

# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Volume 95 No. 23

50¢

TODAYSCATHOLIC.org

## Eucharistic Procession unites Catholics throughout diocese



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Molly Gettinger

Thousands of Catholics in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend celebrate the kickoff to the three-year Eucharistic Revival at the Eucharistic Procession and Festival on June 19, with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades carrying the Blessed Sacrament through the streets of Warsaw.

BY JENNIFER BARTON

Catholics in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend gave a tremendous testimony for the faith and the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist as thousands flocked to Warsaw for the Eucharistic Procession and Festival on Sunday, June 19. The crowd seemed to grow from the onset of the three and a half hour walk from Sacred Heart Parish to Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades led the procession, carrying the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance the entire 2.8 miles with one stop at Central Park.

Excitement bubbled among the crowd at the much-anticipated event, and there was great reverence and solemnity when

Bishop Rhoades brought forth the Eucharist for exposition at the beginning of the procession and during adoration times. Various hymns floated in the air as priests raised their voices in age-old hymns at the head of the procession, while members of St. Augustine Parish sang African spirituals and Gospel songs farther down the line. Others prayed the rosary as they walked along or carried pictures of the Blessed Mother, icons or crucifixes.

Nearly every parish in the diocese, if not all parishes, seemed to be represented at the procession, sporting matching t-shirts or following their parish banner. Multicolored umbrellas bobbed above the heads of many in the vast crowd, not to protect people from rain, but to provide shade

from the brilliant sunlight overhead. In the neighborhoods, some residents stood on their porches to take photographs or watch the worshippers walk by, and a few of the onlookers displayed Catholic objects such as statues of Mary.

The day drew people of different backgrounds and ethnicities, decked out in colorful clothing, all gathered for the singular purpose of proclaiming the greatest truth of the Catholic Church. A group of Nigerian Catholics joyously sang in Igbo and danced as they walked along, with some of the missionary priests from that country joining in their festivities. Their choir performed when the procession stopped at the altar in Central Park. A population of Burmese Catholics from Fort

Wayne took part in the procession, led by Father Peter Dee De, Parochial Vicar at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne and boasted a choir that sang in the prelude. Vietnamese and Filipino choirs rounded out the prelude performances.

Age was no barrier to attendance, either. Youths pushed the aged in wheelchairs, families with teenagers and infants processed in company, couples both young and elderly joined the throng.

Aside from the priests and seminarians leading the procession, other clergy and religious men and women attended, including several Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration,

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## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

(ISSN 0891-1533)  
(USPS 403630)Official newspaper of the  
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend  
P.O. Box 11169  
Fort Wayne, IN 46856

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260-456-2824

Published weekly, except for the last Sunday in December and every other week from the fourth Sunday in May through the last Sunday in August by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, 915 S. Clinton St., P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, IN 46802. Periodicals postage paid at Fort Wayne, IN, and additional mailing office.

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

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

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

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Today's Catholic,  
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Photos by Jennifer Barton

**Eight members of the Conventual Franciscan Friars of Our Lady of Consolation Province concelebrated Mass with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Angola on June 18, a week prior to the friars' departure. The parish will be staffed by priests of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend as of June 28.**

## As friars depart, Angola parish moves from past to future

BY JENNIFER BARTON

The Conventual Franciscan Friars of Our Lady of Consolation Province have been a part of the St. Anthony of Padua Parish and St. Paul Chapel communities in Angola and Fremont for as long as most anyone there can recall – 91 and 81 years respectively. So, the sadness at their imminent departure showed in the faces of parishioners at Saturday vigil Mass on June 18, when Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades came to honor the friars' service and bid them goodbye alongside the parish community. Their "Forget Us Not" farewell Mass and reception drew a full crowd of parishioners, several members of their order and a couple of Franciscan sisters. In total, there were 11 Franciscans at the Mass, including the previous and newly elected provincials of their order.

The Conventual Franciscans made the difficult decision this year that due to decreasing numbers of vocations, they could no longer manage so many parishes. The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend graciously agreed to staff St. Anthony of Padua with diocesan priests. The announcement was made to the parish on February 5 by Father Wayne Hellman, OFM Conv., the former provincial.

As they prepare to depart, though, the friars leave their people with great hope for their future.

Father Bob Showers, OFM Conv., Pastor, is confident that he will leave the parish in good hands, as Father Osman Ramos takes over his role, with Father Jose Raul Marroquin-Monroy serving as Parochial Vicar, both beginning on June 28.

Father Showers has been pastor for the past eight years, succeeding Father Fred Pasche, OFM Conv., who served for 17 years before retiring. Father Pasche witnessed



**Father Bob Showers, OFM Conv., has served as Pastor of St. Anthony of Padua and St. Paul Chapel for the past eight years and will be going to another parish headed by the friars in Terre Haute.**

the building of St. Anthony of Padua's new church. For him to come back for such an occasion was "sad," he said, though he admitted that it had been difficult for him to leave the parish eight years ago.

Many of those present saw the change as "inevitable," as Father Pasche said. Father Showers commented how the pandemic had claimed the lives of roughly 10% of the province, with too few young men to replace them. He also noted how the parish had witnessed the loss of two of their priests and

the aging of those who were left. However, the change also gives both the Franciscans and the diocese a new mission upon which to focus.

Father Showers sees the Franciscans leaving as a natural process in spreading the faith. "Since 1492, the history of the Catholic Church both North and South America has been a group of mendicant friars like the Franciscans, the Dominicans, come to a place first, found a parish, and we would usually work there from between 80-100 years. And then it was time for us to move on and an apostolic order like the Jesuits or the Paulists would take over, get things on a very solid footing and be there for 80-100 years, move on, then the diocesan priests would come. We're basically doing the same thing here, except we cut out the Jesuits as middlemen; we're going directly to the diocese. But leaving after 80-100 years is what we've done on this side of the world for 500 years now."

The farewell nights that the parish hosted both on this occasion and earlier in the week helped parishioners come to terms with the friars' departure, secretary Patti Webster believes. Father Showers admits that it has finally sunk in that he will be leaving the parish that has been his home for the last eight years, and the three priests will all be assigned to different locations, with Terre Haute as his destination.

Peter Walters, President of the St. Vincent de Paul Society at the parish, was active at St. Anthony of Padua more than 50 years ago as a Trine University student. Since moving back to Steuben County, he has re-entered parish life in the last five years.

"I love the Franciscans here," he said, but respectfully added that: "I think the bishop made a great move. He did what he needed to do."

FRANCISCANS, page 4



Photos by Jennifer Barton

A year after St. Joseph Missions Women's Shelter opened its doors to single homeless women in Fort Wayne, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades blessed the homeless shelter in advance of its celebratory open house on June 30. To date, 132 different women have benefitted from this ministry.

## Supporters participate in women's shelter first anniversary blessing

BY JENNIFER BARTON

Helping women overcome homelessness brought dozens of people from different organizations around the Fort Wayne area to St. Joseph Missions Women's Shelter on Lake Avenue on Friday, June 10. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades came to bless the house, which welcomes single women of any faith without homes of their own as a temporary emergency shelter. These women must be willing and ready to make drastic changes in their lives, and for the past year, 132 different women have taken steps to break the cycle of homelessness, reported Lisa Fabian, Executive Director of St. Joseph Missions.

At the blessing ceremony, Fabian told a story of one resident, a grandmother with a one-year-old granddaughter who is learning how to walk. This proud woman showed off a video of the toddler to other residents and staff members, stating that this was her motivation to keep moving forward, to keep working toward her goal of independence, to never give up.

The house required extensive renovations prior to its use as a shelter. A grant from the City of Fort Wayne in the amount of \$260,000 gave organizers a huge boost in getting the shelter prepared to care for its female residents. "We wouldn't be able to do this without that," said Dr. Monique Hartle, President of the Board of Directors for St. Joseph Missions.

She has been amazed by the generosity of the community and God's providence in making the shelter a reality. Each time the board ran into financial issues and thought the project would surely come to an end, God provided for their needs. "Every time. So I just keep tell-



The entire house, including the kitchen, required renovations, making the atmosphere more homelike for the residents who are working to better their lives and end the cycle of homelessness.

ing them if God wants it, we're not going to be able to stop Him, so just keep your head down, keep working, we'll get there. The blessings come," Hartle commented.

There to witness the event were many people who had helped bring the project to completion. Bishop Rhoades, of course, represented the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, which donated funds toward the shelter's chapel.

Students and Principal Lois Widner from St. Elizabeth

Ann Seton School in Fort Wayne demonstrated the support that the school community has given St. Joseph Missions from its earliest conception. The Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana contributed to aid the shelter's mission, along

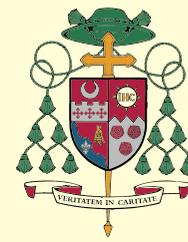
with numerous other companies and charitable organizations.

Meghan Short, the calligraphy artist whose decorative writing graces the chapel and library, also attended the blessing. She had seen the home in the process of renovations and now, seeing the space finally inhabited, said, "It's wonderful to see the life in it."

As a part of Leadership Fort Wayne, Short shared that the organization partnered with St. Joseph Missions to take on a project for the home. She stated that, knowing other areas of the house would be covered, they chose to adopt the library, to enrich the minds of the women who would stay there.

Her team of roughly 10 women collected books and personally inscribed inspirational quotes in them. Students from the Fort Wayne Community Schools Career Academy built bookshelves and Short, who owns her own calligraphy business, Moonlit Design Co., was

More photos are available at [www.todayscatholic.org](http://www.todayscatholic.org)



### Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Monday, June 27: 6:30 p.m. – Mass with Rite of Admission to Candidacy, St. Pius X Church, Granger  
 Tuesday, June 28: 9 a.m. – Mass, Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, St. Francis Convent, Mishawaka  
 Tuesday, June 28: 6:30 p.m. – Right to Life of Michiana Prayer Dinner, Kroc Center, South Bend  
 Wednesday, June 29: 6 p.m. – Mass, Legatus Chapters of Fort Wayne & South Bend, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Warsaw  
 Friday, July 1: 10 a.m. – Mass for Saints and Scholars High School Theology Institute at Holy Cross College, Notre Dame  
 Thursday, July 7 through Tuesday, July 19: Priesthood Ordinations in the Dioceses of Awka and Nnewi in Nigeria



### Deacon announcement

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

**Deacon Greg Gehred**, St. Therese, Little Flower Parish, South Bend, will be retiring from diaconal ministry effective July 1, 2022.

asked to paint an inspirational quote on the wall. She loved being a part of the project and getting to meet some of the women in greatest need of the services provided.

During the blessing, Bishop Rhoades called the mission "a work of love," stating that sheltering the homeless is the "heart of the Gospel." He spoke on the dignity of women in general and particularly in relation to the women who might find themselves in desperate situations and would need the aid of places such as St. Joseph Missions Women's Shelter. Catholics are called to fulfill the corporal works of mercy as Jesus commanded and "to see in women the face of Jesus."

"We cannot just look the other way," he stated.

And that is how St. Joseph Missions came about. "We started serving the homeless community downtown in Freimann Square initially then moved over to Cathedral Square," said Dave MacDonald, the Founding Board President. "We kept seeing the same people over and over again." It was then that the original board members realized they needed to do something "more

permanent and intentional." The process took several years, but now they have provided more than 3,100 bed nights.

Erin Ness is the Program Director at the shelter. Previously, she worked at Vincent Village, another local organization combatting homelessness, and was on the Board of Directors for St. Joseph Missions years prior. She has been in her position for a year and Hartle said that she has been "amazing," as is the shelter's case manager. "We're just very blessed with excellent staff and the staff are so committed to the mission; it's really nice to see that," Hartle remarked. "People aren't just here because it's a job."

"It's crazy to see the blessings, it's just overwhelming sometimes," continued Hartle.

In honor of its first year serving the Fort Wayne community, St. Joseph Missions Women's Shelter will be hosting an open house on June 30 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Anyone involved in the renovation process or those interested in the ministry are welcome to come and tour the house and learn about the good work happening there.

FRANCISCANS, from page 2

"But I think it's good for them to have the opportunity for other ministry and it's probably time — they came as missionaries, it's a long time to be here as missionaries," he continued.

Walters is excited to welcome the new, young priests coming from LaGrange County, both of whom hail from Central America, and he hopes that the lessons learned from the friars will be deeply instilled in the parish members. "Every parish should be a strong community. We should accompany one another. The Franciscans taught us

how to do that, and I think we'll do ok."

At the end of Mass, three women were recognized for their part in aiding St. Anthony of Padua in its early years: Mary Kundart Cimbal, Marie Nucci Bolin and Frances Van Wagner, the former two who have passed from this life. Two of Bolin's granddaughters represented her that day. One, Gina Cocanower, ruminated on the family's history at St. Anthony of Padua, recalling sacraments of baptism, first

Communion and weddings performed by the friars.

"It's pretty nostalgic. It's going to be a change, for sure,"

*"Every parish should be a strong community. We should accompany one another. The Franciscans taught us how to do that, and I think we'll do ok."*

PETER WALTERS



Jennifer Barton

Father Bob Showers, OFM Conv., speaks to the crowd of parishioners in attendance as he handed out awards to the families of three women who helped the parish in its early years.



ST. PAUL CHAPEL & ST. ANTHONY CHURCH  
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CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AT MANAPOGO  
CAMPGROUND, THANK THE CONVENTUAL  
FRANCISCAN FRIARS FOR 91 WONDERFUL  
YEARS. MAY GOD BLESS YOU!

she said. "We don't know what to expect with the new priests ... so it's a lot to learn." She admitted that: "It's kind of exciting to have a new chapter here and see what the new priests have to bring in" and noted that her own children will be "raised in a different aspect of the Catholic Church now."

Even with the changes, the Catholic community in Steuben County will maintain spiritual unity with the Conventual Franciscans. As Bishop Rhoades said in his homily, "On this feast of Corpus Christi, we ponder the great mystery of the holy Eucharist. One of the amazing things about the Eucharist is that it unites earth and heaven. Our communion in the Body

and Blood of Christ unites us beyond space and time. So, when we gather for the Eucharist, we are united not only with the people in the church where we are present for Mass, but also, as I mentioned earlier, with the saints in heaven and the souls in purgatory. We are also united with all our brothers and sisters in the Church throughout the world. When I celebrate Mass, I am always aware of this tremendous mystery of communion. Dear parishioners, you can also be aware that, even though the friars are leaving St. Anthony's, your communion with them will remain every time you gather here for the celebration of Mass. And their communion with you will remain every time the friars

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# Father's Day given over to spiritual pursuits

BY JENNIFER BARTON



Photos by Jennifer Barton

While many fathers spend Father's Day grilling or relaxing, numerous Catholic men from the diocese chose to spend their day in worship of the heavenly Father, pushing strollers or carrying their children in their arms, in baby carriers and on their shoulders at the Eucharistic Procession in Warsaw. By their example, these men led their families in honoring Jesus in the Eucharist.

One of the fathers at the procession, Bob Keefer, parishioner at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne, spoke about the importance of spending the day with Jesus and other Catholics from around the diocese, even on Father's Day. "I wanted to be there with my children in order to help our Bishop and priests publicly witness to the reality of Christ's True Presence in the Eucharist. I view it as a special gift for Father's Day," he said.

"The only other eucharistic processions we've been a part of have been on the parish level. Since we had this rare opportunity to be a part of a diocesan procession, we wanted to take advantage of it. The Holy Spirit can use events like this in ways we can't even imagine so I wanted to cooperate with that grace. Perhaps someday in the future, my children will remember being here and it will help them on their spiritual journeys."

Communion with other fathers was an important aspect of his Father's Day as well. "It was also a good opportunity to reconnect with old friends as well as meet new people along the route," he added.

Spiritual fathers came as well, with many priests walking alongside their parish families. Among the many priests was Father Stephen Lacroix, CSC, who made part of the pilgrimage with a large group of parishioners from Christ the King Parish in South Bend. He spoke of the "spirit of reverence and joy as we let Christ lead us through the streets."

He, too, saw the significance of the chosen day in regards to fatherhood, saying, "As a priest, it seemed providential that the procession took place on Father's Day, since celebrating the Eucharist is a big part of how we priests exercise our spiritual fatherhood. It was a humbling reminder of how God uses His priests to feed His people with His own Body and Blood."

Spending time with his parishioners gave him a glimpse of the impact the procession had on his spiritual children. "I could tell that this was a meaningful experience for my parishioners who came. Even those who had been part of a eucharistic procession before had never seen one on this scale before, with thousands of people participating. It really gave us a sense that the Eucharist joins us together as part of something much bigger than our individual parish."



Chris Lushis

## SUMMER PRINT DATES

July 3 – Digital Only

July 10

July 17 – Digital Only

July 24

July 31 – Digital Only

Aug. 7

Aug. 14 – Digital Only

Aug. 21

Aug. 28 – Digital Only



Jennifer Barton



## ST. PAUL CHAPEL & ST. ANTHONY CHURCH FRANCISCAN FAREWELL

# Forget Us Not

## IN GRATITUDE

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# NEWS BRIEFS

## Belgian bishop asks pope not to make him a cardinal

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Saying he did not want to add to the suffering of survivors of clerical sexual abuse who criticized his appointment as a cardinal, retired Bishop Lucas Van Looy of Ghent, Belgium, asked Pope Francis to withdraw his nomination, and the pope agreed. The Belgian bishops' conference issued a statement on June 16 announcing the decision and thanking Bishop Van Looy for making the request. Pope Francis' announcement of May 29 that Bishop Van Looy would be among the 21 cardinals he intended to create on Aug. 27, the statement said, "provoked many positive reactions, but also criticism that (Bishop Van Looy) had not always reacted vigorously enough as bishop of Ghent" when presented with allegations of clerical sexual abuse and other forms of abuse in the Church. "To prevent victims of such abuses from being hurt again as a result of his cardinalate, Bishop Van Looy asked the pope to dispense with the acceptance of this appointment. Pope Francis accepted his request," the bishops said. "Cardinal (Jozef) De Kesel, (president of the conference), and the Belgian bishops appreciate the decision of Bishop Van Looy. They reiterate their commitment to continue their fight against all forms of abuse in the Catholic Church, in which the interests of the victims and their families always come first," the statement said.

## Catholic school in Uvalde, Texas, is reaching out to help community heal

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) — When schools close for the summer, their websites and Facebook pages often get pretty quiet too. That's not the case for Sacred Heart Catholic School in Uvalde, Texas, established in 1913 by the Teresian Sisters. The first image on the school's website is a map of Texas with children's handprints and the message "Uvalde Strong" with a moving banner underneath that says: "Pray for Uvalde." Since the last day of school in late May, the school's Facebook page has had frequent posts. These posts — without directly mentioning the May 24 mass shooting that occurred just a few miles away at Robb Elementary School — tell the story of how this school is reaching out to the local community while dealing with its own loss and heartbreak. On May 20, the pre-K through seventh-grade school posted photos of its own graduates, followed by a post three days later of local graduating high school seniors who came back to visit their former elementary school dressed in gradua-

## Ukrainians mourn as losses continue in war with Russia



CNS photo/Ivan Alvarado, Reuters

A priest prays during the burial of Evgeny Khrapko, a combat medic and instructor of tactical medicine, in Kharkiv, Ukraine, June 14, 2022. Khrapko was killed during the Russian war.

tion caps and gowns. The images of visiting graduates and current students, along with accompanying words of encouragement for them, were posted just a day before the mass shooting by a teenage gunman, who killed 19 children and two teachers at the nearby public elementary school. Sacred Heart's Facebook posts in the days since that shooting are somber reminders that everything has changed.

## After flag dispute, Worcester bishop says Jesuit school no longer Catholic

WORCESTER, Mass. (CNS) — Worcester Bishop Robert J. McManus has informed Nativity School of Worcester that it may no longer identify itself as a Catholic school following months of private and public discussion on the flying of Black Lives Matter and gay pride flags outside the school. The bishop issued a formal decree on June 16 removing support for the school. In a June 15 letter to the school community, Nativity School President Thomas McKenney said the school will appeal the decision "through appropriate channels" and will continue to display the flags. He said the school contends the flags are "not an endorsement of any organization or ideology" but that they "fly in support of marginalized people." On

June 10, Bishop McManus signed a decree stating that he was upholding his pastoral responsibilities and in accordance with canon law, declared that Nativity School is prohibited "from identifying itself as a 'Catholic' school" or using "the title 'Catholic' to describe itself," effective immediately. He also said: "Mass, sacraments and sacramentals are no longer permitted to be celebrated on Nativity School premises or be sponsored by Nativity School in any church building or chapel within the Diocese of Worcester." The school also will not be allowed to "undertake any fundraising involving diocesan institutions in the Diocese of Worcester and is not permitted to be listed or advertise in the diocesan directory."

## Spanish Dominicans to be beatified as Civil War martyrs

SEVILLE, Spain (CNS) — An elderly nun whose head was crushed with a boulder during Spain's 1936-1939 Civil War is to be beatified as a martyr with 26 male Dominicans in Seville cathedral. "Showing an extraordinary adherence to the faith and forgiveness for their killers, these martyrs met a premature, inhuman death — they can now rejoice in the glory of eternal light," Spain's Dominican order said in a statement. "The sociopolitical situation that arose in Spain before and during the war period

is historically known, as is the climate of persecution that republican militiamen exerted against all professing membership of the Catholic Church, whether consecrated or lay. This was the context, poisoned by ideological prejudice and psychological and physical violence." The statement was published ahead of the June 18 beatification of Sister Ascensión de San José (1861-1937) and three groups of Dominicans martyred during the four-year conflict. It said the nun had been noted for a "child-like simplicity and innocence that enchanted everyone" after joining the Huéscar convent from a large farming family. It added she had suffered lifelong ill health "with great patience and love." The June 18 Mass, which was to be celebrated by Cardinal Marcello Semeraro, prefect of the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints, will bring the total number of Catholic martyrs beatified or canonized from the Spanish Civil War to 2,112. The war saw 2,000 churches destroyed and up to 8,000 clergy killed, along with tens of thousands of lay Catholics.

## Diocese takes first step toward possible cause for former FOCUS missionary

BISMARCK, N.D. (CNS) — Bishop David D. Kagan of Bismarck announced on June 16 that the diocese will open an investigation

into "the holiness of life and love for God" of North Dakota native Michelle Christine Duppong, who died of cancer on Dec. 25, 2015. She was 31. At the time of her death, Duppong was the Director of Adult Faith Formation for the Diocese of Bismarck. Before that, she was a missionary for six years with the Fellowship of Catholic University Students, or FOCUS. She mentored hundreds of students on college campuses and her final assignment with FOCUS was on its inaugural team at the University of Mary in Bismarck. "Michelle's holiness of life and love for God certainly touched us here in the Diocese of Bismarck, at the University of Mary and throughout FOCUS, but hers is also a witness which should also be shared with the universal Church," Bishop Kagan said. He announced the diocesan investigation into her life and faith at the FOCUS new staff training at the University of Mary. The investigation could lead to her beatification and canonization. "Michelle was a radiant, joyful woman with the heart of a true servant," said Monsignor James Shea, president of the Benedictine university. "For the students on our campus, she was an inspiration and a treasured mentor, teaching them by her example the transformative power of friendship with God."

## New report issued by law firm says Oklahoma death-row inmate is innocent

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) — A law firm's June 15 report claiming the innocence of Richard Glossip, an Oklahoma man on death row for more than 25 years, is something that advocates, including Sister Helen Prejean, have long emphasized. Sister Prejean, a Sister of St. Joseph of Medaille, who is a longtime opponent of the death penalty, has visited with Glossip in prison and encouraged people to write to him there. Glossip has been granted a stay of execution on three separate occasions. After the release of the report saying he is innocent, Sister Prejean retweeted statements from Glossip's attorneys stressing the injustice of his sentence. She also retweeted the remark of Republican Oklahoma state Rep. Kevin McDugle, who said: "If we put Richard Glossip to death, I will fight in this state to abolish the death penalty, simply because the process is not pure." McDugle, a death penalty supporter, spoke during the news conference where the report on Glossip was issued. "We've got an individual sitting on death row that's been there 25 years and I believe he's totally innocent," he said, calling for a new appeals court hearing for Glossip based on the investigation by Houston law firm Reed Smith, which produced the report pro bono. Glossip, 59, was convicted of the 1997 murder of his boss, Barry Alan Van Treese, at the Best Budget Inn in

# Huntington Catholic School to utilize Cherry Street building

BY NICOLE HAHN

It was standing room only at a town hall meeting in Assumption Hall at St. Mary School in Huntington on June 7 for parishioners and parents from St. Mary and SS. Peter and Paul churches. They came to learn about the future of Huntington Catholic School.

Huntington Catholic School had been split between two buildings since 1985, when the separate schools of St. Mary and SS. Peter and Paul were combined. The “primary building” next to SS. Peter and Paul on Cherry Street housed preschool through fifth grade, while the “middle building” next to St. Mary on Warren Street housed sixth through eighth grade.

A little more than two years ago, it was determined that the school could not afford to continue maintaining two buildings. One of the contributing factors in the consolidation was that Huntington Catholic had the highest tuition rate in the diocese at \$10,000 per student, which was unsustainable. Work began to determine which of the two buildings would be best to house the school.

Father Mark Gurtner, Vicar General for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Dr. Joe Bretznacher, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Father Thomas Zehr, Pastor at St. Mary Parish, Father Tony Steinacker, Pastor of SS. Peter and Paul Parish, and Derek Boone, Principal at Huntington Catholic School, were all present to detail decisions that were made and answer questions.

“Huntington Catholic School is going to be in the Cherry Street building,” said Boone. He explained that the “difficult decision” involved two engineering studies, a feasibility study and numerous meetings with school board members, parish council members, officials at the diocese and others directly involved with the school.

The first engineering study was done by a parishioner of SS. Peter and Paul and detailed the pros and cons of each building. Knowing that whatever decision was made would lead to hurt feelings and strong emotions among parishioners, Father Stephen Colchin, Pastor of St. Mary at that time, asked that another engineering study be done by an outside group with no ties to either parish.

Officials with the diocese hired MSKTD & Associates to do the study at a price of approximately \$67,000, with the cost being split between the school and the two parishes.

“The engineering study showed that the St. Mary building was the better of the two buildings that were both in very bad shape,” said Father Steinacker. “Both buildings



Jennifer Barton

**Huntington Catholic School, a combined ministry of SS. Peter and Paul and St. Mary Parishes in Huntington, has maintained two separate school buildings, both decades old. The two parishes decided to utilize the location on Cherry Street adjacent to SS. Peter and Paul.**

needed major renovations. The St. Mary building is the newer of the two, but the SS. Peter and Paul building was more equipped to welcome all students immediately.”

The main reason the Cherry Street building was chosen, it was explained, was because the building had enough classrooms to accommodate all students in one building immediately with minimal cost. Three classrooms were equipped with air conditioning, carpet and white boards at a cost of \$25,000 to make the

school move-in ready. The cost to make the Warren Street building ready would have been \$2.9 million, which was the estimate pre-COVID.

Nick Stanley, President of Huntington Catholic School Advisory Board, has three daughters in the school. He explained that if they would have chosen to move into the Warren Street building without the renovations, it would have required combining grades, which parents said they absolutely did not want.

“School board members walked through the buildings, looked at the studies, walked the grounds, brainstormed, and there was no perfect answer. There was no point in this process where God spoke to us and said, ‘Here is your answer.’ It’s been very stressful for us,” said Stanley.

The 2021-22 school year was the first year all grades were moved to the Cherry Street location. Moving everyone into one building has already brought the cost down from \$10,000 per stu-

dent to approximately \$8,800.

Several teachers in attendance gave testimonials as to the positive impact that has already been seen in the first year of combining into one building. Though they said that not everything has been perfect, they feel the positives greatly outweigh the negatives and look forward to the future.

Others conveyed their feelings. Father Zehr, who came in as Pastor of St. Mary in the midst of the situation a year ago, acknowledged that, “There are a lot of emotions involved in this and there is deep personal investment on both sides. There is a lot of hurt and miscommunication that has happened. Let’s not further that hurt and let’s not further that miscommunication by not actually listening.”

Former SS. Peter and Paul and current St. Mary parishioner Debbie Scheiber addressed the issue. “I just want to say that we all love both of our parishes. Nobody’s got anything against anybody from the other side.”

She likened the situation to a divorce, where both parents – good parents – desire custody of their children.

“And you might not like the way it was decided,” she continued. “It’s not a question of whether it’s better or not to be in one school. It’s just that one of us has to suck it up and be in an empty school just like you are in an empty house when you have no kids around you. It’s hard and a lot of people don’t understand that and there’s a lot of emotion, and how about we just be congenial to each other and understand how the other person feels and we’ll go on from there.”

The St. Mary school building is not simply sitting empty. School Advisory Board member Jim Fettinger said, “As far as what we are doing here at St. Mary, we have two or three open gyms throughout the week. We are having all of the basketball games for the younger grades here and volleyball. We even had golf practice in here before the weather got nice, so there is still a lot of activity going on here.”

Other things going on in the building are CCD classes, school board meetings and other types of meetings.

As for the future of both buildings, Father Zehr said that moving forward, open communication would be a priority. Father Steinacker agreed, and told attendees that he and Father Thomas are committed to looking at many and varied ways to ensure good communication within the Huntington Catholic community in the future.

To review the MSKTD & Associates study, visit the link “Huntington Catholic Building Study” at [www.huntingtoncatholic.org](http://www.huntingtoncatholic.org).



Jennifer Barton

**The former St. Mary’s School will continue to be used for open gym nights, CCD classes and miscellaneous meetings.**

# Sacred Heart parishioners brew up ways to give back

BY DENISE FEDOROW

It didn't take long for Craig and Abby McLaren to join Sacred Heart Parish when they moved to the Warsaw area and to start giving back with their new business, Ledgeview Brewing Company.

Abby admitted that her faith journey has been "convoluted." Her parents were Episcopalian when she was born, and she was baptized, received her first communion and confirmation at St. James Episcopal Church in Goshen. At some point, her parents felt the Episcopal church was growing too liberal and they began attending St. Mary's Orthodox Church. When her parents decided to switch churches again, this time to St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Goshen, she said, "I was a rebellious teenager and said, 'I'm done.'"

She admitted she didn't attend Mass through her college years. She met her husband Craig, a lifelong Catholic, when they worked together in Providence, Rhode Island. She had just graduated from culinary school and he was the head cook. When they married a couple of years later, Abby said, "I knew I wanted faith involved in our marriage."

But they also planned to marry outdoors, so she said they figured to have their marriage blessed in the Church later. After bouncing around for their jobs, the couple settled in Boston, near his mother in Rhode Island, and lived there for 10 years.

It was when Abby was pregnant with their first child, Kathryn, that "It hit me like a lightning bolt I need to get back in the Church." She went to St. Catherine of Siena Church in Norwood, Massachusetts and began RCIA. Kathryn was born on Christmas Eve 2012, and Abby entered into complete union with the Catholic Church on Easter of 2013. Kathryn was



Denise Fedorow

**Craig and Abby McLaren, owners of Ledgeview Brewing Company, donate portions of the profits from their brewery and restaurant to charities in Kosciusko County, including their parish of Sacred Heart in Warsaw.**

baptized that summer. A year and a half later, Abby and Craig had their marriage blessed.

A Monsignor blessed their marriage, and the ceremony, Abby said, was "inspiring — I cried. We were married six or seven years by then, but this was getting married all over again. It was a beautiful experience."

## Ledgeview's story

While living in Boston, Craig moved up to executive chef level of the New England Aquarium. The life of a chef is mostly working and sleeping, so Abby told him he needed a hobby.

"I found one of those make-your-own-beer-at-home kits and got it for him for Christmas," she recalled. "He really got into it and was making so much beer!" Friends and family said the beer was so good, he should do something with it. So he entered a home-brew competition and won in one category and placed third in another after only a year of brewing.

They began talking about owning their own place where they could brew beer and serve barbecue.

During a conversation with longtime family friend, St. John

the Evangelist parishioner Mary Kay Longacre, Abby learned that there was a place just like that for sale in Warsaw.

"We always knew if we were going to do this, it'd be in Indiana," Abby said.

They viewed the location in September of 2019, made an offer in October and signed on in November. In March of 2020, they both lost their jobs because of COVID-19. Now they would have time to sell their home in Boston, renovate the brewery, plan menus and buy a house in Indiana.

Renovations took place from August to December of 2020 with the help of family and friends. They opened in December, with food service only while waiting on their brewery licensing. On their menu, 95 percent of the food is made from scratch. They brine and smoke

the meat, make their own coleslaw, barbecue sauce and desserts. Only a handful of things are not made in-house.

"It's a lot of work, but it shows in the food and people appreciate that," she said.

For Craig, it's been more satisfying owning his own restaurant than working in someone else's.

"We have a whole family atmosphere here, we wanted it to be a family-friendly atmosphere," he said.

## Giving back

The restaurant became not only family-friendly, but community-friendly with a monthly give-back program. Abby explained how that began when a friend approached them with the idea. The friend was pregnant and learned that the baby had heart valve issues, so she expected to spend a lot of time at Riley Children's Hospital and Ronald McDonald House in the future. She asked Abby to do a give-back day to help with bills, explaining that on a chosen day, 20 percent of all non-alcoholic sales is given back to a person or charity in need.

The success of that first event led to more. Abby thought, "Why stop there? We could do the same for others." She asked her husband if they could reach out to one non-profit a month to see what they could do to help.

It seemed logical since their faith had always influenced their charitable giving. Growing up, "giving to the Church was just understood," Abby said. When they started their monthly give

back program, "Sacred Heart was one of the first on my mind."

In April, Sacred Heart School was the recipient, receiving \$558.45. Other organizations that have received help include Cardinal Services in Kosciusko County and the Warsaw High School Band Boosters. An upcoming organization to benefit will be Magical Meadow Horse Farm, an organization for those who need emotional support.

"It's win-win for everyone," she said. "It helps out great organizations, helps get their message out and helps get out our message too. It's a way to give back and thank the people of Kosciusko and Elkhart County for their support."

When asked how their faith has helped them during challenging times in their lives, Abby replied, "Always knowing, no matter what happens, the Church is always there ... If it were all to go away, the Church is always there for me. It's never going to go away. That helps me not worry about the little things."

Craig said that the charitable aspect of the brewery was "a way to give back. We said from the start that we wanted to become a part of the community, not just live here."

Abby said they spoke to Father Jonathan Norton, Pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, about possibly starting a Theology on Tap on the restaurant's patio.

"He approached us about it and we said we'd love to," she said.

For more information, call Ledgeview Brewing Company at 574-376-4445 or visit their website at [www.ledgeviewbrewing.com](http://www.ledgeviewbrewing.com).

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# Historic Catholic hospital lives on in memory, relics

Crews have begun demolishing the old St. Joseph Hospital in downtown Fort Wayne. The hospital served generations of Fort Wayne residents since the late 1860s, and it stood on the city's west side as a symbol of Catholic charity and the corporal works of mercy.

The hospital building itself has deep roots in Fort Wayne history, as well as local Catholic history. According to Michael Hawfield in an article for the News-Sentinel, Fort Wayne pioneer William Rockhill began construction of a hotel on the west side of the small town. Later called one of Indiana's "finest luxury hotels," the Rockhill Hotel became the center for a number of high-profile events in the city's history. In fact, it was the starting place for a night of political defiance at the crest of a tense time in American history.

Shortly after the hotel's debut, presidential candidate Stephen Douglas gave a campaign speech from the balcony of the Rockhill Hotel to a crowd of thousands of people. Douglas was running against Abraham Lincoln in the election that immediately preceded the Civil War.

After his speech at the hotel, Douglas was paraded around Fort Wayne. Historian John Ankenbruck reported that, during the celebration, "a huge saw log, intended to represent Lincoln, was flung into the St. Mary's (River) as a defiant gesture of derision against the Republican candidate. Later in the day at sunset, it was 'Everybody to the Courthouse' where Democrats hanged a straw figure of Lincoln in effigy." Allen County overwhelmingly voted for Douglas in the election.

Hawfield reported that the Rockhill Hotel closed in 1867, two years after the death of its owner and namesake. Around this time, the ongoing smallpox epidemic had highlighted the need for a hospital, and Bishop

John H. Luers offered to purchase the abandoned building on the condition that the county and city would make the necessary renovations for a hospital. They declined, likely due to post-war economic conditions.

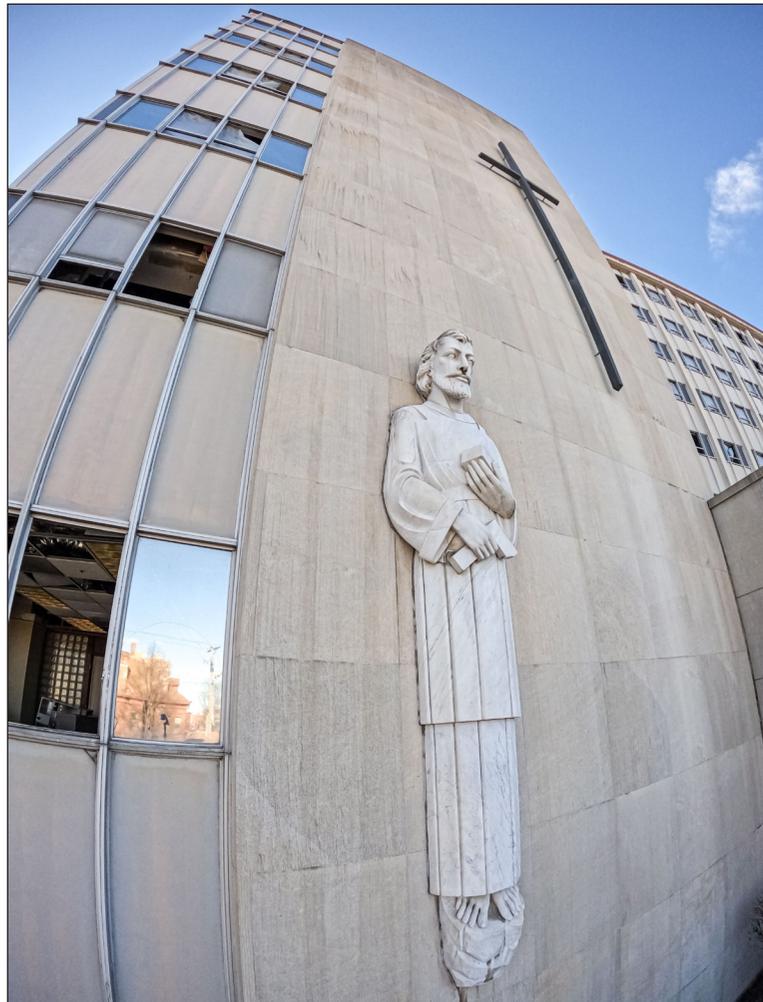
Bishop Luers persisted, purchasing the empty hotel "with his own money." He led the formation of the St. Joseph's Benevolent Association, which was tasked with raising money to convert the building into an operating hospital. A woman who would one day be recognized as a saint finally ensured that Fort Wayne residents would receive the medical care so greatly needed.

According to a story from WPTA ABC 21 News, Bishop Luers contacted Sister Catherine Kasper, who had recently founded the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, to inquire if the congregation would be willing to staff the hospital.

"Almost all of the sisters volunteered to come to America," Sister Carole Langhauser told WPTA. They took charge and opened the hospital in 1869. Sister Catherine sent much-needed assistance to Fort Wayne in the 19th century, and Pope Francis canonized her 150 years later as St. Katharina Kasper. The Poor Handmaids established their first American motherhouse at the hospital before moving to Donaldson in the 1920s.

The first surgery performed at St. Joseph Hospital occurred one month after its opening. According to the News-Sentinel, the first resident physician began practicing at the hospital in 1876. At the turn of the century, Fort Wayne annexed the hospital, bringing the facility into the city limits. The hospital's first birth was on March 7, 1914.

New wings and facilities were added through the decades that followed, and the final remnants of the nearly century-old hotel where the hospital was built



Joe Romie

**A statue of St. Joseph and cross stood watch over the old St. Joseph Hospital in Fort Wayne prior to their removal and the demolition of the building. The Catholic artifacts will be repurposed at the Catholic Cemetery on Lake Avenue.**

were destroyed by expansion in 1929, according to Hawfield. WPTA reported that the sisters sold the hospital to Quorum Health Group in 1998 after 129 years of ownership. The Poor Handmaids requested that at

least one sister sit on the hospital's board of directors. This request was upheld until the departure of Sister Langhauser in 2013. The News-Sentinel reported that Quorum Health Group was purchased by Triad

Hospitals of Dallas in 2001, and Community Health Systems (CHS) purchased Triad Hospitals in 2007. CHS announced in 2018 that a new building would replace the dated St. Joseph Hospital.

The new 194,000-square-foot Lutheran Downtown Hospital opened across the street from St. Joseph in November 2021 and includes 60 beds with room for future expansion. The burn unit that had previously been located at St. Joseph Hospital was moved to the Lutheran Hospital campus on Jefferson Boulevard.

While the building will disappear, the legacy of the hospital will live on. The statue of St. Joseph holding carpenter's tools that watched over patients who entered St. Joseph Hospital through the years was obtained by Divine Mercy Funeral Home on Lake Avenue, and plans are in the works to repurpose the statue, according to executive director Casey Miller. Additionally, two crosses that were once part of the hospital will stand in the Catholic Cemetery's rosary garden, and a third will be made in the same style to represent the two men who were crucified alongside Jesus.

"Anytime a cemetery, particularly a not-for-profit cemetery, can get a donation such as this, that's a wonderful thing. And particularly with all the heritage and all the families that have been served – helped by that institution – I said we'll locate a home for it here at Catholic Cemetery," Miller stated.



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## 'You can feel the love' at Saint Anne Communities Victory Noll

BY JENNIFER BARTON

For years, parents take care of their children, ensuring they are healthy and cared for, all their needs met. Age, however, turns the tables and parents are left in the care of their children. This was true for the family of Esther Hinen, who found her final home at Saint Anne Communities Victory Noll in Huntington, passing away last year at 93. Two of her eight children, Ed Hinen and Mary Bowman, and Ed's wife Lori raved about the care Esther found at Saint Anne.

Esther had previously been at another nursing home, but she wanted more than anything to end her days at Saint Anne Communities. She first went into senior care not because of a great need, but because of loneliness, Mary said. It was a comfort to her family that Esther made friends at her home, yet they knew she still craved the Catholic environment that a place like Saint Anne could provide. Then she developed MRSA, a staph infection that sometimes spreads at places such as nursing homes. After going to a rehabilitation center for a time, her children decided she would not return to that home, but move into Saint Anne Communities instead.

With her dream finally realized, the level of care she received exceeded what she had previously known, Ed and Mary agreed. Mary said that at Saint Anne Communities, "you can feel the love. That's why I like it a lot. There is so much there."

The transition into Saint Anne Communities in Huntington took little effort, as the home was and is accepting new residents. According to Mary, her mother had been on a waiting list for the Saint Anne Communities home in Fort Wayne, though the Victory Noll location has no such



Provided by Mary Bowman

**The Hinen family is extremely grateful for the love and care their mother, Esther, front row in wheelchair, received while a resident of Saint Anne Communities Victory Noll in Huntington. Esther passed away last year, but her daughter Mary Bowman still volunteers at the retirement home.**

waiting lists and is ready to welcome newcomers.

Initially, Esther's family thought that she could not afford Saint Anne. Then Mary, who helped Esther manage her money, found out from one of the workers at Saint Anne Communities that with her VA benefits and savings, they could indeed afford to send her there. "It was well worth it," Ed said.

Lori believes that even if Esther's children would have had to pitch in to keep her at Saint Anne, they would have done so without complaint to keep her happy and well cared-for. After Esther's passing, Lori and Ed agreed that bringing her to Saint Anne Communities was the best thing her children could have done for her. "Because you could just feel the love that every per-

son had for her," Lori said.

Esther spent the last two years of her life on the Victory Noll grounds, participating in daily Mass and praying the rosary, particularly with other residents. She played cards, walked the beautiful campus grounds and enjoyed the courtyard area, where residents are allowed to plant flowers that they can see through their bedroom windows. Even with the COVID-19 pandemic, staff worked hard to ensure that the virus that had run rampant in some other nursing homes remained at bay at Saint Anne.

Ed and Mary both agreed that it was the care and the staff that set Saint Anne apart from other nursing facilities that they had encountered. Some of the staff members from Esther's previ-

ous home even transferred over to Saint Anne, which made her transition that much easier.

Though the pandemic cut off most socializations for a time, staff members ensured that "social butterfly" Esther could make her daily phone calls to her children. Mary spoke of how her mother "adopted" some members of the staff, and how they cried at her passing. To Esther and the Hinens, Saint Anne was a family.

Saint Anne's homelike atmosphere includes one other unique feature, one not found at most nursing homes, even the Saint Anne residence in Fort Wayne – several retired Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters now reside there. Mary spoke fondly of the love and respect given to her mother by the sisters, and

which is reciprocated by Esther's children. Mary, Ed and Lori have gotten to know and adore many of the sisters from the visits they paid to Esther.

Some of them called Esther "Queen Mother" because of her eight children and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The sisters often told the trio how blessed Esther was to have family who came to visit, as most of them did not, but Lori insisted that "we were the lucky ones, we were the lucky ones to have her."

It was only when Esther's condition worsened last July and her health began to deteriorate that Ed and Lori fully realized how much the sisters cared about her.

Mary told a story that illustrated the concern and love the sisters had for her mother. "Every day when mom was sick, they would come in, one by one – one of them was the leader, she'd make them stay at the door – and they'd come in and pray on her every day. Every day. And they just did that round the clock, I mean the whole time."

Even though their mother is gone, Mary – and Ed occasionally – still host what they call "Hinen Bingo" for the community's residents, particularly the sisters. Mary brings flowers to brighten their day and donates fun prizes like candy, lotion and seasonal items, amazed by the small things the residents appreciate.

She has continued to give of herself to the residents of Saint Anne Communities, partly to honor her mother's wishes and partly because of the feeling it gives her. "It is pure joy for me."

"I'm always going to volunteer. Always, no matter what."

Those interested in independent or assisted living at Saint Anne Communities Victory Noll can call (260) 484-5555 or email [info@sacfw.org](mailto:info@sacfw.org).



# Eucharistic Revival kicks off: Thousands adore the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

**PROCESSION, from page 1**

Thérèse Little Flower Parish in South Bend attended with their children. Eight-year-old John said it was “a walking adoration, like an adoration parade. It was very awesome!”

His mother Megan enjoyed sharing the experience with her husband and four children and others in their parish family. Her favorite memory was jogging their double stroller across the grass at Central Park to get “as close as we could to see Jesus.”

Megan commented that “It was such a joy to witness so many Catholics gathered together around the One who unites us — Jesus present in the Eucharist.”

Her husband, Hank, agreed. “It was really powerful to have everyone praying together in a public way. It’s important for us to not only remind ourselves that Jesus is truly present, but also to speak the truth boldly with our actions. It reminded me of the Old Testament, when the Jewish people would process with the tabernacle.”

A group of pilgrims from St. Mary of the Presentation in Geneva made the long trip to be present at the procession. Penny Wiseman, Jeanette Johnson and Catherine Regedanz spoke afterwards.

Wiseman said of the day: “It was just wonderful to see all the churches working together, and the turnout was fantastic.”

She stated that the three of them are “probably from the farthest church in this diocese. We’re almost to the Ohio line and way down by Jay County, so we came a long way.” But, she continued, “It was well worth it.”

The ladies remarked how they had been speaking among themselves about how this was “what the Catholic Church needs,” said Regedanz.

“We’re glad to be a part of it,” she said.

Chris Langford, one of the main organizers of the event, professed his gratitude for those who attended and those who helped make the day possible. “We are especially grateful to the City of Warsaw for their outstanding support in hosting us. And we are tremendously thankful for the hundreds of volunteers who made the event so successful.”

“It was particularly rewarding to have the participation of so many cultures in our diocese, manifesting the unity of our universal Church.”

He stated that the event was “really beautiful,” and was pleased that everything came together to give honor to the Lord.



Jennifer Barton



Jennifer Barton



Sacred Heart Parish

Father Jay Horning



Jennifer Barton



Chris Lushis



Amy Kleinrichert



Jennifer Barton



Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish

Father Jay Horning



Jennifer Barton

Multiple photographers were on site. Visit [TodaysCatholic.org](http://TodaysCatholic.org) for many more photos from the day.

# Eucharistic Festival a multicultural celebration

BY ERIC PEAT

In Psalm 72, King David delights that “every nation on earth will adore you, Lord.” This concept of universal praise from varying cultural backgrounds was on full display at the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend’s Eucharistic Procession and Festival in Warsaw on Sunday, June 19.

Among the thousands of participants and volunteers in attendance was representation from African, Vietnamese, Filipino, Burmese and other cultures. These nationalities were also reflected in the music selection, food booths and different altars at the procession. According to Esther Terry, Director for Hispanic Ministry in the diocese, these were all intentionally incorporated into the event by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

“Part of Bishop’s vision was to show that the Church is universal – every tribe, every nation,” said Terry. “The entire globe is represented right here in the diocese. We want to help lift up the beauty of the Church’s universality.”

This was accomplished with the help of organizations such as Hispanic Ministry. Representing the second-largest cultural group in the diocese, Hispanic Ministry is designed to “strengthen the pastoral care of Catholics with Hispanic roots” and is active in 15 parishes across the diocese. Terry said that many of these parishes – including those in South Bend, Fort Wayne, Goshen, Ligonier and Elkhart – sent volunteer parishioners to work at the Eucharistic Festival. None played a larger role than Our Lady of Guadalupe in Warsaw, the parish hosting the festival. Primarily a Hispanic parish, Our Lady of Guadalupe’s festival committee was instrumental in organizing the diocese-wide event.

“It’s been a joy to work with the committee at Our Lady of Guadalupe,” said Terry. “They’ve been doing a parish festival for the last 15 years, and it’s a pilgrimage site in our diocese – a big festival celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe. Their experience was so crucial in making this festival possible.”

The event also would not have been possible without a massive cultural conglomeration. Maria Ijomanta, a parishioner at St. Vincent de Paul in Fort Wayne, was born in Nigeria and came to the United



Volunteers at the Vietnamese food booth serve meals to attendees of the Eucharistic Festival at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Warsaw.



Members of the Nigerian Choir and African Community sing in Central Park in Warsaw for a prayer during the Eucharistic Procession on June 19.

States in 1994. She returned to her roots at the festival by helping to make and serve authentic Nigerian food. Ijomanta was quick to express her excitement witnessing so many cultures converging in one place.

“It’s awesome,” said Ijomanta. “It’s the best thing in the world. I wish we could do it more often.”

Kairy Marquez, a worship leader and singer from the Dominican Republic, provided live music during the festival. She offered a bilingual concert for those in attendance, alternating between English and Spanish vocals. Marquez also appreciated seeing such a wide array of cultural backgrounds out in the crowd.

“I saw many faces from many parts of the world, but in all of them, I saw the joy of the Lord,” said Marquez. “There were people who had no idea what I was singing – they just knew that I was singing for the Lord, and they were there just clapping their hands. That was very nice.”

The true beauty of the Catholic Church’s universality is revealed when these cultures not only coexist, but when they collaborate and come together as one. That is when understanding is fostered, growth is nurtured, and admiration is spread. Ijomanta said she has experienced this cross-cultural appreciation before, and she can already see the fruits of it.

“We learn off each other and about each other,” explained Ijomanta. “We learn things we thought we knew but we actually didn’t know. It’s a very rich experience to experience cultures other than yours. There’s that spirit of togetherness, and at the end of the day, we’re all one – and you never know that until you experience it.”

Marquez has felt this same unity in her travels, and she has come to recognize the common thread: regardless of cultural or socioeconomic backgrounds, Jesus as Lord and Savior of all is the unitive factor that binds members of the Church together.

“As a worship leader, I’ve had the opportunity to visit so many different parts of the world,” said Marquez. “I am so honored and proud to be a Catholic because I see the same Lord everywhere – the same prayers in different languages, the same liturgies. Jesus unites us, the sacraments unite us, and that is just beautiful.”

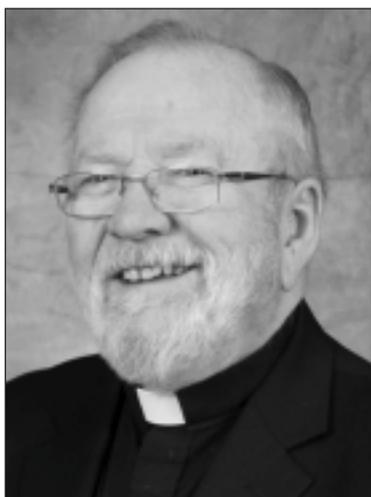
Photos by Eric Peat

# Father Thomas Jones, CSC: A life of service to the diocese

BY JILL A. BOUGHTON

In his 50 years as a priest, Father Thomas Jones, CSC, has only been assigned to a position outside the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend for one year, except for sabbatical interludes in Jerusalem and Rome. He served as parochial vicar at St. Ignatius Martyr in Austin, Texas, in the fall of 2017, and as administrator of Holy Redeemer in Portland, Oregon, in spring 2018.

In Washington, D.C., his family lived over a restaurant a few blocks from St. Patrick Parish, where his mother often brought him to pray novenas. Few families lived downtown, so he was the only altar boy. The Congregation of Holy Cross had a seminary in Washington, D.C. at the time, and the seminarians befriended the boy, sharing hobbies like photography and pet care. At Calvert, the St. Matthew Cathedral school, the nuns who taught him in seventh and eighth grade encouraged his interest in becoming a priest. The



Rev. Tom Jones, CSC

Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. didn't have a minor seminary, so Monsignor Philip Hannan, later Archbishop of New Orleans, wrote a letter of recommendation for young Tom and he was accepted into the high school seminary on the University of Notre Dame campus, arriving in the fall of 1959.

Although most of his classmates didn't become priests,

some are still good friends. It was an excellent education and his first experience with organized sports. After high school came his novitiate year, during which he devoured the first document from Vatican II, The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy. Then he earned undergraduate and Master of Divinity degrees at Notre Dame. As a deacon at St. Pius X in Granger, he helped with religious education and marriage prep.

"I've never looked back," says Father Jones. "It was a good fit."

He then went into parish work. "I enjoy working with people," he said. After six years as Parochial Vicar at St. Joseph Parish, South Bend, where he also directed the choir, he began working for the diocese as Director of what is now known as the Office of Worship. During those six years, he produced a newsletter, formed RCIA teams and visited every parish in the diocese, training lectors and extraordinary ministers of holy Communion. "I was impressed with how hard people worked at learning to perform these minis-

tries well," he said.

Eager to settle down in a parish, Father Jones became pastor of the rapidly-growing St. Pius X from 1984-1995. He spearheaded the building of a new church, which has since been incorporated into an even larger building. During that time, Father Jones also took courses to nurture his growing interest in Scripture.

His next assignment, Christ the King in South Bend, again involved a building project to expand the school and make the whole parish grounds more accessible. After that, he took a sabbatical year, spending time at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. Once he was back in South Bend, he often helped out at St. Monica Parish in Mishawaka. From 2008 to 2017, he pastored Sacred Heart Parish at Notre Dame.

Father Jones' current assignment is as religious superior at Holy Cross House, a residence for priests and brothers of the congregation in the final years

of their life. This is the first time he's dealt directly with dementia, but Holy Cross House has chosen to intersperse all their residents rather than have a separate wing for those with memory issues.

With the able assistance of medical personnel, a full-time physical therapist and activities director, Father Jones tries to make sure all the residents are safe, healthy, worry-free and able to enjoy the best quality of life as they prepare for their transition home. "From them, I'm trying to learn to age gracefully," Father Jones said. He also encourages seminarians and younger priests to interact with their older colleagues.

"Priests never retire," Father Jones points out. "We just minister in different ways."

He has enjoyed every assignment he's had and wouldn't change anything, except maybe a few thoughtless words. "All you have to do is find what you're called to do, and you'll be happy."

# Full circle: Father Thomas Zurcher, CSC

BY JILL A. BOUGHTON

After 50 years of serving God's people as a Holy Cross priest, Father Tom Zurcher, CSC, is right back where he started, at Holy Cross Parish in South Bend. That is where he was assigned as a deacon in 1971 and spent the first three years of his priesthood. Although he continues to reside at Our Lady of Fatima on the Notre Dame campus, Father Zurcher is enthusiastic about the opportunity to do parish ministry again.

He keeps reminding the pastor, Father Jim Fenstermaker, CSC, that the assignment he accepted last March is part-time, but that doesn't stop him from frequently celebrating the sacraments, building relationships, visiting the sick and even creating an art and environment team with parishioners eager to put their expertise to work beautifying the space where they worship. He's also grateful to be involved with a bilingual school where each grade has both a traditional and a Spanish immersion classroom. There he can keep practicing his Spanish and help those from different cultures share their gifts with each other.

Born in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and raised in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, Father Zurcher had four younger siblings – two brothers and two sisters. His family was active in St. Patrick Church, and he served Mass both there and for the Benedictine sisters in a nearby priory. He was educated entirely in Catholic schools, avidly read Catholic Boy from Ave Maria Press and applied only to the University of Notre Dame.

By the time he finished high



Rev. Tom Zurcher, CSC

school, he knew he wanted to explore the priesthood. He was attracted to a vocation where he could be a "bridge" to help people experience the presence of God in their lives. When he told his parents, they said all they wanted was for him to be happy. However, they advised him to spend two years as an ordinary college student before entering the seminary. So he lived in Keenan Hall his freshman year, where he made lifelong friends, before beginning priestly formation as a sophomore.

Father Zurcher's bridge-building has taken several forms. Besides parish ministry, he's helped pastor seminarians, both at Moreau Seminary and in Mexico, as well as serving as Vicar of Priests in Phoenix. He's also done bilingual, cross-cultural ministry, which he said was excellent preparation for his current assignment.

After his three years as Associate Pastor at Holy Cross, Father Zurcher served as Pastor

at St. Patrick in South Bend for six years, calling it "a wonderful experience. They were very patient with me." He was then sent to St. John Vianney Church in Goodyear, Arizona, where he ministered for nine years before coming back as Superior at Moreau Seminary, Notre Dame, "to help men discern what God is asking of them." Father Zurcher's work included the ongoing formation of priests through retreats and seminars.

In Mexico for the next fourteen years, Father Zurcher mentored seminarians, served as director of the Holy Cross community and helped with sacramental ministry in a massive parish spanning five locations. The most challenging and satisfying aspect of his ministry over the years has been "bringing people from different cultures and backgrounds together to share their life of faith so we can move forward together in mission, the mission to build the kingdom of God and change the world in which we live."

Father Zurcher is happy to be with the people, "responding to their spiritual and human needs."

Father Zurcher was awed and humbled that more than one person testified to the impact he had on their lives, often through something he said to them on an occasion he no longer remembers. "It was clearly a moment of grace for them, but it wasn't usually the things I work hard on, like my homilies. God was clearly using me as an instrument."

"My life has been so blessed because of the way these people live their faith," Father Zurcher continues. "They motivate me to live my vocation better."



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# Twenty-five year priesthood committed to building Church

BY CHRIS LUSHIS

Through his 25 years of priesthood, Father J. Steele, CSC, has seen his life and ministry shaped by the people he has served. Originally from Alexandria, Virginia, Father Steele completed his undergraduate studies at Boston College and spent a year doing volunteer service before entering the Congregation of Holy Cross at Notre Dame. Sent to study for the priesthood at the Berkeley School of Theology in California, he received valuable formation in developing listening skills to successfully bring people of diverse opinions and backgrounds together to work toward a common goal.

Following his ordination to the diaconate in 1996, he was assigned to minister at St. Stephen of Hungary and St. Casimir parishes in South Bend. It was here where he discovered the richness of many traditional Catholic devotions and witnessed their importance in the life of the parish. He shared, "It was at St. Casimir's that I first encountered Eucharistic Adoration. I had never seen a monstrance in use before or experienced Benediction. It just wasn't something we had in seminary at the time. But the Polish and Hispanic people of the parish helped me learn about many liturgical customs and I saw how much the devotional life of the Church was at the heart of their faith."

Father Steele was ordained to the priesthood the following year and continued to serve these two parishes on the west side of South Bend until 2000, when he moved back to the University of Notre Dame to serve as rector of Morrissey Manor, a men's residence hall. During this time, he also served as chaplain to the Notre Dame Knights of Columbus Council, the Militia Immaculata and Notre Dame's varsity swimming and diving team. He also helped coordinate the diocese's first year participating in the national March for Life in Washington, D.C., serving as the chaplain on their inaugural bus trip.

In 2005, Father Steele was assigned to the Congregation of Holy Cross' Office of Vocations at Moreau Seminary. Since he no longer had full-time chaplain assignments, he reached out to then-Bishop John M. D'Arcy to volunteer his services at local parishes in need of sacramental help. Bishop D'Arcy took him up on the offer and kept him busy with assignments at numerous nearby parishes, including at St. Patrick, Walkerton, St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart, St. Dominic, Bremen and Our Lady of Guadalupe, Warsaw.

These experiences kindled in



Rev. J. Steele, CSC

his heart a desire to return to parish life on a full-time basis. In 2009, he was assigned by his religious superior to serve at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in Portland, Oregon, a parish that has been staffed by Holy Cross priests since 2002. Within the year, Father Steele spoke with his superior and asked to be loaned to the diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, to lead parishes that were underserved and in need of stability. This request was approved, and Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades gratefully received Father Steele, asking him to lead St. Joseph in LaGrange and Blessed Sacrament in Albion, communities that had endured some difficult years.

The rebuilding of these parishes involved both spiritual and physical growth, as Father Steele listened to the needs of his people and sought new ways to enhance their faith.

St. Joseph LaGrange underwent several renovations to better utilize their space, including enhancements to the church sanctuary, a large new entryway, eight new classrooms for religious education, an outdoor Marian shrine, a beautiful pavilion, a carport and a new rectory.

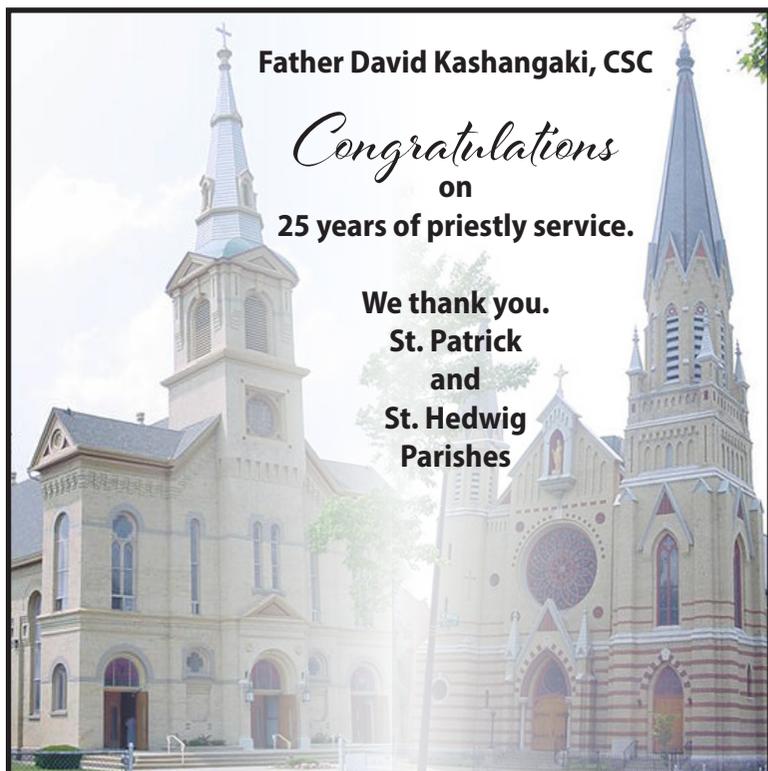
At Blessed Sacrament, Father Steele found the church to be a converted grocery store that the congregation had been worshipping in for 25 years. Previous attempts to enhance the grounds had not been successful, which left many parishioners hesitant to try again. Father Steele remained resilient, visiting the homes of 85 parishioners and sharing images of potential new building designs.

"The personal conversations made people feel valued and helped them to see that this could actually be a reality for their parish," he said. "They responded very generously; the average household gift was probably between five and six thousand dollars. That's a big commitment, but they loved their parish. Together we wanted to convince the diocese and the town that we want to be here and are here to stay!"

Many of the improvements

at Blessed Sacrament and St. Joseph happened simultaneously. While these construction projects were not easy, Father Steele shared, "As we built the church, Christ made us more the Church than we were before. Even while there were moments when it seemed a new church would not be realistic, the people responded and were committed to seeing these projects through. Most of Blessed Sacrament's construction was completed by its own parishioners. People of diverse backgrounds, even sometimes with language barriers, came together and collaborated to bring the project to completion. It was amazing to witness!"

In 2019, Bishop Rhoades reassigned him from St. Joseph to Pastor of Immaculate Conception in Kendallville, while remaining Pastor of Blessed Sacrament. In recent months, Father Steele has been preparing his next project for these parishes: developing Fraternis and Fidelis chapters to provide enhanced discipleship experiences for young men and women to grow in faith, maturity, fellowship and authentic purpose. After witnessing the success these programs have had at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Father Steele invited individuals from his parishes to consider starting groups at Blessed Sacrament and Immaculate Conception. Twenty adult volunteers signed on as leaders and they are preparing to launch in August. The meetings will be open to anyone in the area who desires to participate. Father Steele exclaimed, "The Holy Spirit knows what He is doing. The Lord sets the agenda. We simply try to be attentive to His voice and respond to His call!"



Father David Kashangaki, CSC

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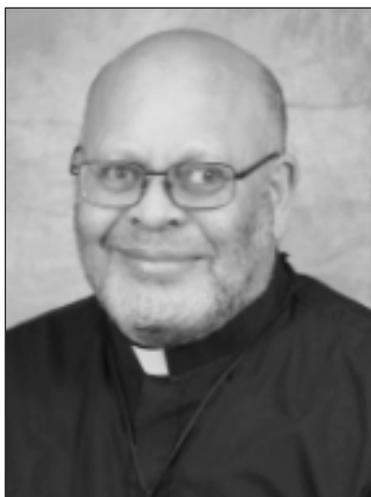
# From Kenya to South Bend: Holy Cross priest finds home in diocese

BY ERIKA BARRON

At a young age, Father David Kashangaki, CSC, began to feel the call of the Holy Spirit leading him toward a priestly vocation. That call that would take him across oceans fueled a strong desire to lead others to the Catholic faith. "I had a sense of the calling from about third grade, and I just began to look for ways to be as true to that as possible," he recalled. This year, Father Kashangaki is celebrating 25 years of priesthood.

Attending Mass, daily prayer and many hours in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament through the coming years continuously strengthened his desire for priesthood, he continued. The question remained, where would he live out this vocation?

Although born and raised in



Rev. David Kashangaki, CSC

the East African City of Nairobi, Kenya, he was not a Kenyan citizen. This meant he would not be able to go through the typical vocations process in the Archdiocese of Nairobi. His new task would be to discern what

religious community he would be joining. This would be no simple feat, as he was surrounded by many, all of them influential in his life of faith. "Most of the contact I had growing up was with religious community members. We had the Spiritans, the Consolata Missionaries, the Guadalupe Fathers, and that influence was constantly present in my life," he fondly recalls.

With this thought in mind, he set off for the United States, where he began his undergraduate studies in Washington, D.C. Here, he would come across the Congregation of the Holy Cross. After learning of their ministries in East Africa, and with several visits to the University of Notre Dame, he knew this was the community the Holy Spirit was calling him to join.

He returned to East Africa and joined the Congregation in 1989. He completed forma-

tion and his theology degree in Kenya and Uganda. In 1997, he was ordained a priest in his home city of Nairobi, where he remained for the next three years and became a candidate in the CSC formation program to help other young men discerning their vocations. He then returned to the University of Notre Dame to complete his Master's Degree in Political Science. Upon completion, he returned to Uganda to teach philosophy. Once again, the call of the Holy Spirit pulled him back to the United States.

In 2011, he found a home in the South Bend community, as Parochial Vicar at St. Patrick and St. Hedwig parishes, where he has remained to this day. Among the many powerful and life-changing moments in Father Kashangaki's life as a Holy Cross priest, directing the St. Patrick RCIA program has been one of the most important and reward-

ing. "Those one-on-one or two-on-one encounters of bringing people to the faith have been so incredibly valuable to me," he shared.

While Father Kashangaki's priestly journey has taken him much further than most, his home of the last 10 years holds an incredibly special place in his heart.

"I think the people I have met over the last 10 years and being in this community have been hugely vital to my growth."

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Jennifer Barton

Teens from parishes in Fort Wayne spend a week of their summer performing manual labor for people in the city who need help as a part of the Teen Service Week, organized by the St. Vincent de Paul Society. At the home of Tonya Ervins, center, a group of students painted and performed other tasks to improve her older house.

## Teen Service Week takes caring into the community

BY KEVIN KILBANE

The sounds of paint scraping, power washing and hand drills filled the steamy afternoon air in mid-June outside Tonya Ervins' house in Fort Wayne, and she couldn't have been happier.

Ervins, 60, had called several offices and organizations seeking assistance with needed work on her older home, but she had no success. Then help arrived through the Teen Service Week organized by the St. Vincent de Paul Society's Fort Wayne district office. The event brought together about 30 teens and 15 adult volunteers from the society's Carpenter's Sons ministry to work on home repair or improvement projects at five sites in Fort Wayne.

"I'm just really pleased," Ervins said. "This place gives you back faith in people because you didn't know there are people out there who will help."

This is the second year the St. Vincent de Paul Society's Fort Wayne district has hosted a Teen Service Week, said Lara Schreck, District Executive Director. Participation was free to both the teens and the people they helped.

The idea for the service week came from the youth mission trips many parishes sponsor, Schreck said.

"I thought, 'Wouldn't it be great for teens to have that opportunity in their own hometown?'" she explained.

This year, participation was open to 30 young people, from those entering ninth grade this fall through those who just grad-

uated from high school, Schreck said. They accepted 20 teens the first year. Limiting the number of young people involved ensures they all have plenty of work to do, she noted.

This year's projects included building and installing a wheelchair ramp, repairing rotting outdoor decks, painting and other work, Schreck said. Her organization learned of some of the needs through St. Vincent de Paul Society groups at area parishes. Other project sites resulted from the Carpenter's Sons' collaboration with NeighborLink, a nonprofit organization that helps match people who need assistance with home projects with neighbors who can aid them.

Teens worked from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. from June 13-16, with an orientation session the first morning and a wrap-up meeting the final morning before they headed out to complete their projects. At each of the project sites, Carpenter's Sons members coached teens through the home improvement work or repairs. The men and women in the Carpenter's Sons group meet each Tuesday to work on home repairs for people who aren't able to do the work themselves.

"I hope the kids who do it will tell their friends, 'Hey, this was great,' and it will continue to grow," Schreck said of Teen

*"I hope the kids who do it will tell their friends, 'Hey, this was great,' and it will continue to grow."*

— *Laura Schreck*



Carpenter's Sons volunteer John O'Shaughnessy, left, and Luke Harber, 14, who will be a sophomore this fall at Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, replaced a board on the eaves of a Fort Wayne house as part of Teen Service Week work organized by the Fort Wayne district of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Teens worked on a number of projects for people in need. Members of the Carpenter's Sons, a volunteer ministry of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, guided the teens through the home repair and improvement projects.

Service Week.

About half of the teens who participated last year signed up to do it again this year, she noted.

"It was really fun," said Belle Tippmann, 17, who is home schooled. Last year, Belle and friend Jerry Grable, 14, who is also home schooled, assisted with installing a deck, did some

power washing and cleaned up a shed for a homeowner.

This year, Belle and Jerry joined other teens in assembling and installing a wheelchair ramp for a mobile home resident.

At Ervins' house, the work included painting and repairing her backyard fence.

She's always worked, she said, but money is tight and she

hasn't been able to keep up with maintenance on the house.

"It's hard, and you get knocked down and you get used to it," she said.

The work completed by the teens and Carpenter's Sons members is a huge help, she said.

Teens enjoyed the hands-on aspect of the service projects.

"I feel like, with building things, it feels like you are doing more," said Brian Anderson, 16, who worked with his friend and fellow Carroll High School junior Caleb Hamm, 16, on building and installing the wheelchair ramp.

However, the teens overwhelmingly said they volunteered because they want to help others.

"I wanted to help out the community," said Sophie Somsavath, 14, who will be a freshman at Bishop Dwenger High School in the fall. She was joined by her brother, Jayden, 15, a Bishop Dwenger sophomore.

"I like the community and the energy everyone has," Jayden said.

Schreck hopes Teen Service Week will make young people more aware of the community services provided by the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the impact they can have through volunteering. She also hopes their Teen Service Week experiences instill in them a love of community service and a love of helping others.

"To me," she added, "that means you are growing in your faith to be making this type of impact and helping your neighbor."

# Indians capture first-ever state softball title

BY ERIC PEAT

**B**erkley Zache had accomplished quite a bit in her sensational freshman season on the pitcher's mound. The Saint Joseph softball star had already amassed a 16-1 record as the Indians' starting pitcher, tossing 250 strikeouts and allowing just seven earned runs the entire year.

And yet, she saved her absolute best for last.

Berkley's pitching heroics – and game-winning hit in the bottom of the ninth inning – helped Saint Joseph knock off top-ranked Tri-West Hendricks 1-0 in the IHSAA Class 3A State Championship Game on June 10 at Purdue's Bittering Stadium in West Lafayette. The victory marked the Indians' first-ever state softball title and capped off a magical tournament run in which head coach Earl Keith's squad did not surrender a single run to its postseason opponents.

"The feeling is still so surreal," admitted Keith several days after the game. "I am truly overwhelmed with all of the good wishes and praises. It is such a great feeling to have accomplished this with this team. Like I always say, these girls make me look good!"

The Indians began doing just that long before they stepped onto the diamond at Bittering Stadium. Entering the state championship, Saint Joseph (28-3) had blitzed its postseason opponents by a combined score of 20-0, including four victories over teams ranked in the top eight in the state. In the Twin Lakes semi-state alone, Berkley pitched a no-hitter vs. Yorktown in the afternoon semifinal, only to top that effort with 21 strikeouts in a 13-inning gem vs. Leo later that evening.

"I feel like situations when you're under pressure show what type of player you are," said Berkley. "Those are the times that I usually do my best and enjoy the most."

Berkley and company knew that plenty of pressure awaited them in West Lafayette. The Tri-West Hendricks Bruins (29-3) averaged a blistering 10 runs per game and boasted a pitching ace of their own in sophomore Audrey Lowry.

Berkley and Lowry began trading strikeouts and matching each other pitch-for-pitch, as the Indians and Bruins battled through eight scoreless innings. Saint Joseph couldn't generate any offense due to Lowry's speed and movement on the ball. Meanwhile, Berkley had to work out of a jam in both the sixth and seventh innings, in which the Bruins had runners in scoring position with only one out, but she managed to pitch her way out of it on both occasions.

"I have so much respect for that girl," Saint Joseph senior Haley West said of Berkley.



Provided by Stephen Anthony

Members of the Saint Joseph softball team pose together after winning the IHSAA Class 3A State Title at Purdue's Bittering Stadium in West Lafayette on June 10.



Provided by Jessica Swope

The Indians' two senior captains, Kennedy Swope and Haley West, embrace immediately following their team's victory in the IHSAA Class 3A State Championship game.

"She's the backbone of our team. The way she gets out of adversity is amazing. She never lost her composure and always stayed strong."

With one out in the bottom of the ninth inning, West stepped up to the plate, her team still searching for its first hit of the night.

"I was scared going up there [against Lowry] throughout the game, but I tried to have more confidence for this one," admitted West. "I just thought, 'I have to get something. We need something.' My biggest goal was just to make contact. When I did, I watched and saw it drop, and it was like, 'Now we're in this.'"

West's double breathed life into the Indians and brought none other than Berkley to the

plate. With the state championship hanging in the balance, she ripped a grounder through a hole in right field, allowing West to sprint home for the winning score.

As the Saint Joseph players poured out of the dugout to celebrate, Keith stood hunched over in shock.

"When Berkley got the winning hit, it was a feeling of 'Did that really just happen?'" said Keith. "About five seconds later, it hit that we had just won. At that moment, I felt so much pride in the girls. I also thought of all the great players who have gone through our program before who helped build us to this point."

And yet, it was a freshman who stole the spotlight on the

sport's biggest stage. Berkley had pitched a complete-game shutout, striking out 20 Tri-West Hendricks batters. Lowry had tossed 22 strikeouts of her own and had taken a no-hitter into the ninth inning. Both pitchers shattered the previous Class 3A record for strikeouts in a championship game (14) in a classic that's already being lauded as one of the greatest pitchers' duels in IHSAA history.

"Berkley's performance was remarkable," marveled Keith. "She and Savannah Hamilton, who had a win in the sectional round, were both unbelievable. It was amazing to watch, especially realizing they were making history."

However, Berkley was quick to deflect the credit away from her own performance and toward her teammates.

"I had a really good defense behind me and good bats behind me," remarked Berkley. "I owe a lot of success to my sister [sophomore Riley Zache] catching behind me."

The Indians joined Indianapolis Scecina's 2007 squad as the only two teams in Indiana high school softball history to win a state championship without allowing a single run through the entire tournament. Taking into account the Indians' final two regular season games, Saint Joseph ended the year with nine straight shutouts – an accomplishment that no other Indiana team in the history of the sport can claim. To Berkley, it speaks volumes of the man who's been at the helm of the

program for the last 17 years.

"No one is more deserving than Coach Earl," said Berkley. "He is just an amazing coach. It meant a lot to me, and I know it meant a lot to him."

Back in Keith's second season, he developed a team mantra that he dubbed the "Indian Softball Creed." His players still sport its simple truth on their practice t-shirts: faith in my ability, faith in my teammates, faith in God. Keith said the creed came from a desire to embrace his position of influence.

"I felt very blessed to be in this situation, and I needed to lead by example," Keith explained. "It is a combination of love for one another, loving yourself and always knowing to lean on God."

"That quote is very special to me," said West. "I didn't understand it as a freshman. But when sectionals came, that's when we started playing for God and through Him."

Even after an unforgettable individual performance, Berkley recognized the Lord's fingerprints all over the championship game and witnessed the team creed play out in front of her eyes.

"We can't go into a game and do it all ourselves," said Berkley. "We have to have faith in each other and in God. If we're going to do it, it's going to be a team effort with everyone working together. God kind of played a role in that. We knew He would be there with us and help us throughout the game."

## A tale of two weddings

How do we attract people to our Church? How do we invite people to “come and see”? These are questions being asked with greater urgency these days. The “nones,” that is, those with no religious affiliation, are growing in number, while too many Catholics are walking away from any sort of consistent practice.

A great deal of effort and money is spent developing tools to encourage and inspire Catholics to go forth and evangelize. Some of this goes to glossy diocesan magazines that eschew news for catechetical and inspirational stories. Some of it goes to programs and retreats, social media campaigns and videos.

All of this may be helpful, but it struck me recently that opportunities may be closer at hand. Call this a tale of two weddings.

Two good friends of mine, married but neither Catholic, attended my sister’s recent wedding Mass. She very intentionally wanted it to be a beautiful and engaging liturgy because she knew there would be many non-Catholics and non-Christians celebrating with her.

The songs were unusual and beautifully sung. The readings were powerful. Best of all, the pastor who celebrated the Mass exuded a sense of welcome and joy. His homily was both personal and rooted in the Scripture readings.

After the wedding, my friends were enthusiastic not just about the ceremony, but about the Mass and the priest. A mountain of stereotypes was washed away by this experience. My sister’s goal was realized, to her great

delight.

Ah, but fast forward one month and the same couple attended another Catholic wedding. It was the opposite in almost every way, to hear them tell the story. But the worst was when the celebrant in his homily chose to highlight what he called the five stages of marriage.

First came infatuation. He told the couple that was the stage they were in now as they sat before the altar. Next came disillusionment, he warned. Then misery. Then resignation. And finally, assuming one lasts this long, acceptance.

I do not know if the priest intended this as some sort of joke or if he simply had had too many scarring experiences in the confessional. The damage was the same in either case. That mountain of stereotypes? It just grew twice as big: A joyless church full of unhappy people hanging on for dear life until the bitter end. Who would want that?

The lesson here is that opportunities for witness and evangelization are everywhere and all about us. In our churches every Sunday are people who may be far from God, who may be hurting or in need. Even more so, at every wedding, baptism and funeral, there are people who have rarely darkened a church doorway but may be listening for an invitation.

A beautiful liturgy, an engaging homily, an evident spirit of welcome and friendliness – these are acts of hospitality. Like Abraham, we don’t know the angels in our midst that we may be hosting (Gn 18). To ignore



GREG ERLANDSON

### AMID THE FRAY

the possibility of those hidden guests or to repel them rather than invite them is a monumental failure.

It is easy today to be overwhelmed by negativity, to let our pessimism get the best of us, to let our divisions dominate. At our worst, we are quicker to complain, reject or shun than to embrace and celebrate our faith.

I am certain this is not what Christ had in mind when he gave us the Great Commission to go forth and baptize the world. If strangers are unable to see in us and our parishes what a treasure it is that we believe we have found, then we deserve our empty churches.

Greg Erlandson, Director and Editor-in-Chief of Catholic News Service, can be reached at [gerlandson@catholicnews.com](mailto:gerlandson@catholicnews.com).

## Rumors are circulating that Pope Francis might resign. How to react?

Over the course of his nine-plus years as pontiff, Pope Francis has strongly and consistently spoken about the sin of gossip. It is “an act of terrorism, akin to dropping a bomb,” he said in a 2015 homily. It “closes off the unity of the Church,” he noted after one of his Sunday Angelus addresses in 2020, during which he also said that “gossip is a plague more awful than COVID!”

It stands to reason, then, that the Holy Father would wholeheartedly disapprove of the recent chatter — largely coming from professional Catholic commentators, but also from certain sectors of the lay Church — regarding the myriad rumors of his supposed impending resignation.

Pope Francis himself has laid some of the bricks of the foundation upon which this speculation has been built. Early in his pontificate, he called Pope Benedict XVI’s decision to become the first pope to resign in 700 years “courageous” and said, “Benedict should not be considered an exception, but an institution.” In 2014, when the subject of his predecessor’s resignation was brought up by reporters, he said: “You can ask me: ‘What if one day you don’t feel prepared to go on?’ I would do the same!” During a 2015 interview with a Mexican TV station, he made his thoughts even more clear, saying: “I have the feeling that my pontificate will be brief — four or five years; I do not know, even two or three.”

He was 78 then; he’s 85 now, a

### GUEST COMMENTARY

#### OSV EDITORIAL BOARD

year removed from being hospitalized longer than expected following colon surgery last summer, and with a bad knee that, at first, presented itself as just a nagging limp. The knee has gotten worse — bad enough that, for the past few months, he’s largely been confined to a wheelchair during his public appearances. Bad enough, also, that it forced the cancellation of his long-planned trip to central Africa in early July, when he was scheduled to visit South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo. It remains to be seen if he’ll be able to make his highly anticipated trip to Canada at the end of July.

If Pope Francis’ ailments caused the retirement winds to swirl again, they became a tornado of rumors in late May when he announced that he would create 21 new cardinals — 16 of whom will be young enough to vote in the next conclave — at a consistory in August, an unusual date to gather in Rome, when the city is, first, sweltering and, second, largely on holiday. Headlines across both Catholic and secular media

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## Freedom from slavery to sin is found in Christ



### THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

#### Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Luke 9:51-62

The First Book of Kings is the source of this weekend’s first reading. As the names of these two volumes imply, First and Second Kings were written, to a degree, to be a chronicle of the lives and reigns of Israel’s early kings.

They were in no sense political or even personal biographies, however. They were written with the purpose of first and foremost drawing the people of Israel more closely to God and to obedience to God’s commandments.

With such as the case, it is

not surprising that they feature prophets as much as kings. In this weekend’s reading, the focus is upon Elisha and Elijah, two of the earliest recorded prophets.

The passage of responsibility from Elijah to Elisha is described, much more than simply a conferral of authority upon a new generation by a preceding generation. Succession occurred, but God directed Elijah to call Elisha to the role of prophet. In other words, both Elijah and Elisha were divinely chosen.

It was part of God’s plan to give the chosen people direction, lest they go astray and to their own doom if left to their own plans.

Two points are worth remembering. The first is somewhat coincidental. God told Elijah to anoint Elisha. Anointings with olive oil survive in Christian liturgies. Anointing is one of the most ancient gestures of ritual. It means being marked.

The second point is that the prophets put everything aside to serve God.

The Epistle to the Galatians is the next reading. While pious Jews

abhorred slavery, the literal owning of human beings was commonplace in the Roman Empire. Galatian Christians included many gentiles. They saw slavery every day and everywhere. Everyone instantly would have understood a reference to slavery.

The letter to the Galatians reminded its ancient readers in Galatia, and us today, that blindly yielding to our instincts is not in any way true freedom. Instead, it is slavery, but alluring. We are attracted to following our instincts. We are fascinated by sin and selfishness.

God’s strength, given in the Spirit, through identity with Jesus, fortifies us. God’s revelation, proclaimed by Jesus, instructs us. In Christ, God frees us from slavery.

St. Luke’s Gospel furnishes the last reading. For Luke, the Lord’s coming to Jerusalem was momentous, both for Jesus personally and also for the world. Thus, this evangelist was very dramatic in detailing the movement of Jesus toward the Holy City.

Passing to Jerusalem, the Lord went through Samaria.

For devout Jews, Samaritans were a disgusting lot. Long ago, Samaritans, although Jews and believers, had compromised themselves by accepting foreign invasion and then, more terribly, by consorting with pagans. All this happened centuries before Jesus, but in the first century AD, Jews still scorned Samaritans.

Understandably, the Apostles asked Jesus for a harsh rebuke when people in a Samaritan village rejected the Gospel. Jesus reprimanded the Apostles for making their request.

Someone else loudly cried out loyalty to Christ. The Lord tells this person that true faith means a commitment so strong that nothing can divert it.

#### Reflection

In Luke’s Gospel, the Lord calls us to a high ideal by saying that no one who looks back after commitment to God can receive the gift of eternal life. Turning to God is not momentary or halfhearted.

The Church bluntly proclaims

this fact, but it is encouraging and reassuring. God sent prophets to guide the people. God sent us Jesus.

We must resolve to follow Jesus. Without God, we are apt to be slaves, chained to our sins. Our culture tricks us into seeing slavery as freedom. It has completely reversed the meaning of freedom. We are slaves if we sin. We have no control. Christ gives us freedom, but we must choose to be free.

#### READINGS

**Sunday:** 1 Kgs 19:16b, 19-21 Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11 Gal 5:1, 13-18 Lk 9:51-62

**Monday:** Am 2:6-10, 13-16 Ps 50:16bc-23 Mt 8:18-22

**Tuesday:** Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12 Ps 5:4b-8 Mt 8:23-27

**Wednesday:** Acts 12:1-11 Ps 34:2-9 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18 Mt 16:13-19

**Thursday:** Am 7:10-17 Ps 19:8-11 Mt 9:1-8

**Friday:** Am 8:4-6, 9-12 Ps 119:2, 10, 20, 30, 40, 131 Mt 9:9-13

**Saturday:** Am 9:11-15 Ps 85:9ab, 10-14 Mt 9:14-17

# Treasuring our future timelines

**T**wenty-nine-year-old Dom Brand of South Carolina, in an apparently random act in 2020, shot and killed an 80-year-old woman named Mary Ann Elvington. His action resulted in several tragedies unfolding simultaneously. Mary Ann could have lived many more years had she not been shot. Her children were unable to spend time with her for the rest of their lives. No longer could she babysit the grandkids or share the wisdom of her years. The shooter also upset any real prospects for his own future, as he became subject to the criminal justice system and lifelong incarceration. So many future goods and future timelines were damaged or destroyed by one wrong action.

Then there was Michael Webb of Clermont County, Ohio, who set his own house on fire with his wife and four children inside in 1990. He poured gasoline on the beds of his sleeping children and around the house before sparking the blaze with a match. The prosecutor concluded that he intended to kill his family, collect the insurance money and start a new life with his mistress. His wife and three of his four children managed to survive the flames, but 3-year-old Mikey perished from smoke inhalation. There were devastating consequences all around. Mr. Webb was sentenced to spend the rest of his life in jail. His wife and remaining children struggled to move on without the support of their husband or father. Little Mikey's long future timeline, with all its youthful potential, came to an abrupt and tragic close.

Some of the longest timelines we destroy are those of unborn children with almost their whole earthly lives still ahead of them. This is often done in ways that virtually nobody ever sees or notices, through stealth abortions

with the "abortion pill," which, according to the Alan Guttmacher Institute, now accounts for about 54% of all US abortions.

The lamentable power to destroy future timelines through abortion was poignantly addressed by Kathy Barnette in a riveting YouTube video entitled "It wasn't a choice. It was a life." Barnette was recently a candidate for the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate in Pennsylvania. Whatever her controversial positions may have been on some of the issues of the day, and regardless of what one thinks about her other political views, her personal testimony on abortion ought to be heard by everyone.

Kathy was conceived after her mom, Mamie Jo, was raped at age 11. In the video, Mamie Jo, now in her 60s, stresses how abortion cannot be an answer to sexual assault, even as she acknowledges the trauma of her own rape:

"It was hard. We were all devastated. But my mother said: 'You know, you're pregnant, so we're going to get through this,' and she helped me get through it. I don't want to use the word 'choice.' .... [My daughter] was going to be born. I didn't have a choice to say 'You are going to live or I'm going to abort you.' That wasn't a choice for me, and I thank God it wasn't a choice for me ... Regardless of how old you are, and how the child was conceived, that child deserves a chance. If I had made that 'choice,' where would I be right now without my daughter?"

Kathy likewise speaks to the false and damaging 'choice' that abortion can tempt us with. She stresses how profoundly her life matters, as well as the new lives and timelines of her children, grandchildren and further generations that will unfold into the future:

"Before the foundation of

considerably more partisan, pointing toward the reality that politics continues to sink its teeth deeper and deeper into religious arenas.

Of course, we aren't naive enough to suggest that, when it comes to papal elections, politicking is something new. For centuries, all sides have hoped that the next successor of Peter thinks and worships like they do. If you're a traditionalist, you're hoping that Francis' successor will be, too. And the same goes for progressives. Sadly, it isn't much different from political elections.

Ahead of the 2020 presidential election, Timothy P. O'Malley, the director of education at the McGrath Institute for Church Life at the University of Notre Dame and a frequent contributor to Our Sunday Visitor, wrote that "politics is about the communion of the city, the cultivating of friendship between men and women in day-to-day life. We Catholics must practice this saintly politics, especially now. We must be poor like Christ, mourn with those who



## MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

the world, God saw me and He decided that I would be, and He said in His word that not only did I see you, but I called you. I predestined you. And so as a Christian, I believe in the value of life, that when I was in my mother's womb, He was knitting me together. Even among Christians, even among staunch conservatives, an exception to the rule of being pro-life for many is in the case of rape. And yet my life has value. From me have come two very beautiful and charming and smart kids. I'm married to a wonderful husband and we've made a life for ourselves, and none of this would have happened if the exception to the rule had applied. ... You have to be able to see the difference. ... I'm left with an overwhelming sense of gratitude, that not only did God see value in my life, but that my family saw value in my life. I'm very grateful for that. I'm eternally grateful that they chose to allow me to be born."

Our choices today powerfully affect future timelines in either positive or detrimental ways. In choosing to protect human life, we open up a more beautiful and fulfilling future for ourselves and all those around us.

**Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D.,** serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See [www.ncbcenter.org](http://www.ncbcenter.org).

mourn, not seek our own will at every cost, remember those who are forgotten, forgive those who offend, recognize our poverty before God, make peace, and be willing to suffer for doing all of this. Everything that we do, every decision we make, every thought we have, must be infused with this beatific constitution."

The same can be said — and should be said — when it comes to our anxiety or anticipation over who will or won't succeed Pope Francis. If we truly believe that the Holy Spirit is still actively guiding the Church established by Christ himself, then any time spent obsessing over the pope's possible resignation — or worrying about where the man who might replace him resides on the political spectrum — is, at best, an exercise in frivolity and, at worst, evidence of a profound lack of faith.

**The Our Sunday Visitor Editorial Board** is comprised of Gretchen R. Crowe, Scott P. Richert, Scott Warden and York Young.

## SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for June 26, 2022

Luke 9:51-62

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: The widow's lost son. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

NAIN	DISCIPLES	CROWD
THE GATE	DIED	CARRIED OUT
WIDOW	LORD	SAW HER
DO NOT WEEP	TOUCHED	GAVE HIM TO
HIS MOTHER	FEAR	SEIZED
GLORIFIED	PROPHET	ARISEN
SPREAD	JUDEA	SURROUNDING

### WIDOW OF NAIN

```

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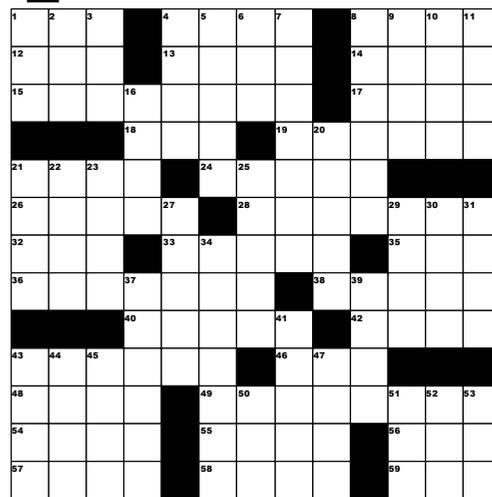
## The Cross Word

June 19 and 26, 2022

57 Sego lily's bulb  
58 Was looked at  
59 Pull

### DOWN

- 1 Knock
- 2 "\_\_\_ Father"
- 3 Pride
- 4 Molt
- 5 Jesus healed, also \_\_\_
- 6 Loose gown worn at mass
- 7 "12 wicker \_\_\_"
- 8 Whitish inner part of the rind of a lime
- 9 Adolescent
- 10 Elliptic
- 11 Muddy
- 16 Religious promises
- 20 Food consumer
- 21 Far away
- 22 Autobiographic sketch
- 23 Mined metals
- 25 Cheek make-up
- 27 Tricycle
- 29 "\_\_\_ of Orleans"
- 30 Teen disease
- 31 Lighted sign
- 34 Abram's foes or \_\_\_
- 37 Counterfeit
- 39 "Mister" (German)
- 41 "I was \_\_\_"
- 43 Easter symbols
- 44 Certain
- 45 Trigonometry
- 47 Economics
- 50 Remind
- 51 "\_\_\_ this bread"
- 52 "Long \_\_\_"
- 53 Kitten's cry



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Readings: Gn 14:18-20; 1Cor 11:23-28; Lk 9:11b-17 & 1 Kg 19:16b, 19-21; Gal 5: 1, 13-18; Lk 9:51-62

### ACROSS

- 1 Foot extension
- 4 Replace a striker
- 8 Particle
- 12 Assumption month
- 13 Hawaiian dancing
- 14 Jacob's son
- 15 Book of wise advice
- 17 "You cannot \_\_\_ it now"
- 18 Poem
- 19 Eagerly
- 21 Declare
- 24 Horror
- 26 "The \_\_\_ clods of the earth"
- 28 Turkish empire
- 32 "They all \_\_\_ and were satisfied"
- 33 Recycle
- 35 Genius
- 36 Filing rough edges
- 38 Rhinoceros' nickname
- 40 A shooting sport
- 42 Eve's garden
- 43 High regard
- 46 That woman
- 48 Sage
- 49 Rocky Road
- 54 Crossed lines
- 55 European monetary unit
- 56 Maturity

### OSV, from page 20

suggested that the pope was preparing for his imminent departure by stacking the papal electorate with enough self-appointed cardinals to ensure a like-minded successor is chosen.

If that wasn't enough, the Vatican announced in early June that Pope Francis planned to visit the Italian city of L'Aquila a day after the consistory in order to participate in a ceremony for the Celestian Forgiveness, a centuries-old tradition started by Pope Celestine V, who, coincidentally or not, was the last pope to resign before Benedict did so in 2013.

Now, with all that being said, and regardless of whether Pope Francis is planning on resigning in the coming months, all of this speculation and hand-wringing over the end of his papacy seems unsavory at best and toxic at worst. Innocent curiosity over who the next pope might be is as old as the Church itself, but the motivations these days seem

# Saint Joseph sisters crowned state doubles champs

BY ERIC PEAT

When Saint Joseph High School girls tennis coach Bill Mountford made a midseason decision to pair Ashi and Anni Amalnathan together as a doubles team, the sisters didn't hold back their enthusiasm.

"We honestly never expected to play together, so it was really exciting," recalled Anni. "We thought the second we heard it that we'd be able to take it all the way to state."

Anni's bold prediction played out just as she envisioned. The Amalnathan sisters didn't lose a single match together, culminating with an IHSAA Girls Tennis State Doubles Title at Park Tudor High School in Indianapolis on June 11. Their 6-3, 6-4 triumph in the championship match versus Amelia Meunier and Elizabeth Banet of Floyd Central helped Ashi and Anni end the year with a perfect 18-0 mark.

For Mountford, the lineup change was all about finding the most effective combination to beat top-ranked Carmel – the team that defeated Saint Joseph 4-1 in last year's team state championship match. The move paid immediate dividends.

"You could tell right away they were a good team," Mountford said of Ashi, a sophomore, and Anni, a freshman. "But then when we played at Carmel in the regular season, and they won that match,

that's when we knew we had a really special team. They had to beat them again in the state semifinals, so when they did that, we thought, 'Ok, they're on their way.'"

According to Mountford, the secrets to the sisters' success are their complete tennis games, their enjoyment of each other's company and their complementary skills.

"I think we work really well together because our playing styles mesh really well," explained Anni. "We're pretty much opposites, both in skillset and personality. In terms of skills, Ashi is a lot more consistent than I am, and I'm more aggressive, so we bring in two different parts of the game. In terms of personality, I'm a lot more outgoing, but she's very calm and she takes everything slowly."

"The bottom line is they both have really good, solid games," said Mountford. "They've been very, very well trained by their father, and both of them have a real presence about them on the court, sort of a quiet confidence."

Saint Joseph advanced to the state finals as a team for the second year in a row, but once again the Indians saw their season end at the hands of Carmel with a 3-2 defeat in the state semifinal match. The Amalnathans accounted for one of the two Saint Joseph victories, meaning that they still advanced in the individual tournament as a doubles team – one brimming with confidence.

"In the [team] state tournament, we beat a lot of really high-



Provided by Stephen Anthony

er-level teams," said Ashi. "Going into the individual state tournament, I feel like I was more calm because I knew we had already beaten really good teams – so if we could beat them, we could beat anyone that would come at us."

Mountford knew that Anni and Ashi were talented enough to win a state title, as long as they didn't underestimate their opponents in the championship match.

"They were better than I expected," Mountford said of Meunier and Banet of Floyd Central. "But Ashi and Anni played their game. There wasn't any big message except, 'You have the skills and the games to beat this team. Don't

get ahead of yourself, stay in the moment, play your game and you should be ok."

As it turned out, the Amalnathans were better than ok. They won in straight sets, displaying a poise and composure beyond their age. Mountford credited the training they received from their father, a teaching pro at South Bend Racquet Club, as well as their experience in U.S. Junior Tournaments and in marquee high school matchups throughout the year. For Ashi and Anni, the victory didn't just belong to them, but also to their Saint Joseph teammates and coaches.

"They were there supporting us

**Saint Joseph girls tennis doubles team of Ashi and Anni Amalnathan pose after winning the IHSAA Girls Tennis Individual State Title in Doubles at Park Tudor High School in Indianapolis on June 11.**

all throughout our matches," said Ashi. "I felt like we were all sharing that win together because we didn't get to win state as a team, but we got to share our doubles win with them."

Ashi and Anni became the fourth individual state champions in program history and the second consecutive for Saint Joseph, after teammate Molly Bellia captured the state singles title in 2021 as a freshman.

"Any state championship is very special," said Mountford. "But for Saint Joseph to have the singles champion one year and the doubles champion the next year – that's really pretty special. As I told Ashi and Anni, that's the memory of a lifetime."

Mountford admitted that he doesn't know how the lineup will look next year and whether Ashi and Anni will remain together as a doubles team or play singles. The sisters said they are comfortable playing in whatever position will help the team win. For a squad that doesn't graduate any starters and now boasts multiple individual state champions, anything is possible.

"It gives us a lot of confidence going forward, knowing how much potential we have," said Ashi.

"Other teams will be a little more wary of us now," Anni agreed. "People are going to know our school."

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Printers of  
TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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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.

### Icons in the Western Church

**FORT WAYNE** — The University of Saint Francis welcomes Sister Jeana Visel, OSB, on Thursday, June 30, from 7-9 p.m. at North Campus, 2701 Spring St. Sister Jeana, from the Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in southern Indiana, will present "Recovering Beauty and Iconography in Catholic Churches Today." This lecture is a part of the University of Saint Francis Summer Theology Institute – Beauty Will Save the World – and is free and open to the public. Contact Timothy Trout at [ttrout@sf.edu](mailto:ttrout@sf.edu) for more information.

### Theology on Tap summer series

**FORT WAYNE** — The Series Theme: The Road to Emmaus will begin July 5 with "Finding Christ in Chaos" presented by Cindy Black. Gather at 6:30 p.m. at the University of Saint Francis Cougar Den, 2701 Spring St. Contact Stacey Huneck at [youngadults@scbfw.org](mailto:youngadults@scbfw.org) for information.

### St. Louis Besancon rummage sale

**NEW HAVEN** — St. Louis Besancon Parish, 15535 Lincoln Hwy E., will have a rummage sale from July 8-9 in the hall from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and will include a bake sale.

### Adoration Under the Stars (but inside by candlelight)

**FORT WAYNE** — Come and bring your family and adore the Lord, surrounded by candlelight and the sounds of music from the young adult choir at Our Lady of Good Hope Church, 7215 Saint Joe Road, from 7-8:30 p.m. Celebrate Christmas in July. While this event is normally held outside, according to the liturgical norms, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament should take place in churches or oratories, so we will no longer be having Adoration outside. The evening

will close with Benediction. Contact Father Daniel Whelan at 260-485-9615 or [frdaniel@olghfw.com](mailto:frdaniel@olghfw.com).

### Queen Of Angels annual garage sale

**FORT WAYNE** — Queen Of Angels Parish, 1500 West State Blvd., will have their annual garage sale on July 14 from 4-8 p.m.; July 15 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and July 16 from 8 a.m. to noon.

### Come and See Weekend - Diocesan Priesthood

**WARSAW** — Young men ages 16-30 are invited to spend time with diocesan seminarians and learn more about seminary and the priesthood. Join us on July 15 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church, 125 N Harrison St. RSVP at [diocesefwsb.org/come-and-see2022](http://diocesefwsb.org/come-and-see2022) or visit [diocesefwsb.org/vocations/priesthood](http://diocesefwsb.org/vocations/priesthood). Contact Christine Bonahoom-Nix at 260-422-4611 ext 3398 or [cbonahoom-nix@diocesefwsb.org](mailto:cbonahoom-nix@diocesefwsb.org).

### St. John the Baptist New Haven class of 1973 reunion

**NEW HAVEN** — Graduates of St. John the Baptist in New Haven Class of 1973 will have a reunion on Saturday, July 16, at the home of a generous graduate. We will also meet the next

day for Mass, Sunday, July 17, at St. John at 11 a.m. Tour the school after. Contact Don Gentile at [dgentile@woh.rr.com](mailto:dgentile@woh.rr.com).

### 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 on 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.

### College Crew

**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](http://facebook.com/collegecrewfw).

## REST IN PEACE

### Angola

Vernon E. Miller, 76, St. Anthony of Padua

James E. Van Vlerah, 66, St. Anthony of Padua

Jack N. Via, 75, St. Anthony of Padua

### Fort Wayne

Maria Milagros Strawser, 79, St. Charles Borromeo

Alma I. Gevers, 97, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel

Maxilian Cambre, 91, St. Vincent de Paul

### Goshen

Theresa A. Copenhagen, 88, St. John the Evangelist

Richard Rios, 17, St. John the Evangelist

### Granger

Doris Chambers, 95, St. Pius X

Joan Copeland, 87, St. Pius X

Al Hopper, 81, St. Pius X

Jim Houk, 97, St. Pius X

Bev McDonald, 73, St. Pius X

Arline McLemore, 88, St. Pius X

Julia Mitchell, 83, St. Pius X

William Unger, 93, St. Pius X

### Huntington

Mary L. Manosky, 98, SS. Peter and Paul

Sister Joan Arnold, OLVN, 97, Victory Noll

### Mishawaka

John Boulton, 70, St. Joseph

Annette Linson, 96, St. Joseph

### South Bend

Eleanor Fleck, 85, Christ the King

Margaret Klaybor-Weber, 70, Christ the King

Helen Hibbs, 83, Holy Family

Edward Jdrzejewski, 81, Holy Family

Elaine Stodolny, 95, Holy Family

Patricia Zabik, 86, Holy Family

Francisco Ortiz, 52, St. Adalbert

Rite Derda, 93, St. John the Baptist



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC PARISH

## Receptionist/ Administrative Assistant

The Receptionist/Administrative Assistant is responsible for greeting all visitors to the parish office in a warm and welcoming manner, handling routine matters and answering the parish phone in a timely manner, answering routine questions and redirecting calls as required.

The reception office is generally open and staffed from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. on Saturday, and from 8 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. on Sunday. Coverage for this schedule is coordinated with another employee with weekend coverage generally being on alternate weeks. The position is 40 work hours per week.

Interested candidates may apply at: [diocesefwsb.org/careers/](http://diocesefwsb.org/careers/)

FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS are ALIVE in ROME CITY!

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2730 E Northport Rd, Rome City, IN

July 2 at 11 a.m. EDT

for Holy Mass and Devotions  
Confessions beginning at 9:30 am

More info @ [www.patronessofamerica.org](http://www.patronessofamerica.org)

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IN OUR SCHOOLS  
AND APPLY

[diocesefwsb.org/school-careers](http://diocesefwsb.org/school-careers)

## The CrossWord

June 19 and 26, 2022

T	O	E	S	C	A	B	A	T	O	M	
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Brian Sapp

Coro Los Angelitos records an album of songs to be released digitally. The group recorded six songs at Grace College in early June. In the back from left are Kamilah Camilo, Ebony Camilo, Michelle Perez, Ashley Perez, Arely Muñoz, Teresa Becerra Martinez, Lenny Camilo, Leonardo Muñoz and Ronaldo Muñoz. In the front are Daniela Muñoz and Vidal Camilo.

## Local youth choir records album with 'message of God'

BY BRIAN SAPP

A Spanish-language children's choir from St. John the Evangelist in Goshen is pursuing a dream this summer. That dream for the children of Coro Los Angelitos (Angels Choir) is to preach God's word to the world. The children's choir traveled to a recording studio at Grace College in Winona Lake in early June to make the dream a reality.

Los Angelitos worked with The Studio, a local recording company from Warsaw, to record six songs so that they can take God's message to the world beyond their home in Goshen.

"I feel like we're more than just a choir. We can be an example for other teenagers and reduce everything in society that's harming us," Ronaldo Muñoz, the choir's 16-year-old leader said about their goals.

Coro Los Angelitos is made up of 11 children who attend St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen. The youngest singer is 7 years old with the rest of the members' ages ranging up to 16. The group formed in 2019 as a support for a Spanish-language prayer group at St. John the Evangelist – El Grupo de Oración.

The prayer group meets every Wednesday to pray and reflect on the Sunday scriptures. Los Angelitos began singing with the group. They perform at the beginning and the end of each meeting. Los Angelitos have also expanded their performances to singing at Sunday Masses.

"They give the message of God to other people and people come back to see them because they feel joyful listening to their music," parent Lorena Reyes said of Los Angelitos'

ability to share their faith.

With this goal in mind, Muñoz reached out to The Studio to begin the recording process. "It's something that I've wanted to do for a long time. I come from a musical family and I've always wanted to be in a recording studio in front of a microphone. It's a dream come true," he said.

"They did great. The kids were getting into it," Bobby McKee said about the recording session. He is a recording engineer with The Studio with years of experience in Nashville as a musician and producer.

McKee said the process is straightforward. Muñoz recorded and sent him a background music track. When the choir arrived at the studio, they warmed up and headed into the recording room. From the control room, McKee played the music and the choir sang along. After the choir finished singing, McKee played the recording for the children to listen and decide if they would keep it or record again. Now that the recording is done, McKee will take the recordings and adjust the vocal and music tracks. When he finishes, he'll send the master files for Muñoz to share however he wishes.

Lorena Reyes said that the chance to record allows the children a chance to reach a bigger audience. "It's very important because a lot of kids don't believe in God and they can be an example for others."

Choir member Evonny Camilo echoed her mother's sentiments. "I was excited today because we can get our first disc done and let other kids listen to it ... so they know God forgives them."

The album came together with

the help of donations from a foundation, which covered part of the recording costs. Muñoz said, "We're really thankful that they were able to help us and make a dream come true."

For his part of the process, McKee said he tries to give back to people starting out and is glad

he was able to work with Los Angelitos. "They're trying to make a difference. So if I can make a difference with them, maybe they can with somebody else. The good Lord blessed me with talent and I try to give back."

Muñoz said that when he receives the mastered files, Los

Angelitos plans to publish them digitally so they can be available to anyone with access to a computer. He's excited to share the songs. "If I'm able to help the children achieve their goal, I'm really happy for them."

# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend seeks a full-time

## Publications Manager for the Today's Catholic newspaper

This position plays a key role within the diocesan communication department. In a collaborative spirit of teamwork, this position will advance the mission of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades throughout the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

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