

# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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# Bishop Joins Pope in Consecration of Russia, Ukraine to Immaculate Mary

JOSHUA SCHIPPER

**B**ishop Kevin C. Rhoades joined Pope Francis in the consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at St. Pius X Parish in Granger on Friday, March 25.

Catholics from around the diocese joined Bishop Rhoades, and more than 6,100 devices accessed the online stream of the consecration.

"I am so happy to be at St. Pius to pray the rosary and to do the act of consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary today," Bishop Rhoades said. He also mentioned that this marked the fifth anniversary of when he had dedicated the new church building at St. Pius X.

In mid-March, the Vatican announced that Pope Francis would consecrate the two countries on the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, a little more than one month after the Russian military invaded neighboring Ukraine.

Many drew connections from the ongoing invasion and subsequent consecration to the July 13, 1917 Fatima apparition where Our Lady asked for the consecration of Russia to her Immaculate Heart.

Many popes through the last century have completed similar consecrations to that of 2022.

According to Vatican News, "on 31 October 1942, Pope Pius XII consecrated the whole world, and on 7 July 1952 he specifically consecrated Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary with the Apostolic Letter *Sacro vergente anno*, in view of the difficult situation of Christians forced to live in an atheistic communist regime. Later, Pope St. Paul VI in 1964, and Pope St. John Paul II in 1981, 1982, and 1984 renewed this consecration of the whole human race."

During the March 25, 1984 consecration, Pope John Paul II first consulted with Servant of God Sister Lucia, who was present at the 1917 apparition, to ensure that this consecration would fulfill the request made by Our Lady. The pope consecrated "in a special way ... those men and nations who are in special need of this entrustment and consecration" in spiritual union with bishops around the world.



Samantha Rohloff

**In union with Pope Francis and bishops from around the world, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades consecrated Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on the Solemnity of the Annunciation, March 25, at St. Pius X Parish in Granger. Msgr. William Schooler, Pastor of St. Pius X, Father Nathan Maskall and Father Matthew Coonan aided the bishop in reciting the rosary prior to the consecration.**

The then-secretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, Archbishop Tarcisio Bertone, said in 2000 that Sister Lucia personally confirmed that the 1984 consecration had fulfilled the request made at Fatima, according to Vatican News.

Pope Francis, Bishop Rhoades and the bishops of the world echoed this consecration in 2022, this time specifically mentioning Ukraine and Russia in the act.

"Therefore, Mother of God and our Mother, to your Immaculate Heart we solemnly entrust and consecrate ourselves, the Church and all humanity, especially Russia and Ukraine."

Pueri Cantores groups in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, who gathered at St. Pius X to celebrate Mass with the bishop

that afternoon, provided some musical accompaniment before and after the act of consecration.

Prior to the consecration, Bishop Rhoades, Monsignor William Schooler, and Fathers Nathan Maskal and Matthew Coonan led those gathered in person and those watching online in reciting the rosary.

Bishop Rhoades has been vocal about supporting Ukraine and condemning the unjust invasion by Russia. He suggests that members of the diocese who wish to help can do so through support of Catholic Relief Services.

CRS reports that they provide a range of support in Ukraine by running field kitchens to serve hot lunches and snacks, as well as transporting displaced families to friends, relatives and social ser-

vices. The organization also offers reception services to provide clothing, information, referrals and more to those displaced by the invasion. They report that their local partner has received "nearly 315 tons of relief items through humanitarian convoys from EU partners. Nearly 56,000 affected people have received assistance including food, hygiene items and emergency shelter."

"We ask Mary to intercede for the world today," Bishop Rhoades said. "In fact, when we pray the rosary, we are praying this rosary for peace in the world, especially in Ukraine where so many people are suffering because of the war. As you know, Ukraine was invaded by Russia, and many people have been killed and continue to be killed even today."

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# Beloved teacher memorialized at luncheon

BY JENNIFER BARTON

On March 21, a total of 20 teachers from South Bend-area Catholic schools were honored as Christ the Teacher awardees at the "You Can Lend a Hand" luncheon at the Century Center in South Bend. Teachers, pastors and administrators from the local area came together for the first time in two years to pay tribute to the good work of these humble servants of Christ and the positive influence they have on the children they give so much of themselves to educate. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades gave the day's keynote address.

Father John Delaney, Pastor of St. Jude Church and School in South Bend gave the invocation prior to the luncheon. Dan Fitzpatrick, Chairman and CEO of Quality Dining, Inc., thanked the members of his team, the bishop and the Catholic Schools Office for their assistance, and spoke briefly about the ways that the "You Can Lend a Hand" program has helped educate students in Catholic schools for 40 years. He announced the award winners, while Dr. Joe Brettnacher, Superintendent of Catholic Schools and David Maugel, Associate Superintendent, presented the Christ the Teacher icons. Mayors of South Bend and Mishawaka also attended the luncheon.

The heart of the event was an emotional video created in memory of an awardee, Nathan Cole, who unexpectedly passed away more than a year ago at 43 years old. Cole had taught at St. Joseph Grade School in South Bend and moderated the school's Lego Robotics Club. He left behind a wife and young daughter. His wife, Sarah, attended the ceremony and accepted the award on his behalf.

Cole was chosen to receive the Christ the Teacher award, "in honor of him and all he gave both in the classroom and with the Lego Robotics Club," said current St. Joseph principal Melissa Green.

Though he passed away last year, Green stated that "it was really the current teachers who came up with the idea to give Nathan this award." Green began her tenure as principal this year, but recalled how Cole had taught her own daughter and she had worked alongside him as a teacher.

In the video, some of Cole's former students, who are now in high school, eagerly returned to their grade school to pay tribute to the teacher who had such a deep influence on their lives. Green described it as "very cathartic" for the teachers and staff of St. Joseph, and stated that the passage of time had allowed the school community to process their loss. The video helped them both honor his memory and to grieve for him. In his 16 years at St. Joseph, Cole left a legacy that was remembered by his fellow teachers, stu-



Photos by Jennifer Barton

**A chair was reserved at the "You Can Lend a Hand" luncheon in South Bend on March 21 for Nathan Cole, a teacher from St. Joseph Grade School in South Bend. Cole passed away last year and was posthumously honored with the Christ the Teacher Award.**



**The annual Christ the Teacher Award goes to Catholic school teachers who embody Christ's love for others and show this through daily sacrifice and sharing of the faith with their students. Twenty teachers from Catholic schools earned this award for the 2021-22 school year in South Bend.**



**Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and Dr. Joe Brettnacher present Karen Salvador, principal of Mishawaka Catholic School - St. Monica Campus, with the Saint Mother Theodore Guerin award.**



**Peggy Shea, who has been involved in various Catholic schools in South Bend and Mishawaka for decades, happily receives the Monsignor J. William Lester Award.**

dents and families.

Additional awardees included Peggy Shea as the Monsignor J. William Lester Award. Shea has been instrumental in promoting Catholic education at Marian High School for more than five decades.

Monsignor Lester was a bulwark of the diocese for many, many years, and had a passion for education, particularly Catholic education. He served as Superintendent of Catholic Schools for a time and recognized the need for four Catholic high schools, two on both ends of the diocese. Much of his time was spent encouraging Catholic athletes on the field. He also supported bringing 26 Cuban boys to Fort Wayne as a part of the Pedro Pan Project, intending to safeguard them from the influence of communist leader Fidel Castro.

According to Dr. Brettnacher, "We proudly award the Msgr. J. William Lester Award to an individual, or a couple, who has demonstrated their unfailing support and dedication to Catholic education in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend."

Shea certainly fit that bill. She and her late husband, Jim, Sr., put five children through Marian High School, and four of her grandchildren are now alumni of the school as well. Additionally, Shea has been involved in local parishes over the years, including St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend, Queen of Peace in Mishawaka and St. Pius X in Granger.

"Her reach has been very widespread," said Alicia Redinger, Mission Advancement Director for Marian High School. She described Shea as a "champion for Catholic schools."

Joining her to show their support and appreciation were two of her sons and additional family members.

The Saint Mother Theodore Guerin Administrative Recipient was Karen Salvador, Mishawaka Catholic School - St. Monica Campus principal.

One of the awardees, Allison Jeter, the third-grade teacher at St. Adalbert School in South Bend, said of winning the Christ the Teacher award: "I'm really excited about it, very humbled. I didn't expect or anticipate to even get nominated."

Jeter is in her third year of teaching at the Catholic school and did her student teaching there years ago. She has been a teacher for seven years overall. "I love it. It's a very strong community," she remarked.

As most teachers, particularly those who pursue a vocation in the Catholic school system, she doesn't do her job for any reward, but rather, "I teach because I love kids and love working with them, and I have been able to throw my heart and soul into it and have great support of family and colleagues and friends. So, it was just being rewarded for doing a thing that comes natural and that I just love to do."

# 'Hope does not disappoint,' ABA campaign exceeds goal

BY JENNIFER BARTON

In the book of Romans, St. Paul speaks about the three virtues of faith, hope and love. Of hope, he wrote: "and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us." The virtue of hope inspired the theme for the 2021-22 Annual Bishop's Appeal: "Witness to Hope."

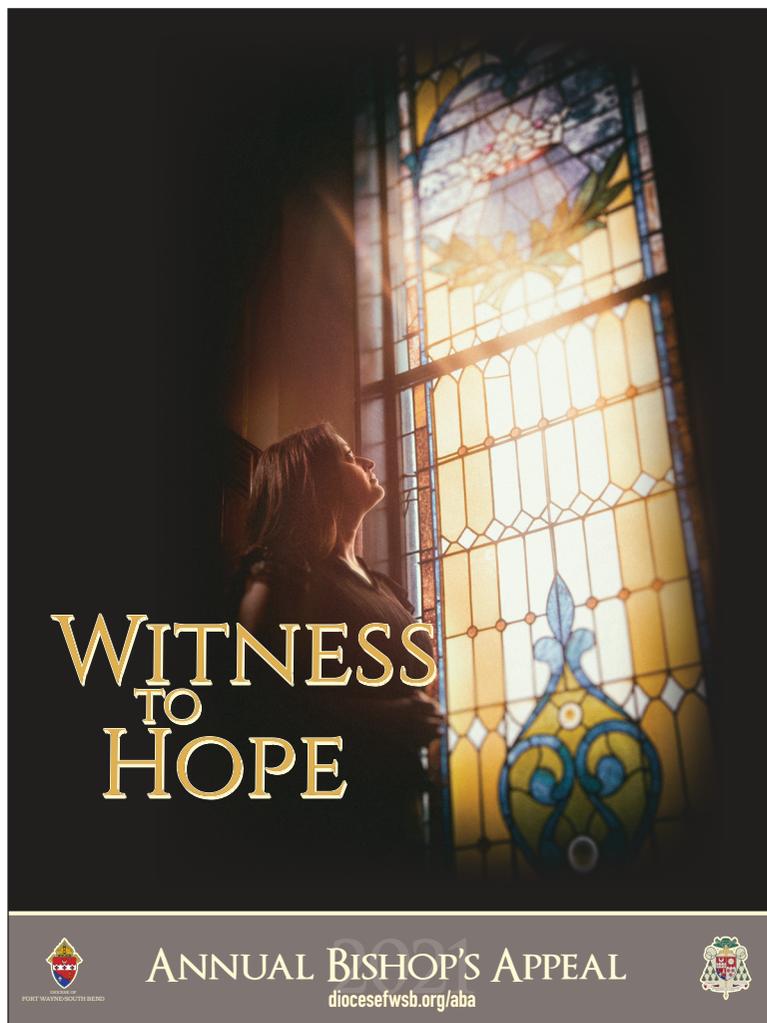
It is essential that Catholics place their hope not on things of the world, but on God's saving grace. In the Bishop's Appeal video, Catholics are reminded that: "Our hope, beyond all understanding, is in the immutable truth that the cross of Christ, rending the fabric of time and space, won our salvation."

All three of the cardinal virtues play into the Annual Bishop's Appeal, the fundraising arm of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend: faith in God and His holy Church, hope in the good work of His servants throughout the diocese and lovingly sharing the gifts that He has given to those members within it. The yearly campaign funds many good works in the diocese, from things like Catholic education to meeting the sacramental needs of all the people of the diocese. Through the efforts of the Annual Bishop's Appeal, the work of the Church can continue.

In 2021-22, the diocese not only met their target goal, but exceeded it, according to Jeff Boetticher, Secretary of Stewardship and Development for the diocese. "The goals are determined by the Diocesan Business Office and are based on the individual parishes' past giving to the appeal and on their annual offertory totals," he stated. "This year it seemed that many more of our 83 parishes and oratories reached or exceeded their goals faster than in previous years."

Father Jacob Meyer, Pastor of St. Monica Parish in Mishawaka, was featured in this year's Bishop's Appeal video. In it, he expressed that with the funds his small parish raised in a previous campaign, they were able to furnish an area of the parish that would be used to help create a greater sense of community. This year, St. Monica combined their Bishop's Appeal with a capital campaign of their own, which was directed toward restoring the church and making needed repairs to maintain the structure and its beauty.

Speaking to Today's Catholic, Father Meyer stated that his parish successfully met their goal and "the interesting part is that it was a three-year pledge, but most people chose to give up front," so roughly 80% of the money needed is already in hand



and ready to utilize for their projects.

St. Monica's church building is nearly 100 years old and some pieces, such as the pews, have never been restored. The funds raised in this combined campaign will go toward restoring those and the baldachino or altar canopy, bringing in a new altar of repose and ambo, expanding the parking lot, redoing some classrooms and more. All of this should be complete in a year and a half.

"The parishioners really stepped up," Father Meyer said. "We have a lot of new families that gave; families that have been here three years or less. They're very invested in the mission."

He stated that his parishioners "are very bought into the Bishop's Appeal, they see the value of it.

"The bishop has been so generous to us, this is a way to thank him, to give back to him for that generosity."

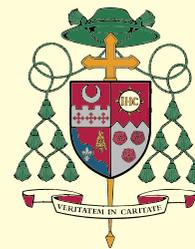
One of the larger parishes in the diocese, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Fort Wayne, also reported a generous surplus from their Annual Bishop's Appeal campaign. Father Terry Coonan, who was installed as pastor of the parish last summer, stated that, although he is relatively new to the parish, he has witnessed that "This parish has a history of generosity toward the Annual Bishop's Appeal. ... It testifies to the parish's appreciation of the sacrifice that the Lord makes for all of us on the cross and in the sacraments, and is clearly an act

of faith back to the Lord."

He commented that this also reflected the gratitude of the people toward the leadership of Bishop Rhoades and "for the priests of the parish over the years, perhaps best represented by the men who grew up here and have become priests themselves."

For their part, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton will likely put the additional funds toward parish ministries. Father Coonan is grateful for the financial support of parishioners, knowing with confidence that they will be able to "plan our budget and potential improvements or repairs."

Father Coonan said of his parishioners: "I pray they know how important their sacrificial gifts are to the diocese and also to their home parish."



## Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Monday, April 4: 2 p.m. – Presentations at National Eucharistic Preachers Conference, Chicago, IL  
 Tuesday, April 5: 5 p.m. – Keeley Vatican Lecture, Eck Visitor's Center Auditorium, Notre Dame  
 Friday, April 8: 7 p.m. – Confirmation Mass, St. Joseph Church, Bluffton  
 Saturday, April 9: 10 a.m. – Confirmation Mass, St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Decatur  
 Sunday, April 10: 11:30 a.m. – Palm Sunday Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne



## Priest assignments

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

**Rev. Jose Arroyo**, as pastor at St. Paul of the Cross Parish, Columbia City, effective March 27, 2022.

**Rev. Raul Marroquin**, as parochial vicar at St. Joseph Parish, LaGrange, and St. Gaspar del Bufalo Parish, Rome City, effective March 31, 2022.

**Rev. Thomas K. Zurcher, CSC**, as part-time parochial vicar at Holy Cross Parish, South Bend, effective April 1, 2022.



CNS photo/Remo Casilli, Reuters

**On a state visit to Poland on March 27-28, 2022, the patriarch pledged solidarity with Ukrainians and praised the "generosity, mercy and hospitality" of Poles for taking in 2.3 million war refugees in one month.**

# Ecumenical patriarch pledges solidarity with Ukrainians during visit

BY JONATHAN LUXMOORE

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) – Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople pledged solidarity with Ukrainians forced to flee their country and thanked neighboring Poland for showing "generosity, charity and hospitality" since the start of the Russian invasion.

"I am here to show solidarity and join in prayer with millions of refugees who've been displaced by this unjustifiable aggression and the violence unleashed by Russia against sovereign Ukraine," the ecumenical patriarch said on March 28 during a visit to the Polish capital.

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## Pueri Cantores make a joyful noise for Annunciation

BY SAMANTHA ROHLOFF

The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord falls on March 25, precisely nine months ahead of Christmas, the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord. This day commemorates when the angel Gabriel appeared to the Blessed Virgin Mary and relayed to her the message from God that she was to give birth to the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit. Of her own free will, Mary could have rejected this proposed path, but she didn't. Her acceptance of God's will is a powerful testimony of faith for all ages, and is cause for celebration.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated Mass for the Annunciation at St. Pius X Church in Granger, and the occasion was made even more special with the presence of approximately 200 student singers from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. The group is Pueri Cantores, a Catholic organization with roots in the Vatican itself. Their purpose is to bring others to the Church through sacred music.

The choir performed during the Mass in English, Latin and Spanish. They also sang prior to the rosary recited for an end to the Russian-Ukrainian conflict and the Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. All three events were live streamed for the entire diocese, with the rosary and consecration occurring at the exact same time around the world in communion with Pope Francis and the Catholic Church.

Jeremy Hoy, Director of Liturgy and Music for St. Pius X Church, conducted the singers that day. Pueri Cantores is Latin for "young choristers," he explained. With pride, Hoy also went on to describe the choir's interworking details and the young participants' hardworking natures.

*"We are celebrating today the greatest event in human history. Why do we say that? It is because today, God became man."*

— Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades



Catholic students from around the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend performed at St. Pius X Church in Granger on March 25 during the Mass celebrated for the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord.

Fourth-graders through high school seniors displayed their musical abilities in the singing group. In addition to diocesan homeschoolers, represented schools included all four Catholic high schools, both Elkhart grade schools and a handful of schools in Fort Wayne and South Bend and the surrounding areas.

Of the many pieces presented during the Mass, Hoy described one in particular as the day's masterpiece – a rendition of Paul Manz's "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came," arranged by T.A. Ohnesorge. This was sung during the preparation of the altar, as well as during the consecration.

The piece was a five-part harmony that was impressively comprised of two soprano groups as well as alto, tenor and bass groups. Echoing the words of both Gabriel and Mary, Pueri Cantores professed the Solemnity's meaning through a beautiful array of angelic vocals.

Hoy spoke highly of the young vocalists. "I am amazed at what these students accomplished today," he said. "They were very attentive the whole day and really worked hard on the things I asked of them. I am very proud of them!"

Bishop Rhoades began his homily by praising the singers' charismatic musical talents. He



Photos by Samantha Rohloff

Jeremy Hoy, Director of Liturgy and Music for St. Pius X Parish, conducts the Pueri Cantores singers.

then explained the importance of the day's Solemnity. "We are celebrating today the greatest event in human history," he emphasized. "Why do we say that? It is because today, God became man."

The bishop explained the many ways in which God's humble love was on display. As opposed to being born in the luxurious city of Rome, Christ was born in the small town of Bethlehem. And Mary, his mother, was no upper-class aristocrat or royalty; she was a young, newly betrothed virgin.

Transitioning from Christ's conception to Mary's, Bishop Rhoades further explained her unique role in history as she had

no stain of original sin. He then focused on the wording used at the beginning of the Hail Mary. "We repeat [the] words of the angel Gabriel so often: 'Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.' That's exactly what Gabriel said to Mary – that was his greeting to her ... If you listen to the Gospel, he said, 'Hail, full of grace.'"

"Hail" means "rejoice," he continued, as all Christians are called to do on that day. The Incarnation, he said, brought the faithful eternal life by delivering them from sin and damnation.

"Even though she didn't understand completely, she trusted God's word that she received as a message from the angel," the bishop said. This acceptance of God's plans as well as her lack of sin is why the Catholic Church honors Mary so dearly; she is the Church's "pillar of faith."

Bishop Rhoades concluded by recounting his own journey of accepting God's will. Initially, a vocation to the priesthood wasn't his definite path, he said, and he even considered the vocation of marriage.

"And I remember, I was praying and there was a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary ... and I could imagine her saying, 'Lord, do with me what You will. Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me according to your word.'" Taking this to heart, he prayed Mary's fiat, her "yes" to God, which means "let it be done." It was then that Bishop Rhoades understood God's call for him to become a priest – he experienced joy and peace with this path.

"Because, you know, in God's will is our peace," he said. Like Mary, he instructed those present and watching over live stream to "be obedient to God's will." And doing just so, by practicing the charism that God had bestowed upon them, Pueri Cantores sang as Bishop Rhoades concluded the Mass.



# NEWS BRIEFS

## USCCB president, committee chairmen recommit church to pro-life initiatives

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) — As the nation awaits the U.S. Supreme Court's most significant abortion ruling in decades, the president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the chairmen of eight USCCB committees said they "join together in prayer and expectant hope that states will again be able to protect women and children from the injustice of abortion." "As we affirm the value of every human life, we welcome the possibility of saving countless unborn children as well as sparing women and families the pain of abortion," they said in a statement released on March 21. In June or early July, the court will issue a ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, which involves a Mississippi law that bans most abortions after 15 weeks. It is expected the decision will overturn the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision legalizing abortion nationwide, returning the abortion issue to the states. In their statement, Los Angeles Archbishop José H. Gomez, USCCB president, and the chairmen of USCCB committees concerned with pro-life, domestic and international policy, evangelization and other issues recommitted the Catholic Church's years-long outreach — through various initiatives, parishes, agencies and other entities — to pregnant women in need and their children and families. They urged Catholic dioceses, parishes, agencies and institutions to do the same. The full statement can be found online at [bit.ly/3IB9T0d](https://bit.ly/3IB9T0d).

## Amid wildfires, Texas bishops pray for first responders, victims of blazes

AUSTIN, Texas (CNS) — The Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops said they were grateful for the first responders fighting wildfires raging across the state and offered prayers for them and all who have been affected by the natural disaster. "We pray for the first responders and for the community members, as they work together to salvage homes, businesses and lives," the Texas bishops said in a statement released on March 21. "We are grateful for their dedication and their generosity toward their neighbors. Let us also remember those who have been harmed physically and materially by the fires, especially the deceased," they added. "May they find comfort in our prayers and in the mercy and charity shown to them." The Texas A&M Forest Service said on March 21 that 178 wildfires had burned more than 108,000 acres across the state since the wildfires started on Feb. 23. Gov. Greg Abbott issued a disaster declaration on

## Russia, Ukraine consecrated to the Blessed Virgin Mary



CNS photo/Paul Haring

Pope Francis consecrates the world and, in particular, Ukraine and Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary during a Lenten penance service in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican on March 25, 2022.

March 17 for 11 Texas counties to help them in the aftermath of the fires; he said more counties could be added. The largest fire, named the Eastland Complex, has engulfed the town of Carbon and more than 54,000 acres, claiming at least one life and leaving many families homeless.

## U.S. set to accept up to 100,000 Ukrainian refugees

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) — The Biden administration said on March 24 that the United States plans to welcome up to 100,000 Ukrainians as refugees. This was announced while President Joe Biden joined European leaders for a high-stakes NATO meeting in Brussels, where he pledged during a news conference that the U.S. will provide \$1 billion in humanitarian aid for Ukrainians. "While we expect many Ukrainians will choose to remain in Europe close to family and their homes in Ukraine, today the United States is announcing plans to welcome up to 100,000 Ukrainians and others fleeing Russia's aggression," the White House said in a statement posted online. The statement said potential refugees could enter "through the full

range of legal pathways, including the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program," but it also said the Biden administration is "working to expand and develop new programs with a focus on welcoming Ukrainians who have family members in the United States." The statement emphasized humanitarian aid the U.S. is also sending to neighboring nations taking in those fleeing Ukraine.

## Madeleine Albright is remembered as diplomat and teacher

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) — Madeleine Albright, former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, the first female Secretary of State and longtime professor at Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service, died on March 23 in Washington, D.C. She was 84. "We have lost a loving mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend," her family said in a statement, adding that Albright died of cancer. During her years as Secretary of State, Albright frequently briefed Vatican diplomats on situations from the peace process efforts in the Middle East to tensions in Kosovo. And in her nearly 40 years at Georgetown,

she inspired students "not only to understand the world, but to serve the world. Generations of her students went on to do just that, a legacy that is almost incalculable in its reach," said Joel Hellman, dean of the university's Walsh School of Foreign Service. "For all her accomplishments, Albright always said that first and foremost she was a professor. She began teaching at the School of Foreign Service in the fall of 1982, and from that moment on, she was a fixture on campus and in the lives of our students," Hellman said. He noted that despite her many commitments around the world, she rarely missed the class she taught on the foreign policy toolkit and always made time to meet all of her students — more than 2,000 throughout her career.

## 'It was over in four Hail Marys,' says survivor of New Orleans tornado

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana (CNS) — Michael Baiamonte took shelter with family members in a closet in their home as the strongest tornado to hit the New Orleans area in five years took direct aim at his neighborhood. "It was crazy," he told the *Clarion Herald*, New

Orleans' archdiocesan newspaper. "It was over in four Hail Marys. That's how I know. It took me four Hail Marys from the time we got in that closet." The tornado ripped through several Arabi neighborhoods on March 22, killing one man, destroying 40 homes and severely damaging more than 100 others in neighborhoods submerged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The National Weather Service preliminarily classified the tornado as an EF-3, with winds ranging from 135-165 mph. It ripped through a two-mile swath of Arabi in St. Bernard Civil Parish, just east of New Orleans. "One death is too many, but it's a miracle we had only one death," said Guy McInnis, the civil parish's president. "It seems like it should have been worse." "It's heart-breaking, it's devastating," said New Orleans Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond, who toured the rubble with Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards on March 23. "We know the people of St. Bernard Parish are a resilient people, but they are more than that. They are people of deep faith."

## Ethiopian cardinal welcomes humanitarian truce in Tigray region

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (CNS) — Cardinal Berhaneyesus Souraphiel of Addis Ababa welcomed a humanitarian truce to allow aid to reach millions of people in the war-affected region of Tigray. The government announced the indefinite and immediate truce on March 24 and urged the Tigray defense forces to desist from all acts of further aggression. In response, Tigrayan military leaders said they had accepted the offer for a truce if it would allow aid to reach the millions of people in urgent need in their region. "The Church welcomes the government's announcement of a truce in hopes that it will help the innocent people affected by the war," Cardinal Souraphiel told journalists on March 24, during a meeting of the Social and Development Commission of the Catholic Church in Ethiopia. The war in Tigray — a semi-autonomous region in the north of Ethiopia — broke out in November 2020 after months of tensions between the government and regional leaders. Within 16 months, the conflict has killed thousands and displaced millions of people from their homes. Despite a warning that starvation was threatening millions, no relief aid has reached the region since mid-December, according to officials in the Diocese of Adigrat. In January, the World Food Program said nearly 40% of the people in Tigray suffered from extreme food shortages.

**Art and literature event honors women**

FORT WAYNE – The University of Saint Francis invites the public to “Feminism: Voices & Visions” from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on March 31 in Achatz Hall of Science and John and Toni Murray Research Center on the campus, 2701 Spring Street. The event, which is part of Women’s History Month, takes place in the Parkview Physicians Group Auditorium, Room 226. The free event will feature an evening of art, poetry and literature celebrating and exploring different themes in feminism. Students, staff and faculty will read from a selection of feminist literature curated by the students in USF Assistant Professor of English Annmarie Steffes’ Feminist Literature class. Art will be on display and individual artists will also present their work. The event will feature two “acts,” with opportunities for discussion. Light snacks will be available. For more information, contact Annmarie Steffes at [asteffes@sf.edu](mailto:asteffes@sf.edu) or 260-399-7700, ext. 8128.

**Saint Meinrad art exhibit features two artists**

SAINT MEINRAD – An art exhibit titled “Clay and Paper” will be on display from March 30 through May 14, 2022, in the Saint Meinrad Archabbey Library Gallery, St. Meinrad, IN. The featured artists are David and Barbara Rodenberg of Evansville, IN. Barbara Rodenberg is a paper maker and collage artist. Nearly all of her raw material starts out as junk: junk mail, rusty junk from the street, the dusty contents of junk drawers, and junk shop discoveries. She has been showing her work region-

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

**Carrying the cross of Christ**



Photo provided by Mary Keefer

The eighth-graders at St. John the Baptist School, Fort Wayne, presented the Living Stations of the Cross to the school students and for the parish on Friday, March 18, 2022.

ally since 2009. David Rodenberg is a potter and sculptor, making both sculptural and functional pieces. He has won numerous awards regionally and has exhibited work in international shows in France and Germany. His work can be seen in the Evansville Museum of Arts and

Science. For library hours, call 812-357-6401 or 800-987-7311, or visit the Archabbey Library’s website: [www.saintmeinrad.edu/library/library-hours/](http://www.saintmeinrad.edu/library/library-hours/). The exhibit is free and open to the public. Those wishing to view the exhibit may want to arrive at least 30 minutes before closing time.

**Taizé prayer service**

SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS – Join the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in person or via livestream for song, quiet contemplation and inspired readings during the ecumenical Taizé prayer service from 7-8 p.m.

on Tuesday, April 12. The service will take place in the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. Each month, the service takes place on the second Tuesday. The hour-long service includes prayer, readings, beautiful music and time for silence and reflection. For more information or to find the livestream, go to [Taize.SistersofProvidence.org](http://Taize.SistersofProvidence.org) or call 812-535-2952.

**Notre Dame Laetare Medal winner announced**

NOTRE DAME – The University of Notre Dame announced this year’s honoree of the Laetare Medal will be environmental activist Sharon Lavigne, for her work in founding Rise of St. James, an organization fighting industrial pollution in Louisiana. The Laetare Medal is the oldest and most prestigious honor given to American Catholics and will be awarded at the university’s 177th Commencement Ceremony on May 15.

**Services offered for seniors**

FORT WAYNE – Oak Street Health Community is reaching out to parishes in the Fort Wayne area to offer senior community outreach programs to provide goods and services to older members of the community. Some of these include a senior gas-up event, warm clothing giveaway, complimentary case of water, cleaning supply package and movie night package. All programs include “freebies” for anyone who registers with their ID and Medicare card. The organization can also work with parishes to tailor packages and programs to individual congregations. Any interested parishes should contact Shea Marentette at [shea.marentette@oakstreethealth.com](mailto:shea.marentette@oakstreethealth.com).

**Volunteers ‘Stuff the Truck’ with donations from parishioners for Catholic Charities initiative**



Volunteers collect donations for refugees at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Fort Wayne on March 27 before the 11 a.m. Mass. “Stuff the Truck,” a Catholic Charities initiative, gathered cleaning and hygienic products, linens and an assortment of other items in the parish’s parking lot on both March 26 and 27.

Photos by Samantha Rohloff

# St. Thomas parishioners 'walk' the road to the cross

BY BETHANY BEEBE

During Lent, Christians around the world remember the last steps of Christ in a particular way, meditating on His walk and its meaning. One group within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is remembering that trip with a virtual trip of its own. During Lent this year, those who wish to participate are logging their miles and working together to cover enough steps to collectively reach the legendary trek's location, completing the steps necessary to go from northeast Indiana all the way to Jerusalem.

With a band of 25 participants, Laurie Hund-Schieber leads the Walking to the Cross program at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, Elkhart. As the program head, Hund-Schieber keeps track of the miles logged and reported by participants and sends weekly encouragement and prayers. She also tries to find pictures of landmarks they might encounter along the way as the mileage moves them closer to the destination. "I think," she said, "it offers the parish an opportunity to virtually walk together toward a common goal for Lent, and ... feel inspired by the Scripture passages and opportunities for reflection. As we walk with Christ, we pray that we may become healthier in body and spirit with each step." For those who choose an alternate form of physical activity, Hund-Schieber converts the time spent in active participation to mileage.

"Laurie does an amazing job of organizing and promoting," said Father Jason Freiburger,



Molly Gettinger

Pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle. "It is easy to support because she provides scriptural motivation and highlights churches along the way."

Based on the book "Walking to the Cross: Daily Devotions for Lent" by Butch Odom, the parish has been logging miles based on liturgical season for about four years. Bound for Bethlehem during Advent, a group of 17 covered 3,854,083 steps, or about 1,624 miles, she said. Elkhart to Calvary is 7,550 miles, but "3,600 miles of that is crossing the Atlantic Ocean, so sometimes we need to take a ship across the water and a plane across the desert to have enough steps left to reach our destination by the end date."

With nine half-marathons

already under her walking shoes, Hund-Schieber herself participates each time such a program is offered. "I ... set a goal to walk at least 10,000 steps each day. I also listen to Christian podcasts while walking and try to be mindful of the many inspiring messages I receive on my walking journey," she said.

A clinical educator for Beacon Health's physician's offices since 2018, the nurse of 38 years enjoys her empty-nest time with husband Phil, as well as visiting her four children and three grandchildren along with a host of other activities from gardening to museum visits.

As program lead, though, she sees application of her nursing philosophy take shape in the parish setting. "Ministering to the

physical, mental and spiritual care of people is the foundation of my nursing philosophy," she said. While she might refer participants to health care resources or act as a voice of encouragement, Hund-Schieber said she refrains from giving medical advice.

"Holistic care is addressing all aspects of a person's wellbeing," she said. "In order to meet physical needs, we need to take into account mental wellness and acknowledge that spirituality impacts healing and wellness. Care of the mind, body and soul is whole care that recognizes our humanity as integrated and connected."

Father Freiburger hopes for a similar positive outcome. "I hope at the completion of the program, we will be able to gather

together in person to discuss how this program impacted us both spiritually and physically, and I look forward to seeing how the relationships among the parishioners grow as they interact with each other."

He said he is also participating in the program to motivate himself to stay active "and also as a way to connect more personally with the journey that our other parishioners are on."

Starting at the core, Hund-Schieber knows the physical being of an individual is just the surface. "The soul/spirituality of a person provides the foundation, strength, and encouragement to attain ... health goals ... and to achieve the best version of themselves."



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# Volunteers pack 28,000 meals for Poland

BY SAMANTHA ROHLOFF

More than 150 men, women and children gathered in St. Vincent de Paul School in Fort Wayne on March 27. There, in association with Project 216, a Christian organization dedicated to rallying communities together to feed the hungry, they worked for nearly two hours packing meals for thousands of Poles that they have never even met.

When volunteers checked in that Sunday afternoon, they grabbed hairnets and sanitized their hands. Crowding into the parish hall, they watched an introductory video explaining the ins and outs of the day's procedures and soon got to work. Father Daniel Scheidt, Pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, later paid a visit to pray a blessing over everyone present.

Vicki Welch, a St. Vincent volunteer who coordinates with Project 216 through the parish's Stewardship Committee, explained how it was especially inspiring to witness even the youngest among the community volunteering their time. "I believe that getting children involved in service in a fun way can be life-changing. It can really kind of give them the idea that, 'Wow, I can do fun things and help people at the same time.'"

Initially introduced to Project 216 at a friend's Lutheran church, Welch knew she had to bring this mission closer to her home parish. This was her fourth year cooperating with Project 216 at the Fort Wayne parish, and she was very excited to reinstate this Lenten activity of almsgiving after the COVID-19 pandemic had prevented it in the past. She explained that the original plan that day was to prepare and package around 25,000 meals.

In less than two hours, nearly four pallets of 130 boxes were full. With 216 meals per box,



Photos by Samantha Rohloff

**Joining forces with Project 216, more than 150 volunteers meet at St. Vincent de Paul School in Fort Wayne on March 27 to pack meals for the hungry in Poland.**

that meant volunteers packed more than 28,000 meals that day for the hungry in Poland. In addition to getting the volunteers involved by physically packing the food, they were also provided with samples of the meals – another way to connect them to those for whom they were helping.

Project 216's Events Development Specialist Ellen Mann also focused on the community, particularly on the families. "I think the best thing is – see this family right here?" she asked, pointing at a family working together to pack meals. "This event is one of the very few where an entire family can serve together." Including this year, as soon as the day's packaging came to a close, a projected 109,000 meals have been prepared by St. Vincent de Paul parishioners alone, she stated.

The meaning behind Project 216's name is threefold. Each box contains 216 bagged meals. Just one person on their own can package about 216 meals in two hours. Finally, because it is a Christian group, the organization bears a Biblical connection. James 2:16 reads: "If one of you says to those in need, 'Go in

peace, keep warm and well fed' but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?"

One Nutri-Plenty meal, the name given to Project 216's meals, contains dehydrated vegetables, soy, rice and a foil packet of 21 vitamins and minerals that is added at the end of the cooking time for the pre-packaged meal. This last element was developed by the Mathile Institute, said Mann. The group's mathematical way of preparing their meals is very particular so as to make sure that the motif of 216 is not just another number. It is a message – a message of love and service to others, fulfilling Christ's mission to His followers to feed the hungry, a perfect project for the Lenten season of spiritual growth and almsgiving.

To learn more about Project 216, visit [project-216.org](http://project-216.org).



**Families, friends and parishioners team up in groups of 12 to form assembly lines that make the meal prepping as efficient as possible. Each person has a part to play, even the youngest children.**



**Volunteers help to pack more than 28,000 meals in just two short hours.**

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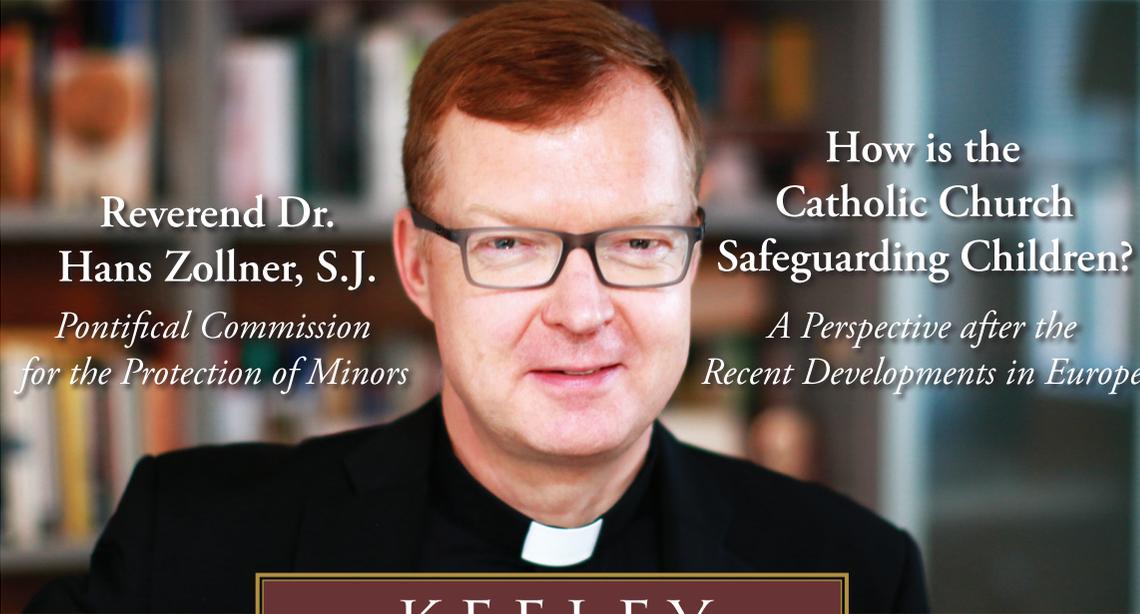
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# 'Autistic Priest' helps people with disabilities grow in faith

BY JENNIFER BARTON

Three years ago, on World Autism Awareness Day – April 2 – a priest announced to the world the news of his unexpected new diagnosis. Like many people with autism, Father Matthew Schneider, LC, struggles with the social aspects of the spectrum disorder, such as reading people's expressions and understanding verbal cues. Unlike many people with autism, however, Father Schneider lived much of his life not knowing that these issues had an underlying cause.

It wasn't until post-ordination that he was finally diagnosed with the neurological disorder. Now that he can put a name to his social difficulties, he is more able to discern his vocation as a priest, and a part of that is in helping people with similar disabilities to carve out a home within the Church.

The main reason he received his late-in-life diagnosis instead of discovering the disability as a child was due to changes in the testing used to determine if a person has autism. Father Schneider was among the top ten students in his Canadian schools, and back then, intellectual delays were generally considered a major criterion for those with autism. Those standards have changed throughout the years.

"If the 2020 diagnostic criteria existed back in 1990, the chance I would have been diagnosed when I was in school is pretty high," Father Schneider said. Even going through entrance evaluations for the seminary did not indicate a disability. That only came after he was suddenly removed from his post as school chaplain after one failed year.

Today, Father Schneider maintains active Facebook and Twitter pages under the handle "Autistic Priest" along with a



Photos provided by Father

**After discovering later in life that he has autism spectrum disorder, Father Matthew Schneider, LC, has become an advocate for those on the spectrum as well as others who live with disabilities.**

website. He is a member of the Legionaries for Christ and is currently living in the Washington, D.C. area. On his website, he keeps an active directory of parishes throughout the U.S. that host a sensory-friendly Mass. Included on that list is St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne, which began hosting their sensory-friendly Mass last year. He is also working on a doctoral thesis and searching for a way to serve God in the world of academia.

Part of the way that Father Schneider connected with his own faith was through the logical mindset of his autism. It was by reading Peter Kreeft's and Ronald K. Tacelli's "Handbook of Christian Apologetics" as a teenager that he began to develop a more personal faith life because of the rational arguments presented, but he admits that most people would not relate to the book in the same manner.

He explained that: "God has a whole spectrum of how we relate

to Him and, obviously, if He made us this way, He will relate to us in a way that He made us. If He made me autistic, He's going to relate to me in accord with that autism."

In his new book, "God Loves the Autistic Mind, A Prayer Guide for Those on the Spectrum and Those Who Love Us," Father Schneider outlines what autistic prayer might look like and provides daily devotions for those on the spectrum as well as family members and other caregivers. The first part of the book "is kind of a systematic presentation of autistic prayer" and the second half is comprised of devotions. Though other books about autism spectrum disorder and Catholic life exist, Father Schneider is certain that his is the first one written from a first-person perspective, and definitely the first priestly perspective on autism.

Adapting liturgical and personal prayer styles and prayer postures for those with disabili-



**His book "God Loves the Autistic Mind: A Prayer Guide for Those on the Spectrum and Those Who Love Us," is the first Catholic prayer guide written by a person with autism. Father Schneider also maintains a list of Catholic parishes in the U.S. that provide a sensory-friendly Mass, one of which is in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.**

ties is a large part of his book. "I'm trying to provide a bunch of different tools that could help someone on the spectrum or help a family member to pray. That's the idea of the book and that's the goal."

His personal experiences have led him to advocate not only for those on the autism spectrum, but all of God's children who might learn differently or see God in a unique manner. "I think we have to see it in the sense of all the different people we have; in the sense that we want to walk with everyone because Jesus didn't say 'I come to save just these people or those people.' He wants to save everyone. And in this sense, we want to be able to accommodate everyone based on their different needs,"

he said.

This accommodation means churches providing for individual needs, whether that entails wheelchair accessibility, a sign language interpreter for the deaf or a dedicated Mass for Spanish-speakers. For people with autism or those who have sensory issues, Father Schneider endorses sensory-friendly Masses and has celebrated these himself. But for those who live in areas where it is not offered, he recommends "trying to work with both sides to find the accommodations" needed to prevent sensory overload, such as asking the pastor for dimmer lighting in one area of the church at a particular Mass. He also advises those with disabilities like autism to know themselves; that if they cannot handle a post-Mass social hour, for example, to allow themselves not to feel pressured to stay for it.

He explained that: "To a large extent, one of the biggest factors of autism with how the brain is structured differently is that we have less filters or different filters." This can cause a person undue stress when trying to interact with someone rather than enjoyment of a social event. For others, being active at their church involves filling a specific role or purpose.

With March set as National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month and April beginning Autism Awareness Month, this is a good time to think about how people with disabilities are included in the Church. As the numbers of people diagnosed with disabilities continues to grow, embracing and encouraging those who live with a physical or developmental disability – ADHD, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome and a host of others – to explore greater roles in the Church is close to the hearts of many faithful Catholics, particularly those with disabilities and their families.

"That's the kind of reality that we have to deal with and so it's how do we create a circumstance that we can help this person, these people to really encounter Jesus, help these people to really know and understand the faith, and that's kind of the goal I'm working at," Father Schneider stated.

"God Loves the Autistic Mind" will be available in late May through Pauline Books and Media. To learn more about Father Matthew Schneider, LC, visit his website: [fmatthewlc.com](http://fmatthewlc.com).



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Eric Peat

The Marian Knights finish the 2021-22 boys basketball season as State Runner-Ups in Class 3A, after a school-record 24 wins and their first-ever trip to the State Finals at Gainbridge Fieldhouse in Indianapolis on March 26.

# Marian finishes record-setting season as state runner-up

BY ERIC PEAT

An entire season often is decided by a handful of moments.

However, as the Marian High School boys basketball team can attest, those moments don't have to define the season.

Marian's first-ever trip to the IHSAA Boys Basketball State Finals ended in defeat, a 53-43 loss to Beech Grove in the Class 3A Championship Game on Saturday at Gainbridge Fieldhouse in Indianapolis. The Knights (24-4) led throughout the first half, and after a third-quarter run gave the Hornets (22-6) the lead, Marian fought back to a 36-36 tie with 5:47 to go. But in a game in which neither team shot the ball particularly well, Beech Grove simply made a few more plays down the stretch to earn the victory over Marian head coach Robb Berger's squad.

"First thing I want to say is just how proud I am of my team," said Berger after the game. "They've given everything they have in every game since

early December. Every practice, every game, they had a goal in mind, and it hurts right now. You know, we came up basically five minutes short – I think it was tied with about five minutes to go, and we came up a little bit short."

From the opening tip, Marian had the early edge. The Knights knocked down five of their seven field goal attempts in the first quarter to build a 13-7 lead, and they led by as many as eight in the second quarter. Beech Grove cut it to two at the half, as Marian held a 22-20 advantage.

The third quarter, however, belonged to the Hornets. Beech Grove used a 12-0 spurt to grab control, smothering the Knights offensive attack with pressure at the rim – primarily from 6-foot-6 big man Anthony Ball. Not only did the junior lead the Hornets with 17 points, he also keyed a 37-23 advantage on the boards by pulling down a massive 20 rebounds of his own.

"They had a really strong on-the-ball defense," said Marian senior Richard Brooks. "He [Ball] was a load inside and was really hard to finish around."

"They're really strong on the inside," agreed Berger. "They really pounded the glass, and they're very active defensively. We've got to tip our hats to them because I thought they definitely deserved the win tonight."

But Marian wasn't finished. A battle-tested bunch all season, the Knights had already made game-saving defensive stops in both their sectional championship win over top-ranked John Glenn and their regional title-clinching victory over Culver Academies. A buzzer-beating three-pointer from Brooks to end the third quarter brought the Knights within two, and they would tie the game in the opening minutes of the fourth.

However, that was as close as the Knights would get, as Beech Grove connected on its final six shots to pull away. The Hornets iced the game at the free throw line, where they held a 12-3 advantage, helping them overcome a subpar shooting night (36%). In the process, Beech Grove held Marian to just 43 points, a Class 3A State Championship record for fewest points allowed.

Marian was led by Brooks, who finished with 13 points to end his high school career. Junior Deaglan Sullivan added 10 points, three assists and three steals, while senior Kaleo Kakalia pulled down a team-high 10 boards. Junior Jackson Price chipped in nine points on 3-of-4 shooting from long range.

Despite coming up short, Kakalia said the experience of playing in a state championship game was unforgettable.

"It was great; we got treated well," said Kakalia. "All of us, I think, got closer together – even closer than we were before, and I'll remember this for the rest of my life."

"Those are just my brothers, and it was just so good to do this with them," Brooks added. "I wouldn't rather do this with anyone else. Those are the guys I've been with for over a year now. I just love them."

Berger was quick to put a positive spin on the outcome, refusing to let those final few minutes or the difficult emotions of the moment define his team.

"It hurts, but it doesn't take away the season and the careers that my two seniors here have had at Marian High School, which took our program to a new level – a level that will be tough for the guys to sustain, but we're going to try."

That new level produced a record-setting season for the Knights, who won a program-best 24 games this year and captured the team's first-ever semi-state title. For a team that only graduates two seniors and returns three starters – including its leading scorer in Sullivan – there's reason to believe that Marian basketball isn't going anywhere.

"I think it will make them

hungry," Berger said of his underclassmen. "Once you experience coming down here and playing, I think it would be addictive. It would be something you'd want to try again. We know it's not easy, it's obviously tough to get down here. We'll take a little time off and get back to work for the next season."

Following the game, the IHSAA announced the recipient of the Arthur L. Trester Mental Attitude Award, which is presented annually to a senior who has demonstrated excellence in mental attitude, scholarship, leadership and athletic ability during his four years of high school. Brooks was brought to tears as he heard his name called and was joined by his parents at midcourt to accept the award.

"Just all the emotions came out from all the work we've put in all season – they had to come out at some point," said Brooks. "I just saw my parents, and that's when I lost it, because they do everything for me. They support me through everything, and those are good shoulders to cry on."

These are the defining moments for Brooks and company, not the turnovers or missed shots. This Knights squad will forever remember what they accomplished because of the journey they took as a team – and how they walked together with the Lord.

"I think God has a big part in what we're doing," Brooks said. "We pray a rosary before every game, we go to Mass sometimes before games; we just pray a lot. I guess He didn't have the outcome that we wanted in mind, but it was probably for a reason. I think God just helped us get here all the way."

The first annual

## Catholic Teacher Award



The Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana is currently taking nominations for the first annual Catholic Teacher Award. Nominations are due April 15, with award presentation on May 5.

For more information, contact the school principal or Sarah Shively at [sshively@ccfnei.org](mailto:sshively@ccfnei.org).



## Think you're 'failing' at Lent? Think again.

I really wanted the Sonic drink. It had been a very long day – with grocery runs and sniffly kids and two hours of live radio and attempting to keep a house moderately less filthy – and all I wanted was to drive into a spot at Sonic and order a large Coke with lime, easy ice.

It's my weakness, that drink. Occasionally I'll add cherry flavor, but generally, just the lime.

But it was the first Friday of Lent, and I gave up Sonic for Lent. So there I was sitting at the stoplight, fighting myself on whether or not I would turn left to Sonic or right to get home.

The honking pickup truck behind me snapped me from my momentary battle back to reality. "You cannot fail at Lent already" bounced through my mind.

Right I turned. To home I went. No Sonic Coke with lime in hand.

I wasn't happy about it. Who would be? But I did feel somewhat accomplished as we sat down to our first Lenten meatless meal of air fried fish sticks and popcorn shrimp, having stuck to the most basic of Lenten fasting by not going to spend \$2.50 on a large soft drink on the day that we're invited to even more intentionally fast.

But as my pride swelled thinking of this tiny Lenten fasting victory, I felt a small nudge in my heart.

"Was that enough of a fast? It's just a soda, after all. You could probably do more."

From "I'm doing good" to

"You aren't doing enough" in less than an hour, I suddenly began beating myself up. I was being far too easy on myself, having sacrificed just one measly Sonic drink, rather than choosing something more intense, more sacrificial, more obviously penitential.

And so I went to bed that first Friday of Lent feeling like a failure, even though I'd honored one of my Lenten commitments. I'd convinced myself I was somehow displeasing to God and a disgrace to the Lenten season.

But I wasn't a failure because my Lenten sacrifice was small. If anything, I was "failing" because I was beginning to think of Lent as a competition, with myself and others (though I hadn't told anyone else what I was doing for the season).

I had, only two full days in, turned Lent into this liturgical March Madness that needed to happen in precisely the right way, or I'd be kicked out of the bracket I'd made for myself.

We do this far too often – make Lent a competition. Or we sit in our sacrifices and compare ourselves to others. "They're praying the Stations of the Cross as a family. My kids barely sit still through grace before meals." And we assume we're losing Lent.

There's no way to lose at Lent. I guess the only way to "lose" at it would be to ignore it completely.

But if there's effort at all – even if we think it's measly or



KATIE PREJEAN MCGRADY

### WINDOW SEAT WISDOM

small – we are acknowledging that these 40 days are set apart in our year, a time to focus on what we can give up and what we can do to more fully pay attention to the Lord's movement in our lives, and prepare for the greatest move He ever made: dying for our sins and defeating death with His resurrection.

If a few weeks into Lent you are thinking, "I'm not doing enough," then perhaps add in more. If you are grumbling and hating every second of your Lenten days, then perhaps pivot to find something more fruitful.

But above all else, remember you can't fail, not if you try even a little. Even if the trying just includes not buying the Sonic drink.

Katie Prejean McGrady is an international Catholic speaker and author.

## Catholic entrepreneurs take the leap

Matt Martinusen lost his job at a precarious time. He was the sole breadwinner, and his wife, Lisa, a stay-at-home mom, had just had their third baby.

The non-profit Matt had been working for was running out of money due to COVID-19. They had to let him go. It was the day before his birthday.

"Losing that full-time income was scary," said Matt, now 27, a father of three who belongs to the Church of St. Joseph in West St. Paul, Minnesota. They had enough money saved up to support the family for four months.

More importantly, they had a dream. For the last two years, Matt had been running a little side business as a hobby: the Catholic Card Game. It was a Catholic version of the popular game Cards Against Humanity. And with the help of two successful Kickstarter campaigns and a lot of input from Lisa, Matt had started selling games.

They were a hit.

But his work on the game had been limited to small pockets of time.

Then, suddenly, he was unemployed.

"I had to go for it," Matt said. "It was always my dream to be self-employed, but I never knew how. I'd daydream about my quitting my day job to be full-time self-employed, but there was too much security with my day job that I thought I couldn't lose."

Now it was sink or swim.



CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

### TWENTY SOMETHING

Matt set up a makeshift office in his unfinished basement and feverishly set to work.

Day by day, week by week, Matt made inroads. The game enjoyed a wider reach. It was played by Bishop Robert Barron. It inspired Halloween costumes. And every review on the website, catholiccardgame.com, is 5 stars.

Looking back, Matt can see how God had "slowly separated me" from the securities of his day job "and showed me what was possible." He can also admit that, without the job loss, he wouldn't have made the leap to self-employment.

Sometimes, he realizes, God closes a door before He opens a window. "I've had multiple experiences in my life of holding onto things that I think I need or expecting things to go a certain way, and the Lord has had to take it all away to show me His plan clearly."

Matt isn't raking in the dough, but he's running a successful business. And best of all, he's enjoying a lot more time with his family. He's been away from his third baby just one day.

CAPECCI, page 13

## All face consequences for sin, but God does not forsake us



### THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### The Fifth Sunday of Lent John 8:1-11

The Book of Isaiah supplies the first reading for this weekend in Lent. The reading is from the second part of Isaiah, written at a time that was hardly the best period in the history of God's people.

The people had survived being exiled after they or their parents or grandparents had experienced the conquest of the Hebrew kingdoms by the Babylonians. Exile was punishment, bitter and bad in every respect.

By no means was all well when they returned to the homeland. It was not overflowing

with milk and honey. To the contrary, it was lifeless and absent of yield. This condition easily prompted people to be cynical and to deny that God cared for them, even inviting doubts that God truly existed.

With great power and clarity, this section of Isaiah insisted that God will make all right. He is almighty. He will not forsake the people. He will cause rivers of life-giving water to flow into their hearts and minds.

For the second reading, the Church presents a passage from the Epistle to the Philippians. Christians of Philippi had this in common with Christians living in every other major city of the Roman Empire: they were a minority by comparison, and their devotion to Christ required of them a lifestyle and way of thinking utterly opposite the culture. Furthermore, official, political hostility surrounded them.

So, this epistle, as the other epistles, encouraged but also challenged these Christians. It is eloquent in its message, using the imagery of racing. Paul says that he had not yet finished the

race, but he had his eyes on one sight alone, namely the finish line. When he crossed this line, in other words when he died an earthly death, he would win the race because he would enter life everlasting.

For its third reading this weekend, the Church gives us a selection from John's Gospel. John's Gospel is a literary gem. It tells its version of the life and teaching of Jesus with remarkable brilliance and appeal. Important to this appeal is the Gospel's clarity and pathos.

Certainly, such is the case in this reading. The danger before the woman, and the mercy of God in Christ, are very evident.

By way of explanation, the woman had been caught in the act of adultery. Jewish law and custom were very hard on adulterers; not to victimize women, but rather to secure the racial integrity of the people who were chosen to be God's special people. If an adulterous woman gave birth to a child, conceived outside her marriage, then fraud well might taint the family's line of descent if true fatherhood was

unknown, and the genuine identity of the offspring might not be guaranteed. Finally, the commandment would be broken.

Opponents hoped to discredit Jesus. By showing mercy to the woman, they would have said that Jesus disregarded or minimized the Commandments revealed to Moses, belittling ancient Jewish custom that adhered to the Commandments.

Bypassing the trap, Jesus boldly came to the woman's rescue by forgiving her but upholding the sinfulness of adultery by admonishing her not to sin again.

### Reflection

These readings appear as the cries of the Ukrainian people ring in our ears. Their suffering resulted from human decision-making, as does all rejection of God and of God's law, with its inevitable product of death, guilt, grief and fear.

This story of the adulterous woman is a superb lesson for everyone. Jesus told the crowd ready to execute the woman that

everyone can decide to ignore God, but reap the consequences, but another way is available.

Two weeks of Lent remain, enough time for us to find this way to life and peace, the Lord's gifts, but gifts that we must choose to accept.

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Is 43L16-21 Ps 126:1-6

Phil 3:8-14 Jn 8:1-11

**Monday:** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 Ps 23:1-6 Jn 8:12-20

**Tuesday:** Nm 21:4-9 Ps 102:2-3, 16-21 Jn 8:21-30

**Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 (Ps) Dn 3:52-56 Jn 8:31-42

**Thursday:** Gn 17:3-9 Ps 105:4-9 Jn 8:51-59

**Friday:** Jer 20:10-13 Ps 18:2-7 Jn 10:31-42

**Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28 (Ps) Jer 31:10-13 Jn 11:45-56

# A mess of our own making

Every parent has heard his or her child cry out in the night and rushed to find out what is wrong. "There's a monster in the corner!" your daughter says, and to calm her down and reassure her, you turn on the light so that you both can see. There is no monster, you explain; just the clothes that she was supposed to put away piled on the floor, gathering dust and wrinkles.

Children have active imaginations, and darkness, in particular, seems to put those imaginations to work. Light can reveal the truth, but if you turn the light back off without putting the clothes away, your child's fear that the misshapen pile in the corner has a less mundane explanation may be quick to return.

As we grow older, we convince ourselves that we've left monsters behind, but in the shadowy corners of our minds lurk misapprehensions and even outright lies, the detritus of an untidy culture that too often fears the light more than the monsters of its own making.

As the linguist and philosopher Owen Barfield, friend of C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien, reminds us, because we are in the world, we can only see it from the inside out. And here on the inside, our common language and cultural experiences shape our understanding of just what, exactly, it is that we are seeing. The widespread loss of belief among even practicing

Catholics in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist stems at least in part from the reality that we look at the host through different eyes than did previous generations — eyes less suffused with the light of faith.

The flipside of children's active imagination is the reality that, as the Canadian novelist Robertson Davies once wrote, children are "literal-minded toughs." Turn out the light without putting the clothes away, and the monster, as I said, is likely to return. Once it has taken root in his or her mind, the mistaken apprehension becomes the child's literal reality. That the misshapen pile in the corner is, in truth, a sign of something else — of clothes, certainly; of bad habits, maybe; and perhaps of outright disobedience of the mother who told the young boy to take his clean clothes to his room and put them away: That is something that can only be explained while the light is on.

In a world suffused with the light of faith, we can more easily see the body behind the bread and the blood behind the wine. In the twilight of our God, we see only bread and wine, while the corners of our mind are increasingly marked "hic sunt dracones" ("Here there be dragons"). We are convinced that we can see things that our ancestors could not, that the shadows that have crept slowly across the shared landscape of our minds reveal rather than conceal. The light of old truths



ALL THINGS NEW

SCOTT P. RICHERT

fades away, replaced by the darkness of new lies.

St. Paul knew that he saw "indistinctly, as in a mirror," but he longed to see one day face to face. That longing stemmed from faith, was fed by hope and culminated in love: love for the one true God, whom he would one day "know fully, as I am fully known." We, too, see indistinctly, but we prefer the darkness to light, the lies of our own making to the truth revealed by the maker of the world.

Yet truth still cleaves the darkness like a sword, and it cuts through our hearts, too. The problem today is not that so few people defend the truth because the truth, since it is true, needs no defense. The problem is that so few of us are willing simply to proclaim the truth, finding it easier to go along with those who see a monster in the corner than to explain that what they're seeing is nothing more than a mess of our own making.

Scott Richert is the publisher of OSV. Visit OSVNews.com.

## CAPECCHI, from page 12

"I have friends who are getting promotions and bigger paychecks," Matt said. "I could do that, but then I would be gone. I look at myself as a business owner but also a very present father. We're choosing to live with less money but then have the freedom to both be home. That's amazing."

That means opting for the secondhand and leaning on family for moral support. It also means

trusting that God's generosity will never be outdone.

Once, when Lisa walked the trash out, she returned to the front door to find someone had left a meal.

"That kind of stuff happens, especially when things seem most dire," Lisa said.

Matt's willingness to take risks is an indication of how far he's come. "I've learned to make the leap and trust that, if it's meant to happen, it will. I used to be deathly afraid of even

calling the pizza place to order a pizza."

Courage from Christ makes all the difference for a Catholic entrepreneur.

"I have a trust in the Lord that gives me comfort, knowing that His will will be done," Matt said. "All I can do is take one more step in the direction I think He is showing me to go."

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights,



## ALDOBRANDESCA

1245-1310 FEAST APRIL 26

St. Aldobrandesca was a mystic in Siena, Italy. She was a curiosity because of her many visions, ecstasies and miracles. Once a hospital maid came upon Aldobrandesca in a trance. The saint appeared to be unconscious and without feeling. The woman summoned everyone to see her, thinking she was dead. Some pricked her with pins and burned her fingers. When Aldobrandesca returned to her senses, she simply said: "May God forgive you." That act of forgiveness tells us more about the saint than all of her paranormal experiences. Visions and ecstasies may be evidence of a supernatural touch, but mercy expressed to others is a sure sign of divine love. We honor Aldobrandesca as a saint for her charity, not for her trances.

## SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for April 3, 2022

John 8:1-11

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Fifth Sunday of Lent, Cycle C: The story of those who accuse a woman of sin. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JESUS	MOUNT	OF OLIVES
TEMPLE	PEOPLE	SAT DOWN
WOMAN	ADULTERY	COMMITTING
THE LAW	MOSES	TO STONE
TEST	BENT DOWN	GROUND
AWAY	ONE BY ONE	ALONE
NO ONE	NEITHER DO I	CONDEMN

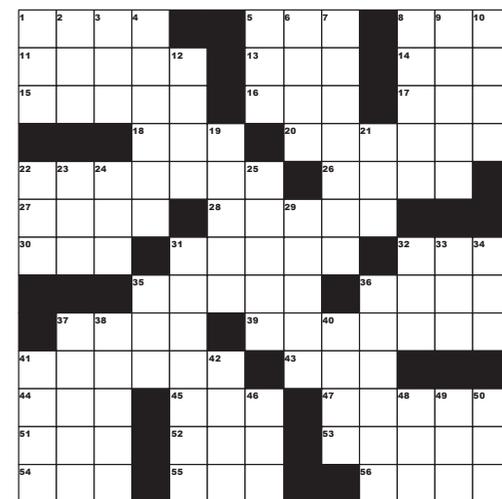
### NO STONES

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

## The Cross Word

April 3 and 10, 2022



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Readings: Is 43: 16-21; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11 & Lk 19:28-40; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Lk 22:14-23:56

### ACROSS

- 1 Colorless
- 5 Shade tree
- 8 That girl
- 11 Broken
- 13 Snake
- 14 Plaything
- 15 The Magi brought
- 16 Container
- 17 Monks' brewed
- 18 Satan likes one
- 20 Harassed
- 22 Shout of praise
- 26 Being under a vow in Ireland
- 27 (2 wds) Chalice

- 28 "At the name of \_\_\_"
- 30 Short-term memory
- 31 \_\_\_ Rica
- 32 National police
- 35 Town chief
- 36 "A rod of \_\_\_"
- 37 Ship's head
- 39 The Lord's time of suffering
- 41 "Path in the \_\_\_ waters"
- 43 Pod vegetable
- 44 Past
- 45 Hand tool
- 47 Shred (2 wds.)
- 51 \_\_\_ Francisco

- 52 Winter hazard
- 53 Righteousness comes through \_\_\_
- 54 Strive
- 55 Fall behind
- 56 "Take \_\_\_, watch and pray"

### DOWN

- 1 Ten meters
- 2 Stinging fish
- 3 Easter month
- 4 Gunny sack materia
- 5 \_\_\_ and flow
- 6 Cut of pork
- 7 Nicaragua capital
- 8 Part of a rocket
- 9 Risen Lord had in hands, and feet
- 10 Regarded speculative
- 12 Not fat
- 19 Take pleasure in
- 21 Petrol
- 22 In possession of
- 23 Rosary month
- 24 Total
- 25 Fable writer
- 29 Seatbelt
- 31 Brown, fuzzy marsh plant
- 32 Food Friday (abbr.)
- 33 Ghost's greeting
- 34 No room here
- 35 Car speed
- 36 Eighth-century prophet
- 37 Roll of tobacco
- 38 "\_\_\_ in the garden"
- 40 Vassal
- 41 Spar
- 42 Gym club
- 46 Limb
- 48 Pastry
- 49 North American Indian
- 50 Doctoral degree

# God 'protected us,' says Myanmar family after Kentucky tornado

BY ELIZABETH WONG  
BARNSTEAD

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. (CNS) – Ben Ghung Awm's Catholic faith has always sustained him – from escaping the turmoil of his home country, to being imprisoned and beaten, to resettling in the United States as a refugee, to surviving a tornado that severely damaged his house.

"I don't know how people who do not believe in Christ" could manage such circumstances, said Ghung Awm at his home in Bowling Green, which he and his family have been repairing ever since a series of tornadoes devastated western Kentucky and surrounding regions during the night of Dec. 10.

"God protected us and saved us," he said.

Ghung Awm was born in Myanmar. The Southeast Asian country, previously called Burma, has been beset with political turmoil for decades. Most recently, a February 2021 military coup overthrew the elected government and swept the country into deeper havoc as the military cracked down on citizen protests and resistance.

The years of humanitarian crisis resulting from power struggles between the military and democratic leaders have led to a mass exodus of Myanmar citizens to other countries. Ghung Awm is one of the thousands of Myanmar people who received refugee status to come to the U.S.

He arrived in the U.S. in 2011, but not before living without legal permission in Malaysia for a period of time after escaping from Myanmar.

His interval in Malaysia included being arrested, imprisoned and beaten due to his status. His father back in Myanmar even thought he was dead until Ghung Awm could send a message that stated otherwise.

After finally attaining refugee status, Ghung Awm arrived in Buffalo, New York, where he lived for a bit. A chance encounter with Father Timothy Khui Shing Ling, a priest from Myanmar who was at the time serving at Holy Spirit Parish in Bowling Green introduced Ghung Awm to the large population of Myanmar Catholics residing in western Kentucky.

Ghung Awm moved there shortly thereafter, and has since settled in Bowling Green and gotten involved at Holy Spirit – even buying a plot of land in a local subdivision and building a house. He and his wife, Margaret Myu Mang, were married in 2017 and have two sons: Anthony, 2; and Nicholas, 1.

Then in December, the tornadoes came.

Ghung Awm had just gotten home from work and was aware of a tornado watch in the area. He said it was strange to hear



CNS photo/Bob Roller

**Father Stephen Van Lal Than, Assistant Pastor at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Bowling Green, Ky., poses near the damaged home of Ben Ghung Awm, a Burmese Catholic, his wife, Margaret Myu Mang, their two children, Anthony, 3, and Nicholas, 1, on March 3, 2022, weeks after a tornado ripped through Bowling Green. More than 30 tornadoes were reported across several states late on Dec. 10, 2021, and early on Dec. 11, killing dozens of people and leaving a trail of devastation.**

of this in mid-December, since Kentucky tornadoes were supposedly more common in warmer months. Neither he nor his wife had experienced tornadoes when living in Myanmar.

A tornado warning came on Ghung Awm's cellphone.

"I picked up Nicholas," he said; his wife picked up Anthony and, frightened, asked Ghung Awm, "What's going on?"

The family gathered in the master bedroom "covered in a blanket. Then we heard the sirens," said Ghung Awm.

"Then 40 seconds later, it blocked my ears," said Ghung Awm of the pressure change common in tornado conditions, "and I was holding my little boy close."

The high winds tore off their roof and siding, and burst the windows with pressure. The makeshift coverage of blankets ended up protecting the family from glass shards flying across the room: "There was broken glass all over the blankets," said Ghung Awm.

But "we got lucky," he said. "I think God saved us."

The three houses beside them were flattened, as was much of the subdivision. Ghung Awm described the scene as looking as though the tornado had come along a path leading to his home, but when it nearly reached his house, the tornado abruptly turned and went around it.

Ghung Awm's sister, brother-in-law and their three children lived on the other side of Ghung Awm's house. After the storm passed, he ran over to check on them and was thankful to find that while their house was damaged as well, all family members were fine.

Father Stephen Van Lal Than,

Associate Pastor of Holy Spirit Parish, drove out to the area the following day.

Father Van Lal Than also was born in Myanmar. In fact, he is the first Myanmar-born priest ordained in the U.S. He is the leader of Myanmar Catholic ministry in Bowling Green and celebrates a monthly Mass in Burmese at Holy Spirit Church.

He told The Western Kentucky Catholic, newspaper of the Diocese of Owensboro, that his parish of 1,400 families includes approximately 761 parishioners from Myanmar.

Father Van Lal Than said this was "one of the worst-hit neighborhoods in Bowling Green" and multiple lives were lost.

The neighborhood happened to be home to many Myanmar families, as well as other immigrant groups who had come to the U.S. hoping to start their lives anew.

In "one family a few doors down" from Ghung Awm, the priest said, "the parents actually thought the kids were dead – and the kids thought the parents were."

Ambulances had picked them up, he explained, and in the chaos different family members were taken to two different medical centers.

"They were reunited four or five days later," said Father Van Lal Than.

The priest surveyed the strange path left from the tornado that avoided Ghung Awm's house, and agreed that it seems miraculous: "As it came this way, it is like it turned (around)."

In the days after the tornadoes, Ghung Awm said they were flooded with kindness, support and financial assistance from the Catholic community in Bowling

Green – and others who traveled to the area to help.

A team from nearby St. Joseph Catholic School in Bowling Green sent a group to clean up the homes of people who had been impacted. Holy Spirit parishioners Mary Ellen and Chris Krohn volunteered their time and resources to help with repairs.

The school team brought over a generator and Shop-Vac, and a group came from out of state to purchase Christmas gifts for Ghung Awm's family. Holy Spirit helped Ghung Awm pay the mortgage for a month, which he said "helped a lot."

It is now more than three months since the tornadoes.

Today Ghung Awm and his family are back in their house, which has a new roof. He said their insurance has been good –

even putting them up in a hotel immediately after the tornado – but the influx of claims has slowed the process of getting everything repaired.

Overall they are just grateful to have survived and to be rebuilding.

Ghung Awm observed that "we always receive blessings from God" but sometimes a person might "move away" from God.

"Then things like this happen," he said, "and you turn back to God."

Amid the suffering and aftermath of the tornadoes, Ghung Awm said "this was God trying to bring us closer to Him."

Seeing how God's providence once again did not fail him, Ghung Awm looks forward to the future with hope.

"A lot of Burmese moved here because of the Burmese Mass and ministry of Father Stephen," said Ghung Awm, using the colloquial term for people from Myanmar.

Ghung Awm has been involved at Holy Spirit, helping "to keep our culture within our faith and to work on more unity and integration between different ethnic groups."

In July, Deacon Martin Ma Na Ling will be ordained a priest of the Diocese of Owensboro and the second Myanmar-born priest ordained in the U.S. His ordination will be during a national conference of thousands of Myanmar American Catholics who will gather in Owensboro.

The diocese also plans to welcome two more Myanmar seminarians in the near future.

"We are very happy that the Diocese of Owensboro is willing to have priests and seminarians from our country," said Ghung Awm. "It will make a strong faith for us for the future."

*Barnstead is editor of The Western Kentucky Catholic, newspaper of the Diocese of Owensboro.*

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

## FISH FRYS

### St. Peter K of C fish fry

**FORT WAYNE** — The St. Peter K of C Council No. 17446 will have a carry-out and drive-thru fish fry on Friday, April 1, from 4-7 p.m. at the church, 518 E. DeWald St. Tickets are \$10 and include fish, tartar sauce, coleslaw, baked beans and roll/butter. Contact Kevin Workman at 260-715-5990 or [striderkev@hotmail.com](mailto:striderkev@hotmail.com) for more information.

### Fish fry at St. Aloysius in Yoder

**YODER** — A fish fry will be held on Friday, April 1, in the gymnasium at St. Aloysius Church, 14623 Bluffton Rd., from 4:30-7 p.m. Meal includes fish, scalloped potatoes or chips, coleslaw or applesauce, roll and dessert. Cost is \$12 for adults and carry-out, \$7 for children ages 6-12, and children 5 and younger eat free. Contact Jennifer Girardot at 260-622-4491 for information.

## OTHER EVENTS

### Immaculate Conception rummage sale

**KENDALLVILLE** — Immaculate Conception Parish, 319 E. Diamond St., will have a rummage sale on Friday, April 1, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the church. On Saturday, April 2, the

sale will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a bag sale for \$2.50.

### Belonging Catholic schools meeting:

#### Ministry with Persons with Disabilities

**FORT WAYNE** — A meeting is offered the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. via Zoom to connect with others interested in

helping children with disabilities attend Catholic schools. To get the link, call 260-399-1452 or email [asturm@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:asturm@diocesefwsb.org).

### Sacred Heart Cemetery spring cleanup

**SOUTH BEND** — The Sacred Heart Cemetery, 24947 Western Ave., will conduct the spring

## CAREER OPPORTUNITY



DIOCESE OF  
FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

### Administrative Assistant – Diocesan Business Office

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend seeks a full-time Administrative Business Assistant for the diocesan business office at the Archbishop Noll Center in Fort Wayne. The perfect candidate for this position is someone with a strong attention to detail, well organized and has strong computer and data entry skills. An accounting or business degree and/or experience is highly desired.

*Interested candidates should apply online at [diocesefwsb.org/careers](http://diocesefwsb.org/careers).*

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## REST IN PEACE

### Fort Wayne

David Junk, 65, St. Charles Borromeo

Nicholas A. Lulos, 85, St. Charles Borromeo

Sharon Shea, 73, St. Charles Borromeo

Mary Kay Ruth, 68, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Sarah E. Steinbrunner, 84, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Marilyn J. Christensen, 80, St. Joseph

Michael Herald, 80, St. Vincent de Paul

**Mishawaka**  
Frank Bezi, 81, Queen of Peace

### South Bend

Robert Hintz, 59, Christ the King

Marcelle M. Meredith, 101, Christ the King

Stanley Woltman, 95, Holy Cross

Joan Goralski, 93, St. Casimir

cleanup from Monday, April 11, through Saturday, April 16. Please have all fall and Christmas decorations removed from the graves by this time. Contact Patrick Nowak at 574-287-7125 or [narohaz@aol.com](mailto:narohaz@aol.com).

### Little Flower Holy Hour

**FORT WAYNE** — Little Flower Holy Hour for Vocations will be Tuesday, April 5, from 7-8 p.m. at the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Chapel, 1102 S. Clinton St. The April holy hour will be led by Father Keeton Lockwood. Contact Christine Nix at 260-422-4611 for information.

## The CrossWord

April 3 and 10, 2022

D	R	A	B		E	L	M		S	H	E					
K	A	P	U	T		B	O	A		T	O	Y				
M	Y	R	R	H		B	I	N		A	L	E				
					L	I	E		N	A	G	G	E	D		
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T	R	Y			L	A	G			H	E	E	D			

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# CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

### seeks a **PUBLICATIONS MANAGER**

This position plays a key role within the diocesan communication department. In a collaborative spirit of teamwork, this position manages story assignments, freelance capabilities and coordinates all aspects of the printed product while advancing the mission of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades throughout the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

For more information visit [www.diocesefwsb.org/career](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/career)

### St. Joseph Garrett School seeks part-time Teacher Aide

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- Assist classroom teacher in any way possible
- Prepare and set up activities
- Implement portions of daily program/lesson as directed by the classroom teacher
- Assisting in keeping the classroom, storage and playground orderly and organized
- Attend field trips
- Supervise students in the cafeteria and on the playground
- Other duties as assigned by the principal
- Attend staff meetings and trainings as needed throughout the school year
- Be familiar with state regulations for supervision
- Be familiar with the "School and Staff Policies for St. Joseph School and Preschool"

#### Qualifications:

- Must have a High School or General Education Diploma
- Must be able to lift and carry up to 40 lbs.
- Must acquire CPR and First Aid certifications

Applicants can apply at [diocesefwsb.org/careers](http://diocesefwsb.org/careers)

## Music Director

St. Therese Catholic Church  
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### PART-TIME

St. Therese Parish is seeking a part-time Music Director to be in charge of liturgy, cantors, choirs, weekly and Sunday Mass, school functions, funerals and weddings.

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