their deeply-held beliefs, as well as forcing employers and insurers to cover and pay for abortion," said the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in a news release issued after the vote.

The release included a joint statement on the House actions by Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan of New York, chairman of the USCCB's Committee for Religious Liberty, and Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

"The House has voted in a way that is completely out of step with the will of the American people who overwhelmingly oppose taxpayer-funded abortion," the prelates said.

"The Hyde Amendment has saved at least 2.4 million lives since its enactment. Without it, millions of poor women in desperate circumstances will make the irrevocable decision to take the government up on its offer to end the life of their child," they said.

The now-approved package of spending bills "includes provisions that help vulnerable people, including pregnant moms," they acknowledged, but "as we have said before, 'being right' in such matters can never excuse a wrong choice regarding direct attacks on innocent human life."

This "failure to protect and defend life in its most vulnerable stages renders suspect any claims to the 'rightness' of positions in other matters affecting the poorest and least powerful of the human community," they said, again quoting a previous bishops' statement.

H.R. 4502 covers spending for Agriculture; Energy and Water Development; Financial Services and General Government; Interior, Environment and related agencies, Labor, Health and Human Services and Education; Military Construction, Veterans



CNS photo/Kevin Lamarque, Reuters

A pro-life activist rallies outside the U.S. Supreme Court during the 47th annual March for Life in Washington Jan. 24, 2020.

Affairs and related agencies; and Transportation and Housing and Urban Development.

The Hyde Amendment, first enacted with strong bipartisan support 45 years ago, outlaws federal tax dollars from directly funding abortion except in cases of rape, incest or when the life of the woman would be endangered.

Congress must reauthorize the Hyde Amendment annually as an attachment to the appropriations bill for the Department of Health and Human Services. Hyde language also has been part of a dozen spending bills for decades. Until this year, Hyde has been reauthorized every year since 1976.

"The injustice in H.R. 4502 extends to removing conscience protections and exemptions for health care providers who believe abortion is wrong, or whose faith drives them to serve and heal lives, instead of taking them," Cardinal Dolan and Archbishop Naumann said, referring to the Weldon Amendment, first passed in 2005.

"Funding the destruction of innocent unborn human lives, and forcing people to kill in violation of their consciences, are grave abuses of human rights," they said.

The cardinal and archbishop called on the Senate "to redress this evil in H.R. 4502, and for Congress to ultimately pass appropriations bills that fully support and protect human dignity, and the most vulnerable among us."

On July 28, the House voted 217-212 to pass the appropriations bill for the State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development, H.R. 4373, without the Helms Amendment. Called "the Hyde Amendment for the rest of the world," it has prohibited using U.S. taxpayer funds to directly pay for abortions in other countries since 1973.

In a July 30 joint statement, Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop

Naumann and Bishop David J. Malloy of Rockford, Illinois, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on International Justice and Peace, criticized the House for eliminating Helms.

"(This) could force recipient countries that have strong legal and cultural opposition to abortion to embrace it in order to receive desperately-needed help for their people," they said.

"Pope Francis has referred to this type of situation as ideological colonization," they added, calling on the Senate "to stand against the coercive pro-abortion policies of H.R. 4373."

"While this legislation contains many positive provisions that provide assistance to the poor and vulnerable worldwide, including protection of refugees, increases to humanitarian assistance, and protection of the environment, nothing can justify subsidizing the taking of innocent human life," the prelates said.

In a July 29 email, U.S. Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., a co-chair of the Congressional Pro-Life Caucus, told Catholic News Service that he, Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla., and other House members "pushed hard in the Rules Committee and in the House debates to defend the unborn and their mothers from the violence of abortion."

"A total of 14 pro-life amendments were ruled out of order by the Democratic majority," Smith said in July 27 remarks on the House floor. "All is not lost, however. I remain hopeful — confident — that the Senate will reinstate all current pro-life protections, like the Hyde Amendment."

Before the full House took up the spending bills for fiscal year 2022, the House Appropriations Committee had spent the previous weeks marking up the bills on largely party-line votes to advance them to the House floor.

In marking them up, commit-



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Friday, August 20: 10:30 a.m. — Meeting of Hispanic Apostolate, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Warsaw

Saturday, August 21: 10 a.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Joseph Church, LaGrange



Priest appointments

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

Reverend Michael Ammer, to part-time Priest Chaplain at Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, effective Aug. 2, 2021.

Reverend Mark Enemali, C.S.S.p., to Administrator of Immaculate Conception Parish, Auburn, effective August 17, 2021.



Confirmation Masses fall 2021

The following is a schedule of the fall Masses at which Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will confer the sacrament of confirmation.

Parish/location	Date	Time
<i>Additional parishes included</i>		
St. Joseph Church, LaGrange	Aug. 21	10 a.m.
St. Michael the Archangel Church, Waterloo	Aug. 29	10:30 a.m.
Sacred Heart Church, Warsaw	Sept. 29	7 p.m.
<i>Sacred Heart Parish, Warsaw</i>		
<i>St. Martin de Porres Parish, Syracuse</i>		
St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend	Oct. 10	11 a.m.
Sacred Heart Church, Fort Wayne	Oct. 15	5 p.m.
St. Mary of the Annunciation Church, Bristol	Oct. 17	2 p.m.
St. Joseph Church, South Bend	Oct. 20	7 p.m.
Corpus Christi Church, South Bend	Oct. 21	7:30 p.m.
St. Anthony de Padua Church, South Bend	Oct. 24	10:30 a.m.
St. John the Evangelist Church, Goshen	Oct. 27	7 p.m.
St. Jude Church, South Bend	Oct. 28	7 p.m.
St. John the Evangelist Church, Goshen	Oct. 29	7 p.m.
Holy Cross Church, South Bend	Oct. 31	10:30 a.m.
St. Charles Borromeo Church, Fort Wayne	Nov. 4	7 p.m.
St. Jude Church, Fort Wayne	Nov. 7	3 p.m.
St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr Church, South Bend	Dec. 2	6:30 p.m.
Christ the King Church, South Bend	Dec. 3	7 p.m.
St. Joseph Church, Mishawaka	Dec. 4	10 a.m.
<i>St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka</i>		
<i>St. Bavo Parish, Mishawaka</i>		
<i>St. Monica Parish, Mishawaka</i>		
Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Notre Dame	Dec. 5	12 p.m.

Good Shepherd
BOOKS • GIFT


SIDEWALK SALE

AUG. 13-14

IN ADDITION TO ALREADY MARKED DOWN ITEMS TAKE
20% OFF
REGULAR PRICED MERCHANDISE
FREE PARKING IN GARAGE AT 915 S. CLINTON ST.

HOURS:
M-F 10AM-6PM • SAT. 10AM-2PM
WWW.GOODSHEPHERDBOOKSTORE.ORG
260-399-1442

Rediscover the Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana



Your LEGACY starts here

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

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF NORTHEAST INDIANA
www.ccfnei.org

Welcoming Dr. Emily Krach, D.O.
to our Credo Family
Joining us September 2021!




- Dr. David J. Moran, MD
- Dr. Emily M. Krach, DO
- Cassandalee A. Herber, FNP-C
- Nicholas M. Lesch, PA-C
- Dr. Andrew J. Mullally, MD

CREDO
FAMILY MEDICINE
PRIVATE • INDEPENDENT • PRO-LIFE
(260) 4- FAMILY
credofamilymedicine.com

JOIN THE MISSION
www.todayscatholic.org/subscribe

Illinois Catholic starts '52 Masses' tour of 50 states, D.C., Puerto Rico

BY DAVE HRBACEK

ST. MICHAEL, Minn. (CNS) — It's doubtful anyone matched Daniel Markham's driving distance for the 6 p.m. Sunday Mass June 13 at St. Michael in St. Michael.

He came all the way from Tinley Park, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago, on a journey that began two days earlier, winding through Wichita, Kansas, and heading north through Iowa to the Twin Cities — all because of a phone conversation with the parish business administrator at St. Michael, Dave Ferry.

Five years ago, Markham decided he wanted to attend Mass in all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. After several years of waiting, dreaming and planning, he got going the weekend of June 5 and 6 when he visited two states on the East Coast, Connecticut and New Hampshire.

After coming back to his home in Tinley Park, he went to Wichita for a Mass June 12 and hopped in his car the next morning to drive to St. Michael. The day after Mass there, he went even farther north to visit Extreme Faith Camp near Pine River, about two hours north of the Twin Cities. The summer-camp ministry was founded 20 years ago by John O'Sullivan, youth director at St. Michael.

Markham's taste of Minnesota will be highlighted in a book he plans to write after finishing all 52 visits, with the last one taking place in July 2022. The book will be called "52 Masses," and will recount his visits not just to parishes but to ministries and organizations that intrigue him.

In an interview with The Catholic Spirit, newspaper of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and

Minneapolis, he said he hopes to finish the book, which will be published by Peregrino Press in Green Bay, Wisconsin, by the end of 2022.

In the case of St. Michael, Markham said he was lured by the parish's vibrant youth ministry, both O'Sullivan's regular outreach plus the camps that take place every summer. Recently, Extreme Faith Camp announced it was joining with Damascus Catholic Mission Campus in Ohio to become Catholic Youth Summer Camp.

St. Michael was one of several dozen parishes in Minnesota to respond to queries Markham sent in 2018 and 2019. At the beginning of the project, he looked up websites and contact information for parishes in each state, then sent emails asking for more information. A parish staff member at St. Michael read the email and directed him to Ferry, who talked about youth ministry at St. Michael.

"I actually got a lot of really nice responses from Minnesota," said Markham, 54, who belongs to St. Gerald Parish in Oak Lawn, Illinois, with his wife, Kem. "One of the strongest responses of any state was from here. It was really neat."

Currently, he has nearly half of his visits planned. He will finalize the rest between trips. His job as an editor of a trade magazine in the steel industry allows enough flexibility to accommodate his ambitious travel itinerary. In some cases, business and Mass trips coincide.

In addition to watching and documenting the ministry in action, which is based in Knoxville, Tennessee, and called St. Mary's Legacy Clinic, Markham hopes to roll up his sleeves and help. He considers that an important part of the

project, too.

"When I go there, I want to volunteer and help them, not just observe," he said. "Wherever possible, I want to actually participate as much as I can."

Most of the time, Markham will drive to his destination — in his wife's 2014 Subaru — but will take the plane when necessary. In one instance, he not only will fly to the state, but keep on flying while there. That is causing more than a little apprehension.

"I'm going to Alaska and I'm going to fly with a priest who's a pilot, to serve the communities you can't reach by vehicle," he said. "I'm absolutely terrified of the idea of flying around in a little plane with the priest who's a pilot. But, when he invited me, I knew I couldn't say no."

One of the last trips will be to the Blackfoot Reservation in Montana, where he will attend a powwow that closes with a Mass. He will attend another outdoor Mass at Yellowstone National Park, which features regular Masses on weekends. These events are part of the diversity in the U.S. Catholic Church that he wants to feature in his book.

"There are so many wonderful things that take place on a daily basis in our Church," he said. "That's what I want to get across (in the book). That's ultimately why I'm doing it."

On the personal side, he added, "I want to come home a much better Catholic in every way possible."

Hrbacek is a photographer/reporter at The Catholic Spirit, newspaper of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

HYDE, from page 3

tee members left out the Hyde, Weldon and Helms amendments.

Their actions after President Joe Biden released his proposed budget May 28 without the Hyde Amendment, a move decried by the U.S. Catholic bishops, the Catholic Health Association, several national pro-life organizations, and Smith and many other pro-life House members.

Other pro-life reaction to the House's July 29 vote included a statement from Jeanne Mancini, president of March for Life, who criticized "pro-abortion Democrats" for eliminating provisions that "protect the American public from funding or providing abortions against their will."

"Consistent polling shows that a majority of Americans want these protections" she said in a July 29 statement. "It is time codify these popular and

common-sense riders into law by passing the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortions Act. No one should be forced to compromise their values, but especially not on this life-or-death issue."

Mancini was referring to the proposed No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act of 2021, or H.R. 18, which would make Hyde and similar provisions permanent. Smith is the author of the bill, which has 166 co-sponsors.

Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly said the House vote "to make taxpayers pay for abortions is both an assault on the dignity of life and contrary to the wishes of most Americans." He cited the results of Knights of Columbus/Marist polling this year showing "that 58% of Americans oppose the use of taxpayer-funding for abortions ... affirming over a decade of previous polling data."

"We urge the Senate to include the Hyde Amendment and other similar provisions as they undertake the appropriations process and for the full Congress to ultimately pass spending bills that affirm this bipartisan desire of the American public," Kelly said.

"We call on all legislators, especially our fellow Catholics, to have the courage to make a stand for conscience and to not force every tax-paying American to pay for the destruction of innocent life in the womb," he said.

Jennifer Popik, legislative director of National Right to Life, said the Hyde Amendment "has proven to be the greatest domestic abortion-reduction measure ever enacted by Congress. ... (It) is widely recognized as having saved over two million American lives since it was first adopted in 1976."

Vatican publishes schedule for papal trip to Hungary, Slovakia

BY JUNNO AROCHO ESTEVES

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis' September trip to Hungary and Slovakia features a jam-packed schedule that shows he has no intention of slowing down despite his recent recovery from colon surgery.

The Vatican July 21 released the pope's schedule for the trip Sept. 12-15, including the closing Mass of the International Eucharistic Congress in Budapest.

The pope announced the trip July 4 to pilgrims gathered in St. Peter's Square for his Sunday Angelus address.

"From the bottom of my heart, I thank those who are preparing this journey, and I am praying for them," he said. "Let us all pray for this journey and for the people who are working to organize it."

Arriving in Hungary Sept. 12, the pope will meet with Hungarian President János Áder and Prime Minister Viktor Orbán before meeting with the country's bishops and representatives of the Ecumenical Council of Churches and several Jewish communities.

After celebrating the closing Mass of the International Eucharistic Congress, the pope will immediately depart for Bratislava, Slovakia, where he will participate at an ecumenical gathering at the apostolic nunciature before meeting privately with a group of Jesuit priests.

Responding to questions on Twitter July 5 regarding the pope's brief stay in Hungary, Eduard Habsburg, the Hungarian ambassador to the Holy See, said the pope "is doing exactly what



CNS photo/courtesy Holy See press office

This is the logo for Pope Francis' visit to Slovakia Sept. 12-15. The Vatican released July 21 the schedule for Pope Francis' trip to Hungary and Slovakia.

he has been invited for — in Budapest, the final Mass of the @iec2021Budapest (the eucharistic congress), in Slovakia, an extended visit to the country."

While in Slovakia, the pope also will visit the cities of Presov and Kosice July 14 where he will preside over a Divine Liturgy, as well as meet with members of the Roma community and young people.

On his final day, July 15, Pope Francis will pray and celebrate Mass with the country's bishops at the Basilica of Our Lady of Seven Sorrows in Šaštín before returning to Rome.

Here is the detailed schedule released by the Vatican July 21. Times listed are local, with Eastern Daylight Time in parenthesis:

Sunday, Sept. 12 (Rome, Budapest, Bratislava)

— 6 a.m. (12 a.m.) Departure from Rome's Fiumicino airport
— 7:45 a.m. (1:45 a.m.)

Arrival at Budapest international airport. Welcoming ceremony.

— 8:45 a.m. (2:45 a.m.) Meeting with President János Áder and Prime Minister Viktor Orbán at the Museum of Fine Arts in Budapest.

— 9:15 a.m. (3:15 a.m.) Meeting with Hungary's bishops at the Museum of Fine Arts in Budapest. Speech by pope.

— 10 a.m. (4 a.m.) Meeting with representatives of the Ecumenical Council of Churches and several Jewish communities of Hungary at the Museum of Fine Arts in Budapest. Speech by pope.

— 11:30 a.m. (5:30 a.m.) Closing Mass of the International Eucharistic Congress at Heroes' Square in Budapest. Homily by pope.

— 2:30 p.m. (8:30 a.m.) Farewell ceremony at Budapest international airport.

— 2:40 p.m. (8:40 a.m.) Departure by plane for Bratislava.

— 3:30 p.m. (9:30 a.m.) Arrival at Bratislava international airport. Welcoming ceremony.

— 4:30 p.m. (10:30 a.m.) Ecumenical Meeting at the apostolic nunciature.

— 5:30 p.m. (11:30 a.m.) Private meeting with Jesuit priests.

Monday, Sept. 13 (Bratislava)

— 9:15 a.m. (3:15 a.m.) Welcoming ceremony at the presidential palace.

— 9:30 a.m. (3:30 a.m.) Courtesy visit with Zuzana Caputová, president of Slovakia, in the Golden Hall of the presidential palace.

— 10 a.m. (4 a.m.) Meeting with government authorities, members of civil society and the diplomatic corps in the garden of the presidential palace. Speech by pope.

— 10:45 a.m. (4:45 a.m.) Meeting with priests, men and women religious, seminarians and catechists at the Cathedral of St. Martin. Speech by pope.

— 4 p.m. (10 a.m.) Private visit to the "Bethlehem Center."

— 4:45 p.m. (10:45 a.m.) Meeting with the Jewish community in Rybné námestie Square. Speech by pope.

— 6 p.m. (12 p.m.) Meeting with the president of the parliament at the apostolic nunciature.

— 6:15 p.m. (12:15 p.m.) Meeting with Prime Minister Eduard Heger at the apostolic nunciature.

Tuesday, Sept. 14 (Bratislava, Košice, Prešov, Košice, Bratislava)

— 8:10 a.m. (2:10 a.m.)

Departure by plane for Košice. — 9 a.m. (3 a.m.) Arrival at Košice airport.

— 10:30 a.m. (4:30 a.m.) Byzantine Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom at Mestská športová hala Square in Prešov. Homily by pope.

— 4 p.m. (10 a.m.) Meeting with Roma community in the Luník IX neighborhood in Košice. Greeting by pope.

— 5 p.m. (11 a.m.) Meeting with young people at Lokomotiva Stadium in Košice. Speech by pope.

— 6:30 p.m. (12:30 p.m.) Departure by plane for Bratislava.

— 7:30 p.m. (1:30 p.m.) Arrival at Bratislava international airport.

Wednesday, Sept. 15 (Bratislava, Šaštín, Bratislava, Rome)

— 9:10 a.m. (3:10 a.m.) Moment of prayer with bishops at the Basilica of Our Lady of Seven Sorrows in Šaštín.

— 10 a.m. (4 a.m.) Mass at the Basilica of Our Lady of Seven Sorrows in Šaštín. Homily by pope.

— 1:30 p.m. (7:30 a.m.) Farewell ceremony at Bratislava international airport.

— 1:45 p.m. (7:45 a.m.) Departure by plane for Rome.

— 3:30 p.m. (9:30 a.m.) Arrival at Rome's Ciampino airport.

High-Efficiency Windows

Jim Bushey
Jeff Bushey

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

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

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

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

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



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



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

Indiana's Premier Butcher Shop and Deli

CATERING, MEAT BUNDLES, PREPARED FOOD, AND MORE!

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

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

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

Parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne

GET THE FREE DIGITAL EDITION
TodaysCatholic.org/Subscribe

Notre Dame alum is first American to win individual gold in foil fencing

TOKYO (CNS) — “Golden is thy fame, indeed,” the University of Notre Dame in Indiana tweeted July 25 after Lee Kiefer, class of 2017, won the gold medal in women’s foil fencing at the Tokyo Games. She beat defending champion Inna Deriglazova of Russia 15-13. Kiefer, 27, is the first American, male or female, to win an individual Olympic medal in foil fencing. “It’s such an incredible feeling that I share with my coach, I share with my husband, with my family, just everyone that’s been a part of this,” Kiefer was quoted as saying in an Indianapolis Star story. “I wish I could chop it (the medal) up in little pieces and distributed it to everyone I love.” Now a medical student at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine, Kiefer was the fifth-ranked foilist in the world going into the Olympics. Tokyo was her third trip to the Summer Games; she competed in London in 2012 and Rio de Janeiro in 2016; she placed fifth in foil in 2012 and 10th in 2016. Eight of the members of the USA Fencing team have a Notre Dame connection, including Mariel Zagunis, class of 2008, who was the first American to win a gold medal in Olympic fencing, in Athens in 2004.

German bishop: Floods’ damage to souls might be worse than property issues

TRIER, Germany (CNS) — Dealing with the aftermath of the recent floods in parts of Germany will be a long-haul effort for people, said Bishop Stephan Ackermann of Trier, whose diocese was one of the worst-hit regions. The German Catholic news agency KNA reported that in a July 30 letter to Christians in the diocese, Bishop Ackermann said it would take a long time to clear up the damage and rebuild the local infrastructure. But patience will be needed “perhaps even more for the internal injuries and burdens which the disaster inflicted on souls and which perhaps are not yet externally visible,” he added. Bishop Ackermann stressed that in addition to providing direct help, the task for the Church was to “create spaces and opportunities that give room to what was experienced and suffered, so that it can be put into words of grief and lament, of questions and gratitude,” KNA reported. Germany’s churches plan to hold an ecumenical service in Aachen cathedral Aug. 28 to commemorate the at least 160 victims of the flooding in the country, announced the German bishops’ conference and the Protestant Church in Germany. Bishop Georg Bätzing, president of the German

NEWS BRIEFS

Pro-life advocates hope new flag becomes unifying symbol of movement



CNS photo/courtesy Pro-Life Flag Project

Nanda Gasperini, a pro-life graphic artist in São Paulo, Brazil, designed this pro-life flag, seen in this undated photo. It was selected in an online vote in mid-July as the international symbol of the pro-life movement. The rainbow flag is an instantly recognized symbol of the LGBTQ movement, just as the Thin Blue Line flag is synonymous with support for law enforcement. Now, leaders in the pro-life community hope the new flag featuring baby’s feet held in a mother’s hands will serve as the universal symbol for protecting the lives of the unborn.

bishops’ conference, and Bishop Heinrich Bedford-Strohm, head of the Protestant council, will lead the service. Representatives of other religions, relatives of the victims, helpers, emergency pastoral workers and political leaders, along with representatives from neighboring countries hit by the flooding are expected to attend.

Ledecky gives shout out to her grandparents after winning Olympic gold

WASHINGTON (CNS) — U.S. swimmer Katie Ledecky won the Olympic gold medal July 28 for the women’s 1,500-meter freestyle, a new event, on the heels of coming in fifth place in the 200-meter freestyle. The 24-year-old swimmer, who went to a Catholic elementary school and high school in Maryland, told reporters at the Tokyo Olympics after her comeback that the most pressure she feels is the pres-

sure she puts on herself. “People maybe feel bad for me not winning everything, but I want people to be more concerned about other things going on in the world,” she said. The win — completed in 15 minute and 37 seconds — was Ledecky’s sixth Olympic gold. Erica Sullivan of the U.S. won silver and Sarah Kohler of Germany won the bronze. In the hour between the two races when she swam in the warm-down pool, she said she focused on her grandparents. This emphasis coincidentally was just days after the Catholic Church celebrated its first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. In his homily for the July 25 celebration, Pope Francis wrote that grandparents are a “precious source of nourishment.”

Fifth Chinese bishop ordained with both government, papal approval

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — When

Father Anthony Li Hui was ordained a bishop July 28 in the cathedral of the Diocese of Pingliang, China, he became the fifth Chinese bishop appointed under the terms of a Vatican-China agreement signed in 2018 and renewed in 2020, the Vatican press office said. Bishop Li was appointed coadjutor bishop of Pingliang by Pope Francis Jan. 11, 2021, said Matteo Bruni, director of the Vatican press office. He eventually will succeed Bishop Nicholas Han Jide, who is 81 years old and has led the diocese since 1999. Bishop Han was one of the concelebrants of Bishop Li’s ordination. Bishop Li was born in 1972 in Mei County, Shaanxi province, and, after completing his studies at the diocesan seminary in Pingliang and at the national seminary, he was ordained to the priesthood in 1996. The Vatican-China provisional agreement outlines procedures for ensuring that Catholic bishops are elected by the Catholic community in China and approved by the pope before their ordinations and installations. Vatican officials have said

that giving up full control over the choice of bishops would not be what the Vatican hoped for, but that the agreement was a good first step toward ensuring greater freedom and security for the Catholic community in China.

Church helps Myanmar’s struggling health system cope with COVID-19

YANGON, Myanmar (CNS) — The Catholic Church is lending a hand to people affected by the coronavirus in Myanmar as the country’s health system struggles to cope with a record wave of COVID-19 infections. Ucanews.com reported that St. Joseph’s Catholic Major Seminary in Yangon has been converted into a care center and currently accommodates 50 people in serious condition, needing oxygen support. More beds are being arranged to accommodate 70 people in the seminary because more than 50 people have been on the waiting list, Church officials said. Another 50 people have been admitted in the Epiphany Church compound in Yangon, while a seminary in Thanlyin, a port city near Yangon, is being converted into a care center. More care centers are being opened in Catholic dioceses such as Myitkyina, Lashio and Taungngu, ucanews.com reported.

Faith helps guide cyclist on the road to her Olympic dream

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — The road ahead is a busy and joyful one for 28-year-old Coryn Rivera, starting with the dream that she has been racing toward since she was 10: representing the United States as an Olympic athlete in cycling, the sport she loves. Rivera lived that dream July 25 when she competed in the road race at the Summer Olympics in Tokyo, speeding along a 140-kilometer course — about 87 miles. Although she finished seventh and out of the running for a medal, Rivera in an interview ahead of her event called it “a huge honor” to be competing in the Tokyo Games. “I’m proud of my country. I’m proud of where I grew up,” said Rivera, a 2015 graduate of Marian University in Indianapolis. She lives in Tustin, California, where she and her family have been longtime members of St. Thomas More Parish. Besides cycling, her Catholic faith has had a big impact on her life. “I grew up in a Catholic family, and I’m still practicing,” said Rivera, the daughter of two immigrants from the Philippines who met in the United States. “It’s the backbone of my family. It’s given me guidance. It’s given me hope and faith in what we’re going through. God has always led our family. It’s kept us really strong.”

Christ Child Society Clothing Center open for school year

MISHAWAKA — The Christ Child Society Clothing Center, 2366 Miracle Lane, Mishawaka, in the Town and Country Shopping Center, is open and ready to prepare children to go back to school.

Clothing is available for children from birth to 12 years of age, including new winter coats, gloves and hats, new jeans, leggings or joggers, shirts, uniform pants and shirts, underwear, socks and new athletic shoes. Infants receive a tote bag full of clothing, blankets, a hand knit sweater set and baby supplies.

Families at or below 130% of the poverty level are eligible for clothing. A referral form can be obtained from one of over 30 agencies, including Goodwill, St. Vincent de Paul Society and Women's Care Center as well as South Bend, Mishawaka, Penn-Harris Madison and Catholic schools in St. Joseph County. A complete list of referral agencies can be found on the CCS website, www.christchildsb.org.

The clothing center is open every Wednesday until mid-December, as well as five Sunday afternoons and eight Thursday evenings.

CCS is the only organization in the area that provides a complete set of all new winter clothing to under-resourced children. Normal store procedures have been altered to ensure the health of both clients and volunteers: Clients will continue to obtain a referral from one of over 30 local agencies or their child's school, but although there is a spacious client waiting area at the clothing center location, small groups of clients will be brought in at a

AROUND THE DIOCESE

South Bend Theology on Tap



Molly Gettinger

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades joined area young adults at St. Therese, Little Flower Parish, South Bend, July 27 to speak at Theology on Tap. His talk, titled "This Is My Body: The Real Presence and Eucharistic Miracles," was preceded by music from Jon Schommer and The Hopeful Sound and an opportunity to enjoy food from several taco trucks. Theology on Tap is a Catholic speaker series for young adults to share in food, fellowship and faith: For more information about the South Bend Theology on Tap schedule visit diocesefwsb.org/tot.

time and others asked to wait in their cars until called. All clients will be asked to wear a mask in light of the increasing Delta variant threat.

Forever Learning Institute returns to in-person programming

SOUTH BEND — Forever Learning Institute, the award-winning senior adult school, will offer in-person and remote learning this fall to accommodate all area life-long learners.

In celebration of the fall semester, Forever Learning will host a "Forever Returning Festival" Wednesday, Sept. 1, at Howard Park Event Center from 2:30-4:30 p.m. With music, games and refreshments, the afternoon will be an opportunity for students, teachers and area seniors to reacquaint themselves with the school. The event is \$10 per person and is open to the public.

Classes take place at the main campus in the parish center of St. Therese, Little Flower Parish, the Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley, Southfield Village and Howard Park Event Center, as well as at numerous partner organizations throughout Michiana.

Registration for classes is available online beginning Aug. 16. Students may view all course offerings at www.foreverlearninginstitute.org. Forever Learning also prints and distributes course guides each semester available at Forever Learning, 54191 Ironwood Road, South Bend. Guides are also available at all St. Joseph County and Mishawaka Public Libraries.

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ jubilarians serve in faith

DONALDSON — The years were 1946, 1951 and 1971. They were historic in many regards. In 1946, the world watched the Nuremberg Trials unfold at the beginning of post-WWII America. In 1951 the publication of the classic novel, "The Catcher in the Rye," took place, and in 1971 the "The Pentagon Papers" was released. In those years three Poor Handmaids also professed their first vows, making quiet history of their own. It's a history of service lived through faith. Sisters Antoinette Volk, Joan Fisher and Kathryn Haas all celebrate jubilees with the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ this year.

Sister Antoinette celebrates her 75th jubilee. She professed her first vows in 1946. She was born in 1922 in Wendelin, Illinois, and served in the ministry of hos-



SISTER
ANTOINETTE
VOLK

pitality services, hospitality management, senior care and community service. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Sister Antoinette ministered at St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne and at Convent Ancilla Domini in Donaldson.

Reflecting on her 70th jubilee in 2016, Sister Antoinette said, "When we take a moment to reflect upon time, we are certainly astonished to see how quickly the years of our lives have passed and the richness these years have given us." Sister Antoinette is retired at the Catherine Kasper Home in Donaldson and ministers in community service and prayer.

Sister Joan commemorates 70 years as a Poor Handmaid. Born in Chicago in 1930, she professed her first vows in 1951. She began her ministry in teaching and later became an advocate for the



SISTER JOAN
FISHER

poor and underserved, ministering in Cairo, Illinois, and as one of the founding Sisters of Sojourner Truth House in Gary. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Sister Joan served at St. Joseph School in Mishawaka, St. Mary Parish in Fort Wayne and Convent Ancilla Domini.

Sister Joan noted at her 60th jubilee in 2011, "I wouldn't change any of it for a moment. Now at this time of my life I am grateful for all those opportunities and wish I could have done more, but that is in the Lord's hands." She is retired to Catherine's Cottage in Donaldson and ministers in sewing, community service and prayer.

Sister Kathryn celebrates 50 years as a PHJC Sister this year. Born in 1950 in Trenton, Illinois, she professed her first vows in 1971. She has served in the ministries of



SISTER KATHRYN
HAAS

education, parish ministry, vocation ministry, community service and as a provincial councilor from 2005-13. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Sister Kathryn ministered at St. Monica School in Mishawaka, Peace and Justice Center and the University of Notre Dame in South Bend and Convent Ancilla Domini. Sister Kathryn resides at Convent Ancilla Domini and ministers in community service and prayer.

Of her upcoming milestone, Sister Kathryn reflected on her family and church community's influence on her path to becoming a Poor Handmaid.

"Many varied and treasured memories easily come to mind and heart as I think back on my life as a Poor Handmaid," she said. "My family and growing up in a rural community and parish have been foundational steps in my journey as a woman, as a Christian, as a Poor Handmaid Sister and as a part of the larger communities of life.

"My relationship with God was nurtured by my family and a close-

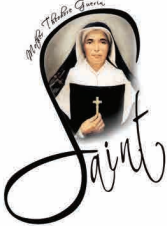
ness to nature that was part of my growing up on a family farm. I stepped forward in my journey to become a sister because I was encouraged by the love of my family. The support of my parents and modeling of living life generously and in service to others along with that of my parish community were key for me.

"In becoming a sister, I became part of another community. I have been blessed with experiences that built on the values I came with and that expanded my perspective on life. Understandably, there have been difficult times, along with times of celebration, times of confusion and sadness and times of wonderment at the gifts of life. I often wanted a clear answer or direction regarding ministry or some other steps on this journey of life.

I learned that the way isn't always clear and that the unexpected turns can lead to growth and be enriching, when walking the path with others and in tune with God."


Father Solanus Casey feast day festival draws faithful to his former residence at friary






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


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



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



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



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

Rates Subject to change based on the ACCGA.

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

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

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

The July 30 feast day of Blessed Solanus Casey is celebrated annually at the St. Felix Catholic Center monastery in Huntington where the simplex Capuchin priest lived for several years. This year, the prayers, celebration and fellowship lasted all day long. At upper left, Father Daniel Whelan blesses those present; at upper right, Steve Rennels leads a “patriotic rosary”; at right, Jan Scher, a member of the Father Solanus Guild Huntington Extension, shares stories about the priest.



Photos by Joshua Schipper

Knights of Columbus International Soccer Challenge



Provided by Ryan Grill

Ryan Grill of District 11, Indiana State Council of the Knights of Columbus, presents the International Champion Trophy of the 2020-21 International Soccer Challenge, 13-year-old Girls Division, to Anna Walczak July 12. Walczak competed in the local council, district, regional and state levels of competition in the fall of 2020 and her precision penalty shooting placed her at the top of almost 8,000 participants. The award was presented to Walczak at the Knights of Columbus Council 5521 on Ironwood Road, South Bend.

Retreat brings together fathers, sons at St. Patrick's County Park



Caty Burke
Father Osman Ramos, pastor of St. Gaspar del Bufalo Parish in Rome City and St. Joseph Parish in LaGrange, speaks about the importance of prayer and talking to God like a friend during a retreat for Spanish-speaking fathers and sons July 30 in South Bend.



Caty Burke
The virtues of St. Joseph were elaborated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at the afternoon retreat, which took place at St. Patrick's County Park.



The fathers and sons build crucifixes together in a woodworking activity in honor of St. Joseph. The afternoon retreat was organized by the diocesan Marriage and Family Ministry.



Photos by Kristah Quijada



Father Ramos leads a reflection on the importance of building a friendship with God through prayer.

Superstars of service — Deacon Mel and Annie Tardy

BY TAMI DELUCENAY

One might assume that the musical background of someone growing up in New Orleans would be of the jazz genre, however, Deacon Mel Tardy grew up with a different sound in his household.

"My mother is an opera singer, and so my two siblings and I have a love of all kinds of music, especially opera, jazz and Dixieland," said Deacon Tardy.

He was also a middle child, the "peacemaker," he laughed.

"Our family moved to Wisconsin, and I attended Brown Deer High School. I attended the University of Notre Dame and earned my MBA. I met my wife Annie on the way to a conference in Indianapolis. We were married 23 years ago at the Basilica at Notre Dame," he recalled. "We didn't think we would be able to find an open date for our wedding, but I gave it a shot and called the basilica. They had one open date: Feb. 14 at 11 a.m. I shared with Annie: 'Do you want the good news or the bad news first? The good news we have a date.'"

The bad news was that it was already January of 1998. "We were able to pull it off and still have all our friends and family in South Bend in the middle of winter."

Deacon Tardy and Annie have three grown children and three grandchildren. The Tardys have also been the youth ministers for St. Augustine Parish in South

Bend for the past 20 years.

"We wanted to start something for the teens mainly because our own children said there was nothing for them to do at the parish. We really didn't know anything about youth ministry; however, we gained a great deal of knowledge and support from Chris Culver, the diocesan youth director at that time." The Tardys started out with just a summer movie night and a meal for youth on the west side of South Bend and invited whoever wanted to come.

"We also started Wednesday evening activity nights, with a Bible study, which looked at the Sunday Mass readings. The teens wanted to come on Sundays too, so we would drive around the neighborhood picking up 12-15 kids each Sunday and bring them to Mass." This eventually led to starting a preparation class for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children.

"We had nine African American boys come into the Church in those early years. Throughout the years it has been a diverse mix of young people coming into the Church," shared Tardy. "Eventually we introduced service into the program and asked the kids what they would like to do. They wanted to play football! We turned it into a fundraiser for youth ministry activities."

The game is played on Father's Day because many of boys do not have a father in their lives. The first year, Tardy said, the boys played against some

Youth Ministry Leaders

of the men of the parish and the men let the boys win; but it started to get competitive as the kids started recruiting players from their high school football teams and the men recruited a few former Notre Dame Football players. The tradition has led to some amazing fundraising efforts and included themes such as ending violence or supporting Sickle Cell awareness.

The parish hopes to hold a reunion barbeque this summer, along with a scrimmage, as the pandemic eases.

Deacon Tardy was called to the diaconate program and ordained in May 2011. The candidates at that time were cautioned that their ministry to the Church was about to increase fivefold, he said.

"I couldn't imagine being any busier, as I already served as the youth minister, choir director and ran the RCIC for the teens. Since I was now going to be on the altar, I would no longer be able to serve as choir director, and I do miss being able to pick up teens and bring them to Mass. But we hold a youth Mass on the third Sunday of each month: The youth do the readings, sing in the choir and help at the altar.



Participants in the youth ministry of St. Augustine Parish, South Bend, hear words of wisdom from Steve Filbert, the former Geritol Giants men's coach. The Central Giants are a local flag football team.

"What I have learned in youth ministry that there are no bad youth, but there are youth in bad circumstances," Deacon Tardy said. "Through youth ministry, the Catholic Church can serve as a safe zone, a fun place where equity, justice and peace can flourish. If we show them the gift of diversity — the universal Church — they will recognize the Body of Christ even when his

body in some locations appears a little different than what they are used to. If we affirm for youth that they belong, no matter from where they come or what they are going through, then when they get older, they are more likely to come home to the Church. Wherever they go, they will recognize Jesus walking with them."



Youths of St. Augustine pray the Stations of Cross around the lake at the University of Notre Dame on Good Friday.



Photos provided by Annie Tardy

Boys and men gather before this year's annual Father's Day football game, initiated as a fundraising event at the parish by youth who were preparing for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children in 2008. The scrimmage took place June 20 after Sunday Mass and was St. Augustine's first event since the pandemic started.

Back to school — Reuniting college students with Christ

BY KATIE MURRAY

Entering college can be an exciting and scary time. It's a whole new world of possibilities and temptations, trials and tribulations. It's easy to stray from the path of faith because of all the hustle and bustle of campus life, but having a friend by one's side can make the stumblings fewer. That's what the missionaries from the Fellowship of Catholic University Students do: They bring students closer to God.

FOCUS is a campus ministry group made up of over 700 missionaries placed in 200 campuses across the world. There are six assigned campuses in the state of Indiana. The missionaries' focus is to share the joy of the Gospel with college students, which they do by establishing friendships, leading Bible groups and mission trips, and sharing the Catholic faith on campus.

The missionaries of FOCUS are trained in teaching prayer, in evangelization and in discipleship. It is their collective hope to inspire students to go out into the world and spread the word of God.

Brittany Scher, a graduate of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, is a missionary of the FOCUS program. She has been blessed to be a Catholic all her life, she said: She attends Saints Peter and Paul Parish in her hometown of Huntington.

"Standing where I am now and looking back on my life, I truly believe growing up Catholic is what has shaped me into who I am and guided me where I am today, Scher said. "As I get older, I am more and more grateful for my faith, because I know it has brought me to exactly where I'm supposed to be."



Photos provided by Brittany Scher

Brittany Scher of Huntington, in front, finds fulfillment in sharing the joy of the Gospel with college students as a part of the Fellowship of Catholic University Students: She has been a missionary on several college campuses in the U.S. and this fall will begin a new role with the organization.

Her 2016 degree is in tourism, conventions and event management, which she channeled into serving God as the director of finance and special events at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Indianapolis before being called to apply for FOCUS.

Scher met some missionaries on the IUPUI campus her freshman year and has been involved ever since. She joined a Bible study and participated in a mission trip to Haiti. Later, she started to lead her own Bible study on campus, which further sealed her calling to be a FOCUS missionary.

"After college, I maintained friendships with a lot of the missionaries I had met over the years and that led to me wanting to apply to be a missionary

myself," she said.

Scher's faith has gotten her through hardships throughout her life. A turning point for her was going through a broken engagement.

"During that time, I knew I had a choice to make. I could either let this circumstance define me or I could fall back on the faith that I had grown so much in during college. The words "Talitha Koum," "Little girl, get up," from Mark 5:41, echoed in everything I did. Through the stories of the saints and Jesus Himself, I learned how to suffer with joy. I learned that my suffering could bring me closer to Him, if I would let it," said Scher.

Sharing her story and faith with others and continuing to



Scher has walked with other young women seeking Christ in her discipleship program. She teaches them how to lead a Bible study of their own and go out and build up disciples.

grow in it is something she is passionate about. She looks forward to the journey of becoming a missionary and touching the lives of others.

Building relationships with students is an important aspect of being a missionary. In her time on campus talking with students, she has found that just like everyone else, college students just want to be seen and loved. Her approach to building those relationships is being a friendly face and being warm and welcoming to everyone she meets.

"Sometimes I meet students by just introducing myself to them as my team is walking around campus or walking out of Sunday Mass. Sometimes it's just going out to play yard games in the grass on campus

and inviting them to come play as they walk by. We exchange phone numbers and then I'll invite them to another event that we have going on at the church. I'll seek them out at the event and start to build a friendship. I'll invite them to get coffee with me and share my story and why I'm on campus" she said.

There are times where some students say no to participating in FOCUS activities, but Scher makes it a point to never stop trying to build those friendships. "Joy is contagious and especially joy that comes from a relationship with Jesus. If we just go out and be Jesus to those we meet, we cannot go wrong," she added.

There is one story that resonates with her the most since being a part of FOCUS. It's about one of her students from the University of Toledo in Ohio. This student attended one of FOCUS's national conferences called SEEK, in which she was "transformed," said Scher.

"She encountered Jesus in a new way, and it lit a fire inside of her that I pray burns for the rest of her life. At SEEK she was reconvicted of the need for disciples on our campus: not just followers of Christ, but disciples that can help bring others to Him as well."

Seeing students establish themselves in their faith is a moment of pure joy. "Every small victory is a huge win in my heart" she said.

In order to be a FOCUS missionary full-time, go on mission trips and continually build the organization, missionaries must fundraise for their expenses, including their own salaries.

"The money that I fundraise goes to paying my salary, helping students attend SEEK and mission trips, and more. All to give them an opportunity to encounter the Lord more deeply and learn how to be His disciples in this world," said Scher.

As she continues to move forward in her journey in Denver, Colorado, she hopes to continue investing in students and fellow missionaries across the world. Scher will be working on logistics and planning teams for mission trips.

When asked how mission trips impact students, she said, "When you get a student on a mission trip and away from all the typical distractions and noises on a college campus, I have watched lives being transformed. They radically meet Jesus in the poor communities that we are serving. Mission trips have made a huge impact on my life and on the lives of so many of the students that I have gotten to walk with, so I am very excited to see what the Lord has in store in my new role."

Anyone interested in learning more about FOCUS can visit focus.org.



Scher helped lead other students in a mission trip in Lima, Peru, with the University of Toledo.

School choice expansion is game changer for families wanting a Catholic education

BY JOHN SHAUGHNESSY

John Elcesser considers the recent expansion of Indiana's school choice program as a game changer — dramatically increasing the number of Hoosier families who will become eligible for vouchers that will help them choose where they want their children to attend school.

Regarding families who view a Catholic school as the best option for their children, Elcesser said the expansion of the program will help parents who believe they can't afford Catholic education for their children, and it will also benefit parents who struggle and sacrifice to provide a Catholic education for their children.

"We believe there are probably quite a few families that may have wanted or even dreamed of getting a Catholic school education, but just probably didn't think it was affordable. Now it probably is," said Elcesser, the executive director of the Indiana Non-Public Education Association, which represents the state's more than 400 nonpublic schools, including Indiana's 175 Catholic schools.

"There are also families who are continuing to struggle to make that tuition payment, working multiple jobs. And this is going to help them as well."

As an example, Elcesser noted that under the new state guidelines, "a family of four can make up to \$147,075 and still be eligible" for a voucher. As of July 1, all eligible students will receive a 90% voucher, which represents 90% of the state's tuition support for a child if they attended a local public school.

Elcesser has shared these insights during informational



JOHN ELCESSER

sessions he has conducted throughout the state this summer, including sessions in all five Catholic dioceses in Indiana.

"We need to get the word out about the changes in the program," he told a group of pastors and Catholic school principals during one of the sessions. Many schools throughout the Archdiocese of Indianapolis have begun to share the information with their families, as has the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and its schools.

While Elcesser focused on the impact on Catholic schools during his presentations to pastors and Catholic school principals, his overall message focused on the importance of families getting to choose where they want their child to be educated.

"The State of Indiana believes, our organization believes, and our schools believe that every family — no matter where their ZIP code is or their financial circumstances — should be able to send their children to the school that's the right fit for them," Elcesser said.

"For us in the Catholic sector, it aligns with our Catholic social teaching. We believe in the preferential option for the poor. We also believe that parents are our children's primary educators. They should be making the decision about what school is the best fit for them, whether that be traditionally public, whether that be charter, whether that be a non-public — faith-based or secular."

Elcesser noted that Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb has described

the new education legislation as "transformational."

"I do as well," Elcesser said. "I think it's not just transformational for private schools who participate in Choice, but I think it's transformational for our friends in traditional public schools, in charter schools and in non-public schools. All of those sectors benefitted from legislation that was passed."

The recent expansion of the Indiana's school choice program comes 10 years after the program started in Indiana, which is considered at the forefront of the effort to allow families to choose where they want their children to attend school.

"There are 26 other states and the District of Columbia that have some sort of choice program," Elcesser noted.

In the 10 years of Indiana's program, about 273,000 children have benefitted from it, by getting a Choice Scholarship that can be applied to tuition at the nonpublic school of their choice, he said. And more than \$1 billion has been awarded to families to make that choice a reality.

"It's hard to believe the number of families whose lives have been significantly impacted by these programs," Elcesser said.

Now, he adds, many more families will have that opportunity, thanks to the expansion of the program.

To apply for a voucher, contact the participating nonpublic school of your choice. The deadline for voucher applications is Sept. 1. For more information, visit the Institute for Quality Education's website, www.myschooloptions.org.

Provided by The Criterion, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.



Household Size	Household Income to Qualify
1	\$71,484
2	\$96,681
3	\$121,878
4	\$147,075
5	\$172,272
6	\$197,469
7	\$222,666
8	\$247,863
9	\$273,060
10	\$298,257

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When is the deadline to apply for a 2021-22 Choice Scholarship?

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) is currently accepting applications for the fall semester. Applications for this upcoming semester must be submitted by September 1, 2021.

How do I apply for the Choice Scholarship?

Students must first apply and be accepted into a non-public, voucher-accepting school; then the school will submit the student's Choice Scholarship application to the IDOE.

How much funding will my student receive under a Choice Scholarship?

A Choice Scholarship amount is the lesser of:
• Tuition and fees charged at the eligible school or
• 90% of the per-student state funding for the student's school corporation of residence.

Does every school accept the Choice Scholarship?

No. Only non-public schools that have applied to the IDOE to be a Choice Scholarship accepting school participate. Currently, there are over 300 Choice accepting schools in Indiana. A full list can be found on the IDOE's website.

Does the Choice Scholarship last the entirety of my child's education?

No. A Choice Scholarship is awarded annually to a qualified student. A student must apply each year and must continue to meet the program's income eligibility and pathway requirements.

Where can I find more information?

Contact the non-public school of your choice to find more resources and learn if your child might qualify.

Biking along the river with St. Jude youth



Provided by Vickie Lortie

Youth from St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, enjoy fellowship and fun while riding their bikes through Promenade Park downtown during one of several rides this summer.

Catholic Identity class instills virtue at Queen of Angels

BY JENNIFER BARTON

Queen of Angels Catholic School in Fort Wayne, under the leadership of principal Dennis Wiegmann, has made concerted efforts to reinvigorate the lifeblood of every Catholic school – its Catholic culture.

One means the school has implemented to deepen its Catholic identity is through a once-a-week Catholic identity class for students from kindergarten through eighth grade, using the Virtue = Strength program.

Michelle Meyer, in addition to teaching middle-school religion, is considered the religion specialist at Queen of Angels. It is her job and her passion to bring the program into its second school year.

"It's kind of a blessing for me; it's my dream job. I've always wanted to work with kids on all levels, I've always wanted to be a witness to the faith as well as witness their faith," she said.

Introduced in lieu of other "special" classes, Catholic Identity presents the cardinal and theological virtues using Scripture passages, sacred art and music, and various other resources. Meyer admits that the monthly teaching guide, consisting of a 50-page PowerPoint presentation, may seem overwhelming, but teachers can "pick and choose pieces of it" to work into their lessons.

For the upcoming year, the Virtue = Strength program centers around Catholic practices and pieties that Meyer declared "will bring our Catholic identity to life for the kids." In the first month, students will witness Queen of Angels pastor Father Zachary Barry blessing the school; during following months they will experience eucharistic processions, adoration and others.

Wiegmann believes Queen of Angels is the first school in the diocese to incorporate the Virtue = Strength program into the classroom. Working closely with



Provided by Dennis Wiegmann

Principal Dennis Wiegmann, right, of Queen of Angels School, Fort Wayne, religion specialist Michelle Meyer, left, and pastor Father Zachary Barry hope to deepen students' understanding of their identity as Catholics through a new, classroom iteration of the Virtue = Strength program.

Lou Judd, one of the program's founders, they were able to tailor it for the school.

Oftentimes, Judd said he is told the program cannot be done in the classroom, but Wiegmann is adamant that it can. Having a dedicated teacher to adapt the material for

individual grade levels and ardently present it to each class rather than giving every teacher another task to accomplish is key, he said.

Virtue = Strength began as a ministry called SportsLeader.

Its original goal was to help coaches incorporate the faith in the sports arena, and the athletic departments of several schools within the diocese partnered with the program. But Judd saw the program's relevance beyond the athletic fields and wanted it to become more inclusive to groups outside that spectrum.

With the backing of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and the Catholic Schools Office, Judd hosted a Zoom meeting last spring to pitch the program to diocesan principals. Even before the meeting had ended, Wiegmann emailed Judd, requesting the program for Queen of Angels.

"I think one of our biggest assets at Queen of Angels is our Catholic identity, and the only

way it can continue to thrive is to continue to evaluate it and work on it even more. Virtue = Strength took it to the next level," Wiegmann said.

Judd stated that he "can't praise Dennis and Michelle more" for their flexibility and drive to make the program work in the classroom.

"The students are learning their faith and loving it," he commented. He is pleased by the positive stories he hears coming out of it. Parents, too, are growing in the faith through the weekly communications and resources Meyer sends home.

Judd calls the current situation in the Church "urgent," pointing to statistics that show 85% of Catholic college students fall away from the faith in their first semester of college.

"Parents say that (their children) get religion class, but that's only 45 minutes a day," Judd stressed. "If that's all we're doing, those statistics are going to get worse." Students, he believes, "should be choosing to love our Lord for the rest of their life."

His hope is that the Virtue = Strength program will spread throughout the diocese. Currently, around 15 schools are participating, mostly through athletic departments. He often cites Queen of Angels as an example for how other schools can incorporate the program into their academics, hoping it gives young Catholics one additional reason to remain in the faith.

Looking at his own life, Judd recognizes the influence an adult mentor outside of the family can

have on a young person's faith.

"The more enthusiasm and passion and love you can show for this can be a powerful moment for evangelization."

Embracing their Catholic identity goes beyond adding a half-hour class at Queen of Angels. As religion specialist, Meyer also collaborates with the other teachers to help boost the students' knowledge of the faith early on and reinforce some of the more difficult concepts of Catholicism.

"I like that we're setting the bar here and we're having the kids rise up to our expectations, rather than coming in at their level and just kind of spoon-feeding them stuff they already know," she said. "I like that we're challenging them and giving them harder concepts, but truthful concepts."

"You can't be afraid to build the child's capacity for learning. They can learn that big word, but use a different synonym for it when you start," Wiegmann added. "But keep telling them, 'This is the word, but it means this.' If you continue to teach it, they'll know it. That's how we better catechize our kids."

Meyer, too, emphasized the need for good catechism in young students' life to help them retain their faith throughout their lives.

"The big concepts are our truth. They're the ultimate black-and-white; there is absolute truth, and there is God ... that's kind of a cool thing, to keep them grounded and rooted in the reality and hope of our eternal salvation."

"The students are learning their faith and loving it."

LOU JUDD

Best of Homecare LEADER 2018

America's Choice in Homecare.

Visiting Angels
LIVING ASSISTANCE SERVICES

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

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

Wygant FLORAL

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

Mary Green
Owner

574.232.3354
800.994.2687
www.wygants.com

THE GALLEY
Famous Fish & Seafood

Chicken & Steaks • Banquet Facilities
Set Sail Soon!

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

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

Mass reunites Fort Wayne Pedro Pan refugees

BY JENNIFER BARTON

As protests took place in Cuba against the communist government in power, a group of refugees who fled the country after Fidel Castro's 1959 revolution gathered in Fort Wayne July 24-25 to commemorate the 60 years since they came to the area.

Sent to the U.S. as teenagers by their concerned parents, these now-grown men were part of an effort called Operation Pedro Pan. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades presided at a Mass for a reunion of the group at the St. Mother Theodore Guérin Chapel in downtown Fort Wayne July 24.

The Pedro Pan program began when Msgr. Bryan Wash, a priest of the Diocese of St. Augustine, Florida, foresaw an overwhelming influx of unaccompanied immigrant children from the island nation of Cuba to Miami in 1960. Through the operation, parents who feared termination of their parental rights and communist indoctrination of their children realized there might be a way to protect them.

The Catholic Welfare Bureau that Father Walsh headed, worked with the federal government and other organizations to airlift the children from Cuba to Miami and find places throughout the country for them to live. The airlift portion lasted a year, from 1961 to 1962, when air travel was restricted due to the Cuban Missile Crisis. More than 14,000 youths escaped Cuba through Pedro Pan.

Originally, three separate groups of boys arrived in Fort Wayne in 1961, with an additional two groups in 1963 and a final group in the summer of 1964. The young men who came were first housed at St. Vincent Villa, a former orphanage operated by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Religious sisters ran St. Vincent Villa and provided care for the boys, while lay Catholics from local parishes served as their guardians and foster families and spent time with the boys on the weekends. Most of the boys attended Central Catholic High School, and some were able to reunite in Fort Wayne with parents who managed to leave Cuba and start new lives.

Michael Barnet, a member of the first group to arrive, is considered the Pedro Pans' historian. He stated that: "The purpose of the reunion was mainly to celebrate our coming to Fort Wayne and also to thank the people of Fort Wayne for welcoming and allowing us kids to start a new life here, thus making the U.S.A. our 'home away from home.'"

Of the 41 boys who came to the area, some have moved away or passed on; but others continue to call Fort Wayne their home. By and large, they have found success in careers and family life



Photos provided by Mark Mosrie

Former Pedro Pan refugees who were relocated to Fort Wayne celebrated Mass with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades July 24 at the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel. From left are Julio C. Garcia, Michael Barnet, César de la Guardia, Nelson Ayala, Bishop Rhoades, Reinaldo Alfonso, José Raymundo López, Alexander Müller and Pedro Ledo. Pedro Pan, or "Peter Pan," was the name of an early-1960s effort to protect teenage boys from communist indoctrination and conscription by bringing them, unaccompanied, to the U.S.

through the opportunities offered in the United States. Many of them still fondly remember Msgr. William Lester, who led the program with cheerful dedication to their welfare.

During the reunion, group members presented Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry with a plaque expressing their gratitude to the people of the city. Bishop Rhoades was also presented with a plaque thanking the Catholic Church and its members who were instrumental in helping the Pedro Pan boys start new lives.

Around 35 Pedro Pans and spouses attended the Mass and dinner with Bishop Rhoades on Saturday evening. They took time to visit the old St. Vincent Villa and basked in the camaraderie that is born from shared experiences.

Alejandro Muller said that "when we see each other ... it's like we haven't missed a beat. It's fun, we can kid around like we did 60 years ago."

Muller lives in O'Fallon, Missouri, but Fort Wayne will always be a second home to him, he said. He still knows his way around town. He came over as a 15-year-old boy, completed high school at Central Catholic and met his wife of 56 years at St. Joseph Hospital.

He recalled that only three of the people he had known in Cuba did not support Castro, prior to the revolution. One was a priest at the Jesuit school that Muller attended – the same one Castro had attended previously. But by the summer of 1959 anti-Castro sentiments had begun to grow, and Muller became involved in underground work to overthrow him — mostly through writing



The Operation Pedro Pan organization's banner represents more than 14,000 children who were airlifted from Cuba to the U.S. after Castro's 1959 revolution due to parental fears about the new regime.

and spreading materials around Havana.

Muller was captured, imprisoned. The faith he learned from his father and the Jesuit school helped see him through tough interrogations. A couple of weeks after his capture, however, he and the men who had been arrested with him found themselves alone in the university that served as their jail.

Freed, Muller returned home to resume his life. Three months later, he found himself on a flight bound for Miami carrying only a physics book. When he arrived in Miami, he knelt and kissed the ground.

Using the education he received at Central Catholic, Ivy Tech and Purdue University, Muller built a career and has 10 patents to his credit. His two sons have served in the U.S. military with distinction, and he has

retired to a comfortable life.

Several of the Pedro Pans have chosen not to return to Cuba, because the political situation that they fled exists to this day. The men share the sentiment that one of them, Reinaldo "Camagüey" Alfonso wrote about in an account of his story: that he "will not visit or live in a communist country."

Like Alfonso, Muller has not been back to Cuba, though he has watched footage and recognized the ruins of places he once knew. And while coming to Fort Wayne was a tremendous adjustment for him, as it was for all the young men, he chooses not to speculate on what-ifs. "I love the life I have here; I love my wife and kids," he said. "I can't imagine it would have been any better if I'd stayed in Cuba."

Gratitude and patriotism flow deep in the veins of the Fort Wayne Pedro Pans. "I am forever so thankful to the United States," Muller said. "I get really upset when I see people put down the U.S., when they disrespect the flag."

After traveling to numerous locations in Germany, England, New Zealand and other countries, he has yet to find a place that compares with what he's found in America.

"There's no place like the U.S. It hurts me to see people find fault with it."

One of the last of the Pedro Pans to come to Fort Wayne, Julio Garcia's experience was a bit different from some of the older boys. Because he bounced between foster homes and children's homes in Miami for around three years, Garcia had a better grasp of English than

many of the others.

By the time he arrived in Fort Wayne, the boys were living in a house on Wayne Street. At age 16, he was one of the youngest in the house, and he recalled that they were a "rowdy bunch."

The refugees and the families they developed formed a close community in town in the '60s, and Garcia still remains friends with Pedro Ledo, Jr., one of the original Pedro Pans. He enjoyed reuniting with them, saying, "I got to see some of the older guys that I haven't seen for some time."

Of his experiences, Garcia reflected, "Growing up in foster homes and children's homes was quite a struggle, but I eventually made it to Fort Wayne and made my home here." He met his future wife of 50 years at Central Catholic, converted to Catholicism and became a part of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, raising eight children and teaching in the public schools.

In his homily at Mass, Bishop Rhoades pondered the hardships the men must have experienced 60 years ago, alone in a foreign land and separated from their families. He paid homage to the families who made the sacrifice of sending their children to the U.S. in hopes of a better life. He also gave credit to the local Catholic priests and laity who supported them in their new home.

He remarked, "Only the Lord knows what would have happened if you would have remained in Cuba 60 years ago. In God's providence, you came here. You were able to build a new life here and to discern your vocation in life. ... The Lord has sustained you with His love and grace."

He reflected on the Biblical accounts of the many times God physically fed His people, from the manna in the desert to the multiplication of the loaves and fishes in the day's reading from the Gospel of John.

"These miracles testify to God's compassion for us. He wants to satisfy our hungers, not just our physical hungers, but all the hungers of the human heart: the hunger for peace, for justice, for truth, for freedom, for love," he said.

"Only God can satisfy our deepest hungers. Jesus came as the Bread of Life. He alone satisfies the hungers of our hearts."

Bishop Rhoades called for unity with those still struggling for freedom and better lives in Cuba. "We can be in solidarity with the Cuban people through our prayers for peace and reconciliation and, of course, for freedom. We ask Jesus, the Bread of Life, to satisfy the hungers of the people of Cuba. And we ask for the intercession of our Lady of Charity, 'Nuestra Señora de Caridad de Cobre,' for the people of Cuba."

"Stand up! I appoint you as a witness of what you have seen." —
Acts 26:16

DIOCESAN WORLD YOUTH DAY

A celebration of faith for high school students

BY MOLLY GETTINGER

The 18 months since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic have been challenging for high school students. Canceled athletics, graduations, dances and more uprooted the fabric of their lives, creating, for many, a sense of isolation.

Youth ministry programs of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend were not untouched. Retreats, pilgrimages, meetings and other events were postponed or canceled. It is from within this context that diocesan Director of Youth Ministry John Pratt planned a celebration to once again bring the youth of the diocese together.

Diocesan World Youth Day is an annual experience offering young men and women grades 9-12 a fun and faith-filled celebration of their Catholic faith. On Aug. 28 at Headwaters Park in Fort Wayne, Diocesan World Youth Day will take on a new form: a single-day, outdoor event complete with music, food trucks, speakers, activities, games, eucharistic exposition and Mass with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

The event will be emceed by Father Agustino Torres, CFR, and music will be provided by Kairy Marquez and Damascus Worship. This year's special guests include the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, diocesan priests and seminar-

ians, members of the Congregation of Holy Cross, local college campus ministers and the Damascus Missionaries.

Lexie Kloska is a member of the 2021-22 Diocesan Youth Leadership team assisting at Diocesan World Youth Day. Kloska shared, "I already feel that the Holy Spirit is going to be strongly present during this event, and I cannot wait to see how He works in my life and the lives of the other people there. I am hoping to be overcome with joy at just how good God is and how wonderful his plans are for me. I feel like being with a bunch of other teens who are also filled with love for the Lord will help to strengthen my own relationship with Him."

The opportunity to join with other teens comes just months after Pope Francis urged dioceses "to give increasingly more importance to the diocesan celebration of WYD" in his "Pastoral



Guidelines for the Celebration of World Youth Day in the Particular Churches."

The international World Youth Day celebration occurs

and their connection with the universal Church," said Pratt. "It is an experience that seeks to bring the graces and gifts of the international WYD here to our

every few years, with the next being in Lisbon, Portugal, in 2023, but, Pratt shared, "Every year since 1985, the Holy Father has given a theme for young people and the entire Church to reflect upon and celebrate." This year's theme is "Stand up! I appoint you as a witness of what you have seen," from Acts 26:16.

"Our diocesan WYD offers the youth of our diocese a festival of faith in which to celebrate God's love for them

own community."

Allison Dolby, a member of the 2020-21 Diocesan Youth Leadership team that helped plan this year's event, said, "I look forward to seeing all the youth come together for this event and just being open to God and everything that he has planned for us." She continued, "I hope that this event moves hearts and people are just on fire for God."

While this year's celebration is a one-day event, it is planned in conjunction with "¡Viva! Your Encounter with Jesus – Night of Worship and Healing," planned for 6-9 p.m. Aug. 27, also at Headwaters Park and featuring Father Torres, Marquez and Bishop Rhoades. All are welcome to attend the Spanish-language event, hear testimonies and participate in worship, adoration and confession. There is a \$10 entrance fee for ages 15 and older; children are free. Food trucks will be on site from 5-8 p.m.

Registration for Diocesan World Youth Day is \$60. For more information and to register, visit diocesefwsb.org/youth-conference.

A trusted local team that treats you like an individual.

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

Serving Fort Wayne families since 1925.



260-426-9494 McCombCares.com

Registration Opens **August 9th** at 9:00am



Bloom
October 16th 2021

For Registration and Speaker Information Please Visit:
BuildingThroughHim.Com

Who's your Daddy?

In Plato's "Republic," Socrates discusses a society in which the state arranges marriages among its best citizens and assigns their offspring to nurses chosen for the job, "employing every device to prevent anyone from recognizing her own infant." The state then carefully supervises the children's education so that they form opinions "desirable for them to hold when they are grown up."

We have had our flirtations with Plato's theory. A century ago, Oregon passed an initiative requiring all children to attend public schools. Proponents of the measure, the Ku Klux Klan and other anti-Catholic organizations, argued that it was necessary to preserve a homogeneous American culture. A society of Catholic nuns who ran orphanages and schools sued to enjoin the law, which would have put them out of business.

In *Pierce v. Society of Sisters* the Supreme Court rejected the idea that the state could monopolize the upbringing of orphans. It held, "The child is not the mere creature of the state; those who nurture him and direct his destiny have the right, coupled with the high duty, to recognize and prepare him for additional obligations."

The idea that children belong to the state is in vogue again. It was before the Supreme Court in *Fulton v. Philadelphia* in June. And it is the inspiration for the American Families Plan that the Democrats would like to push through the Senate.

The issue in *Fulton* was the custody of foster children. Pennsylvania, like a lot of states,

claims a monopoly over foster care. The state assigns custody of such children to local authorities, who put them in homes or facilities the government deems appropriate. If a private organization wants to help, it needs a contract from the authorities.

If the children really do belong to the state, it can set the terms of the contract. In 2018, Philadelphia told Catholic Social Services that it had to place children with same-sex couples if it wanted to be part of the system.

This wasn't about increasing foster care opportunities. Catholic Social Services was a major source of foster homes for the city. It was about placing children where they will form what Plato called "desirable opinions," and maybe about getting Catholics to think differently about marriage.

The Supreme Court ruled for Catholic Social Services on rather sophisticated First Amendment grounds. But I wish it had just said these children don't belong to the government, so it has no business deciding how to bring them up.

The American Families Plan is another idea Plato would have liked. It doesn't require turning the care of children over to the government. Instead, it pays people to turn them over. As Susan Rice, head of the Domestic Policy Council, told *The New York Times*, "We want parents to be in the workforce, especially mothers."

The plan accomplishes this by spending \$225 billion to increase the wages of child care workers, and to help parents pay someone else to watch their children.



JOHN GARVEY

INTELLECT AND VIRTUE

When kids reach age 3, the plan would provide free preschool — at a cost of \$200 billion.

The plan doesn't say what they would learn in preschool, but the National Education Association, the nation's largest teachers' union, supports both the president and the plan.

It resolved this month to publish a study that "critiques empire, white supremacy, anti-Blackness, anti-Indigeneity, racism, patriarchy, cisheteropatriarchy, capitalism, ableism, anthropocentrism and other forms of power and oppression." Kids are now getting this in elementary school. It will trickle down.

As an academic I blush to say this, but it's an unhealthy thing when the party in power starts to get ideas from philosophy books.

John Garvey is president of The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

Life is just beginning: expansion at any age

I submitted two articles tonight, and moments after I hit send, I was struck by the parallel.

Sure, they both involved retired Catholics. But in my focus on the specifics of their work — the intricate toothpick sculptures of a Minnesota grandpa, the winsome travel guide written by a New Mexico single — I'd nearly missed how their paths mirrored each other.

Both had discovered a roundabout way to fulfill their lifelong dreams.

Jerry Hackett always wanted to be an architect but opted for a practical path and worked as an accountant. He quietly provided for his six children. Then one day in retirement, the 70-something recalled a school project his child had done back in the '80s: toothpick assembly.

Soon Jerry was looking up the dimensions of the Eiffel Tower and squirting Elmer's Glue-All. Now 81, he's created dozens of toothpick sculptures — bridges, windmills, churches — and generated a good deal of press. He works in his porch while listening to polka music, and he creates each sculpture to scale. There is a great deal of measuring: one inch of toothpick represents four feet.

Turns out he became an architect after all — a toothpick architect.

"I'll wake up at night thinking about how to do this part of the church, and I can't go back to sleep," said Jerry, a member of St. Mark's in Shakopee, Minnesota.



CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

TWENTY SOMETHING

Marion Amberg, meanwhile, harbored starry-eyed ambitions of being a detective. She planned to study law enforcement. There was just one problem: She couldn't stand the sight of blood.

Instead, she began writing for her local newspaper. The work entailed plenty of sleuthing. "Part of reporting is connecting the dots," she said. "You see patterns."

Her latest book, "Monuments, Marvels, and Miracles: A Traveler's Guide to Catholic America," delivers a national tour of religious sites based on meticulous research.

"Even if it's on a church website, you can't take it as Gospel truth," said Marion, a member of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi in Santa Fe. "I tried to verify every single fact."

Lo and behold, this 60-something is now a detective — and no blood is involved!

"Your dreams may change as you get older, but they don't end," she said. "I feel like the 60s are just the beginning of my life."

Immediately I thought of my late grandpa, who started writing an autobiography he'd titled

CAPECCI, page 17

Peace and everlasting life are found in Jesus



MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time John 6:41-51

The First Book of Kings provides this weekend's Liturgy of the Word with its first biblical reading.

As the name implies, the kings of Israel are the central figures in these books; however, prominence is given the prophets, such as Elijah in this weekend's reading. He lived during the first half of the ninth century B.C.

In the reading, Elijah was weary and discouraged. He even asked God to take his life. Then, he fell asleep. When he awoke, a hearth cake and a jug of water

were at his side. He ate, drank and was refreshed.

An angel came, revealing that this sustenance was from God, and ordered Elijah to continue his journey. Strengthened by God's food, Elijah obeyed, finally arriving at the mountain of God, Horeb.

The second reading this weekend is from the Letter to the Ephesians.

A context surrounds all the letters. First, living the Gospel of Jesus was not easy in the first century A.D. Christians faced temptations from "the world, the flesh and the devil" on every side.

Christians in Ephesus faced a special challenge. Not only did they live in a thriving seaport and commercial center, with all the vice and distraction usually associated with such centers, but Ephesus was a major pagan shrine. Pilgrims to its great temple to Diana, the Roman goddess, thronged the city. The Christians had to be faithful to Christ amid these conditions.

As advice, this reading urges

the Christian Ephesians to rid themselves of all bitterness and anger and to rise above gossip and malice. On the positive side, it calls upon them to be compassionate and forgiving, noting that God had forgiven them.

St. John's Gospel is the source of the last reading. Jesus declares, "I am the bread that comes down from heaven." The audience does not accept this phrase well. They spurn Jesus.

The Lord then enters upon a discourse, one of the most magnificent passages in the New Testament. He is the only access to God for humans. He will rise to new life "on the third day." It is important to note, when these words were spoken, the crucifixion was in the future.

Finally, the Lord says, "I am the bread of life ... I myself am the living bread." Anyone who consumes this bread attains everlasting life.

Reflection

All of us can identify with Elijah, the prophet of whom we

heard in the reading from First Kings.

Whatever the circumstance, life for each of us can be tiring and distressing. Any of us can be reduced to desperation, as was Elijah.

Today and always, the Church speaks with great confidence and assurance. First, it recalls for us, through the first reading, that God sustains us and strengthens us. He sustained and strengthened Elijah. The prophet was no dearer to God than are we.

Secondly, God has given us Jesus, the Son of God. Jesus is in our midst. He is in our world. He shares human nature with us. Born of Mary, a human, Jesus is as human as we.

Jesus is indeed the "bread of life." Aptly, this reading is associated with the Eucharist. The food given mercifully by God is more than material food, composed of bread and wine. It is divine food, the Body and Blood of the Lord. It enlivens our souls.

The last element in this weekend's lesson comes again from Elijah.

Life may bring, usually brings, hardships. They may assume many forms. As disciples, we must continue our long walk to the mountain of God. More often than not, we will be traveling uphill, but we must keep our goal in sight: life with God. He will give us the strength we require. He awaits us with everlasting life and peace.

READINGS

Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:4-8 Ps 34:2-9 Eph 4:30—5:2 Jn 6:41-51

Monday: Dt 10:12-22 Ps 147:12-15, 19-20 Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday: 2 Cor 9:6-10 Ps 112:1-2, 5-9 Jn 12:24-26

Wednesday: Dt 34:1-12 Ps 66:1-3a, 5, 8, 16-17 Mt 18:15-20

Thursday: Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17 Ps 114:1-6 Mt 18:21—19:1

Friday: Jos 24:1-13 Ps 136:1-3, 16-18, 21-22, 24 Mt 19:3-12

Saturday: Jos 24:14-29 Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-8, 11 Mt 19:13-15

What young people could most profit from hearing about marriage

Young people today experience various pressures and expectations that can make them anxious. In a recent essay, Professor Timothy P. O'Malley, of Notre Dame's McGrath Institute for Church Life, crisply describes some of the over-the-top pressures that graduating college students are likely to encounter in commencement addresses:

"Notre Dame students are told that their degree is not exclusively an accomplishment earned through the completion of credit hours but a pledge to change the world. They are charged by a commencement speaker to go cure cancer, secure a spot on the Supreme Court, end political polarization and corruption, and renew communities on the margins through being a transformative teacher.... In other words, the bar of anxiety is raised. The future is presented to these students as a series of endless accomplishments that they must complete to be judged as worthy by their alma mater.... No wonder students get drunk and hook up on weekends to escape the impending and seemingly impossible responsibility of changing the very arc of human history before they reach the age of thirty."

He notes that marriage and family life are seldom part of what commencement speakers at Notre Dame and other institutions of higher education propose to graduates. Students, he says, are "told, sometimes quite explicitly, to bracket out marriage and family life for the sake of their professional careers. And when the marriages and children of prominent commencement speakers are publicly raised on the commencement platform, they are always considered a lesser accomplishment."

Putting our human accomplishments into proper perspective

can be challenging. We can be tempted, like many commencement speakers, to invert the relative order of their importance. In the face of unrelenting pressure to change the world, climb the career ladder, build a nest egg, acquire expensive homes, and travel the globe, we can easily convince ourselves that marriage and children are a hindrance.

But as we approach the end of life, we can often see with greater clarity what matters most.

I remember a chat I had with my father as he was declining in health. He had had a long career as an astrophysics professor at the University of Arizona. As we were talking about colleges, universities, and the world of academia, I mentioned how impressive his professional accomplishments had been, not only in teaching and research, but also in authoring various notable books with titles like "Radio Galaxies," "The Catastrophic Universe" and "Radio Astrophysics."

"Ah, the real achievement," he retorted, "what really matters, that would be the children."

He underlined that the demanding intellectual work and mountains of scientific output were insignificant compared to what he deemed his "real accomplishment" — the gift of his family. After more than 50 years of marriage and raising five children he signaled what authentic satisfaction and human fulfillment had come to look like for him.

The commitments we make and faithfully fulfill are a source of stability and strength, particularly against the backdrop of life's turbulence and uncertainty. While there are conflicts, boredom, trials, and other challenges, the consequential adventure of marriage and family life offers a



FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

fulfilling pathway toward human flourishing.

O'Malley notes that this is a narrative that young people are interested in: "They want to hear how to be happy, and they want this happiness not to be tied to their accomplishments." They want to be able to say, "I cannot control every dimension of the future, but I can dwell with this person for the rest of my days. I can commit to a common project, to a hopeful future with this man or woman." This is an important message for us to pass on to younger generations, especially as they commence post-university life.

In a sense, marriage and raising a family are becoming revolutionary acts in today's world. They declare something positive and hopeful about the future and push back against the fear and insecurity that plague our human condition. They ground us in something beyond the passing security of worldly accomplishments and challenge us to a higher and more enduring goal.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D., serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

Our options do not narrow with the ticking clock. We may find a new passion — or a new version of an old one that doubles the joy. Talents coalesce and converge in unpredictable ways. God is good.

He wants us to be happy and hopeful, to possess the "joyful optimism" named as a virtue in Salesian Spirituality. And in pursuing our passions, we make a sacred offering. As St. Augustine wrote: "The desire of your heart is itself your prayer."

That prayer keeps pulsing — at 50, 60 and 70. It whispers: I'm just getting going.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for August 8, 2021

John 6: 41-51

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle B: Heavenly fare. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

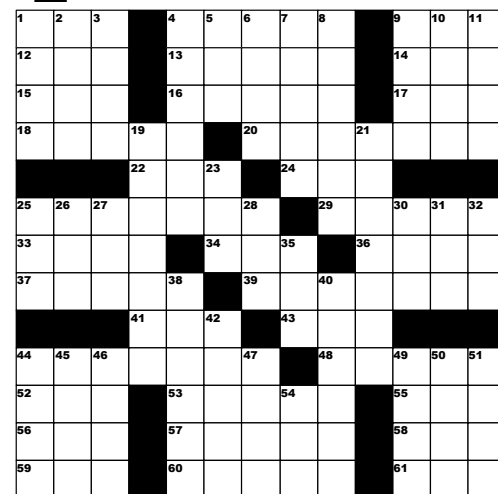
BREAD	COME DOWN	HEAVEN
JESUS	JOSEPH	FATHER
MURMURING	COMES TO ME	UNLESS
RAISE	LAST DAY	WRITTEN
TAUGHT	BY GOD	EXCEPT
BELIEVES	ETERNAL	MANNA
THEY DIED	FOREVER	FLESH

HEAVEN'S BREAD

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

The Cross Word

August 1
and 8, 2021



© 2021 tri-c-a-publications.com

Readings: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15; Eph 4: 17, 20-24; Jn 6:24-35 and 1Kg 19:4-8; Eph 4: 30-5:2; Jn 6:41-51

ACROSS

- 1 Annoy
- 4 Seafood
- 9 "___ by ___"
- 12 French "yes"
- 13 Turmoil
- 14 In what manner
- 15 Truss
- 16 Overly fat
- 17 "___ Maria"
- 18 Blacksmith table
- 20 "___ in the spirit"
- 22 Manna looked like
- 24 Title of respect
- 25 Headed

29 They got into boats

- 33 Car
- 34 Obstruct
- 36 "Father" in Hebrew
- 37 Root vegetables
- 39 Your fate
- 41 "___ not important"
- 43 Roman seven
- 44 WWII fighters
- 48 Frown angrily
- 52 Anger
- 53 Respond to stimuli
- 55 "___ Dolorosa"
- 56 Legume
- 57 Locale
- 58 Gray sea eagle

- 59 Supersonic transport
- 60 Garden tool
- 61 Cardinals' color

DOWN

- 1 Small particle
- 2 Break
- 3 Capital of Ukraine
- 4 Yellow bile
- 5 Scientist's office
- 6 Affirm
- 7 Hebrew liberator
- 8 Picturesque
- 9 Melt
- 10 Made cloth
- 11 Unpaid
- 19 Ridiculous
- 21 Unstable
- 23 Spider net
- 25 Taxi
- 26 Color
- 27 "You ___ the loaves"
- 28 Parent
- 30 Kimono sash
- 31 West by north
- 32 "___ of redemption"
- 35 Pastor (abbr.)
- 38 "Die of famine"
- 40 Vowed religious woman
- 42 Trusty horse
- 44 Sirlain
- 45 Mined metals
- 46 God sent quail for this
- 47 Made music
- 49 Finished
- 50 Flexible metal thread
- 51 ___ of Egypt
- 54 Remind

CAPECCHI, from page 16

"Life Begins At 70."

At 73, he taught himself to play clarinet, putting numbered tape on keys to correspond with his fingering chart. Weeks later, he was playing the second movement of Mozart's Clarinet Concerto.

Then I recalled an amusing story a Jesuit priest recently told me. Father Chris Collins was reading a program and saw his name listed as a jubilarian. He assumed it was a mistake. How could it possibly be 25 years of priesthood already?

"I can't believe I'm almost 50," he said, "because it feels like I'm just getting going."

These Catholics demonstrate that our Creator is a God of surprises. We may resuscitate a long-lost dream — as an architect or detective, as a photographer or a

At 73, he taught himself to play

clarinet, putting numbered tape

on keys to correspond with his

fingering chart. Weeks later, he

was playing the second movement

of Mozart's Clarinet Concerto.

florist. We can start in one direction and circle back. We might face a closed door and then discover: There is another way.

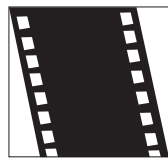
NOW HIRING

Teachers and school support staff



Learn more and apply:

diocesefwsb.org/careers



MOVIE CAPSULES

NEW YORK (CNS) — The following capsule review is by John Mulderig, Catholic News Service.

"Luca" (Disney)

The timid young sea monster of the title (voice of Jacob Tremblay), who lives off the coast of Liguria, discovers that he is transformed into a preteen boy when on dry land, befriends a more daring shape-shifter (voice of Jack Dylan Grazer) in the same situation and a strictly human local girl (voice of Emma Berman) and together the trio enters a triathlon, hoping to defeat the arrogant bully (voice of Saverio Raimondo) who has long dominated the event. As the two lads try to keep the secret of their dual identity, the protagonist is pursued by his overprotective mom



This is a scene from the animated movie "Luca." The Catholic News Service classification is A-I — general patronage.

(voice of Maya Rudolph) and well-meaning but distracted dad (voice of Jim Gaffigan). While it does nothing to solve the perennial problem for real-life parents that obedient children rarely have adventures, director Enrico Casarosa's animated fantasy is otherwise a winsome tale full of charm and Italian flair. Too complicated for tots, who might also be frightened, it's acceptable for all others. Characters in peril, a couple of rude gestures. The Catholic News Service classification is A-I -- general patronage. The Motion Picture Association rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

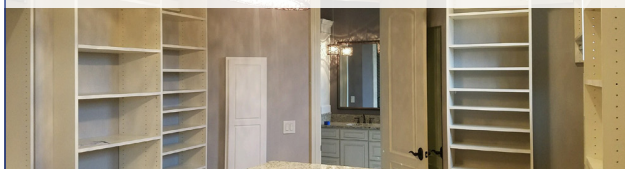
SERVICE DIRECTORY

Advertise in Today's Catholic

With a variety of options for web and print advertising, let us help you reach YOUR demographic. **Call 260-399-1449**

Closet Concepts

YOUR STORAGE SPACE SPECIALISTS



Catholic Family Owned since 1988 • Jon & Shelley Ross — St. Joseph Roanoke Parishioners

Fort Wayne 260-483-6763 Indianapolis 317-849-8444
www.closetconceptsinc.com



LINDA RILEY
Senior Loan Officer
NMLS: 234665

C: 574.551.9330
O: 574.268.9033
F: 574.268.2955

310 Enterprise Drive
Warsaw, IN 46580

lriley@ruoff.com
ruoff.com/lindariley



NOTRE DAME
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Matt Kaiser

Director of Business Services
NMLS# 1087744

Business Development
P.O. Box 7878
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Direct (574) 400-4919
Fax (574) 575-4538
mkaiser@NotreDameFCU.com

800/522-6611 • NotreDameFCU.com



HOOSIER
PHYSICAL THERAPY

MICHAEL F. BARILE
DC, PT

3030 LAKE AVE SUITE 26
FORT WAYNE, IN 46805

PHONE: 260.420.4400
FAX: 260.420.4448

www.hoosierpt.com

RE/MAX RESULTS



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

Caitlin Berghoff
260-403-9898
CaitlinBerghoff@remax.net
Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

Katie Brown
REALTOR® | Broker

260.437.5025

www.katiebrown.net
katie@katiebrown.net

@KatieBrownFortWayne
@Katie45Brown

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



CENTURY 21

Peerless CLEANERS
Ft. Wayne, Auburn, Angola & Warsaw

4121 Hillegas Rd.
Ft. Wayne, IN 46808

260.422.9374

www.peerless-cleaners.com



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

*FREE Pick-Up & Delivery

*Select areas of Ft. Wayne Only



USB UNION SAVINGS BANK

David Egts

Low Closing Costs & Great Rates

"MORTGAGE CLOSING COST CRUSHER"

260-418-6191

CERTIFIED RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE PROFESSIONAL



Expertise you can rely on.

Mike Kendzicky
Michael Kendzicky
Samantha Hengen, CFP®

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

BAIRD

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



**FULL SERVICE PRINTING
CREATIVE ARTWORK
EDDM/STANDARD MAILING**

OFFSET ONE, INC.

www.offset1.com

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

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Advertise in Today's Catholic

With a variety of options for web and print advertising, let us help you reach YOUR demographic. **Call 260-399-1449**

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.

Immaculate Conception rummage sale
KENDALLVILLE — The Rosary Sodality of Immaculate Conception Church, 301 E Diamond St., will be having a rummage sale on Friday, Aug. 6, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturday, Aug. 7, from 9-11:30 a.m. On Saturday the sale is \$2.50 per grocery bag full.

Festival of Our Lady of Guadalupe
WARSAW — The festival of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, 225 Gilliam Dr., will be Saturday, Aug. 14, from 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. with the public welcome to the festivities. Authentic Mexican food will be available for purchase, live entertainment and live music throughout the day. Door prizes, raffles and more. Proceeds will benefit building a rectory on the property. Contact Leo Patiño at leopatino@live.com.

World Apostolate of Fatima Quarterly Mass and Fellowship
WARSAW — Join the World Apostolate of Fatima at Sacred Heart Parish, 135 North Harrison

St., Thursday, Aug. 19, for Mass beginning at 5:30 p.m. celebrated by Father Jonathon Norton. Following Mass will be adoration with a rosary followed by Benediction and fellowship in the parish hall. Visit fatimafwsb.org or contact Seth Ball at seth@fatimafwsb.org.

St. Vincent de Paul Parish Festival
ELKHART — A St. Vincent de Paul Parish festival will be Saturday, Aug. 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the church, 1108 South Main St. The festival will include music, games and Angelo and Hispanic food. Bring your family out for some fun, games, food and enjoy the day in fellowship with family and friends. Contact Patricia Kile 574-522-2526 or patjkile@gmail.com.

St. Pius X fifth annual Flyin' Lion 5K and 1 mile fun run/walk
GRANGER — St. Pius X Church, 52553 Fir Rd., will host 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. 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. Contact Megan Sorg at msorg@stpius.net or by contacting the parish office at 574-272-8462.

The Crossword

August 1 and 8, 2021



REST IN PEACE

Auburn
Patricia Correia, 86, Immaculate Conception

Francis Dulle, 87, Immaculate Conception

Bristol
William O'Brien, 90, St. Mary of the Annunciation

Decatur
Pauline M. Siefring, 89, St. Mary of the Assumption

Fort Wayne
Patty Jasinski, 85, St. Vincent de Paul

Isaac D. Jernigan, 18, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Patricia Madden, 77, St. Charles Borromeo

Mary J. Quillin, 86, St. Vincent de Paul

Gregg Rounds, 61, St. Charles Borromeo

Rosella Schaab, 96, St. Charles Borromeo

Rita Stump, 97, St. Charles Borromeo

Granger
Jennie Andrea, 93, St. Pius X

Greg Reesor, 73, St. Pius X

Ruby M. Vincent, 87, St. Pius X

Mishawaka
Josephine Germano, 98, St. Monica

Irene Van Den Abeele, 97, St. Bavo

New Haven
Dorothy Muldoon, 87, St. Louis, Besancon

Mary E. Renier, 100, St. Louis, Besancon

South Bend
Jill Ball, 74, Holy Family

David Egan, 52, St. Jude

Hector Espinoza, 80, St. Adalbert

Maria L. Fernandez, 79, St. Adalbert

Pedro Garcia, 79, St. Adalbert

Donald E. Gilpin, 91, Sacred Heart of Jesus

Thomas Keller, 95, Holy Family

Ervin T. Zakrzewski, 82, Holy Family

Lorraine Zielinski, 90, Holy Family

McElhaney-Hart FUNERAL HOME



715 North Jefferson
Huntington

(260) 356-3320

www.mcelhaneyhartfuneralhome.com

Grant Administrator with CPA Background

Private Catholic-based charitable foundation seeking a grant administrator. Duties include assisting executive director with communications with grantees and maintaining accurate records of grantmaking activities. No prior grant administration experience is required as training will be provided. Candidate must have extensive CPA experience, an active Christian faith and be in support of the mission of helping the poor and marginalized. Position is remote and part-time with the possibility of becoming full-time. This is an ideal second job for a retired or established CPA in private practice looking to make a difference.

Please send resume with cover letter and references to info.gfoffice@yahoo.com.



St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
Making Christ the Center of Our Lives

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

This is a full-time paid position with benefits. Candidates should be proficient at piano and singing. Ability to play the organ is a plus. Responsibilities include playing music at 3 weekend Masses, weddings, and funerals throughout the year; 2 weekday all-school Masses and weekly adult choir rehearsals August through May; plus additional liturgies such as Holy Week, Christmas, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, 8th grade graduation, etc., and serving on the parish Worship Team. Additional responsibilities might include forming a school children's choir and a hand bell choir.

Interested applicants should email a resume or inquiries to rnoll@stjohnsfw.org. Visit us online at SaintJohnFortWayne.com

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS are ALIVE in ROME CITY!

Our Lady the IMMACULATE VIRGIN PATRONESS of AMERICA

awaits you at the Mother of Mercy Chapel
2730 E Northport Rd, Rome City, IN

August 7th at 11am EDT
for Holy Mass and Devotions
Confessions beginning at 9:30 am.

More info @ www.patronessofamerica.org

EUCCHARIST, from page 1

include a section focused on eucharistic coherence, the Church's teaching on the reception of Communion, there is no plan to adopt a national policy to prohibit anyone from receiving the Eucharist, the bishop said.

It's a statement Bishop Rhoades has repeated several times since the bishops' virtual spring general assembly in June during which the bishops approved drafting the document. In the vote, 75% of the bishops said "yes," while 25% said "no."

During long discussions on the document before the vote, several bishops specifically pointed to President Joe Biden and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., who are Catholic, for not actively seeking to end legal abortion and called for them to be denied Communion.

Work has begun on sections of the document that pertain to Church teaching while the section on eucharistic coherence will not be drafted until after a series of regional meetings among the bishops concludes by the end of August, Bishop Rhoades said.

"How did the Eucharist, which is the sign of unity at our parish and our lives and in our Church, somehow become the thing we fight about in terms of politics? It seems to me like we've gotten ourselves in a terrible place."

PANELIST JOHN CARR

As the drafting process continues, the USCCB's actions related to the Eucharist are being watched around the world, said panelist Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin of Newark, New Jersey. "The Eucharist is on everyone's mind," he said.

Cardinal Tobin was one of the minority of prelates who voted against drafting the document at the current time. "Having the bishops on a Zoom call is not an opportunity for discernment," he said.

He called on the bishops to take up Pope Francis' call to synodality to discuss and hear from many voices before reaching consensus on the issues and concerns facing the Church.

The pandemic has left people separated from the Eucharist and Cardinal Tobin suggested that the bishops reach out and wel-



CNS photo/Bob Roller

Elevation of the Eucharist is depicted in a stained-glass window at St. Anthony's Church in North Beach, Md., July 15.

come people back to the Church rather than restrict participation in Church life.

The debate that showcased the wide disagreements among the bishops on drafting the document should not be one that causes the bishops to fear developing a document that stresses Church teaching, explained panelist Gretchen Crowe, editorial director for periodicals at Our Sunday Visitor in Indiana.

The OSV Newsweekly published an editorial supporting the vote to draft the document. Explaining the reasoning behind the editorial, Crowe said it is vital for Catholics to better know Church teaching on the Real Presence in the Eucharist.

"In my mind, a fear of division or a fear of anything else really, never should prevent the Church from teaching what it professes about anything, much less what it teaches about the real presence (of) Jesus Christ in the Eucharist," Crowe said.

However, Mollie Wilson O'Reilly, editor-at-large at Commonweal magazine, expressed concern that a document on the Eucharist would bolster an apparent connection

"While the document will include a section focused on eucharistic coherence, the Church's teaching on the reception of Communion, there is no plan to adopt a national policy to prohibit anyone from receiving the Eucharist."

BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

the Catholic bishops have with the Republican Party.

She questioned why some bishops have been so outspoken against Biden, the nation's second Catholic president, when they failed to be as vocal about the transgressions of former President Donald Trump's poli-

cies that also endangered lives.

Saying she agreed that Democratic politicians should be "pushed" for their support of abortion, Wilson O'Reilly said she believed that Catholics would flee in greater numbers because the document on the Eucharist will be perceived as political rather than genuine teaching.

Panelist John Carr, co-director of the Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life at Georgetown University, which sponsored the panel, credited Bishop Rhoades for taking on a most difficult task in a time of divisiveness among the bishops and within the Church.

"It's important to be candid about the differences here," said Carr, who formerly was executive director of the bishops' Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development. "How did the Eucharist, which is the sign of unity at our parish and our lives and in our Church, somehow become the thing we fight about in terms of politics? It seems to me like we've gotten ourselves in a terrible place."

Carr said he disagrees with the bishops' decision to move forward on the document.

"The pastoral dimensions are really serious," he said. "This is terrible timing and, as people have said, in the midst of a pandemic, racial reckoning, let's have a fight about whether the president ought to be able to receive Communion. Publicly, this showcases our divisions and is a diversion."

The program opened with a discussion between Archbishop Christophe Pierre, papal nuncio to the United States, and Kim Daniels, co-director of the Georgetown initiative. The archbishop recapped what he told the U.S. bishops during their spring general assembly in June.

The diplomat said in the discussion recorded July 27 that he had stressed that any work the conference undertakes must be rooted in synodality, as Pope Francis has invited the Church to do. Synodality allows for discerning a path forward through thoughtful and respectful conversation that allows diverse voices to be heard and overcome misunderstanding, he said.

He also called on the bishops to remember that they are teachers and that the pope has invited them to teach about the sacra-

"In my mind, a fear of division or a fear of anything else really, never should prevent the Church from teaching what it professes about anything, much less what it teaches about the real presence (of) Jesus Christ in the Eucharist,"

PANELIST GRETCHEN CROWE

ments "so we can receive the grace of God." He also cautioned about the "instrumentalization" of the sacrament of the Eucharist lest it become a tool for ideologies to overtake.

"The sacraments of salvation are to be administered often to the people," he said. "As such the Church should remain united."

Cardinal Tobin also called for synodality to be part of the bishops' process as the document is drafted.

"What we need is a broader consultation with the American Church on the mystery of the Eucharist, and not one, like or not, that is perceived as a political action," Cardinal Tobin said. "We have a perfect invitation from the Holy Father to adopt a more synodal Church, people who are talking together as we walk the same road."



CNS photo/courtesy Archdiocese of Newark

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin of Newark, N.J., elevates the Eucharist during a March 15, 2020, livestreamed Mass.