Five men ordained to life of service

As the Church’s first deacons were appointed to minister to its members in the Acts of the Apostles, so too are modern-day deacons called to serve others. On May 21, five men were called to service as Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades ordained them to the Sacred Order of the Diaconate at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend, an anointing that will remain with them through their lives. Brian Florin, Bobby Krisch, David Langford, Jacob Schneider and Ryan Timossi happily entered into this calling, taking a major step toward priesthood.

Infusing a bit of humor into his homily, Bishop Rhoades began by speaking about the first reading, stating how he worried about the deacon candidates choosing the calling of Jeremiah rather than Isaiah. “…Jeremiah, as we heard, resisted and tried to excuse himself.” Jeremiah claimed to be too young to serve God, and the bishop said he hoped that “none of these men will respond like Jeremiah and try to excuse themselves when I ask them after this homily whether they are resolved to be ordained, and say ‘not really, Bishop. I’m too young. I’m really not ready.’” Laughter met this remark before Bishop Rhoades launched into the heart of his homily: reminding the five men to trust in God in their life’s work. “My sons, the Lord will confirm your vocation today when I lay my hands on your heads. He will touch your souls with His power and grace. Despite your youth and your weaknesses, He is calling you and will be with you to strengthen and guide you.”

He then posed a question to them: What is the purpose of having deacons? “Very simply, because the Son of God became a deacon! Diakonia is a central aspect of the mystery of Christ. Jesus Himself said: ‘I am among you as one who serves.’ Through His service, Jesus revealed to us the mystery of God’s love. As deacons, you will represent and accomplish the mission of Christ’s love for the Church.”

To that end, deacons need to evangelize, to give fully of themselves, Bishop Rhoades continued. He cautioned them, however, that while there is great joy in this, there will be trials as well. “My sons, you will encounter challenges, struggles and even suffering for standing up for the truth of God’s word because there are so many lies present in the world today. You accept the cross today – it’s not an optional part of the Christian life nor especially of the life of the ordained. You can only bear the cross if you remain in Christ and His love. If you are faithful to prayer, you will have the strength to carry the cross; you will have the inner joy and peace of friendship with Jesus; and your ministry will bear good fruit.”

He concluded his homily by speaking about the saints whose feast fell on that day – St. Christopher Magallanes and companions, martyrs of the persecuted Church in the Cristero War in Mexico in the 1920s. Most of them were priests who refused to

BY JENNIFER BARTON

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Eucharistic Procession calls Catholics to stand for Christ

BY JENNIFER BARTON

I n the 16th century, Christianity was rocked by scandals and trials, and the Church found herself torn asunder by the Protestant Reformation. Changes needed to happen, and so began the Catholic Counter-Reformation, or the Catholic Revival, an astounding period of vibrancy and renewal that inspired some back to the faith and others to die painful deaths for it. Great saints arose during this time, transforming the Church and spreading its light through the world.

The 21st century is experiencing a different kind of crisis—not that of Christian doctrine, but of a post-Christian world of materialism and secularism. The sacredness of the Eucharist is in question for far too many Catholics. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has set about to change this with the announcement of the three-year Eucharistic Revival. Its purpose is to promote and deepen faith in the True Presence.

The first major piece of the revival is the Eucharistic Procession and Festival, to be held on June 19 in Warsaw. Chris Langford is the point person for this movement in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. He explained his part in the revival as a liaison between the diocese and the USCCB, which provided a framework and “a sizeable list of the fruits that are desired in the Church through the revival,” he said. He works with the parishes and point persons, who coordinate revival activities in their individual parishes where the next phases will occur.

Of the procession, Langford stated that “One of the objectives or purposes of having a Eucharistic procession is to give public witness to our faith in Christ in the Eucharist.” While parishes sometimes host their own Eucharistic processions on public streets, nothing of this scale has been held in the diocese in recent memory. Langford considers this an incredible opportunity to evangelize Christians and non-Christians alike. In fact, he shared that: “As I understand it, there are several non-Catholic churches that will be joining us in the procession.”

The response at the parish level has been excellent, Langford reported. Father Stephen Felicichia confessed great enthusiasm for the event and promotes it both at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne, where he serves as Parochial Vicar, and through “The Deus Vult Podcast,” hosted by him and Father Dan Koehl.

Other groups host parades—embracing false religions and ideologies that do not satisfy the human soul, so he believes the Catholic Church can and should do the same to promote worship of the one true God. He stated, “We need to be proudly proclaiming: ‘Jesus Christ is alive. He’s risen, and in our tabernacles, and this is His planet and His territory.’” Eucharistic processions, once regular occurrences, now faded from common practice, were the early Church’s parades.

The 2.8 mile journey might be difficult for some; it might feel uncomfortable to participate in a public demonstration of faith, yet why should Catholics shy away from the most important thing about themselves? It takes a certain level of boldness to make a public stand for what one believes. “But there is, it demands something of you—worship demands,” Father Felicichia stressed. “Why wouldn’t you embrace the good with all of your heart? You might become a saint.”

He poses this question: “What are you going to do with your time, how do you answer to God for how you spent your time?” If the time and money a person spends in his or her life indicates what they love, a Catholic should love Jesus wholeheartedly enough to spend time with Him, Father Felicichia said. “Let’s make the diocese 100% Catholic; let that be our goal, because that’s Jesus Christ’s goal,” he continued.

That cannot be accomplished without the cooperative efforts of Church members. To that end, he recommends that those planning to attend the procession notify friends, family members and anyone else they encounter and invite them to come along. The easiest way is by simply asking—by starting conversations about what the Eucharist truly means to oneself and to others.

“Does a good Christian not stand up for Christ? You are being called by your bishop. Go! It’s just that simple,” Father Stephen Felicichia stated. “Does a good Christian not stand up for Christ? You are being called by your bishop. Go! It’s just that simple,” he stated. Uniting in worship of Jesus Christ at the Eucharistic Procession does not require a common language, race, age group, or physical or mental ability. In fact, Langford remarked that, “The sacrament of the Eucharist is that instrument that the Lord has given us to bond us together as one.”

“We are also very pleased and excited about the cultural dimension of the procession and the festival,” he continued. There will be three stops along the route where altars will be set up and the procession will pause for benediction. At these stops, hymns will be sung in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Latin, Burmese and the Igbo Language (a dialect of South-East Nigeria), as well as African Spirituals. At the festival afterwards, many of these ethnic groups will offer international foods for purchase, along with presenting music and dance from their respective cultures.

The route is completely wheelchair accessible. Those who might have difficulty walking the entire route are also welcome to join at one of the partial routes available. Shuttles will move between the altars along the route, some of which accommodate wheelchairs.

If the Church is to experience a revival as it did in the 16th century, Catholic men and women of today must be the ones to stand fast and lead it. For anyone hesitant to attend, Father Felicichia urges, “Approach Jesus Christ to the best of your ability—let it be in your power to go to Warsaw and walk three miles? Is it? Then don’t be afraid. He’s asking you to do this—for the sake of the savior, Jesus Christ.”

Information on the procession is available on the website, www.diocesefwsb.org/eucharist.
My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Once again, our diocesan newspaper, Today’s Catholic, is being sent to all registered households in the diocese. This newspaper has been a gift to our diocese for 96 years, and I pray that it will continue to be a tool for evangelization and for the deepening of faith.

I wish to highlight the three-year national Eucharistic Revival which will kick off in our diocese in Warsaw on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of the Lord with a Eucharistic procession from Sacred Heart Parish to Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish. We hope many can join in this event and in the many events of this Revival over the next three years.

Please look for coverage of the activities of the Revival in Today’s Catholic. Please enjoy this complementary, issue, and I hope you continue to find in Today’s Catholic an invaluable resource for the deepening of your own faith and for the deepening of your knowledge of events in the Catholic world.

May God bless you!
Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Kevin C. Rhoades
Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades
Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend

BY JENNIFER BARTON

June 4 will mark a new day for three men: Deacons Mark Hellinger, Brian Isenbarger and Lee/Allen Fortin. On that day, they will enter into the joyful life of the priesthood. The road to the priesthood varies for each man, and these three are no exception, taking vastly different journeys to reach their vocation. Each of them has a unique personality and story, yet they share a similar desire to serve God and others.

All three completed their seminary studies in different locations—one in Rome, one in Maryland and one in Cincinnati. Quick to laugh, Deacon Hellinger may be the most scholarly, spending several years studying sacramental theology in Rome. He knew early in life that he wanted to become a priest, going into seminary directly out of high school. Deacon Isenbarger is not quite as fond of school, has been described as possessing a somewhat dry sense of humor and fought his vocation longer than the other two. And Deacon Fortin is rather contemplative, a characteristic possibly retained from his years as a Franciscan friar. His journey to the diocesan priesthood took the most roundabout route.

A native South Dakotan, a series of open doors brought Deacon Fortin to the priesthood. He completed his formation at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary and School of Theology (the Athenaeum) in Cincinnati, but studied previously at the now-defunct Cardinal Muench Seminary in Fargo, North Dakota. In fact, the school’s doors closed immediately after his graduation. Although he originally attended Cardinal Muench for ROTC, he didn’t participate in the program. Instead, he said, “I received a great grace when I was at prayer, and it was very clear that the Lord had brought me up there for spiritual formation, not for military formation.”

Another open door led him to a small community of Franciscan friars in Fort Wayne, which he discerned into. “God gave this incredible grace—I knew this was where I’d be for the rest of my life—I thought for sure,” he said with a laugh. But when God closed that door when the community disbanded, Deacon Fortin discovered that “there was an open door to one of the things I perceived I was called to—the priesthood.”

He chose to remain in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, becoming a diocesan priest. “When your desires aren’t met for one vocation, you have to trust that the Lord is still going to provide for that in the direction that He is leading you.”

Conversely, both Deacons Isenbarger and Hellinger were raised in the Fort Wayne-area, attending rival high schools Bishop Dwenger and Bishop Luers, respectively. They have been part of a seminarian fraternity group for several years, talking and texting each other on a regular basis. Deacon Fortin may not have had the same relationship-building opportunities, but he does maintain good relationship-building opportunities, not for spiritual formation.

The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend, has made the following assignments of transitional deacons for the summer of 2022:

- Deacon Brian Fortin to St. Adalbert Parish, South Bend
- Deacon Robert Krisch to St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish, Bristol
- Deacon David Langford to St. Jude Parish, South Bend
- Deacon Jacob Schneider to Corpus Christi Parish, South Bend
- Deacon Ryan Timossi to St. Dominic Parish, Bremen
Hail Mary, Queen of May

May is the month the Church honors the Blessed Virgin, and May crowning is a popular way to show devotion to her. Several schools from around the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend participated in this time-honored tradition, bringing flowers to the fairest of mothers.

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Provided by Shawn DeVido, St. Joseph Hessen-Cassel
Jennifer Barton
St. Mary, Huntington
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Choose a four, five, or six-day experience in this Silent Directed Retreat. A spiritual director will meet with you daily to provide guidance and to offer you help, time and space to discern how God has been with you on your life’s journey and where the Spirit might be inviting you.

Sunday, June 19 arrive after 4 p.m. through June 23, 24, or 25.
Where: Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center 9601 Union Rd, Plymouth, IN 46563
Cost: $450, $550, or $650 (depending on length of stay) and includes room, meals, and retreat.

A letter with helpful information will be sent upon registration.
Register online at www.lindenwood.org by June 13.

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

With praise and thanksgiving, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will ordain Deacons Lee Allen Fortin, Mark Hellinger, and Brian Isenbarger to the Priesthood through the imposition of hands and the invocation of the Holy Spirit.
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
June 4 | 11 a.m.
Livestream: @diocesefwsb on Facebook or YouTube

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE at Notre Dame, Indiana

Thank you for your exemplary leadership
Rev. David T. Tyson, C.S.C., outgoing president of Holy Cross College.

Welcome Dr. Marco Clark, incoming president of Holy Cross College.
San Francisco prelate says no Communion for Pelosi over her abortion stand

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) – San Francisco Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone declared on May 20 that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., is not “to be admitted” to Communion unless and until she publicly repudiates “support for abortion ‘rights’” and goes to confession and receives absolution “for her cooperation in this evil.” Archdiocese of Indianapolis D.C. office from Catholic News Service to request a comment was not returned immediately.

“Please know that you will find pleasure whatsoever in fulfilling my pastoral duty here,” Archbishop Cordileone said. “Speaker Pelosi remains under the watchful protection of our Lord and Lady. I am concerned about her advocacy for the poor and vulnerable elicits my admiration. I assure you that my action here is purely pastoral, not political, and I have been very clear in my words and actions about this.”

The archbishop opened his 1,300-word letter by saying that Pope Francis “has been one of the world’s most vocal advocates of human dignity in every stage and condition of life.”

7th Circuit panel hears appeal of fired Indiana Catholic school employee

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) – The 7th Circuit Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit heard oral arguments on May 16 in a case to determine if the government can overstep an Indiana Catholic school’s decision not to renew the contract of one of its faculty members.

The case, Starkey v. Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Indianapolis, involves Lynn Starkey, a former guidance counselor at Roncalli High School in Indianapolis, who sued the school and the archdiocese for asking Catholic school educators to support Catholic teaching.

Becket, a religious liberty law firm representing the Indianapolis Archdiocese, has argued that both federal law and the First Amendment protect religious schools’ right to make hiring decisions based on religious doctrine. “The Supreme Court has long recognized that the Constitution protects the freedom of religious schools to choose their leaders without government interference,” said Luke Goodrich, Vice President and Senior Counsel at Becket in a statement. “If the First Amendment means anything, it means the government can’t punish the Catholic Church for asking Catholic school educators to support Catholic teaching.”

Buffalo bishop lays flowers, personal prayer at mass shooting memorial

BUFFALO, N.Y. (CNS) – Bishop Michael W. Fisher of Buffalo joined mourners outside a Tops grocery store where 10 people were killed and three others were injured in what law enforcement authorities said was a racially motivated crime. Placing flowers and a handwritten note remembering “the souls of our brothers and sisters lost to the acts of violence and racism” at a growing memorial outside the store, Bishop Fisher paid his respects to the victims on May 17, the Western New York Catholic Health Authority’s palliative care wards and hospices, following legalization of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) in June of 2016, has led to a reduction in true palliative care services. “It’s like a cancer growing within the palliative care programs,” said Hilliard, who, in 2015, was named as Medical Director of the Fraser Health Authority’s palliative care program because of his opposition to the authority’s insistence that he support the performing of assisted suicide in hospices. “(MAiD) is starting to take over to a certain degree. But still only 1% of people are choosing MAiD, 95% would prefer to live until they die naturally.” The Catholic Church has long supported palliative care for patients living with a life-threatening illness and has branded euthanasia or medically assisted suicide as an “intrinsically evil” act.

U.S. military members visit Lourdes at annual pilgrimage

BUFFALO, N.Y. (CNS) – Buffalo插口 said that 5,000 prayer kits for Ukrainian soldiers.

Active-duty military personnel and veterans taking part in the “Warriors to Lourdes” pilgrimage march on the Esplanade in front of the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary in Lourdes, France, on May 12, 2022. During the pilgrimage, they assembled 5,000 prayer kits for Ukrainian soldiers.

Ukrainians ‘have made the Bible come alive’ for world, says archbishop

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) – Ukrainians “have made the Bible come alive for the world,” Archbishop Borys Gudziak, head of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, told graduates of the University of Notre Dame on May 15. “David withstands Goliath, the Way of the Cross has stations in Bucha and Borodianka, Mary and Joseph, Jesus suffers with his people,” said the prelate as the speaker for Notre Dame’s 177th commencement ceremony.

“…We had a Lent and Holy Week like no other. We pray that the Cross will again lead to the Resurrection, to the fullness of life after death,” Archbishop Gudziak, who also is the head of external relations for the worldwide Ukrainian Catholic Church, said Notre Dame university “has offered a singular response to the Russian invasion and devastation of Ukraine. My prayer is that you will find a way to lift this downpour and trampled,“ he said. The archbishop also was presented with an honorary degree, and when he refused it was returned to the crowd, the more than 3,300 Notre Dame graduates rose and waved Ukrainian flags in a show of solidarity with a nation under siege. “Make some noise! I’m incredibly moved by your hospitality and your singular solidarity,” he told graduates. He said to you, dear graduates.”

Archbishop, 97, says he thinks Church is growing secretly in North Korea

SEOUL, South Korea (CNS) – One of South Korea’s most senior clerics says he believes the Catholic Church in communist North Korea is growing, although Catholics live in hiding and endure persecution. Archbishop Vincent Youn Kang-chi, 97, former head of the Archdiocese of Gwangiu, South Korea, made the remarks in a recently published book on the history of the North Korean Church, reported ucanews.com. “The Story of the North Korean Church” is a Korean-language, comprehensive book on the history of the Catholic Church in the northern part of the Korean Peninsula based on eight interviews, with the archbishop last year.

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Catholic education brought first-year teacher back to diocesan school

BY JOSHUA SCHIPPER

Atending Catholic schools influenced Jillian Walter’s life so greatly that she knew she wanted to come back and teach other students in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. After her first year of teaching second grade at Holy Family School in South Bend, Walter’s enthusiasm for Catholic education has only increased.

Born and raised in Mishawaka, Walter is a recent graduate of Holy Cross College. She attended Catholic schools in the diocese from the time she was in kindergarten. In her younger years, many members of her family saw in her the potential to engage with and educate children, telling her how she was destined to become a teacher.

Though she protested her calling at first, she learned firsthand from the camps where she served during her years at Marian High School that she could in fact handle teaching children in a classroom setting.

After graduation from Holy Cross College, she took her first teaching job. “My decision to work at Holy Family was actually a really easy one,” she shared. “In particular, what drew me in was being a lifelong learner. So even though I had just received my degree, I did my student teaching, and I interviewed and I had been in similar grades as this one, there’s always things you’re going to learn when you’re really in the trenches doing something.”

Some of the things she learned this year were how her students responded to certain things, how to approach behavioral and emotional issues and how to adapt a lesson plan when she realizes that there may be a better way to convey ideas to her classroom.

Luckily, I have a really collaborative staff. And what’s special about Holy Family is that we have two of multiple grades, so I have another second-grade teacher teaching these same things as me, so I really get to collaborate with her, pick her brain about different activities or ways to teach things.”

Her Catholic faith plays a significant role in teaching across a handful of subjects.

“I think when it comes to teaching in a Catholic school, what makes it unique and kind of individual is the fact that, even if I’m just teaching math or science or social studies or language arts, there’s this center in truth, goodness and beauty. So being able to fall back on that no matter what lesson I’m in, whether it be a religion one or something else, is a really unique and beautiful center to everything you do in the classroom,” she remarked.

Walter recalled her favorite memory of her first year of teaching: When she prepared her students to receive their first holy Communion.

“It’s so much fun to see their little faces learn things that I’ve just taken for granted at this stage of life, like going up and bowing, saying ‘amen’ – the declaration that’s in that one simple word.”

People who may wonder it’s like to teach in the diocese and those interested in pursuing a position in Catholic schools should know that “teaching in the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese is unique and it is beautiful,” she said.

“From the moment these kids walk in in the morning, they’re greeted by their teachers – we all stand out in the hallway. At a lot of other schools, you don’t get that personal connection with your kids. We try to keep class sizes down, which is really nice. I have 11 students right now. So I’m able to make very genuine connections with them.”

Knowing her students and anticipating their needs has also been a highlight for Walter.

“I’m able to know if we’re just having a tough day and we need to adjust some things for them,” she said. “I’m able to pray with them if they need that. I love teaching them about how they can interact in their faith, especially through difficult times.

Because from kindergarten on, we all handle things in life that are difficult, and it’s good to be able to teach them those foundational skills, especially through the lens of faith and that truth, goodness and beauty.”

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CONGRATULATES

BOBBY KRISCH

ON HIS ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE
Teachers praised for their work at luncheon

BY SAMANTHA ROHLOFF

A

administrators, pastors and
Christ the Teacher award-
dees from Fort Wayne-area
Catholic schools in the Diocese
of Fort Wayne-South Bend were
honored at the “You Can Lend
A Hand Luncheon” at the Grand
Wayne Convention Center in
downtown Fort Wayne on May
16. Quality Dining, Inc. sponsors
the event to pay tribute to teach-
ers who have performed excep-
tionally in their chosen career
field. That afternoon, nearly 50
individuals were recognized for
their hard work.

“I want to be clear here that
the inspiration for wanting to
have this luncheon is you,” Dan
Fitzpatrick, Chairman and CEO of
Quality Dining, Inc. told attend-
ees.

This luncheon, continued
Fitzpatrick, is “where we cel-
brate the great work that our
schools are doing and to recog-
nize those special heroes, oth-
erwise known as teachers.” He
also commended the “very spe-
cial vocation” of attendees, add-
ing that they “are doing indeed
the Lord’s work.”

The “You Can Lend A Hand”
program was founded in 1982
by Fitzpatrick and his brother,
Deacon Jim Fitzpatrick of St.
Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort
Wayne. In its 40-year history,

the program has raised funds of
greater than $11.6 million, with
approximately $120,000 raised
this year alone. These funds
go to aid schools, explained
Fitzpatrick, and can be used for
things like HVAC system repairs,
computer and technology needs,
carpeting or other needs in the
school.

Fitzpatrick also drew atten-
tion to the small cards that
dotted each table. A picture of a
student from a diocesan school
was printed on the front, and
the back contained a short wish
list that detailed items they
would like for their school – one
asked for playground equipment,

Deacon Jake,
Congratualtions on your ordination
to the diaconate.

We are so proud of you!

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades presents Saint Mother Theodore Guerin
Administrative Recipient Tiffany Albertson, Bishop Dwenger’s Assistant
Principal, with the statue for the award at the “You Can Lend a Hand” lun-
cheon in Fort Wayne on May 16.

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... and the back contained a short wish list that detailed items they would like for their school – one asked for playground equipment,

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Seek the Truth

The Serra Club

of South Bend

offers heartfelt congratulations to

Deacon Brian Florin, Deacon Bobby Krisch, Deacon David Langford, Deacon Jake Schneider and Deacon Ryan Timossi

as you are ordained to the diaconate.

And for those about to be ordained to the priesthood – Brian Isenbarger, Mark Hellinger and Lee Allen Fortin

The Serra Club of South Bend

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  - Media
  - Ecology
  - Leadership
  - Human Rights
  - Education
- June 27-30: Fundamentals Camp for grades 2-9
- June 27-30: Offensive Skills Camp grades 2-9
- July 18-21: Co-Ed Soccer Camp for grades 1-8
- July 18-21: Goalkeeper Camp for grades 1-12

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Teachers praised for their work at luncheon

BY SAMANTHA ROHLOFF

A

administrators, pastors and
Christ the Teacher award-
dees from Fort Wayne-area
Catholic schools in the Diocese
of Fort Wayne-South Bend were
honored at the “You Can Lend
A Hand Luncheon” at the Grand
Wayne Convention Center in
downtown Fort Wayne on May
16. Quality Dining, Inc. sponsors
the event to pay tribute to teach-
ers who have performed excep-
tionally in their chosen career
field. That afternoon, nearly 50
individuals were recognized for
their hard work.

“I want to be clear here that
the inspiration for wanting to
have this luncheon is you,” Dan
Fitzpatrick, Chairman and CEO of
Quality Dining, Inc. told attend-
ees.

This luncheon, continued
Fitzpatrick, is “where we cel-
brate the great work that our
schools are doing and to recog-
nize those special heroes, oth-
erwise known as teachers.” He
also commended the “very spe-
cial vocation” of attendees, add-
ing that they “are doing indeed
the Lord’s work.”

The “You Can Lend A Hand”
program was founded in 1982
by Fitzpatrick and his brother,
Deacon Jim Fitzpatrick of St.
Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort
Wayne. In its 40-year history,

the program has raised funds of
greater than $11.6 million, with
approximately $120,000 raised
this year alone. These funds
go to aid schools, explained
Fitzpatrick, and can be used for
things like HVAC system repairs,
computer and technology needs,
carpeting or other needs in the
school.

Fitzpatrick also drew atten-
tion to the small cards that
dotted each table. A picture of a
student from a diocesan school
was printed on the front, and
the back contained a short wish
list that detailed items they
would like for their school – one
asked for playground equipment,
another for a sensory-friendly room. “There are always needs, and there’s always something we can do,” said Fitzpatrick. “It is a call, I think, to help.”

Father Andrew Budzinski, Vocations Director and Pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish in Fort Wayne, led the invocation for the luncheon, thanking God for the teachers and blessing everyone in attendance. Choir members from Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne performed during lunch and then the award ceremony portion began.

The Monsignor J. William Lester Award was bestowed upon the members of the Shields family. The honor is named for Monsignor Lester, who Dr. Joe Brettnacher, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, called “a great champion of Catholic education.”

One of the awardees, Nathan Cole, a science teacher from St. Joseph Grade School in South Bend, was honored posthumously by passing away suddenly last year. A video was created in his honor, recalling his kind personality and the impact he had on his students. Drawing from that video, Fitzpatrick emphasized how important teachers truly are: “You make a difference every single day, whether you realize it or not.”

Tiffany Albertson, Assistant Principal at Bishop Dwenger, was chosen as the Saint Mother Theodore Guerin Administrative Assistant for her “You Can Lend A Hand” Poster Winner. Daniela Plascenia, a student at Huntington Catholic, is presented with an award for her artwork, which was used in promotional materials for the “You Can Lend A Hand” fundraiser this year.

Recipient, an accolade named after the religious sister who founded the first Catholic school in what would become the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, a part of the Diocese of Vincennes at the time.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades addressed the audience as the keynote speaker. “I thank you for your deep commitment to Catholic education and for the beautiful contribution you all make to the mission of the Church,” he told everyone. He continued by noting how the attendees foster the development and wellbeing of the children they care for. “We’re gathered at this luncheon … for the growth and future of the children the Lord has given to us to educate,” he explained.

“With God’s grace and trusting our lives and our work to Christ the Teacher, let us move forward in the marvelous undertaking which is the formation and authentic growth of our children and young people,” said Bishop Rhoades. “May God bless all of you and all of our Catholic schools.”

One final award was presented. Every year, Quality Dining, Inc. holds a contest challenging schools. “You Can Lend A Hand” Poster Winner. Daniela Plascenia stood out among more than 300 other students who competed, and was named the 2022 “You Can Lend A Hand” Winner.

Alissa Summers, a fifth-grade teacher from St. Joseph School in Decatur, who has worked there for six years, shared what it was like for her to be named as a Christ the Teacher awardee. “I was very honored, very surprised,” she said, adding that she has “the most amazing students.”

Another fifth-grade teacher who received a Christ the Teacher Award was Katie Hoffman from St. Louis Academy in New Haven. She expressed how she felt about working at a Catholic school. “It’s everything. I’ve always wanted to be a teacher, but to be able to teach somewhere I am able to share my faith is beautiful to me.”

Deacon Brian Florin, Deacon Bobby Krisch
Deacon David Langford, Deacon Jake Schneider
and Deacon Ryan Timossi

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AND
David Langford

on their Ordination to the Diaconate!

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The people of St. Vincent de Paul Parish thank the Lord boundlessly and forever for Brian Florin as he is ordained to the diaconate.

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Joyfully congratulates
Ryan Timossi
AND
David Langford

on their Ordination to the Diaconate!
"...with God’s grace, all of it is possible and without God’s grace, none of it is possible."

– Deacon Bobby Krisch

“As Christ personally called the apostles, He has called five young men of our diocese to share in the apostolic ministry through the sacrament of Holy Orders: today in the first degree, the order of the diaconate. ... Today, He will equip them for their mission as deacons of the Church.”

– Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Photos by Jennifer Barton
They were men of truth and love who walked in the footsteps of Jesus Christ. They did not stop courageously exercising their ministry when religious persecution intensified in Mexico. … May these holy martyrs be models of faith and courage for you as deacons and later as priests.”

Throughout the ceremony, the deacons physically demonstrated in bodily gestures the humility of their call; that their lives are not their own but are now given for the good of all.

Individually, each man knelt before the bishop three times: first to declare their intention to fulfill their role as deacons and promise obedience to Bishop Rhoades and his successors, then for the laying of the hands and lastly for receiving the book of the Gospels. As one, they also knelt before the bishop for the prayer of ordination.

The most powerful display of their willingness to serve humbly came as they laid prostrate before the tabernacle while the congregation sang the Litany of Supplication over them, asking God for His blessings and for the intercession of the saints to aid them in their ministry. Each candidate chose who would vest him at the Mass, and the five vesting clergy were Father Zak Barry (Deacon Langford), Deacon Brian Isenbarger (Deacon Krisch), Father Benjamin Landrigan (Deacon Schneider), Monsignor William Schooler (Deacon Florin) and Deacon Jim Tighe (Deacon Timossi).

After the Mass, Deacon Krisch, celebrating with his parents John and Mary and extended family members, spoke about his joy and happiness. He is eager to begin his summer assignment at St. Mary of the Annunciation, working with Father Bob Van Kempen.

Ruminating on the promises of faithfulness and service he so recently made, he recalled how he felt as he lay before the altar. He said, “I’m literally laying down my life on the sanctuary floor, at the altar of Jesus Christ, and this is where it all flows from is the altar. With the intercession of the Blessed Mother and the saints as well, it was so beautiful and so powerful. Like Bishop said, it is going to be difficult, but with God’s grace, all of it is possible and without God’s grace, none of it is possible.”

Different words that Bishop Rhoades spoke lingered in Deacon Langford’s mind after the ordination. He stated that the reality of his vocation would set in “when I see, like the bishop said in the second half of the prayer of ordination, that yes, I was ordained a deacon.”

In the meantime, “I’m just so happy,” he said, beaming.
God's Blessings upon Bishop Dwenger Alumnus Jacob Schneider '13 as he enters the Order of the Diaconate through the Sacrament of Holy Orders!

Thank you for your service to our parish.
Keeping you in our prayers as you continue your journey of service to our Lord.

The St. Monica Parish Family

Congratulations!
Deacon Bobby Krisch and
Deacon Jake Schneider,
and classmates
Brian Florin, David Langford and Ryan Timossi on your Ordination to the diaconate

Thank you for your service to our parish.
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The St. Monica Parish Family

Congratulations to Catholic Charities on a centennial of serving all in need

www.ccfwsb.org
After many trials, organ blessed, ‘sounds a joyful noise to the Lord’

BY JENNIFER BARTON

On May 22, St. Pius X in Granger welcomed Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades to the parish to bless and dedicate their recently-installed Holtkamp organ. The instrument was formerly the property of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, donated to the parish by the University of Notre Dame in 2016 for their new church building. Dedicated in 2017, the new church building included a Wicks organ in the east transept, but the Holtkamp now resides in the choir loft.

The road has been rocky for St. Pius X to complete the installation of the organ. One month after the Wicks was installed in 2018, AB Pipe Organ Company, the organization commissioned to install the Holtkamp organ, went bankrupt. Monsignor William Schooler, Pastor of St. Pius X, said that the parish was able to recover some of the money invested in the company, along with the pipes.

Jeremy Hoy, Music Director at St. Pius X, took 15 parishioners to Chicago to locate the Holtkamp pipes, scouring three different storage warehouses. “Amazingly, we were able to find all of the pipes,” Hoy said.

Next, they needed to find

“Music and song are more than an embellishment of worship. They are themselves part of the liturgical action,” says Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, at the organ blessing for St. Pius X Parish in Granger on May 22.
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Two pipe organs were installed at St. Pius X Parish in North Liberty this spring, a project that started in the late 2010s and took about a year and a half in the shop of an organ company to restore and install them. "We selected Temple Organ Company out of St. Joseph, Missouri," he continued. "They took possession of the pipes and began construction in their shop in St. Joseph."

The organ has 55 ranks of pipes, or a little more than 3,500 pipes, according to David Cool, owner of Temple Organ Company. With such a vast amount of pipes, the fact that all of them were found and are able to be used again was indeed nothing short of miraculous. Cool remarked that an organ of that size is "pretty rare" as "most churches aren’t as big as St. Pius."

Even with its size, adjustments had to be made to the choir loft to accommodate musicians. According to Monsignor Schooler, Hoy and Father Bill Meininger, Pastor of St. Mary of the Lake in Culver and former Parochial Vicar at St. Pius X, took the lead on this part of the project.

The restoration process took about a year and a half, by Cool’s estimation, requiring four different segments of installment. The pipes had to be outfitted with new aluminum cases, which were painted gold. Even when the installation was completed, the formal dedication had to be postponed due to the pandemic.

Cool explained that one single pipe on an organ can produce only one tone, so 61 of these pipes are required to match the number of keys on a keyboard. Hoy stated that though St. Pius X has two separate organs, “they have become one organ with pipes in two locations. “I have a console with five manuals (keyboards) that plays the pipes in both areas.”

The last time the Holtkamp sounded through the basilica was Christmas morning of 2015, and Karen Schneider-Kirner was the last person to play it there. Since its reconstruction at St. Pius X, she was privileged to play it again for a wedding.

To the parishioners of St. Pius X, she said, “It has been meaningful to hear the former pipes in your beautiful new sanctuary! These are pipes that sounded in the basilica for countless weddings, funerals, daily masses, and on high feast days for 27 years. There is still beauty and integrity to every pipe. The fact that they can still sound a joyful noise to the Lord is most meaningful.”

For those who may wonder why the University of Notre Dame removed the organ, Schneider-Kirner explained that some of the instrument’s actions had become faulty and the university decided that the best plan of action was to have a new organ built by Paul Fritts of Tacoma, Washington. A generous donor helped make this possible and after months of assembling the 10,000 pieces that had been transported cross-country in two tractor-trailers, the basilica now boasts a new Murdy organ, named for the donor family.

“Pipe organs are known as the ‘King of instruments’ due to their size, complexity, and power. No two instruments are the same, and each is shaped significantly by the space in which they are housed,” she continued. “One of the joys of being an organist is to explore how each instrument brings to life organ music and how it can accompany hymns and liturgical singing in a unique and powerful way.”

This was brought to reality at the dedication ceremony, where Dr. Andrew McShane, director of music at the Basilica of Notre Dame, served as guest organist.

In an email to Today’s Catholic, Monsignor Schooler stated, “I am grateful to the Basilica at Notre Dame for donating their organ pipes to us. I am also grateful to Bishop Rhoades, not only for coming to bless the final project, but also for his patience and understanding in this prolonged effort.”

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Did you know that OSV is the U.S. distributor of the official Vatican newspaper?
Pentecost collection ensures future of Catholic faith

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has been blessed with many new priests over the years. Last year, seven men were ordained to the priesthood. This year, three more will take their priestly vows, and another seven will be ordained to the diaconate either here in the diocese or in Rome.

Through years of study, these men work hard to fulfill the vocations to which God has called them. Laypeople and religious men and women through-out the diocese support them both financially and in prayer. The Annual Pentecost Collection, being taken up in churches throughout the diocese on June 5 and online at any time, plays a large role in seeing these young men through to their vocations.

Giving to the seminarian education fund, Father Keeton Lockwood said, is a guarantee that the spiritual needs of the members of the Church will be met for years to come, no matter what time of day or night a priest might be needed.

In only his first year of priesthood, Father Lockwood has already given comfort to the dying, one of his most memorable moments so far. One aspect of priesthood that he loves is greeting his parishioners after Mass and other parish functions. Father Lockwood has spent the past year as Parochial Vicar of both St. Therese and St. Henry Parishes in Fort Wayne. Instead of seeing the frenetic pace of Parishes in Fort Wayne, he has been able to fulfill the role of seeing the spiritual needs of the people of his parish for “helping and forgiving” his ever-growing knowledge of Spanish.

As the “ordinary duties of the priest are so supernatural,” Father Landrigan said, he finds that he can “look back at my seminary formative years and see how much they helped me grow and prepared me.”

All money raised in the Pentecost Collection goes directly toward covering the educational costs of these young men pursuing the priesthood. The spiritual life of the diocese would suffer greatly without the generosity of those who give of their treasure to support these men who pour out their gifts and talents for Christ. And Christ will surely multiply the fruits of their good work.

To give online, go to diocesefwsb.org/give.
Down in adoration falling, 
Lo! the sacred Host we hail. 
(taken from the Eucharistic hymn, "Tantum Ergo")

Join OSV in celebrating the source and summit of our Faith, as well as the launch of the National Eucharistic Revival, at the Eucharistic Procession in Warsaw, Indiana, on June 19, 2022.

Those in attendance will receive a copy of My Daily Visitor: Eucharist, compliments of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

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Why I count myself blessed

As far back as I can remember, I have been fascinated by numbers. I add, subtract, multiply and divide, do square roots and other complex calculations, all in my head and without the aid of any visual cues (including in my imagination, because I suffer from aphasia, the inability to bring my thoughts to life in visual form). I find it both easy and delightful to play with numbers to see relations between them and even within them. (The last four digits of my phone number are 3470, which, to my mind, is also divisible by 3, because 1 + 7 + 8 = 16.)

And so, as I write these words on my birthday (easy to remember, because I was born on May 17, 1968, and 5 + 1 = 6 and 1 + 7 = 8), I find myself slicing and dicing my life, because my age is 54, which is divisible by 9 (because 5 + 4 + 9 = 18, which means it’s also divisible by 3, and, because it’s an even number, divisible by 2 (so also divisible by 6). I was 18 years old (one-third of my age now) and in my freshman year at Michigan State when I had a crisis of faith and left the Church for four weeks, before being drawn back on the eve of the First Sunday in Advent by the reality of the Eucharist. As my faith has ebbed and grown over the past 56 years (two-thirds of 54), one thing remains constant: The Eucharist has been the center of my faith, the touchpoint that pulls me back when the work and the worries and the cares and concerns of my life pull me away.

The toughest crossroads of my life became the moments of greatest peace, so long as I didn’t try to navigate them on my own, but walked through the door of a church and knelt before Christ truly present in the tabernacle. I had — and have — many faults and failures, but the confidence thread that has enabled me to battle them all and to overcome some is the desire never to be separated from the Body of Christ, which has brought me back again and again to the sacrament of confession.

Twenty-seven years ago this month, five days before my birthday, I became a father for the first time, and the blessing of the children who followed, eight in all, has changed the half of my life thus far in indelible ways and made me desire to become a better man — which has brought me back again and again to the tabernacle. I have been far from a perfect father (perhaps a slightly better husband) and I enter upon what may be the final third of my life (my paternal grand- father died at the age of 81: 54 + 27). I look back on it with the hope that I wish I had done differently, for the sake of my children especially. While life is full of significant coincidences, it isn’t an equation to be solved, but a path to be walked, and an essential part of growing in grace and wisdom in my faith. As a man, we must take responsibility not only for where we are going but for where — and for who — we have been.

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

All things New

E very course in constitutional law begins with a discussion of Marbury v. Madison, which established the power of judicial review. Marbury struck down a federal statute that purported to enlarge the Supreme Court’s original jurisdiction.

Chief Justice John Marshall said that when a statute said one thing and the Constitution said another, the court was bound to follow the Constitution: “It is emphatically the province and duty of the judicial department to say what the law is.”

Marbury holds that when Congress and the court disagree about whether a law is constitution- al, the court has the final word. We call this the principle of judicial supremacy. It does not mean that in going about its business, Congress should not endeavor to comply with the Constitution. It can’t, for example, ignore the passage in Article I that says, “No Bill of Attainder shall be passed.”

The same goes for the presi- dent. In exercising executive power, Congress has enacted, he and his agencies can issue orders and make rules. When an order or a rule conflicts with the Constitution, the court will follow the Constitution, as it did when President Truman tried to seize the nation’s steel mills during the Korean War.

But once again the principle of judicial supremacy does not mean that the president can do as he likes until the court blows the whistle. On the contrary, Article II, which creates the office of president, requires him to take an oath that he “will to the best of (his) Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution.” I find myself thinking about this point because President Joe Biden is giving serious consideration to canceling student loan debt in the amount of $1 trillion per person. That would cost about $573 billion — as much as the government has spent on welfare in the past 20 years. And the left wing of his party is urging him to consider $50 per person.

The Constitution gives the president no such authority. The appropriations clause says the government can’t take any money out of the Treasury unless Congress passes a law. The property clause entrusts Congress (not the president) with “Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States.” As recently as last year, both the president and the speaker of the House are misguided: the president can’t do this by execu- tion.

Take your bill and write 50

T he Ascension fills Christ’s mission and sends forth his disciples. The readings powerfully testify that Jesus is God. Although crucified and dead, Jesus rose again to life and then ascended into heaven, breaking the bonds of earth, possessing the power of God. He was not taken to heaven.

The readings are strongly ecclesial. They stress the identity of the Apostles, both in the first and in the third readings. The Apostles learn that Jesus is the one and only Saviour. The apostles are witnesses to Jesus. Albeit humans, as Pentecost and so many other moments would show, Jesus promised that the Spirit would come to guide them. Important for us today, they formed the Church, of which true believers are part. Through them, in Christ, God lives in the Church and touches us through the Church.

The Easter story is approaching its conclusion. The final message is that Jesus acts and speaks still in the Church. He has not gone from us. He is here. He lives!

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The Sunday Gospel

The Sunday Gospel

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Solemnity of The Ascension of the Lord

Luke 24:46-53

The Acts of the Apostles sup- plies the first reading, the story of the Ascension of the Lord from earth into heaven. This passage is the beginning of Acts. As is the case with the Gospel of Luke, Acts seems to have many works of art for one person. The person’s name was Theophilus. Was this a proper name? Or was it a title, since in Greek, it means “Beloved of God”? In any case, these first eleven verses of Acts have an especially powerful message for us at the close of Easter time. Resplendent in the message is the fact that Jesus is lifted into heaven, or the lifting of Jesus from earthly space and returning to heaven. Ascension, rather than being assumed, reveals as the Resurrection revealed that Jesus is God, came from God, is eternally with God and possesses the almighty power of God.

Other points are important. The reading gives the credentials of the Apostles. Jesus chose them to witness the Ascension. They were not bystanders. It was no coincidence. The Ascension was another moment in which Jesus taught the Apostles as no one else has ever taught them.

They were special students, privileged because the Lord gave them a unique mission. They were responsible for carrying the Redemption to places faraway and to generations yet to be born. The Apostles were human. Peter showed that they could be confused. Judas showed that they could, out of selfishness and self-interest, abandon Jesus. Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would give them insight and wisdom.

To underscore the divinity of Jesus, angels appeared after the Ascension, telling the Apostles to go on with their mission to preach the Gospel and to bring into the world the mercy, love and presence of God in Jesus. The Epistle to the Ephesians, the source of the second reading, is a beautiful prayer, asking God to give the followers of Jesus wisdom and insight. God’s wisdom and strength, the reading states, will be “distributed among the members of the Church.” It urged believers to put everything under the feet of Jesus, the “Head of the Church.”

St. Luke’s Gospel, the last read- ing, also offers an Ascension narra- tive. Jesus led the Apostles to a place near Bethany. (The Mount of Olives, traditionally said to have been the site of the ascension, is near Bethany.) Jesus told the Apostles that the Scriptures were fulfilled. Salvation had come.

As in Acts, Luke also estab- lished the Apostles as the chief witnesses and primary students of the Lord. Thus, Luke tells us, the Spirit will continue to come.

Thus, the Apostles watch the ascension of Jesus and return to their task. They know their task, but they still are unsure. The assignment is daunting, so they pray in the temple constantly and proclaim the praises of God.

Reflection

The readings powerfully testify that Jesus is God. Although cruci- fied and dead, Jesus rose again to life and then ascended into heaven, breaking the bonds of earth, possessing the power of God. He was not taken to heaven.

The readings are strongly ecclesial. They stress the identity of the Apostles, both in the first and in the third readings. The Apostles are witnesses to Jesus. Albeit humans, as Pentecost and so many other moments would show, Jesus promised that the Spirit would come to guide them. Important for us today, they formed the Church, of which true believers are part. Through them, in Christ, God lives in the Church and touches us through the Church.

The Easter story is approaching its conclusion. The final message is that Jesus acts and speaks still in the Church. He has not gone from us. He is here. He lives!

Reading


Monday: Acts 1:18-1 ps 68:2-3b, 4-5acd, 6-7b Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Zep 3:14-18a (Ps) 122:3-4 49:6-7b Lk 13:56


Friday: Acts 25:13b-21 Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8-9 Jn 19:1-16


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Your life is not about you, as illustrated in a biblical story

T

he Acts of the Apostles set forth an event that amounts to a tale of one Church in two cities or regions. It is well a couple of points: that the Church is always in need of reform and that our lives are not merely about us and what we want. Let’s look at the event in two scenes.

Scene 1: The Church in Jerusalem –
“Then broke out a severe persecution of the Church in Jerusalem, and all were scattered throughout the countryside of Judea and Samaria. But the apostles...” (Acts 8:1-4)
The persecution in Jerusalem has experienced steady growth. To be sure, there has been some persecution, but mainly of Peter, John, and the other Apostles. A passage from earlier in Acts describes a kind of springtime for the Church in Jerusalem following Pentecost:

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer...” (Acts 2:42-47)
And yet, just at this moment of growth, the Lord permits a persecution that, in many ways devastates the young community. There is the first martyrdom, and the spread of the Gospel to the Gentiles. The Church in Jerusalem is in need of reform. It also illustrates how the Church is always in need of reform.

Scene 2: The Church in Samaria –
“We who have been scattered to the winds in Jerusalem are sent forth to Samaria...” (Acts 8:14-17)
In Samaria there is joy. My life is well a couple of points: that the work may become more fruitful and many more be saved. And this points to two hard truths that, if accepted, are liberating:

1. Your life is not (only) about you.
2. You are not THAT important.

If we are not careful, we are very prone to become self-absorbed and think that our situation is the only thing on God’s radar. But the truth is, God has everyone’s needs in mind. My life is not simply about me and what I want and need and think and see. My life is also about what others need, and what others see and can contribute.

GARVEY, from page 20

Following
Following a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Feast of the Ascension, Cycle C.
The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

SCRIEPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for May 29, 2022

COMMUNITY IN MISSION

MSGR. CHARLES POPE

MAGR. CHARLES POPE is the Pastor of Holy Comforter - St. Cyprian Catholic Church, Washington, D.C.

FROM SIGHT

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

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

The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

Garvey, from page 20

tive fiat, and that Congress had given him no such authority. But midterm elections are coming soon, and the president is feeling like the dishonest steward in Luke 16, about to be turned out for wasting his master’s goods. Feeling too old to dig and ashamed to beg, he decided to curry favor with his master’s debtors. So he said to the first, who owed a hundred measures of oil, “Take your bill ... and write 50.”

This isn’t the first time the administration has forgiven debts for a group of likely electoral supporters. Last August, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ordered a moratorium on rental evictions. President Biden openly conceded that he probably lacked authority to act, as a majority of justices had ruled just weeks before. But he went ahead anyway. The New York Times said, “to quell a rebellion among angry Democrats” who couldn’t persuade Congress to act.

The Constitution gives Congress authority over the government’s assets because it represents all the people who pay the bills. Congress has not forgiven student loans. The president has no authority to curry favor with one faction by writing off the debts they owe to the rest of us.
Joint conference of Black Catholic clergy to be held at Notre Dame

For the first time in its 32-year history, the Joint Conference of Black Catholic clergy, religious and seminarians is scheduled to be held at the Morris Inn on the University of Notre Dame campus from July 24 to 28. With the theme of “Walk Together with Children,” taken from an African-American hymn, the focus of the conference is on trauma; how ministers heal from it and how they help others to heal.

Deacon Mel Tardy, President of the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus and Associate Advising Professor at Notre Dame, explained the significance of the conference being held at the university for the first time. “We Black Catholics are far too often an afterthought in the mind of the Church – but to do our thinking at Notre Dame might bring more attention to the particular needs, concerns and gifts of Black folk both in and out of the Church. Some issues include evangelization, systemic racism, sainthood and vocations.”

The event is the joining of four organizations: The National Black Sisters Conference (NBSC); the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus (NBCCC); the National Association of Black Catholic Deacons (NABCD); and the National Black Catholic Seminarians Association (NBCSA).

Portions of the conference will be public, including an opening reception on Sunday, July 24; an opening Mass on Monday, July 25, at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart; and a Harambee closing banquet on Thursday, July 28. Mass will be celebrated by Most Reverent Shelton Fabre, Archbishop of Louisville, and attended by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

With 150-175 participants anticipated from across the country, Deacon Tardy explained that the private parts of the conference will involve each of the four joining organizations holding “separate, regular business meetings,” joint meetings of the organizations and social gatherings for all to “joyfully affirm one another in our respective vocations and organizational missions.”

The mission of this year’s conference, the first to be held in person since 2019 because of COVID-19, is: “As a fraternal organization dedicated to the spiritual, theological, educational and ministerial growth of Black Catholic clergy, religious and seminarians, we serve the people of God – particularly the members of the Black community – in order to more effectively meet their spiritual and social needs,” explained Deacon Tardy.

Anticipating that many who will attend have never been to the University of Notre Dame, Deacon Tardy is hopeful that the conference will be a catalyst for Black Catholics in the diocese to expose visitors from around the nation to concerns within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and the good things happening locally for Black Catholics, including the Black Catholic Advisory Board and the Tolton Ambassadors of Indiana. It is also, of course, an opportunity to meet one another and share fellowship.

More information about the public events and the full schedule of the conference will be released as they become available. Deacon Mel Tardy can be reached for comments and questions at mtardy@nd.edu.
WHAT’S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. View more Catholic events and submit new ones at www.todayscatholic.org/event. For additional listings of that event, please call the advertising sales staff at 260-399-1449 to purchase space.

College Crew Kickoff
FORT WAYNE — College Crew will continue on Mondays during the summer through July 18. Invite your friends to St. Charles Borromeo youth center, 4904 Trier Rd. Different speakers and food will be offered each week. Visit facebook.com/collegecrewfw.

K of C Council No. 5521 plans fish fry
SOUTH BEND — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521 is having a fish fry at 61533 S. Ironwood Rd. on Friday, June 3, from 5-7 p.m. Dine-in meals include all-you-can-eat fish; generous portion of shrimp or chicken strips. All dinners include baked potato or french fries, coleslaw, applesauce, bread and coffee. Drive-through carry-out also available. Contact Mike Huszar at mj.huszar@comcast.net for information.

Pilgrimage to Blessed Solanus Casey Center in Detroit planned
HUNTINGTON — A pilgrimage to the Blessed Solanus Casey Shrine and Tomb, catered lunch and a Mass and healing service. Pickup locations are SS. Peter and Paul Church, 860 Cherry St., Huntington at 6 a.m. and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 10700 Aboite Center Rd. in Fort Wayne at 6:30 a.m. Cost is $99 due by June 1, 2022 or $110 after June 1, 2022. Contact Linda Leist at 260-254-8602 or lindaleists.com for information.

Pre-life holy hour
GRANGER — Spend a night in prayer on Tuesday, June 7, at 6 p.m. at St. Plus X for Mass, adoration and a presentation on the Right to Life movement. Dinner will be served at 8 p.m. All are welcome to this event hosted by the Diocesan Youth Leadership Team.

Catholic Homeschool Conference
VIRTUAL — The third annual Catholic Homeschool Conference is once again being held online from June 10-11. The two-day event will have both live and recorded talks and presentations to help Catholic homeschool families find the perfect products for their families and encourage them to continue homeschooling with joy. Visit catholichomeschoolconference.com for information.

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ST ALOYSIUS CATHOLIC SCHOOL
Forming Saints and Scholars in Christ
St. Aloysius Catholic School located in Yoder is seeking a faith-filled Catholic leader who is active in living his/her faith to serve as its next principal. The principal would assume leadership beginning with the 2022/2023 school year.

Under the direction of and in close cooperation with the pastor, the principal has three basic roles: religious leader, educational leader and manager. The primary function of the principal is to provide leadership designed to maximize the spiritual, educational, social and personal development of each individual student while affording students, teachers, staff and all members of the school community opportunities to serve as disciples of Jesus and to reach their individual academic and personal potential.

Qualified applicants should hold an Indiana Administrator’s License or be eligible to obtain one.

View the full job description and apply online at: diocesefwsb.org/careers

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Viva Bocce Classic
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Fort Wayne: June 16, 2022 at 6 p.m.
South Bend: August 1, 2022 at 6 p.m.

REDEEMER RADIO
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“Once again, our diocesan newspaper, Today’s Catholic, is being sent to all registered households in the diocese. This newspaper has been a gift to our diocese for 96 years, and I pray that it will continue to be a tool for evangelization and for the deepening of faith.

Please enjoy this complementary issue, and I hope you continue to find an invaluable resource for the deepening of your own faith and for the deepening of your knowledge of events in the Catholic world.”

The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend

“I encourage our people to be informed by reading Today’s Catholic in whichever format they prefer. In the end, I hope that Today’s Catholic truly helps our people to grow in their faith and their commitment to the Church.”

The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend