

# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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## Pro-life advocacy groups plan next steps after abortion opinion leak

BY CAROL ZIMMERMANN

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) – Although many pro-life groups immediately reacted positively to the news that the majority of Supreme Court justices seem set to overturn the court's Roe v. Wade decision, some tempered their reaction with a continued call for more advocacy while others kept a wait-and-see approach until the court issues its opinion in the weeks ahead.

Some Catholic bishops likewise kept their response in check, but acknowledged the work done on the grassroots level by pro-life activists.

For example, hours after the draft of the court's opinion was published by Politico on May 2, San Francisco Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone tweeted: "Tonight I am thinking of all the years of hard work by pro-life people of all faiths and none. Years and years of patient advocacy, help for unwed moms, political engagement and more."

The next day, Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda of St. Paul and Minneapolis said in a statement that he will "comment when the Supreme Court releases its official ruling. No matter the court's decision, the Catholic Church will continue to work toward building a culture of life and supporting women and their children," he said.

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CNS photo/Rhina Guidos

Norvilia Etienne, of Students for Life, holds a sign outside the Supreme Court of the United States on May 3, 2022, the day after a draft of the court's opinion was leaked signaling that the court was leaning toward overturning Roe v. Wade.

## 'O Beautiful Mother' honors Mary, all mothers

BY LISA EMRICK

The sun was shining high in the sky and drying the wetness off the grass on Saturday, May 7. Purple henbits and yellow dandelions popped up bright in the green grass. Near the grotto at the Catholic Cemetery in Fort Wayne, bushes are arranged in the shape of a rosary. Four bushes form the shape of a cross, while small red bushes mark the Hail Marys, with large green bushes for the Our Father and Glory Be. Individuals and families began spreading blankets and setting up chairs as area school children who were invited to lead prayers gathered around the rosary bushes. Known as "O Beautiful



Lisa Emrick

Isaac Silveus, age 8, prepares to crown Mary in the grotto of the Catholic Cemetery in Fort Wayne at the "O Beautiful Mother" event on May 7. Isaac made his first Communion at Our Lady in the beginning of May.

Mother," the event was intended to honor Mary, the greatest of mothers, as well as to pray for anyone who fills the role of a mother or mother-figure.

Jessica Schuster and Father Daniel Whelan organized a choir of young adults and 20 school children – members of local Catholic schools that Schuster reached out to – to lead the rosary. Schuster, who founded and directs a young adult choir dedicated to evangelization through the beauty of sacred choral music, explained how the event came about. "A good friend of mine visited the cemetery, saw the grotto, and suggested that it would be

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## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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#### MOTHER, from page 1

the perfect place for my young adult choir to sing! May 7 happened to be open on our choir schedule and Father Daniel's schedule, and knowing that it was a First Saturday in May (Our Lady's month), and the day before Mother's Day, all of the other details and components of the event really fell into place!"

In her apparition at Fatima, the Blessed Mother asked that her children would console her heart by spending five consecutive first Saturdays of the month in prayer, specifically meditating on the rosary, and partaking in confession and holy Communion.

Many find Mary's words particularly critical at this time in history. Schuster continued, "In these times of much fear, uncertainty, and promotion of sin in our culture, it is more important than ever to gather together to call upon our Blessed Mother, to honor her, to make reparation for sins against her heart and the heart of her Son, and to celebrate the authentic beauty of motherhood. Having the event in the cemetery allowed us to remember all of the faithful departed in a particular way, especially all mothers who are buried there. I've always been struck by the headstones that are engraved with the words, 'Pray for me.' We must not forget to pray for the souls of our brothers and sisters in Christ!"

Father Whelan opened with prayer honoring Mother Mary and led those present in reciting the rosary, focusing on the Glorious Mysteries. Pete Duran, a Fourth-Degree member of the Knights of Columbus, escorted Father Whelan as he processed around the landscaped rosary.

Marian hymns were sung throughout the event by the choir, led by Schuster. The beautiful singing carried on the wind; one could almost hear the angels of heaven joining in, or perhaps it was the voices of the little children picking flowers and laughing as they rolled down the hill. Before beginning each decade, Father Whelan gave specific intentions for women in varying capacities of motherhood, such as godmothers, spiritual mothers, etc. Those in attendance prayed for mothers living and deceased; for mothers with children here on earth and those with saints in heaven already.

After the rosary was complete, Father Whelan read a Gospel passage. His homily had a message of femininity, speaking about the strength women are given and the role model they should look to in Mary. The service culminated with Isaac Silveus from Our Lady of Good Hope Parish crowning Mary with a colorful wreath of flowers fit for the Queen of Angels.

A stream of participants were invited up to place fresh flowers at the feet of Mary. The participants then recited the Litany of Loreto and sang the hymn "Hail Holy Queen Enthroned Above," concluding the service harmoniously.



Photos by Lisa Emrick

**Participants at "O Beautiful Mother" pay tribute to the Blessed Mother Mary and to all mothers at the grotto and landscaped rosary at the Catholic Cemetery in Fort Wayne. Father Daniel Whelan led the rosary and preached on femininity.**





**STATEMENT OF  
Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades**

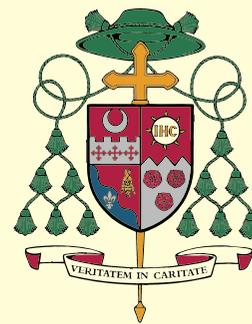
**The Upcoming Supreme Court Decision in Dobbs Case**

The draft opinion of the Supreme Court case of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, leaked last week, has generated angry protests from those who oppose the reversal of *Roe v. Wade*. For us who are pro-life, the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* would be an answer to prayer, the correction of a Supreme Court decision 49 years ago that failed to protect the most basic human right, the right to life. In 1973, the U.S. bishops called the *Roe v. Wade* decision "erroneous, unjust, and immoral." It was a tragic and sweeping decision which denied the child in the womb the right to life and led to the deaths of millions of unborn children in our nation. The *Roe v. Wade* decision has also led to the further erosion of the value of human life, even the allowance for partial-birth abortion, near infanticide, as well as a diminishment of respect for the lives of other vulnerable people, including the disabled and the terminally ill, as seen in euthanasia and assisted suicide.

With cautious optimism, we await the final ruling of the Supreme Court. Together with my brother bishops throughout the United States, I call upon the people of our diocese to be fervent in prayer during these weeks. For 49 years, we have prayed for a reversal of the tragic *Roe v. Wade* decision. We bishops also recommend fasting during this pivotal time in our nation. We stand ready to assist and accompany any woman or couple facing unexpected or difficult pregnancies. We are part of the USCCB's "Walking with Moms in Need" initiative and continue to be committed to offering loving and compassionate care through our parishes and diocese, Catholic Charities, and our support of the Women's Care Centers and other collaborators devoted to helping "Moms in Need."

Though we are hopeful for the reversal of *Roe v. Wade*, such a reversal will not end abortion in our nation. Permissive abortion laws will continue or increase in many states. Here in Indiana, we will need to continue to advocate for legislation to protect the unborn and to help their mothers. And we will need to continue to work for the evangelization of our culture since in many ways since *Roe v. Wade*, what St. John Paul II called "a culture of death" has grown and spread. We evangelize by proclaiming, living, and serving the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Gospel of life, the Gospel of love and mercy. We serve the good of society when we teach and educate and form consciences about the dignity of every human person, at every moment and in every condition. We serve the Gospel of life when, motivated by love, we care for the poor, the marginalized, migrants and refugees, the elderly, the suffering, and all who need assistance.

I hope and pray that a Supreme Court decision overturning *Roe v. Wade* will mark a new beginning in our nation. In the short term, it will undoubtedly elicit angry protests, as the leak of the draft opinion has. I pray that, in the long term, it will help to awaken the conscience of our nation to the sacredness of all human life. May the Lord strengthen us in our commitment to the Gospel of life! May He bless our nation with a new culture of love and solidarity, a culture that respects the dignity of every human person from the moment of conception until natural death!



**Public schedule of Bishop  
Kevin C. Rhoades**

- Monday, May 16: 11:15 a.m. – "You Can Lend a Hand" Luncheon, Grand Wayne Center, Fort Wayne
- Monday, May 16: 2:30 p.m. – Meeting of Seminary Review Board, Archbishop Noll Center
- Wednesday, May 18: 2:30 p.m. – Meeting of Diocese Finance Council, Zoom
- Wednesday, May 18: 7 p.m. – Armor of God Spiritual Briefing: "Arming Men on the Power of Virtue", St. Vincent de Paul Parish Msgr. Kuzmich Life Center, Fort Wayne
- Thursday, May 19: Noon – Meeting of Board of Directors of Saint Anne Communities, Saint Anne Home, Fort Wayne
- Thursday, May 19: 7 p.m. – Confirmation Mass, St. Vincent de Paul Church, Elkhart
- Friday, May 20: 7 p.m. – Confirmation Mass, St. Vincent de Paul Church, Elkhart
- Saturday, May 21: 11 a.m. – Diaconate Ordination, St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend
- Saturday, May 21: 5 p.m. – Confirmation Mass, Queen of Peace Church, Mishawaka
- Sunday, May 22: 2 p.m. – Confirmation Mass, St. Pius X Church, Granger
- Sunday, May 22: 7 p.m. – Blessing of the Church Organ, St. Pius X Church, Granger

**ABORTION, from page 1**

National Right to Life, an advocacy group that has long fought against abortion, similarly said it "agrees with the statement of Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch, who said, 'We will let the Supreme Court speak for itself and wait for the Court's official opinion.'"

Other groups were not so cautious. Texas Right to Life said it was encouraging news that "Roe soon may be gone. Yet new attacks on life will emerge."

In its May 2 statement, the group called its supporters to further action saying: "Already, abortion advocates are calling on Congress to ban states from passing pro-life laws."

"If and when the court overturns *Roe*, the pro-life movement must defeat attacks such as these and build a culture that values preborn children and pregnant mothers."

Kristan Hawkins, President of Students for Life of America, likened the potential overturning of *Roe v. Wade* as the beginning for the antiabortion movement.

The previous day, her group sent a letter to all the Republican members of Congress urging them to back a nationwide "heartbeat bill," banning abortions at six weeks of pregnancy. Hawkins and nine other anti-abortion leaders emphasized that the 15-week ban at stake in the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* case before the court did not go far enough.

"If we are not focusing on limiting early abortions, we are not really addressing the violence of abortion at all," Hawkins wrote in the letter.

After the court's draft decision was leaked, she told *The Washington Post*: "We are on the precipice of a whole new America."

One thing many groups said they were not happy with was that the opinion was leaked to a news outlet.

Dennis Poust, Executive Director of the New York State Catholic Conference, said the leak was a breach of trust and "an attack on the integrity of the Judicial Branch of government."

"When our highest court cannot operate free of political interference or intimidation, it serves as a stark example that nothing is sacred anymore. While we fervently pray for legal protections of unborn children, we will not dignify the goals of the leaker by commenting on the contents of the draft document."

The California Catholic Conference said in a May 3 statement that the leak of the opinion draft "triggered the governor and California legislative leadership to announce its intent to create a California constitutional amendment to protect the right to abortion. This will destroy lives, families and significantly limit the ability of the Catholic Church in California to protect the unborn."

The conference said this was



CNS photo/Elizabeth Frantz, Reuters

**Abortion demonstrators are seen outside the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C. on May 3, 2022, after the leak of a draft majority opinion written by Justice Samuel Alito preparing for a majority of the court to overturn the landmark *Roe v. Wade* abortion rights decision later this year.**

the moment for the Church and California Catholics to "engage with their communities, actively and publicly oppose this amendment."

Right to Life Michigan expressed "cautious optimism" about the leaked draft and said its mission won't change if *Roe* is overturned.

"We'd have a complete abortion ban in our state, but there are a lot of different moving parts with different groups and with a governor who is trying to invalidate this law.

Our focus would be on those efforts and making sure we are fighting against them and have as many people on our side fighting against them as well," Anna Visser, Director of Communications and Education for Right to Life Michigan, told *Detroit Catholic*.

She warned pro-life advocates not to celebrate too early, considering that the official opinion hasn't been released and the final version might not reflect the views of Justice Samuel Alito, who authored the draft opinion.

She also noted that the work of pro-life advocacy goes beyond abortion.

"As a pro-life organization, we have to protect the vulnerable, the elderly, the disabled, the unborn," she said, adding that the focus is "on the marginalized and those discriminated against."

*Contributing to this report was Daniel Meloy, a staff writer for Detroit Catholic, the news outlet of the Archdiocese of Detroit.*

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# Local churches, ministries exemplify pro-life conviction in actions

BY JENNIFER BARTON

The idea that those in the pro-life movement are only interested in babies before they are born and care nothing for them afterward is patently false, as evidenced by the many organizations within the local community designed to aid mothers and fathers with the care of their children. Catholic churches and ministries play a large role in organizing, supporting and funding these organizations. This is where the rubber meets the road in the pro-life community.

Associated Churches of Fort Wayne and Allen County, located at 602 E. Wayne St. in Fort Wayne, is comprised of numerous Christian churches of any denomination, many Catholic parishes among those, from around the area whose common goal is to aid the needy. They do this through different programs hosted at the Wolf Mission House. Two of their programs fulfill the pro-life mission of the Church to support pregnant women and mothers: Journey Beside Mothers and A Baby's Closet. The first is a peer-to-peer mentorship program designed to build relationships, which help mothers who might be facing a crisis pregnancy.

Julie Reece is the Journey Beside Mothers coordinator for Associated Churches. She expressed that there is "a big need for mentor volunteers" at this time and she would love to see more women give of themselves in helping other mothers, particularly young or new mothers who may need the advice of a seasoned mother-figure.

The other initiative, A Baby's Closet, provides low-income families with clothing and other supplies needed to clothe and care



Photos provided by Beth Barrett

**Joe and Marie Burt deliver more than 4,500 diapers on May 4. These were collected by St. Pius X parishioners, with Christ Child Society of South Bend members Maggie Smith and Lisa Smessaert.**

for an infant or toddler. Betsy Henderson is the director of this project.

On May 6, volunteers and members of the Fort Wayne community came together to bless the new location for A Baby's Closet. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades was on hand along with other area clergy to pray and sprinkle the area with holy water. He spoke about how the work of A Baby's Closet fits so neatly into the recent USCCB initiative "Walking with Moms in Need;" that this was a place where Catholic churches could refer pregnant women.

The items in A Baby's Closet are not free, Reece said; they are earned through a coupon-exchange program. Parents earn coupons by participating in services for themselves and their child in four different categories:

pre-natal care, well-baby care, responsible parenting and education. Things such as well-baby checkups, nutrition classes, car seat inspections, high school or ESL classes all earn coupons. These can then be traded in for items like diapers, clothing, car seats and even a crib and mattress set.

Additionally, A Baby's Closet works with Parkview Hospital's Safe Sleep program, which provides parents with a pack-n-play for attending the class – a safe place for babies to sleep when parents might not have a crib. Reece also spoke about the programs Associated Churches host for young moms – particularly teen mothers – and the Wednesday afternoon play group at the mission house.

Through the play group, "moms are beginning to build relationships. They come to play group, then come to A Baby's Closet and shop together," Reece shared.

Reverend Roger Reece, Executive Director of Associated Churches, spoke along the same lines in his remarks at the blessing about how this work brought together "the community in unity, to serve our most vulnerable populations ... It's not about a product, it's about a relationship."

Similar to this program is one run by the Women's Care Center. People often assume that the Women's Care Center, with locations in six cities within the diocese, only helps pregnant women, but that is certainly not the case. Parenting classes are offered at several of the locations, again with coupon incentives to help mothers "buy" baby items.

Oftentimes, Catholic parishes will organize diaper drives or



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“baby showers” to keep the WCC stocked with these needed items, particularly around Mother’s Day. The Rosary Society at St. Monica in Mishawaka sponsored one such baby shower to benefit both Women’s Care Center and Hannah’s House on the South Bend side of the diocese on May 3. Both Hannah’s House and A Mother’s Hope in Fort Wayne provide care for pregnant women who need a temporary home.

The Christ Child Society sponsors similar donation drives, too. The society has served the youngest members of society for more than half a century, providing layettes for newborns, helping stock the WCC inventories and providing coats and books for young children who may not otherwise have them. Members of the Christ Child Society of South Bend recognized the rising costs of raising a child due to inflation and supply shortages, and asked themselves how mothers could soothe their crying babies if they had no diapers with which to change them.

In honor of Mother’s Day, the organization held its 3rd annual Diaper Drop on May 4. Last year, the organization collected 40,000 diapers that went to area agencies such as El Campito, St. Margaret’s House and Center for the Homeless. This year, the Christ Child Society collected just shy of 50,000 diapers for needy little ones.

Area parishes St. Thérèse Little Flower, Corpus Christi and St. Anthony de Padua in South



Christ Child Society of South Bend President Monique Deguara delivers diapers to La Casa de Amistad.

Bend and St. Pius X in Granger joined in by collecting diapers at their churches. After the diaper drive, all of the packages were immediately hauled away to the Christ Child Society’s partnering organizations, who serve needy families in the local area.

Carnations, the flower originally associated with Mother’s Day founder Anna Jarvis, are sold after Sunday Masses throughout the diocese to help sponsor the organizations that make motherhood possible for hundreds of women who otherwise might choose abortion.

All of these are ways that members of the pro-life community work to combat the terrible threat of abortion in America, and more importantly, to show women the love and compassion they desperately need to raise their children, whatever their circumstances might be.

To become a mentor for Journey Beside Mothers or to donate to Associated Churches, visit [associatedchurches.org](http://associatedchurches.org). For additional resources or to donate to ministries that aid pregnant women in need, go to [walking-withmomsfwsb.com](http://walking-withmomsfwsb.com).

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## 'Witnesses of hope': N.Y. delegation visits Ukraine, bordering countries

NEW YORK (CNS) — New York Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan said he was surprised and inspired by Ukrainians he met when he made a brief visit to Lviv, Ukraine. "I thought I would come to Ukraine and see great depression," he told the Religious Information Service of Ukraine. "Yes, I see sadness and pain, but I am impressed by the vitality, hope and solidarity of Ukrainians." On May 2, the cardinal and Archbishop Mieczyslaw Mokrzycki, Latin-rite archbishop of Lviv, met with the leadership of the Ukrainian Catholic University, families of displaced Ukrainians who found refuge during the war and student volunteers. The visit was part of a trip by a New York church delegation to visit and express solidarity with Ukrainian refugees, including those in the bordering countries of Poland and Slovakia. "I see Ukrainians welcoming internally displaced persons. I see Ukrainians giving their rooms and houses to those who have lost their homes, such as here at the Ukrainian Catholic University. I see Ukrainians volunteering and working on water, medicine and food supplies," Cardinal Dolan told RISU. "I see people who are patriots. I see Ukrainians who do not allow evil to say the last word. Life will overcome darkness. Life will defeat death. There is no depression in Ukraine, there is hope. I feel encouraged to be here in Ukraine." The cardinal told RISU he would pass on the Ukrainians' messages of gratitude for all the help they received from Americans. Nearly 12 million Ukrainians have fled their own country or been displaced from their homes in Ukraine since the Russian military invasion of their homeland began on Feb. 24, according to the United Nations.

## Cardinal reaffirms pope's willingness to go to Moscow to try to stop war

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Francis' secretary of state reaffirmed the pope's offer to go to Moscow personally to try to convince President Vladimir Putin to stop his war on Ukraine but said the Kremlin had yet to respond. Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Secretary of State, told reporters on May 4, "There has been an offer from the Holy Father to go to Moscow to meet personally with President Putin. We are waiting for them to tell us what they want, what they intend to do." "I think that at this point there are no other steps to take," the cardinal said. In an interview with the Italian newspaper, *Corriere della Sera*, published on May 3, Pope Francis said he had Cardinal Parolin send his offer to Putin

## New recruits inducted into Swiss Guard



CNS photo/Paul Haring

A Swiss Guard recruit takes his oath during the induction ceremony for 36 new guards in the Paul VI hall at the Vatican on May 6, 2022. The ceremony is held on May 6 to mark the date in 1527 when 147 Swiss Guards lost their lives defending Pope Clement VII in the Sack of Rome.

in mid-March in an attempt to convince the Russian president to stop the war or, at least, to respect humanitarian corridors to evacuate innocent civilians. "We still have not had a response, and we are still being persistent, even though I am afraid Putin may not be able to and may not want to have this meeting right now," the pope had said. "I am doing what I can. If Putin were to open the door. ..." Although the pope said he was willing to go to Moscow, he repeated his decision not to accept an invitation from Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to visit Kyiv "for now" because he did not think doing so would help stop the war. Many people, especially Ukrainians, are disappointed that the pope will not go to Kyiv and has not condemned Putin or Russia by name.

## Nigerian president: 'Fratelli Tutti' good road map for West African peace

ABUJA, Nigeria (CNS) — Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari

told West African bishops he appreciated Pope Francis' encyclical "Fratelli Tutti" for proposing some of the boldest and most radical ideas on securing human unity, peace and security. "Peace cannot reign in our region if it does not first reign in our communities and countries. This is why I think that the theme of this summit is especially apt," the president said in a message read by Vice President Yemi Osinbajo. The president's message was delivered on May 3 at the opening of the Reunion of Episcopal Conferences of West Africa, meeting on the theme "Fratelli Tutti: Path to Build Brotherhood and Sustainable Peace in West Africa." Buhari said the basis of the encyclical — "the idea that fraternity and social friendship are the ways to build a better, more just and peaceful world with the commitment of all people and institutions" — was especially needed in today's times. He said people of faith should look upon diversity as a gift, not as a cause of conflict. "By offering concrete prescriptions on building brotherhood and sustainable peace anywhere, the encyclical 'Fratelli

Tutti' rightly takes the position that this is not merely the business of governments and political institutions; it must also be anchored on our civil societies, of which the faith communities are an important constituency."

## Nicaraguan proposal would toughen penalties for 'undermining' government

MEXICO CITY (CNS) — A report approved by Nicaragua's national assembly proposes toughening the penalties for "undermining national integrity" and could mean the eventual prosecution of priests and other civil society leaders for alleged involvement and support for protests. The report was presented by the justice and government commissions and approved by the assembly on May 4. It proposes lengthening prison sentences for people convicted of "undermining national integrity and hate crimes" and confiscating property "used or acquired in the commission of the crime of treason, crimes that compro-

mise the peace, crimes against the political constitution," media outlet Canal 12 reported. The document was officially titled: The Work Report on the Analysis of the Legal Norms Applicable to Persons Who Commit Crimes Undermining National Integrity, Hate Crimes, Among Others. It included the participation of state institutions such as the national police, elected officials and "supposed victims" of the protests erupting in 2018, according to media reports. Those protests called for the ouster of President Daniel Ortega, who refused to step aside or find a political solution. The Catholic Church attempted to facilitate a dialogue, but found the effort fruitless as the Ortega regime refused to fully cooperate. The church also provided shelter and protection for protesters coming under attack — and has subsequently supported the families of political prisoners. The lawmaker presenting the document, María Auxiliadora Martínez, spoke ominously of the role of priests, saying, "The character in which they committed the crimes was not as pastors nor as representatives of Christ," according to media reports.

## Academics consider fallout, motivations from leak on Roe decision

MIAMI (CNS) — The May 2 leaked draft of an opinion in the upcoming Supreme Court's abortion decision demonstrates the use of normal partisan fighting tactics seen in the other branches of government on a regular basis. The opinion draft, written by Justice Samuel Alito, shows that the court appears set to overturn its *Roe v. Wade* decision — which legalized abortion for nearly 50 years — in its *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision. The draft document, now considered authentic, was well-written and a good legal argument, but the Supreme Court has suffered in this apparent effort to undermine its legitimacy, said John Yoo, Emanuel S. Heller Law Professor at the University of California, Berkeley and Law Clerk to Justice Clarence Thomas in 1994-95. "If it shows anything, it shows that the critics of *Roe* who said that *Roe* has politicized the court and politicized our constitutional law are proven right by this leak itself," Yoo said in a May 3 online forum sponsored by the Notre Dame Center for Citizenship and Constitutional Government. He added that openly bare-knuckled partisan tactics have publicly arrived at the court. "It's coming home to roost at the Supreme Court because there are people who leaked this opinion who think *Roe* is more important as a political value than the institutional integrity of one of the three branches of government," Yoo said in a virtual forum with two academics from Notre Dame.

# THE CLASS OF 2022

## Co-valedictorians lead Marian class of '22

BY DENISE FEDOROW

With identical GPAs of 4.7133, Rose Kavanaugh and Grace Weaver are sharing the title of valedictorian at Marian High School this year.

That's not all the girls have in common. They're best friends and both are following in their parents' footsteps with plans to become doctors at their respective colleges.

Grace Weaver is the daughter of Doctors Larry and Lorraine Weaver. She and her parents



GRACE WEAVER

and younger siblings, Abigail and Joshua, live in Wakarusa. The family attends Granger Community Church.

During her years at Marian, Grace played soccer, becoming captain in her senior year. She was also in Research all four years, an opportunity for students to work cooperatively with college professors investigating real world problems through scientific study, Service Leadership Counsel and the National Honor Society — this year as co-vice president.

Outside of school, Grace is part of an Elkhart County Soccer club and coached girls soccer. Other volunteer work includes helping at a food bank, at basketball games and at her church.

After graduation, she plans to go to Calvin University in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and will major in Biology "on the pre-med track."

Grace shared that because both her parents are doctors — her mom an OB/GYN and her dad a radiologist — growing up in that environment sparked her interest in pursuing medicine as a career. She always loved science, especially Biology, and that interest peaked in middle school and high school. At Calvin University, she may pursue either surgery, radiology or biomedical research. "I'm looking forward to the research opportunities with them," she said.

Faith has always been an important part of her life, and exposure to Catholicism has broadened her view of religion.

"Throughout my life, it's always been very central to how I grew up. We're Protestant and attended church regularly," she said. Grace attended Trinity Lutheran Elementary School and then St. Pius X School in Granger before coming to Marian.

Her father's family background is Amish, so Grace said she's "grown up with a lot of different faith backgrounds" and believes that provided her with a "centralized vision of it. It gave me a lot of different perspectives as the different denominations have different sides, but there are a lot of constants too."

She said her Christian faith has "really provided me with a backbone to rely on and has been a constant in my life."

Receiving a Catholic education provided her with a consistent structure of faith. "As faith was integrated into everything, and as a Christian, I felt supported in that," she said.



ROSE KAVANAUGH

with the St. Pius X Youth Group, Pet Refuge and at a local hospital in guest services.

Rose received a scholarship to Notre Dame and plans to study pre-med.

Of her major, Rose shared, "I usually shy away from what my older brother and my parents do, so I didn't want to be a doctor for a while, but when I got to high school, I really liked science and Biology and Research, plus I really liked volunteering at the hospital all those years. I like interacting with the patients and helping people so I thought, 'I'd like to spend the rest of my life doing that — helping people.'"

Her mom is a podiatrist and her dad is an ER doctor, both of which she adamantly said she does not want to do. General surgery may be the route she'll take as she likes the flexibility to do innovative research.

Her Catholic education gave her a greater sense of "Not just what but why — like I have a higher purpose."

"I've always grown up around church and Catholicism. My faith has given me something to fall back on in those times when you're not doing so well," she said. "I'm glad I have it."

Rose said her friendship with Grace was special. "We both have really interesting cultural backgrounds — Grace has Amish background and I have Korean (on her mother's side)."

Sharing this valedictorian role with her best friend is "special. ... we're on the same wavelength. It's the capstone of our whole journey."

Rose pointed out that they do have some differences. "She likes sports and I don't. I'm into music. She understands football and I have no idea what's going on. She's going to have to come back to go to Notre Dame Football games with me so she can explain it to me!"

Some of her favorite Marian memories were volunteer days. "It's fun helping people who need help," she said.

Rose will take her friendships with her as well as all the knowledge she's gained.

She admitted there have been times in her life when maybe her faith wasn't as central as it is now.

"Staying in Christian education has helped with that and it gave me a good foundation. It's been a good support and helped me to hold onto my faith," Grace said.

Continuing her education in a Christian setting influenced her decision to go to Calvin University.

Her favorite memory at Marian is coming in second at the state championship in soccer this year. Grace said the connections she made through Research and her friendships are things she'll take with her moving forward, as well as the study skills she was taught.

"I'll be back for football games," she added.

Her friendship with Rose goes back to sixth-grade at St. Pius X, and though they weren't very close in middle school, their friendship grew gradually through high school.

Rose Kavanaugh is the daughter of Dr. Phil Kavanaugh and Dr. Sandra Cho. She has an older brother, Anthony, who is a junior at Vanderbilt University studying pre-med. She lives in Granger with her parents, parishioners at St. Pius X.

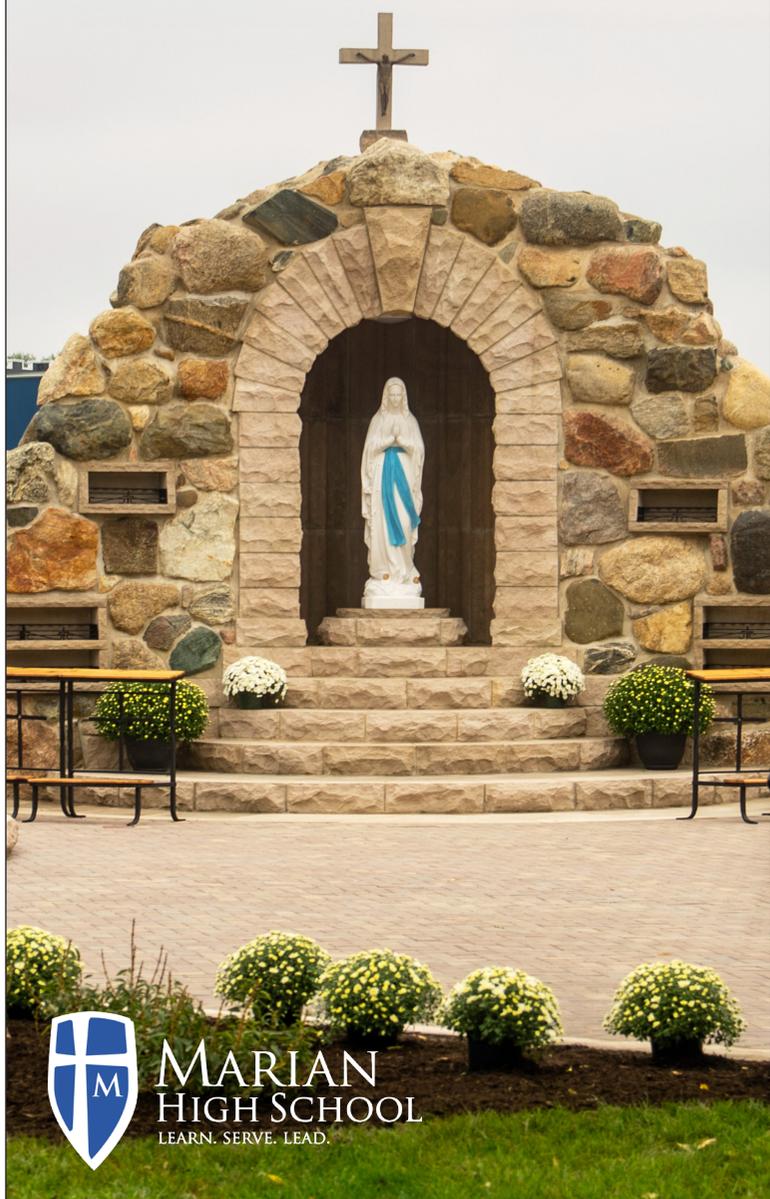
At Marian, Rose was class secretary in student council and a member and co-president of the National Honor Society. She was involved in the Science Olympiad, which made it to state. She was also involved in Research, Spirit Knight and varsity track for three years.

Outside of school, she is first flute in the South Bend Youth Symphony Orchestra. She enjoys music and reading and sailing at her parent's lake house.

Her volunteer work includes work at the homeless shelter

CONGRATULATIONS!

MAY GOD'S GRACE BE WITH THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2022.



# Co-salutatorians celebrate years together at Marian

BY JILL BOUGHTON

It goes without saying that Marian High School's co-salutatorians, Victoria Tellez and Elizabeth Rhee, are excellent scholars. Their English teacher Jane Wageman notes, "They are both thoughtful students who engage well in class discussion and think deeply about the literature we read. Both are well-respected by their peers."

Their AP physics teacher, Rebekah Randall, adds, "Both students are in high demand as lab partners because they work so well with others on top of having an understanding of the material. They are often found studying with their classmates and providing words of encouragement."

During her junior year, Victoria was part of the Science Research Team, conducting an experiment about the role of the gene *sestrin 2* in ovarian cancer.

The third of five children, Victoria is looking forward to a trip to Europe this summer with her older sisters, one a pediatric oncology nurse and the other studying actuary science. She also has two younger brothers.

The Tellez family belongs to St. Jude Church, South Bend, where Victoria attended grade school. She said, "Faith has been very central in my life ever since I was young. Both my parents are Catholic and have raised my siblings and me in the faith. We continue to attend church every Sunday morning. Going to



VICTORIA TELLEZ

Marian has greatly contributed to my faith life, teaching me that there is more to being Catholic than just going to church and doing the right thing. Marian has provided me with a community that encourages me to live out my faith in everything I do."

At St. Jude, she teaches Sunday school for pre-K and kindergarten students. "Even though I am the teacher, the kids have taught me a lot more about life and God's love than I would have ever thought."

Victoria hasn't made her final decision about college, but plans to study neuropsychology and Spanish before going to med school. Chemistry was her favorite class at Marian, but she also loved world history and Spanish, consistent with her Mexican ancestry. Besides being Co-President of the Spanish club, she's been part of the Service Leadership Council, organizing service events like volunteering

at the Food Bank of Northern Indiana.

She's also been a varsity soccer player all four years, thrilled that her team went to state this fall. "The Marian soccer team gave me another family of life-long friends and taught me the importance of hard work."

Elizabeth is also grateful she decided to enroll at Marian after attending Stanley Clark School. In fact, she serves as an ambassador, giving school tours to prospective students. Besides its academic reputation, she was attracted to the art program at Marian and hopes to take more art classes at the University of Notre Dame, though engineering is her intended major. She's been involved with the annual Spirit Night at Marian, designing and painting murals as its art captain.

Randall said, "Elizabeth has been in my homeroom since she was in ninth-grade, and I have seen her blossom into a wonderful leader. She is kind and helpful, always willing to lend a hand when I needed help setting up a lab or straightening in the room."

Elizabeth has participated in plays as part of both crew and ensemble. She not only played tennis, but has also given lessons to children with special needs through Buddy-Up Tennis. Through the Vincentians service club, she's helped collect food, write letters to shut-ins and made blankets to go with the beds the St. Vincent de Paul Society gives out through its



ELIZABETH RHEE

Sweet Dreams program. For her, the National Honor Society has been more than an item on her

resume; as Co-Vice President, she's promoted volunteering and tutoring within the school's chapter.

Although Elizabeth is not Catholic, Marian has introduced her to God and the Catholic faith, helping her to understand it better. "Marian has also helped me become more active in service. The various service requirements allowed me to fully see and experience the positive impact of serving those in the community who need help. I intend to continue to do more in the future. The focus on being supportive of those in the community was another facet of faith Marian emphasized, which helped me have the courage to step into the community more."



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## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2022!

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### Congratulations to the Saint Joseph High School Class of 2022!

*Go forth and serve God, the Church, and the world. We can't wait to see what you do next!*



*Your Future Begins Here.*



# Valedictorian at Saint Joseph grateful

BY SAMANTHA ROHLOFF

**B**rendan Gonzales from Mishawaka was named valedictorian of Saint Joseph High School in South Bend, though this was not the only accomplishment he achieved throughout his high school career.

In addition to playing the saxophone and the piano, Brendan spent his time as Future Business Leaders of America Senior Vice President, Mathletes Captain, Student Ambassador and National Honor Society member.

"I feel overwhelmingly grateful," he said. "Looking back on these four years, I can genuinely say that I wouldn't be half the person I am today without the support of the Saint Joe family."

Brendan has been named one of the Rising Stars of Indiana Class of 2022 for his excellent academics. His academics have also garnered him the title of National Merit Scholarship Finalist, an honor bestowed to only 1 percent of roughly 1.5 million high school students who annually apply to the National Merit Scholarship Program.

"As soon as he could walk, Brendan was always on the move, and that same drive has served him well with all of his activities," said his mother, Portia. "He was a happy child then, and he is an upbeat young

adult now, always with a smile on his face and seeming to wake up on the right side of the bed every day."

Brendan is a parishioner at St. Pius X Parish in Granger and went to grade school there. "The faith has given me strength," he said. "It's been a tenuous few years, and when classes went virtual, I wasn't sure if I was going to make it. Having the Catholic faith to cling to gave me the resolve to persevere through quarantine, knowing that brighter days are ahead."

The connection between his faith and academics is something Saint Joseph High School has instilled in him. "Teachers and peers alike have shown me that there is glory in education," he explained. "I've come to see that it is the duty of a responsible Catholic to learn about and understand the world that God created in order to become better stewards of His creation." The school has also provided Brendan with a confident sense of who God has created him to be, he said.

Brendan's tendency toward service has not gone unnoticed. "We are in awe of the young man that he has become and are excited for him to further his education in order to serve others in the future," said his mother, speaking for both herself and Brendan's father, Luisito. Brendan has volunteered at the Food Bank of Northern Indiana,



BRENDAN GONZALES

as well as at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center. He plans to study pre-med at the University of Notre Dame.

Though his eyes are set on his future academic endeavors, his heart is traveling through the bittersweet moments of his final days of high school.

"I'm already feeling a bit nostalgic, imagining the impossible – that I won't be walking these halls next year. Saint Joe has been my home away from home, and my classmates and teachers have been one big, great, loving family," he said.

"I love Saint Joe and will cherish every moment I was lucky enough to have here."

# Saint Joseph salutatorian credits hard work

BY SAMANTHA ROHLOFF

**H**eading to Purdue University in West Lafayette, Saint Joseph High School salutatorian Samuel Thomas, son to Dr. Thomas Varied and Vidhu Thomas, has plans to become a doctor.

"I initially wanted to become a doctor as a kid to be like my father, and now it is a field of science that interests me because I get to help people directly," said Samuel. He hasn't decided on which kind of doctor he wishes to become quite yet, but he will study Biology as an undergraduate student. Both of his older siblings went to Purdue, and his older brother is also becoming a doctor – another reason he wants to attend the university.

Originally from Marquette, Michigan, Samuel is the middle child of five, with older sister Gabriella, 24, older brother Anthony, 23, younger brother Emmanuel, 17, and younger sister Isabella, 11. They are parishioners at Christ the King Parish in South Bend, where Samuel attended kindergarten through eighth-grade.

"I am Catholic, and my faith has helped me to have the strength to go on when things are difficult," said Samuel. "Praying for God's help when I feel nervous has been a real motivator for me to try my best on whatever I am doing."

He explained that he prays for courage as he approaches a large presentation or a challenging test. "This helps me to calm my nerves because I know God is with me and helping me," he said.

During grade school, he became an altar server, performing those duties into high school. Now he serves as an extraordinary minister of holy Communion and a lector, of which his parents noted via email how strongly he participates in his faith life.

In addition to being involved



SAMUEL THOMAS

in his faith, he has also been heavily engaged in high school academics. He spent time as Quiz Bowl Captain, as well as a member of the Mathletes, National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society and Chess Club.

Samuel was awarded a National Gold Medal from the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards for his piece entitled, "How to Become a Successful Writer in One Hour." Receiving the title of salutatorian is another honor he holds near and dear to his heart.

"It means a lot to me to be named salutatorian because it recognizes all of the hard work that I have put in these past four years," he said.

His brother Emmanuel, who also attends Saint Joseph, affirmed his diligent efforts: "It is clear that Sam was able to accomplish so much because of his hard work and perseverance, and we are all so proud of him," he said.

Samuel praised his school for the positive impact it left on him. "My classmates, teachers, counselors and the administration at Saint Joe have all been so supportive and helpful for me during high school," he said. "Whether that is helping me study for an upcoming test or answering questions when I am confused, the people at Saint Joe have always helped me along the way."

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# Bishop Luers valedictorian leads full life

BY JENNIFER BARTON

To say that Bishop Luers High School Valedictorian Teddy McComb leads a busy and full life would be an understatement. During his high school years, McComb has been involved in three sports, spent all four years in three different clubs, joined the National Honor Society and Academic Superbowl in the Fine Arts, Science and Interdisciplinary teams. Not only did he participate in all of these, he served as captain in many of them, including the tennis and swim team and Bishop Luers chapter of the NHS.

"Some of my treasured memories of high school include getting coffee after swim practice with friends at Crescendo's, and team dinners," McComb said.

Most importantly, though, he has had an active faith life at Bishop Luers. He has lived out his faith through the service organizations he has been involved in, as well as his daily activities, or as he said, "through positive interactions with competitors at sporting events, attendance at the March for Life in Washington, D.C. and participating in the synod currently taking place in the Catholic Church."

"My faith impacted my high school experience by allowing me to grow in my understanding of the faith and develop a stronger relationship with God. Through monthly school Masses,

I was able to gather in prayer with the whole Luers community. This community of faith really pushed me to be better spiritually, academically and athletically."

Participating in the sacrament of reconciliation and praying with others before classes and extracurricular events helped him to grow closer to God and to his fellow Knights. "This allowed me to share my intentions with my peers in a way that brought each of us closer," he said.

A product of Catholic schools, McComb attended St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School in Fort Wayne until grade four, then transferred to St. Aloysius School in Yoder. He is the oldest of two boys; his younger brother Thomas is a sophomore at Bishop Luers. The family attends St. John the Baptist Parish in Fort Wayne.

His parents, David and Jennifer, were extremely pleased to find out that Teddy was named valedictorian for his graduating class. "We knew he was a good student," Jennifer said, "but we were totally surprised by the valedictorian status."

Jennifer had expected her son to be in the top ten, but when she accidentally opened the letter from Bishop Luers congratulating him on his accomplishment, she began to cry with joy. "I had to wait and not tell him," she said, since he was at an Academic Superbowl competition at Bishop Dwenger that day and did not return home until



TEDDY MCCOMB

11 p.m. that evening. "It was a pretty emotional time."

Teddy remembers coming home late from that competition and seeing the open envelope from the school waiting for him on the kitchen table. "I figured it was a notice about the AP exam schedule or some other notice. When I opened it, I was thoroughly shocked! I knew the race would be close but I was still surprised!" he said.

So surprised, in fact, that he woke his parents to tell them the good news. When his brother came home from the same competition and received the good news, David and Jennifer were roused to be told once again, this time by Thomas.

In addition to his studies and extracurricular activities, Teddy enjoys a wide range of hobbies:

biking, kayaking, pickleball, "making homemade ice cream and spending time with friends and family."

Teddy will graduate with a cumulative GPA of 4.444. Future plans for the esteemed valedictorian include majoring in nursing at Purdue University, West Lafayette. About his career choice, he stated, "I am pursuing nursing for my major because I have always felt I was meant to be in the medical field. I interact well with other people, and nursing is all about a team approach to caring for patients."

He will take with him the friendships formed with other Bishop Luers students and even teachers. "I think the Luers Spirit has been really strong these past four years, especially in creating a community environment centered on Christ. I will also take with me the service aspect of the school."

Of the growth she has seen in her son over the years, Jennifer added, "Teddy has become a very conscientious, respectful, caring young man. He is a leader and positive role model for his peers, teammates, friends and family."

## Bishop Luers salutatorian committed to faith, community

BY JENNIFER BARTON

The salutatorian for Bishop Luers High School has a deep sense of commitment to her faith and community. With a cumulative GPA of 4.435, Jane Schroeder placed second academically in the 2022 graduating class at her high school. Long before graduation day, she had committed herself to do her best, both in school and outside of it, following the teachings of Jesus and the Catholic Church.

"My faith has ingrained in me a sense of integrity and generosity, which I applied in my high school years. It has encouraged me to give my time to others at school and in the community," she said. "I take from my faith the motivation to work hard and give my best effort in everything I do."

Jane is number eight out of 10 children and calls St. Peter Parish in Fort Wayne her spiritual home. Her parents, Dave and Linda, were not overly surprised when they found out that she had been named salutatorian. "She's such a good student; she always has been," said Linda.

"We're proud of her," she said. "She's a great daughter." What made Linda most proud, however, was not the rank she had achieved, but that her daughter has and will continue to use the talents God gave her in a positive manner to benefit those around her.

Like her academic peer and Bishop Luers valedictorian, Teddy McComb, Jane was one of around 12 students in the same class at St. Aloysius School in Yoder. The two scholars shared many additional similarities through the years – tennis, Academic Superbowl, National Honor Society and a close circle of school friends. Both of their mothers even work at Lutheran Hospital. Both students chose the same college to continue their education: Purdue University in West Lafayette. There, Jane plans to study Environmental and Ecological



JANE SCHROEDER

Engineering.

"She wants to help the environment, to make the world a better place," Linda shared.

Throughout her time at Bishop Luers, Jane has engaged in several different extracurricular activities, joining theater and swim team in her senior year. Her free time is spent playing piano, painting and reading novels, mysteries and historical nonfiction books.

There are a couple things that Jane will take away from her high school experience, the greatest of which is a stronger spiritual life. She shared, "Here at Luers, there are numerous opportunities to grow in my faith."

Prayers before class and sporting events helped "develop in me a habit to incorporate God and faith into everyday things. The sacraments offered at Luers with the school Mass and confessions allowed me to grow closer to God and made me stronger in my faith. I also grew more knowledgeable about the various aspects of Catholicism in religion class."

She cherishes the friendships made during that time as well. "My treasured memories of high school include the times I spent with my friends. We made great memories at Friday night football games" as well as spending time together as a group in the spring musical this year.



CLASS OF 2022

# CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

ONCE A KNIGHT – ALWAYS A KNIGHT  
BISHOP LUERS HIGH SCHOOL

# Bishop Dwenger valedictorian focused on academic goals

BY JOSHUA SCHIPPER

After graduating from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, Jon Ellis knew that he had a shot at exceptional academics as he entered Bishop Dwenger High School.

"Coming into Dwenger, I knew I had the possibility to be high in the class, but I had no idea I'd be valedictorian."

Ellis said he knew that he had to put great effort into his schoolwork to compete with his peers.

"I knew that it was going to be much more difficult than middle school or anything else. And so it just kind of included me always staying focused on the goal of not just trying to be valedictorian, but just trying to do my best and do the best that I can."



JON ELLIS

During his time at Bishop Dwenger, Ellis participated in numerous extra-curricular activities. He was inducted into the National Honor Society and served as the activities director. Ellis was also a member of the

Spirit Club, student council, and Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD).

The extracurricular that stands out the most to Ellis in the past four years at Bishop Dwenger was his role as a member of the football team. "It was a sense of your own community within Dwenger, which made it pretty special."

He recalled one of his favorite memories was watching the Saints win the 2018 state football championship during his freshman year. "To be there, to be in the stands, was incredible."

Ellis said that he particularly enjoyed taking AP U.S. History during his junior year. "I've always really liked history, and just really diving in deep to that. I just really enjoyed it."

Ellis said that his teachers all give him and his classmates similar advice – advice that he

credits with helping him achieve his number one class rank.

"Especially throughout the beginning of high school, all these teachers just told you 'Know your limits and don't stress out about not being able to do everything you can.' Obviously, each person has things that aren't in their realm of possibility. And just to know those, and not to try to exceed them because then you'll just get too stressed out and won't be able to do them to your best ability."

He also offered some advice for underclassmen and incoming freshmen who want to be successful in high school.

"Don't let one bad grade or one bad test or something like that get you down. Just move on to the next one and try to improve on what you didn't succeed at."

Ellis attends Mass at St. Joseph Parish, Roanoke.

He says that his Catholic faith played a big role in his high school experience because, "throughout all the classes, all the teachers do a really good job of integrating teachings of the faith and Catholic doctrines. Even if it's like history that I'm studying, I'm also always learning more about the faith. Through my education, I was able to better become a more well-versed person in the faith."

Ellis will attend the University of Notre Dame to study business with the ultimate goal of going to law school.

# Bishop Dwenger salutatorian finds joy in service

BY JOSHUA SCHIPPER

Learning to balance activities and schoolwork led to great academic success for Bishop Dwenger High School salutatorian Mallory DeWald.

"To become salutatorian, it definitely took a lot of hard work and dedication, and a lot of perseverance as well. I did a lot of clubs and sports in my time at Dwenger, so it included a lot of late nights studying, and doing homework and just making the most of your time at school as well."

During her four years at Bishop Dwenger, DeWald participated in a variety of extra-curricular activities. She was the vice president of both Key Club and National Honor Society, as well as a member of the Spirit Club, Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) and Spanish Club.

DeWald was a member of the Bishop Dwenger swim and dive team, and recalled a memorable event from her freshman season.

"In Dwenger history, we had never won the SAC before, and that year we actually won by a good amount of points, so that was just amazing to have that first time."



MALLORY DEWALD

This first conference win for the high school would not be the only. DeWald said that in the four seasons that she participated, Bishop Dwenger claimed the conference title a total of three times.

Of all these activities, DeWald pointed to Key Club as her favorite because it "instilled in me a desire to continue service in my life because it helps keep me grounded in our faith, and giving back to the community is one of the biggest values that Dwenger has taught as well."

Finding enough time to succeed in both classwork and extra-curricular activities chal-

lenged DeWald, but advice from a teacher during her junior year aided in finding a balance.

"I was really struggling at the time, just balancing all my work. And my teacher said to me, 'If you put in the work, it will all come eventually. It will all come together.'

"And that kind of clicked for me. That even if it wasn't coming together right now, it was all going to work out, and I just had to put my faith in the Lord and just trust that it was all going to work out as He planned it to."

DeWald said that her favorite class during high school was AP Biology. "I very much enjoyed the teacher that I had. And it's a hard class, but the way he teaches it and interacts with us – it's a great college preparatory class that's going to be good for next year."

Before attending Bishop Dwenger, DeWald graduated from St. Vincent de Paul School, and is currently a member of the parish. She said that her Catholic faith played a role throughout her time at Bishop Dwenger.

"[My faith] was always there. It was a strong rock behind me when I was struggling if I had a bad race, or a bad meet, or I did bad on a test. I just always try to keep in the back of my mind that there was a reason. There was a reason and God had that reason, and that was definitely a support system through the last four years."

After graduation, DeWald will attend Indiana University-Bloomington to study Biology on a pre-medical track, and plans to become an ophthalmologist.

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## A bias against children's lives

Thirty years ago, my wife was 16 weeks pregnant with our third child. At a routine prenatal checkup, our doctor suddenly looked very concerned and said she couldn't hear our baby's heartbeat. We were devastated, fearing the worst as we reported to the hospital for an ultrasound exam.

Given the grave situation, a radiologist joined the ultrasound technician. Then he smiled after a minute, saying our baby had only been "hiding behind the placenta" and was alive and healthy. We were so relieved and grateful that we didn't chide him for accidentally revealing that we were having a boy.

That emotional roller coaster helps me understand why many women were outraged after reading a January article in the New York Times, "Tests Predicting Rare Disorders in Fetuses Are Usually Wrong." Such DNA screening or "noninvasive prenatal testing" (NIPT) can give "false positive" results from 80% to 93% of the time, depending on the genetic condition.

Medical experts criticized the article for not making a clear distinction between these "screening" tests and actual diagnoses. The screenings find only a risk of certain defects, prompting a need for more reliable tests. But the article suggests that doctors counseling their patients often don't make that clear either.

A 2014 study found that as many as 6% of patients have an abortion based solely on the initial screening result. For its recent story, the Times interviewed 14 patients, and eight of them said they were never

warned about false positives; five said their doctor treated the screening result as definitive.

Three geneticists cited similar concerns. One recounted a case in which the follow-up test showed the baby was healthy, but the woman had already ended her pregnancy. And some of the more precise tests pose their own risk of causing a miscarriage.

Parents' fear of suffering for their child and years of special responsibilities for them helps drive these tragedies. But there are other pressures as well.

Writing in the journal *First Things* in 1996, maternal-fetal medicine expert Dr. Thomas Murphy Goodwin cited two such pressures. His high-risk obstetrics service in Los Angeles, the largest in the country, had received referrals for 15 years from doctors who thought continuing a pregnancy endangered their patients' life or physical health. Women came to Dr. Goodwin after refusing their own doctors' recommendation for an abortion. And he and his associates would bring mother and baby through the crisis alive.

Dr. Goodwin said these doctors' recommendations were based not only on ignorance of modern medical advances but on two additional factors.

First, in a society where abortion is permitted for any reason at all, many doctors developed an ambivalent attitude toward unborn life that led them to recommend abortion for a wide variety of reasons.

Second, the law created its own one-sided pressure. A doctor who failed to warn a woman



RICHARD DOERFLINGER

### A MORE HUMAN SOCIETY

about conditions that could lead her to want an abortion could be sued later by the parents for a "wrongful birth" – or even by the born child for "wrongful life." But a doctor persuading a woman to abort, whether the fetal defect turned out to be real or not, was in no legal danger. As Dr. Goodwin observed, "There is no 'wrongful abortion.'"

The Supreme Court is considering whether to reverse a deadly line of court rulings creating an almost unlimited "right" to abortion. One of many positive results of reversal could be to counter these pressures and once again encourage doctors to treat mothers and their unborn sons and daughters as patients who deserve life-affirming health care.

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

## A death we can be happy about

My husband's grandfather, Leo Zawatsky, passed away just before Easter. He was 99 years old, a World War II veteran, husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Dziadek, ("Dodju" or "grandfather" in Polish) as we called him, was faithfully Catholic, deeply joyful, kind, generous and as he called himself "a sentimental old slob" who was always "happy and contented."

The morning after his death, we told our daughters, Rose and Clare, that he had died. This is not Rose's first encounter with death. My grandmother passed away in June 2020, and Rose will bring up the funeral from time to time.

A few weeks ago, we went to the wake of my former co-worker, and Rose wanted to walk up to the casket with me to pray for Ms. Dee. So when we sat the girls down and began to explain that Dziadek had gone to be with Jesus, we were expecting a round of questions Rose usually lobbed our way.

"Why did he die? How did he die? When did he die?"

But this time, she just sat there, very still for a few moments.

"Is Dziadek with Jesus now?" Rose finally asked.

"Yes, baby. We pray that he is with Jesus."

"Well that's good. Because Jesus isn't dead. So Dziadek isn't dead."

My husband and I just looked at each other, stumped as to how we should respond to this theo-



KATIE PREJEAN MCGRADY

### WINDOW SEAT WISDOM

logically true statement (Jesus is, in fact, very much alive) without further confusing our 4 1/2-year-old child who had learned at Catholic school that Jesus rose from the dead, which meant we will too someday.

"Dziadek is living a new life with Jesus, in heaven," I slowly explained. "But baby, the next time we visit Pennsylvania, we won't see him in person like before. He's not here anymore. He is with Jesus, up there, and we are living our lives, down here."

It's not the easiest thing to explain eschatological realities to little kids, but we were trying.

Rose was unfazed. "I know that, Mom. But I'm not going to be sad. Being with Jesus is better than being here. I bet Dziadek is so happy, so I'm going to be too."

And with that, the early morning conversation we were certain would ruin her day was over, the biggest smile planted on her face as she ran off to the playroom.

"That's one way to think of it," my husband said. "I guess I shouldn't be all that sad after all."

MCGRADY page 13

## Following Jesus leads to eternal life in heaven



### THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### Fifth Sunday of Easter John 13:31-33a, 34-35

Once again in this Easter season, the Acts of the Apostles supplies the first reading for the Mass. It reports some of the missionary activities of Paul and Barnabas. Although eventually they parted, Paul and Barnabas, Paul's disciple, visited several prominent cities in Asia Minor, part of the Roman Empire in the first century AD.

While ancient traditions see all the Apostles as missionaries, as most of whom went far and wide to proclaim the Gospel, the Acts of the Apostles concentrates on Paul's efforts in missionizing.

The reading is more than a

travelogue. It is a lesson about the faith of Paul and Barnabas and their uncompromising determination to make Jesus known. It also reveals the conditions in which these two great figures in early Christianity lived.

As they spoke to Christians whom they visited, they warned these followers of Christ that hostility and difficulties faced them. Their warnings sprang from their own personal experiences. Paul and Barnabas themselves met opposition and endured difficulties.

It is not surprising that these two great champions of the Gospel faced hardships. The culture of the Roman Empire was absolutely hostile to the values of the Gospel. The political order was becoming hostile as well.

Nevertheless, Paul and Barnabas were undaunted. They continued to move from city to city, from Christian community to Christian community, to reassure believers in Christ and to promote the Gospel. Despite the risks and the more-than-occasional rejections, their faith

inspired them and impelled them.

For the second reading, the Church this weekend offers a passage from the Book of Revelation. This book, the last book of the New Testament in the translations and versions that have been used for centuries, is highly poetic and symbolic. It is moving and very often strikingly beautiful in its imagery, but often its symbolism is so involved or so unique to the first century that understanding the book is not easy without reading scholarly commentaries along with the text itself.

In this reading, the vision is of heaven, symbolized by the holy city of Jerusalem, but a transformed Jerusalem, and of God. It is a look into eternity and to the reward promised to those who love God.

St. John's Gospel is the source of the last reading. This is not a Resurrection narrative, but it is strongly reminiscent of the Resurrection, and of the Lord's death on Calvary.

Jesus obliquely refers to the

Crucifixion. He also refers to rising from the dead. Eternal life is an option for humans who follow the Lord in obedience to God, in sacrifice and in faith. With Jesus, the faithful will die but also rise to eternal life.

### Reflection

A month ago, the Church called us, with joy and the deepest faith, to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus after the terrible event of the Crucifixion.

Gradually but unrelentingly, the Church has called upon us personally to respond to Jesus, to secure for ourselves the salvation brought to humanity by Jesus.

This weekend's readings proclaim the sacrificial death as well as the rising of Jesus from the dead, but they also call upon us to respond by following the Lord.

As the second reading from Revelation says, eternal life with God in heaven will be our reward.

While still in this life, we authentically become disciples by loving God, each other and

all people as Jesus loved. In this divine love, Jesus died on Calvary as a sacrifice. In God's plan, divine love triumphed when Jesus rose.

We are not alone in our effort to be with God, to love as Jesus loved. The Apostles are with us in their successors, the bishops, who still teach us and strengthen us in the Church.

### READINGS

**Sunday:** Acts 14:21-27 Ps 145:8-13 Rv 21:1-5a Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

**Monday:** Acts 14:5-18 Ps 115:1-4, 15-16 Jn 14:21-26

**Tuesday:** Acts 14:19-28 Ps 145:10-13b, 21 Jn 14:27-31a

**Wednesday:** Acts 15:1-6 Ps 122:1-5 Jn 15:1-8

**Thursday:** Acts 15:7-21 Pa 96:1-3, 10 Jn 15:9-11

**Friday:** Acts 15:22-31 Ps 57:8-10, 12 Jn 15:12-17

**Saturday:** Acts 16:1-10 Ps 100:1b-3, 5 Jn 15:18-21

# Playing politics with the unborn

The essentially unprecedented leak of a draft of the majority opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* on the night of May 2 has posed a singular challenge to one of the foundational beliefs of the U.S. judicial system: The idea that the U.S. Supreme Court is supposed to be a deliberative body above the fray of politics.

The Jackson Women's Health Organization challenged Mississippi's ban on abortions after the 15th week of pregnancy. For the first time in 33 years — since the release of the court's ruling in *Webster v. Reproductive Health Services* on July 3, 1989 — the court has been widely expected to revisit the very foundation of the supposed constitutional "right" to abortion: the court's 1973 decision in *Roe v. Wade*.

The draft, written by Justice Samuel Alito and first leaked to the website Politico, declares plainly that the majority in *Dobbs* — rumored, according to Politico, to comprise Alito and Justices Clarence Thomas, Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett — "hold that *Roe* and [the court's 1992 decision in *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*] must be overruled."

While supporters of abortion have argued that the very willingness to reconsider *Roe* after 49 years is a sign of the politicization of the court through recent appointments, the court has a history of reconsidering long-standing judicial precedent, most famously in *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), which overturned the court's 1896 decision in *Plessy v.*

Ferguson that providing "separate but equal" schools for black children was constitutional. Indeed, in the draft of the opinion published by Politico, Alito, quoting Kavanaugh in a decision from 2020, declares that *Plessy v. Ferguson* was "egregiously wrong," on the day it was decided," before going on to argue that *Roe*, too, "was egregiously wrong from the start. Its reasoning was exceptionally weak, and the decision has had damaging consequences."

One thing is clear: The leak of the draft opinion was a political act, designed to place tremendous pressure on the five members of the court presumed to be in the majority to pull back from an outright overruling of *Roe* and of *Casey*, and perhaps even to change their vote, which is not final until the day the decision is published. The irony that someone who presumably considers the court to have become "politicized" has decided to try to sway the court through political pressure should not be lost on us. Should this political act succeed in changing the ultimate outcome of *Dobbs*, the damage done would be far worse than the political shenanigans in the wake of *Webster* in 1989, when, behind the scenes, members of the George H.W. Bush administration put political pressure on the Republican governor of Illinois and the Democratic attorney general of the state to settle out of court *Turnock v. Ragsdale*, an abortion case on the court's docket for the fall session of 1989, lest the court use it as an opportunity to revisit *Roe*.

The settlement in *Turnock* set



## ALL THINGS NEW

SCOTT P. RICHERT

the stage for *Casey* and ensured that *Roe* lived on for another 33 years — while 40 million more unborn lives were brought to an end. But that political maneuvering took place entirely outside of the Supreme Court itself. This leak from within threatens to alter forever the public perception of the court — while saving *Roe* for another generation and destroying tens of millions of lives in the process.

The next eight weeks are critical. Should the majority in *Dobbs* stand firm and Justice Alito's draft opinion survive largely unscathed, *Roe* will join *Plessy* in the dustbin of history. Abortion will not come to an end — "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting" (Mk 9:29, RSVCE) — but regulation of abortion will return to the states, where, under our federalist system, it has always belonged. Pray without ceasing for the justices, all unborn children, and those mothers and fathers considering abortion.

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

seems shattered. But we can take comfort in the knowledge that our loved one's death, and even our own someday, is far from the final moment we will have. It is merely the next step to more moments with Jesus.

And, as my 4 1/2-year-old reminded me, that's something we can be happy about.

Katie Prejean McGrady is an international Catholic speaker and author.

### MCGRADY from page 12

... He's gone, but he's probably so very happy."

Grieving the loss of loved ones should certainly never be rushed, nor should we shove down our sadness. But, *Rose* was — is — right. He is with Jesus, and that is cause for rejoicing.

This is what the Easter season is all about — new life is brought forth because of a death that looked like a defeat but was far

from it. We do not just stand at the foot of the cross, mourning and weeping in a valley of tears.

We are invited to rush to an empty tomb, knowing full well that the resurrection of Jesus is a resurrection for us all, and a promise He makes good on, that our death is not permanent either.

In the moments of losing a loved one, we are often overcome (and rightly so!) by a sadness so debilitating that our world

## URSULA LEDOCHOWSKA

FEAST: APRIL 29  
1347-1380

Born into a distinguished Polish family in Austria, Julia Maria entered an Ursuline convent in Poland at age 21, taking the name Maria Ursula of Jesus. She taught in a girls' school for 20 years, and in 1907 went to St. Petersburg to supervise a new school. Expelled from Russia at the beginning of World War I, she spent the war in Sweden and returned to Poland in 1920. In 1923, she founded the Ursulines of the Agonizing Heart of Jesus, known as Grey Ursulines. As the order expanded, the Vatican asked her to live in Rome, where she died. Grey Ursulines now minister in 12 countries. Ursula was canonized in 2003; her older sister, Blessed Maria Theresa Ledochowska, is also a foundress.



## SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for May 15, 2022

Revelation 21: 1-5a / John 13: 31-35

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Fifth Sunday of Easter, Cycle C: Glory and newness. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

HEAVEN	NEW EARTH	NO MORE
JERUSALEM	PREPARED	BRIDE
ADORNED	HUSBAND	VOICE
DWELL	HIMSELF	WIPE
EYES	MOURNING	PAIN
ALL THINGS	JESUS	SON OF MAN
GLORIFIED	AT ONCE	LOVED YOU

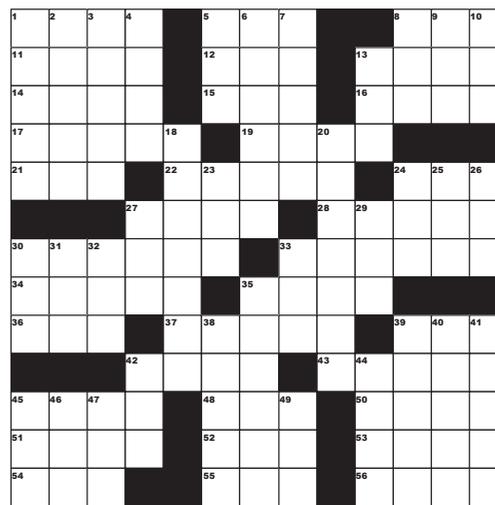
### A NEW VISION

```

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

## The Cross Word

May 1, 8  
and 15, 2022



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Readings: Acts 5:27-32; 40b-41; Rev 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19 & Acts 13:14, 43-52; Rev 7: 9, 14b-17; Jn 10:27-30 & Acts 14:21-27; Rv 21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

### ACROSS

- 1 Gives a nickname
- 5 Extremely high frequency (abbr.)
- 8 Mouse catcher
- 11 Shortened version of Elizabeth or Danielle
- 12 "Under the earth and in the \_\_\_"
- 13 Northwest by north
- 14 A spinning toy (2 wds.)
- 15 "Come \_\_\_" (Get breakfast)
- 16 Magi came from here
- 17 Lopes
- 19 Large
- 21 Held

- 22 White poplar
- 24 Telegraphic signal
- 27 Black
- 28 Halt
- 30 One-celled animal
- 33 "\_\_\_ is the Lamb"
- 34 Ancient Greek city now in Turkey
- 35 Nathaniel was from
- 36 Female sheep
- 37 Jesus asked Peter a \_\_\_ time
- 39 Science workplace
- 42 Thick carpet
- 43 Inscribed pillar
- 45 Went fishing in this

- 48 Moving truck
- 50 Tatters
- 51 St. \_\_\_ of Syracuse
- 52 Before, poetically
- 53 Canal
- 54 Crest
- 55 South southwest
- 56 Don't justify means

### DOWN

- 1 "No more \_\_\_ or mourning"
- 2 Extreme
- 3 "...this man's \_\_\_ upon us"
- 4 September (abbr.)
- 5 Vane direction
- 6 "Every creature in \_\_\_"
- 7 Deadly
- 8 Communication Workers of America (abbr.)
- 9 Car brake system
- 10 Trinitrotoluene
- 13 "Cast the \_\_\_"
- 18 Jewish holy day
- 20 Minute parts
- 23 Constrictor
- 24 Digital audio tape
- 25 \_\_\_ Wednesday
- 26 \_\_\_! (call attention)
- 27 Electrical brain test
- 29 Epoch
- 30 Chimp
- 31 Kitten's cry
- 32 Lode yield
- 33 Revolutionary \_\_\_"
- 35 Cubans
- 38 "\_\_\_ and have nots"
- 39 Become aware of
- 40 Chilly
- 41 Baseball plates
- 42 Eye infection
- 44 "hanging him on " one
- 45 Deli order
- 46 French "yes"
- 47 American College of Physicians (abbr.)
- 49 "I, John. saw a \_\_\_ heaven"

Answer key can be found on page 19

# Oberammergau Passion Play is stressful, but pulls people together

BY GUNTHER SIMMERMACHER

Next time, Jesus would like to be a villain. That is a role one of the two actors portraying Christ in the Oberammergau Passion Play in Germany would be interested in playing.

Frederik Mayet will play Jesus for a second time when the world-famous Passion Play begins its 2022 season on May 14. The play will run five days every week until Oct. 2, during which Mayet will alternate in the role of Jesus with 25-year-old Rochus Rückel.

Mayet, who was born in Oberammergau, will be taking part for the third time. In 2010, he played Jesus for the first time; in 2000, he portrayed St. John.

Interviewed in German by video from Oberammergau, the father of two said the role of Jesus is demanding.

"Physically, the scenes with the scourging and the Way of the Cross, and hanging on the cross for 20 minutes, are quite exhausting," he said. It is necessary to find distance from the role offstage, he noted. "It's important at the end of the evening to leave that role behind, and chat with friends about football or whatever over a beer. In the context of acting in the play, one shouldn't overidentify with Jesus, but see it as a role which one tries to interpret as well as possible."

Mayet said a person grows into that role. "You try to just play your part well and do it justice, because you know there are people coming from all over the world to see the play. So that gives you a 'positive stress,' which carries you. I concentrate on playing my role well and on speaking clearly."

To get the role of Jesus, "you must have some acting talent, and a good voice. There's also the physical appearance – to play Jesus, you must have a certain look, and be of the right age, between your mid-20s and early 40s. I'm now 41," Mayet said.

Since almost all cast members are amateur actors, it might have helped that Mayet has a professional theater background – he is an art director and media officer at the Münchner Volkstheater in Munich. "But we also perform stage plays in years in Oberammergau when there are no Passion Plays, so people get to know one another, and the director gets a sense of who is capable of what."

Every role is cast with two actors, who perform on alternate days. Initially, there may be some disappointments with the casting decisions, Mayet said.

Yet soon there is unity in purpose. "When it comes to the time when we prepare for the play and perform it, everybody sticks together. It's the Passion year, and everybody puts their



CNS photo/Birgit Gudjonsdottir, Passionsspiele Oberammergau 2022

**Frederik Mayet portrays Jesus in a scene set in Bethany at the Oberammergau Passion Play in Germany. This is the second time Mayet will portray Jesus in the play.**

differences to one side in order to concentrate on the common goal: to stage a great Passion Play," Mayet said.

Many friendships are built in that process, also across generations, he noted.

"The youngest of our actors is 8 years old, and the oldest is 80. People across the generations are sitting together, get to know one another and share in a mutual experience. That is precious."

The Passion Play, with a history that goes back to 1634, is normally staged only every 10 years. It was originally planned to be performed in 2020; due to COVID-19 lockdowns, it was postponed to 2022.

Only natives or long-term residents of the picturesque village

in the Bavarian Alps, about 58 miles southwest of Munich, may act in the play.

While the parts were already cast in 2019 in anticipation for the postponed 2020 play, rehearsals for this year's run began in January. For the 2,100 people who take part in the Passion Play as cast members, crew or chorus, the event requires a lot of individual sacrifices.

"Everybody has a day job, so rehearsals take place in the evenings or on weekends," Mayet said. "Many people take leave or work short hours during the Passion Play season between May and October."

He said that it used to be easier, when almost all cast

and crew lived and worked in or around Oberammergau, where everybody understood the culture and needs of the Passion Play. However, now some participants work as far away as Munich, where employers may not understand the Passion Play culture.

Mayet lives with his family in Oberammergau but commutes frequently to Munich.

Scheduling changes have helped to reconcile professional demands with those of the Passion Play, Mayet said. In the past, "the first half of the play was performed before noon, and the second in the afternoon. Now, the first part is in the afternoon, and the second in the evening. That enables people to work half-day. And some parts, such as the Romans, are required to be on stage only in the evening sessions. So, during casting, people can say that they'd like an afternoon or an evening role, and that enables them to make the necessary arrangements."

Like most men in the cast, Mayet currently sports long hair and a beard. His last visit to the barber? "That was on Ash Wednesday in February 2021. It's a tradition that the men in the Oberammergau Passion Play let their hair grow as of Ash Wednesday the preceding year."

He said some cast members "could keep our beards shorter for the safe wearing of face-masks, for example those in medical professions. But I hope that the virus will recede to allow us to have more biblical beards."

Oberammergau is traditionally a solidly Catholic village, where many of the famous murals on house facades depict bibli-

cal scenes or Mary. But in more recent times, the village has become more pluralistic.

"The Catholic faith characterizes Oberammergau, but we also have Protestants and Muslims in our community, and everybody gets together and participates in the Passion Play," Mayet said. "This year, for the first time, we have Muslims taking part."

Prayer is still an important feature behind the scenes, Mayet said.

"Before every performance there's a group prayer, led by either the Catholic or Protestant chaplain, and the Our Father is also said. Of course, there are some who have left the Church, and they might not take part in the prayer, but at the Passion Play the religious is always present, and the churches are always involved."

This year's run of the Passion Play will be the first Mayet's sons, ages 7 and 3, will experience.

"I'm looking forward to sharing that experience with them. I hope that they may grow into this tradition. This year, on days when I'm not playing Jesus, I'll introduce them to the stage."

And how long does Mayet want to take part in the play? "I hope until I'm over 80, but obviously I don't know. As long as possible. ... I hope to be on stage every 10 years; it just is part of my life."

He will be too old to play Jesus in the next run, but "there are many other interesting roles I'd like to play after having been Jesus twice – maybe I could play a villain for a change, like Pontius Pilate!"



## St. Jude Catholic Church in Fort Wayne is seeking the following full-time positions:

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Instructional Assistants

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[lwidner@seascsfw.org](mailto:lwidner@seascsfw.org) • 260-432-4001

**Apply at [diocesefwsb.org/careers](https://diocesefwsb.org/careers)**

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

**Celebrate God's Mercy concert**

**SOUTH BEND** — Recording artist, songwriter and author Amanda Vernon returns to Holy Cross Parish to offer a concert on the theme, "Celebrate God's Mercy" on Sunday, May 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the church, 920 Wilber St. Vernon has released eight albums of religious, spiritual and liturgical music. Her style is described as "soulful pop with gospel and jazz roots." For more information on Vernon, visit [www.amandavernon.com](http://www.amandavernon.com). A free-will offering will be taken at the concert. Contact Father Jim Fenstermaker at 574-233-2179 or [jfenstermaker@hcpsb.org](mailto:jfenstermaker@hcpsb.org)

**Belonging Parish Communities meeting:**

**Ministry with Persons with Disabilities**  
**FORT WAYNE** — A meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 17, or the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. via Zoom to connect with others interested in helping children and adults with disabilities engage in meaningful participation at Mass and in our

parish communities. To get the link, call 260-399-1452 or email [asturm@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:asturm@diocesefwsb.org).

**St. Joseph Grade School auction**

**SOUTH BEND** — The St. Joe Auction will be taking place on Friday, May 20, at the Morris Park Country Club in South Bend. Cocktail hour and silent auction begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner and live auction. The theme this year is "School's Out for Summer," to benefit St. Joseph Grade School. View all the details, including ticket and sponsorship information, at [www.stjosephgradeschool.com/auction](http://www.stjosephgradeschool.com/auction). Contact Sean Kennedy at 574-234-3134 or [auction@stjoeparish.com](mailto:auction@stjoeparish.com) for information.

**Online NFP support group**

**FORT WAYNE** — Are you looking for some support and fellowship in using natural family planning? Join our monthly online support group for NFP users in the diocese. Meet over Zoom Wednesday, May 25, or the fourth Wednesday

of the month from 8-9:30 p.m. Email Caty at [cburke@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:cburke@diocesefwsb.org) for the Zoom meeting link and passcode. Sponsored by Marriage and Family Ministry, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

**Ava's Grace support group for those grieving the loss of a baby**

**MISHAWAKA** — Anyone who has experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or infant loss may consider attending a monthly online support group sponsored by *ava's grace*, the diocesan ministry that offers spiritual, emotional and practical support to families who have lost a baby before or after birth. The support group meets over Zoom on the third Wednesday of the month from 8-9:30 p.m. Email Lisa Everett at [leverett@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:leverett@diocesefwsb.org) for the Zoom meeting link and password. Visit [www.diocesefwsb.org/avasgrace](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/avasgrace) for details.

## REST IN PEACE

**Fort Wayne**

Sharon Clark, 84, St. Jude

Yvonne Hyndman, 91, St. Vincent de Paul

Rosalie Naltner, 86, St. Vincent de Paul

**Notre Dame**

Sister Mary Jane Honan, CSC, 99, Saint Mary's College

**Waterloo**

Lloyd W. France, Jr., 92, St. Michael the Archangel

**ORDINATION TO THE  
DIACONATE**

With praise and thanksgiving, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will ordain Brian Florin, Robert Krisch, David Langford, Jacob Schneider, and Ryan Timossi to the Diaconate through the imposition of hands and the invocation of the Holy Spirit.

St. Matthew Cathedral  
May 21 | 11 a.m.

Livestream: @diocesefwsb on Facebook or YouTube

**Submit your events**  
[www.TodaysCatholic.org/event](http://www.TodaysCatholic.org/event)

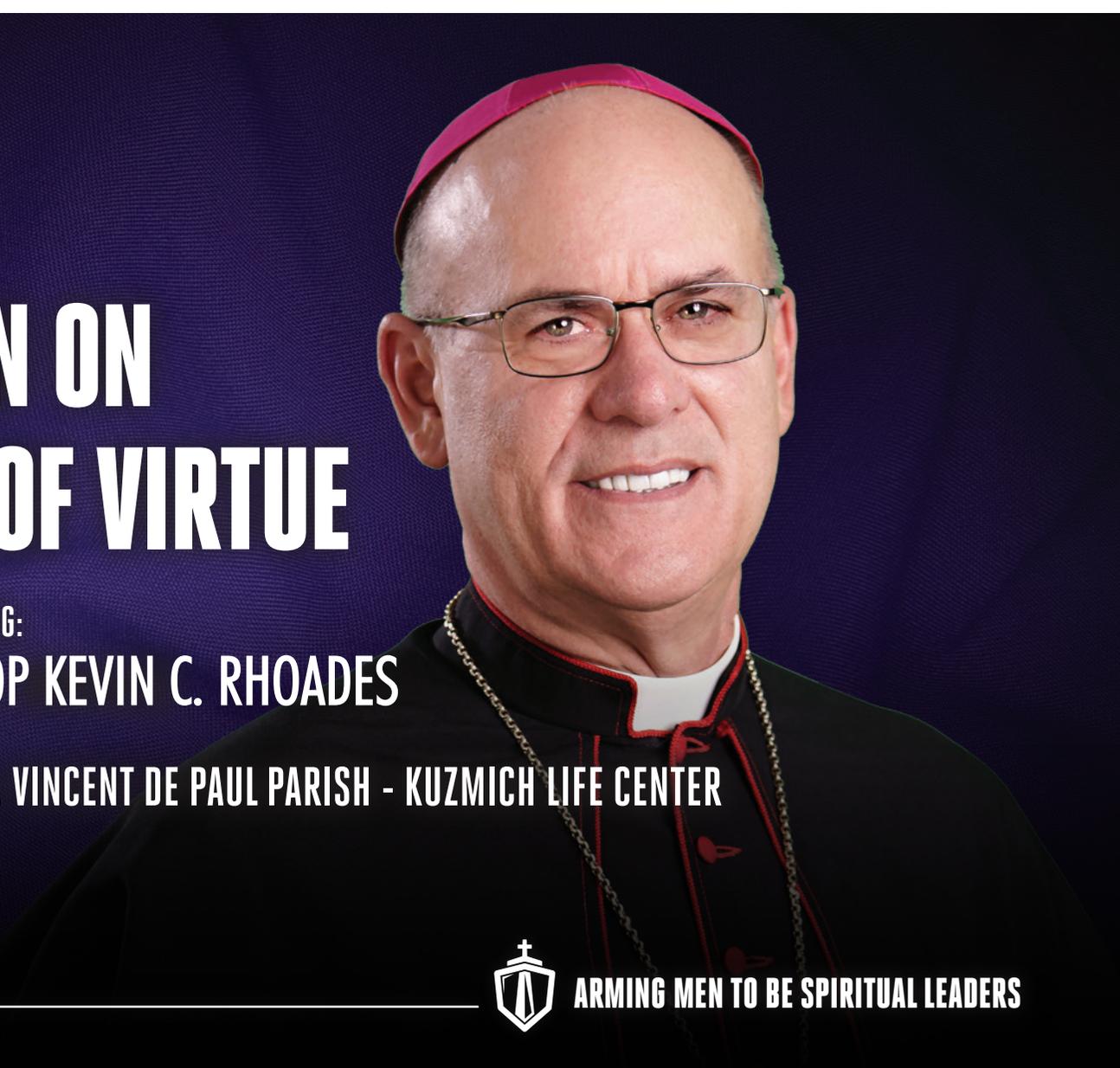
**ARMOR OF GOD**

# ARMING MEN ON THE POWER OF VIRTUE

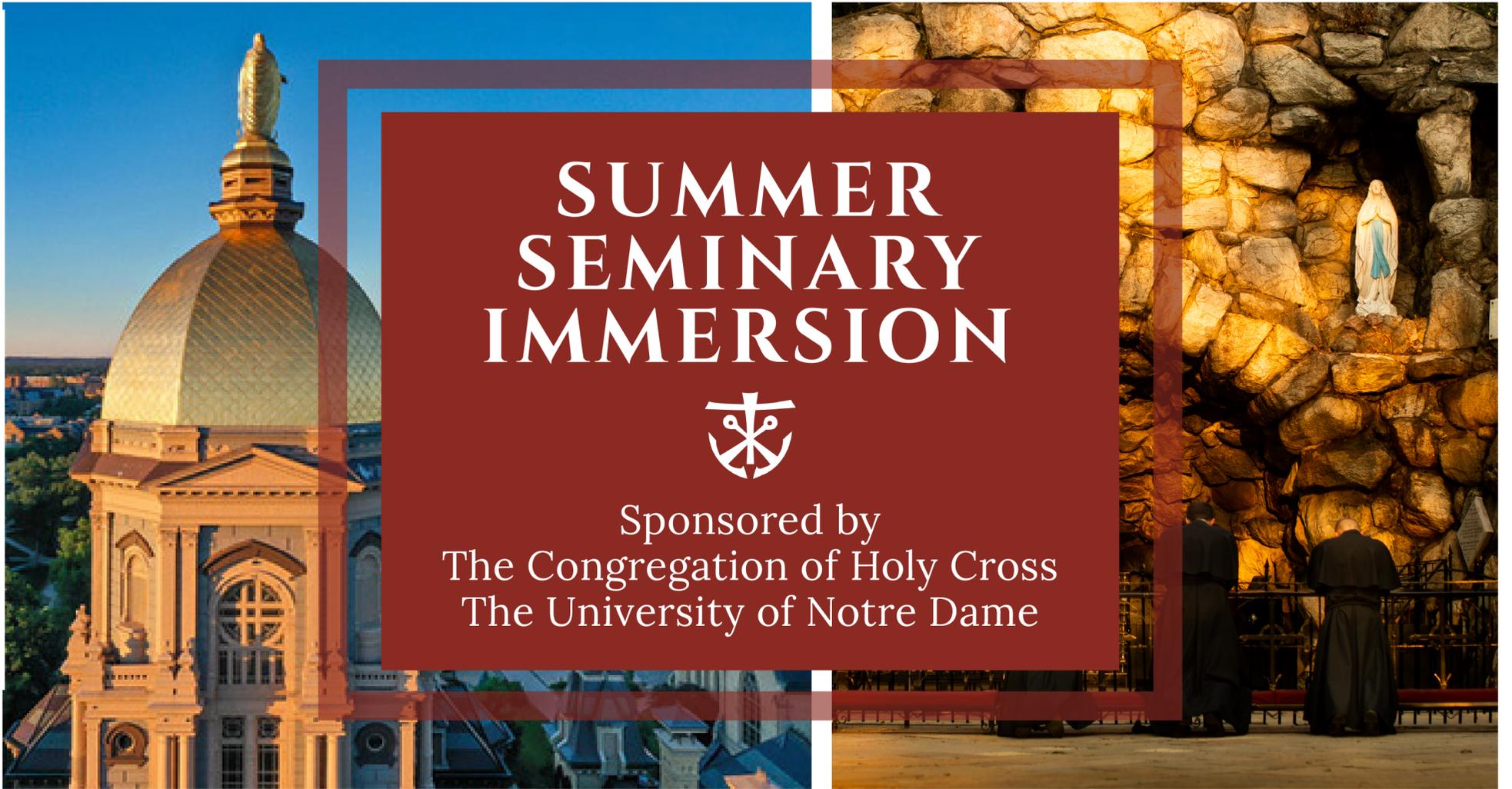
JOIN US FOR THIS FREE EVENT FEATURING:  
**MOST REVEREND BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES**

**MAY 18, 2022 | 6:45 PM | ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH - KUZMICH LIFE CENTER**

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[ARMINGMEN.COM/EVENTS](http://ARMINGMEN.COM/EVENTS)



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