

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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Anderson, Langenbrunner to 'Get to Work in God's Field'

BY JENNIFER BARTON

Hundreds filled the nave of St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City, beneath Gian Lorenzo Bernini's Altar of the Chair, one of the dominant features of the basilica, on Sept. 29. Here, Sam Anderson and Zane Langenbrunner, along with 21 of their classmates at the Pontifical North American College in Rome, were ordained to the diaconate by Bishop Austin A. Vetter of the Diocese of Helena, Montana, who had been invited to celebrate ordination. Bishop Vetter himself had been ordained to the diaconate in the same location, served for six years as Director of Spiritual Formation for the college, and even ordained his nephew to the diaconate that day.

Several priests and fellow seminarians of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend journeyed to Rome in support of their brothers and to witness the joyous occasion.

Held on the Feast of the Archangels, Bishop Vetter called upon the 23 deacon candidates to reflect on each of the three archangels' missions in his homily: fighting against Satan, heralding the good news of Jesus Christ, and healing God's people as Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael did.

He then told them: "Men, Jesus is alive, and in a very powerful way today, you're proclaiming with your whole selves that you believe that and are willing to lay down your lives in humble service to Jesus and His Church. Get to work in God's field, His vineyard. You have been waiting years for this day, so get to work."

He then listed the three tools they would use to complete God's work: obedience, life-giving celibacy, and prayer.

"Obedience to your bishop, and in doing this, you're being obedient to the One Bishop, Jesus Christ Himself, not doing your own will, but the will of the One who sent you. Life-giving celibacy. If it's not life-giving, men, you will be lifeless; bitter, boring, tired, lonely, and living



Bishop Anthony A. Vetter of the Diocese of Helena, Montana, kneels below the Altar of the Chair in St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican City, on Sept. 29 during the Litany of Supplication as he ordained 23 men from the Pontifical North American College to the diaconate, including Deacons Sam Anderson and Zane Langenbrunner.

Jennifer Barton

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Catholic Leaders Weigh in on Upcoming, Busy Supreme Court Term

BY CAROL ZIMMERMAN

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) – The Supreme Court began its new term on Oct. 3, jumping right back into the fray with cases that take on affirmative action, voting, immigration, the environment, and freedom of speech.

This term will include a new member, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, replacing Justice Stephen Breyer, who retired at the end of last session. It also will be the first time the public will be allowed back inside the court since the start of the pandemic. The building will remain closed to the public – except for oral arguments – until further notice.

In a Sept. 28 news release, the court announced that it will continue to provide live audio of oral arguments this term.

Another change is outside. Barriers around the court since May – after protests erupted following a leak of the court's draft opinion on its *Dobbs* decision – have now been removed. The investigation into that leak, ordered by Chief Justice John Roberts, is still continuing.

For now, the court has agreed to hear 27 cases and has scheduled 18 of them.

In the weeks leading up to the court's new session, law schools and think tanks have presented previews of big cases coming up and speculation on how the justices might respond.

Adam Liptak, a Supreme Court Reporter for The New York Times, who moderated a few of these panels, pointed out in a Sept. 15 preview by the American Constitutional Society that the court was not taking a breather after just finishing "a tumultuous term."

And this term, as in many previous sessions, Catholic leaders have something to say about major cases coming up.

One case getting a lot of attention is *303 Creative v. Elenis* about a Colorado graphic designer who does not want to create wedding websites for same-sex couples based on her Christian beliefs about marriage. The case, which does not have a date yet for oral arguments, is similar to the 2017 case involving a Colorado baker who refused to make a custom wedding cake for a same-sex couple based on his religious beliefs.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, joined by the Colorado Catholic Conference and other religious groups, are siding with the designer as they did with the baker five years ago.

In an amicus brief, they said



CNS photo/Tyler Orsburn

this case gives the court the chance to clarify free speech issues it said the court fell short of doing in the previous case, *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*.

In a Sept. 21 court preview by the Federalist Society, one panelist described the website case as a sequel to the court's bakery decision and noted that the initial case "didn't actually address the big speech issues at play" and instead took an "off ramp narrowly in favor of the baker on very established religious liberty grounds."

"Here we have a new court," Amanda Shanor, Assistant Professor of Legal Studies and Business Ethics at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, continued.

One difference is that in the current case, the artist, Lorie Smith, is not fighting a specific incident, as was the baker who denied baking a custom cake for a same-sex couple. Smith wants the court to weigh in before she is even asked to design a website for a same-sex couple. Even though she does not wish to provide a service based on her Christian beliefs about marriage, the case hinges on her freedom of speech claim.

Shanor said Supreme Court review panels in 2017 likely didn't predict the baker winning, but now she already is pretty sure the court will likely rule in the artist's favor and said the case could have broad implications about who can be viewed as an artist.

The USCCB's brief said there is a "pressing need for the court to clarify how the com-

pelled speech doctrine applies to wedding-vendor cases and other disputes." It urged the justices to do what they have done in the past: "Apply the Free Speech Clause to protect religious speech, thereby strengthening liberty not just for the religious but for all society."

It also said the current case "provides an appropriate and especially important opportunity to invoke free speech protections again to address the ongoing tensions in wedding-vendor cases and in the current cultural context more broadly" and implored the court to "protect individuals from compelled speech and to provide space in the public square for minority voices."

Other groups that filed briefs on behalf of the wedding vendor included CatholicVote.org, the Thomas More Society, the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights, and the Becket Fund.

DignityUSA, an unofficial Catholic support group for gay Catholics and their families, and New Ways Ministry, a Catholic pastoral outreach to LGBTQ people and their families, joined a brief filed by 30 religious and civil rights groups opposing the graphic artist's case.

"Carving out this broad exemption would allow public businesses to legally exclude customers based on their identities," it said, adding that "instead of safeguarding every citizen's right to buy goods and services from businesses open to the public," the proposed exemption "would further hurt the very people these civil

rights laws were designed to protect."

Another hot-button topic before the court this year involves affirmative action with two separate cases – from Harvard University and the University of North Carolina – challenging the way higher education institutions use race as a factor in their admission process.

The court chose to hear the two challenges on Oct. 31 separately since Justice Jackson recused herself from the Harvard case because she just recently finished serving a six-year-term on the university's board of trustees.

Georgetown University filed an amicus brief with 56 Catholic colleges and universities urging the court to uphold affirmative action in admissions in these cases that challenge a 40-year legal precedent.

The brief, joined by the University of Notre Dame, the College of the Holy Cross, DePaul University, and Villanova University, among others, said the right to consider racial diversity in admissions is essential to their academic and religious missions and is "inextricably intertwined" with their religious foundations.

The brief also argued that this right is rooted in the First Amendment's guarantee of free speech and free exercise of religion, particularly for Catholic higher education institutions, whose ability to have discretion in how they choose students is critical to their religious missions.

2022 Friends of the Poor Walk/Run in Support of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul

BY ANDREW JACOBS

Fundraising, fellowship, and fun came together on a beautiful fall afternoon at the 6th Annual Friends of the Poor Walk/Run on Oct. 2. This national event raises funds for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a worldwide organization of lay Catholics who have been following Christ's call to serve the poor, suffering, and deprived since its founding in 1833.

This year's local Friends of the Poor Walk/Run began at Parkview Field in downtown Fort Wayne, where members of many Society of St. Vincent de Paul Parish Councils and other supporters and volunteers gathered for the event.

It was the third time walking in the event for Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. He commented, "It's great to see so many people who are committed to serving the poor and to this important mission of the Church. I love to walk with the people and show my support." He added, "And I need the exercise!"

Laura Schreck, Executive Director of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Fort Wayne said, "I love having all our parish conferences have an opportunity to be all together in one place."

No stranger to Catholic events around the Diocese, Nicholas Ferreri, WANE 15's Chief Meteorologist, was emcee for the event. He said, "The people here are just so excited and happy to be participating. Not everybody may be the fastest walker or runner, but that's not what today is about. It's about all the good work of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and at this event, when people are walking through downtown, with the signs of their parishes and the St. Vincent de Paul T-shirts, they get to tell everybody about it."

Ferreri formally kicked off the event, announcing several awards. The pastor who raised the most funds was also last year's winner, Father Tom Shoemaker, Pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Parish. St. Francis of Assisi Council in Angola had the highest percentage of member participation, and St. Charles Borromeo Parish raised the most funds, more than \$21,000. There were also 54 sponsors of the event, including title sponsor, Don Hall's Restaurants.

The event raised nearly \$50,000 to support the Society's mission in the Fort Wayne district, which served



Andrew Jacobs

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades joins hundreds of walkers and runners, especially those from Catholic parishes around the Fort Wayne-area, in support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Fort Wayne on Sunday, Oct. 2.

more than 50,000 people in 2021. Vincentians, as its members are called, provide a wide variety of assistance including food, rent, utility payments, transportation, clothing, household repairs, and more. The Society's hallmarks are accessibility, person-to-person service, and the ability to act quickly without time-consuming paperwork, which gives hope and encourages the people they serve to be more self-sufficient.

Bishop Rhoades noted that the Church celebrated the Feast of St. Vincent de Paul the previous Tuesday and that 400 years after his death, good works are still being done in the great saint's name in service to the Lord. He affirmed that, "When I see a need in our community, I can always turn to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and its parish conference for assistance, and they always find a way to help."

He gave the example of the many refugees from Afghanistan who arrived in the diocese this past year. "The wood shop of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul built bunk beds for the many Afghan children. These refugee families had their first exposure to Christianity through the support of Catholic Charities and the work of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, showing the face of Jesus to those who are most in need."

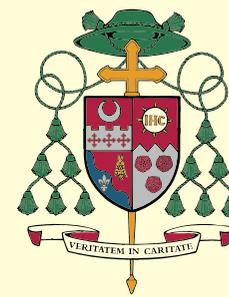
After a blessing by Bishop Rhoades, the walk/run event officially kicked off behind

home plate at the stadium. Walkers and runners of all ages and from many parishes throughout the diocese participated in the event, with smiles seen and lively conversations heard throughout.

The event began with a lap around the stadium, led by Bishop Rhoades, and continued into the heart of downtown Fort Wayne. On the three-mile route, participants passed by the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store, and St. Patrick Parish before returning to the stadium. The participants were guided along the route by volunteers holding signs and offering words of encouragement, and they were greeted with snacks and water at the finish, where many stayed to chat and enjoy the beautiful day.

"It's great to see the Catholic community come together to support the people of Fort Wayne, especially those that are under-served," said first-time walkers Brandon and Aubrey Baccari. "It shows that it's very important that we can get together in solidarity to show that our lives are in service to one another."

Gary and Betty from St. Francis of Assisi Council in Angola noted, "Everyone really has high energy, and we not only feel camaraderie with our own council who are here with us, but with the councils of all the other parishes."



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Monday, Oct. 10: 10 a.m. — Cabinet Meeting, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
 Monday, Oct. 10: 5 p.m. — Northeast Indiana Right to Life Banquet, Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne
 Tuesday, Oct. 11-Thursday, Oct. 13: Priest Continuing Education Days, Potawatomi Inn, Angola, Indiana
 Thursday, Oct. 13: 7 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, Christ the King Church, South Bend
 Friday, Oct. 14: 9 a.m. — Mass, Chapel of the Sacred Heart, St. John Paul II Center Chapel, Mishawaka
 Saturday, Oct. 15: 4 p.m. — Mass, St. Thomas More Chapel, Law School, University of Notre Dame
 Sunday, Oct. 16: 2 p.m. — Confirmation Mass, St. Mary of the Annunciation Church, Bristol

SUPREME COURT, from page 2

The challengers in both cases are urging the justices to overrule their 2003 decision in *Grutter v. Bollinger*, a ruling that said the University of Michigan could consider race in its undergraduate admissions process as part of its efforts to obtain a diverse student body.

Catholic leaders and immigration groups also will be paying attention to *United States v. Texas*, which does not have an argument date yet.

The case will once again examine the executive branch's authority to set immigration policy, criticized by Texas and Louisiana leaders as too lenient. It specifically challenges federal policy that prioritizes certain groups of unauthorized immigrants for arrest and deportation.

In the last term, the court ruled 5-4 in *Biden v. Texas* that the administration could end the Trump-era "Remain in Mexico" policy, or the Migrant Protection Protocols, that required people seeking asylum at the southern U.S. border to stay in Mexico until their asylum case could be heard.

Another Texas case, on the death penalty, has long had the attention of Texas Catholic bishops, Catholic opponents of capital punishment, as well as celebrities. The case, *Reed v. Goertz*, argued on Oct. 11, will examine when prisoners can pursue post-conviction claims for DNA testing of crime scene evidence.

Rodney Reed, sentenced to death more than 23 years ago for the murder of 19-year-old Stacey Stites, has maintained his innocence and his attorneys from the Innocence Project have brought forward crime scene evidence, not tested for DNA, that they say implicates

someone else.

In 2019, five days before he was scheduled to be executed, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals granted an indefinite stay of Reed's execution and said it was sending his case back to trial court for further review.

Sister Helen Prejean, a Sister of St. Joseph of Medaille, who is a longtime opponent of the death penalty, has been drawing attention to Reed's case for several years, citing lack of evidence of his guilt.

Similarly, Bishop Joe S. Vasquez of Austin, Texas, said in a 2019 statement that if Reed's execution proceeds, "there is great risk the state of Texas will execute a man who is innocent of this crime while allowing the guilty party to go free."

Other big cases before the court this term involve voting rights, the Clean Water Act, and a challenge to a California animal welfare law.

The court begins its new session amid low public support. A Gallup poll in June found just 25 percent of the public have confidence in the court.

A poll by Marquette University Law School this September found 40 percent of adults approve the job the court is doing, while 60 percent disapprove. A similar poll conducted by the Milwaukee Jesuit-run university in July showed 38 percent of adults favored the court's work and 61 percent disapproved. Both results were down from court approval the poll found in 2020 and early 2021.

Diamond Gala Supports Mothers and Their Babies

BY NICOLE HAHN

The 5th Annual Diamond Gala fundraiser to support A Mother's Hope was held on Sept. 29 at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum. The evening opened with a cocktail hour that included opportunities to buy gift cards, wine, whiskey, and of course, raffle tickets for a chance to win diamonds.

A Mother's Hope, located in Fort Wayne, is the only shelter that exclusively serves pregnant, homeless women from the local area. Since its opening in 2018, more than 100 women have been provided with housing and supportive assistance to strengthen their opportunities for stability, including intensive daily and weekly services that include structured therapeutic sessions, case management, educational opportunities, employment coaching, community connections, and individualized action plans.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades said the opening prayer before dinner was served.

Executive Director Stasia Roth took the stage after dinner to share some staggering statistics to show just how great the need is for a place like A Mother's Hope. "In 2022 alone, we have had 66 applications from women who meet the criteria for our program. All of these women were either first-time moms or did not have other children in their custody. Of these women, 14 have entered our program."

A Mother's Hope has housed 116 women and their babies in the past four years. Roth says they operate with a full house and a waiting list that typically has 10 or more pregnant women in need of shelter. "We see the desperate need in our community for housing for pregnant women increasing as we have already seen a 44 percent increase in the number of applications compared to last year, and its only September."

There was also great news to share as Roth said that 69 percent of the previous residents have kept in contact with them through phone calls, pictures, messages, and in-person



Provided by Stasia Roth

Staff members of A Mother's Hope pose for a photo at the 5th Annual Diamond Gala fundraiser held on Sept. 29 in Fort Wayne.

visits. She shared, "In all the many outcomes and measurements that we look at to measure success, I believe this is one of our greatest indicators

that this program makes a difference."

The evening ended with a live auction and a call for donations, bringing in the much-

needed funds it takes to keep A Mother's Hope in operation.

To learn more about the program or to make a donation, visit www.AMothersHopeFW.com.

Missionaries of Charity Serve 'the Peripheries' in Indianapolis

BY SEAN GALLAGHER

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — Missionaries of Charity are known around the world for their total dedication to serving the poorest of the poor solely out of their love for God.

In Indianapolis, four sisters of the congregation founded by St. Teresa of Kolkata have lived, prayed, and served those in need in a poverty-stricken neighborhood on the near east side of Indianapolis since 2000.

"You reach out to the poor, the vulnerable and the needy in all the different countries where the Missionaries of Charity are located," Archbishop Charles C. Thompson said during a Mass he celebrated for the four sisters in the chapel of their Our Lady of Peace Convent.

"The world sees someone who's been pushed aside, as Pope Francis says, to the peripheries," the Indianapolis archbishop said on Sept. 21. "You see the dignity of that person whom you've been called to serve. I'm preaching to the choir. You know this better than me."

Two of the Missionaries of Charity serving in Indianapolis knew St. Teresa, best known as Mother Teresa, who died 25 years ago. The congregation she founded now has more than 5,000 sisters.

The two sisters spoke with The Criterion, newspaper of the Indianapolis Archdiocese, about the effect she had on their lives.



CNS photo/Sean Gallagher, The Criterion

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson of Indianapolis speaks on Sept. 21, 2022, with four Missionaries of Charity after celebrating Mass for them at the congregation's Our Lady of Peace Convent, located in one of the city's poorest neighborhoods. The sisters are, from left, Sister Emerita, Sister Paulinus, Sister Janita and Sister Kiron Jyoti.

They also reflected on the ministry that they do on the streets of Indianapolis and through a shelter for women and children that they operate in their convent.

Sister Kiron Jyoti was 19 when she joined the Missionaries of Charity in 1995. Growing up near Kolkata, she often heard St. Teresa's name in her family home.

"My mother loved Mother Teresa so much," she said. "Every night after evening prayer in my home, my mother spoke about Mother Teresa. She talked about how much Mother Teresa loved God, how she picked up people from the streets, found a home for them, fed them, cleaned them. She

talked about how she saw Jesus in them."

Sister Kiron Jyoti got to know Mother Teresa herself after entering the order.

"Mother was just a simple woman like any of us," she said. "We had tea together or dinner together. She was a very joyful person. Her love for God was so deep. You could feel it when you were around her."

The sister was in the second year of her novitiate when Mother Teresa died on Sept. 5, 1997.

"I was there when Mother passed away that evening," she said. "It was at about 8:15. The news went out and plenty of people came. It was like they

were breaking down the motherhouse.

"It was a sad experience. It was like part of my life had gone. But we knew that she had gone home to God. That's what she taught us. There was a lot of support from people."

Sister Janita, the Superior of the Missionaries of Charity in Indianapolis, didn't know much about St. Teresa while growing up in a part of India far from Kolkata. But as she came to know the sisters of the order and their ministry, she chose to join them.

Later, St. Teresa personally took her to Rome and then to the Philippines to minister in both places.

"Mother was very simple," Sister Janita said. "She told everyone that she met, 'Jesus loves you.'"

Both Sister Kiron Jyoti and Sister Janita ministered in countries around the world before coming to Indianapolis earlier this year.

"There are two kinds of poverty — material poverty and spiritual poverty," Sister Kiron Jyoti said. "We are well-to-do here materially. But we have a lot of spiritual poverty."

The women who come to stay in their shelter, usually for no more than three weeks, know both kinds of poverty, she noted.

"The ladies who come here are very broken," Sister Kiron Jyoti said. "I talk with them. I try to listen with an understanding heart. Many of them

find peace before they leave this house."

"We tell the ladies who come here when we pray with them that God brought them here and that they are our sisters," said Sister Janita. "Then they are happy, because we are one with them."

The Missionaries of Charity in Indianapolis also teach children preparing for their first Communion at nearby St. Philip Neri Parish. They also visit women incarcerated in the Marion County Jail.

And they simply walk regularly through their neighborhood, usually praying the rosary while they do, wearing their distinctive white sari habit marked with blue stripes.

"It's a witness," said Sister Kiron Jyoti. "Whenever they see us with our religious habit, it's a witness. Like St. Francis said, we preach without preaching."

All of their ministry is powered by prayer. The sisters pray four and a half hours each day, beginning at 5 a.m. with an hour of prayerful meditation. They also worship daily at Mass and during a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament.

"It's like a car," said Sister Kiron Jyoti. "When the fuel goes out, what do you do? You go to the gas station and fill it up. That's what we do. We fill up ourselves. And when we're full with Jesus, we go out."

Gallagher is a reporter at The Criterion, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.



Today's Catholic file photo

What does it mean to be a DRE?

BY PAULA LENT

When asked what the role of Director of Religious Education (DRE) entails for the DREs in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Jonathan Kaltenbach, Diocesan Director of the Office of Catechesis, laughed and said, "I can just hear them all laughing now."

That's because DREs wear many hats, and the roles of each one varies from parish to parish. At small to medium-sized parishes, DREs are often involved in sacramental preparation, youth ministry, adult faith formation, and children's religious education. Larger parishes often have these jobs divided among more staff members.

Sean Driscoll has been the Director of Religious Education at St. Joseph Catholic Church in South Bend since 2017. Talking with him, one can easily be amazed at the number of hats he wears: he is in charge of sacramental preparation for parishioners; coordinating religious education classes for families and students; coordinating adult faith formation programs, including RCIA; overseeing catechists; leading Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) Level I; and, since St. Joseph parish has a school, he is also involved in teacher formation, and the eighth-grade year-long service encounter called the Summons Project.

Established by former principal Melissa Green, the Summons Project is an opportunity for eighth-graders to both discover their gifts and discern how they might use them for the local community.

"The students reflect on the particular gifts they have, such as a love for working with children, working with their hands, being outdoors, or being present to people," Driscoll said. "Then we invite several community partners, such as Hope Ministries and Catholic Worker, to present their mission to the students, who then figure out where they want to serve." Following this, the students each engage with a community partner at least monthly for

"I can just hear them all laughing now."

— Jonathan Kaltenbach,
Diocesan Director of the Office of Catechesis

six months, keeping a journal throughout.

"It's meaningful and builds relationships with the community they serve," Driscoll added. "It builds in the students an attitude of service as something that is very natural and is a profoundly natural outpouring of Christ in our lives."

His involvement in the Summons Project is very fitting, seeing as the role of DRE requires both the knowledge and utilization of his own gifts as well as those of the parish community, matching these gifts to needs. "Much of my job is knowing who to ask to do what," Driscoll explained. "I'm at this stage in my time at St. Joe where I can do that effectively. I know a good portion of the community and where people's gifts are. I'm responsible, but I'm not meant to do everything by myself. I'm a point person to rally gifts and personnel in the community to carry this out in a fruitful way. I'm blessed with a very supportive network."

At the diocesan level, Kaltenbach remarked that he is grateful for the experience, interests, and gifts that each DRE brings to the role. This unique mix creates what he called, "a beautiful mosaic of gifts offered to the Church."

Christians are each called to witness to the faith; to be faithful to prayer and to tending the soil of their lives in Christ through sacraments and formation; to live in community with the body of believers, sharing time, talent and treasure; and to both bring and accompany others in life in Christ. The way each person grows in these areas and lives out their callings varies, so it's no surprise that the role of DRE within the diocese does not have a general requirement for candidates apart from being a practicing Catholic who is invested in handing on the faith.

"Broadly speaking, cateche-

sis is something we all do as baptized Catholics and members of the Church to hand on the faith and echo Jesus, the Word of God," Kaltenbach said. "Our directors of religious education each have quite a bit of their own wisdom and experience from their own formation. The proportion of elements of formation in the four basic areas of intellectual, human, spiritual, and pastoral may differ, and there are other skills and talents that each brings to the role."

For Driscoll, his path to this position began at the University of Notre Dame. While studying to be a chemical engineer, he became involved with campus ministry. After participating in Notre Dame's Vision program, which gave him direct pastoral experience, he joined the Echo program – a graduate service program to form lay ministry leaders through work and study within the community – and realized a calling to lay ministry.

"Echo very directly prepared me for the role of DRE," Driscoll said. "I greatly value the communal formation I received and the experiences around it. In hindsight, this is what God prepared me for all along."

As a step towards continuing formation, the diocese offers a basic catechetical course which new DREs are encouraged to complete, and which is free and available to anyone. "Foundations of Faith" is an eight-unit course, offered in four-unit biweekly sessions in the fall and spring. There is also an option to complete the course over two consecutive summer programs which are each one-week long and cover four units. Topics covered through "Foundations of Faith" include: prayer and worship, revelation and scripture, the sacraments, and life in Christ.

At St. Joseph, Driscoll helps

to facilitate continued formation for the school teachers. "Teachers do so much day in and day out in educating our children and being a witness to them," he said. "The grade school is the largest ministry of our parish. They're not just educating – they are forming young disciples of Christ. We can't ask them to do something that they themselves aren't being formed in as well."

"Without overflowing their plates, we offer them more time for prayer and being fed in a spiritually formative way." To this end, faculty meet every five to six weeks for communal prayer and Mass together. Then they hear a talk or witness sharing from either Driscoll or a priest. Last year's topics aligned with the theme "Pillars of Holy Cross." This year's theme is the Eucharistic Revival.

The role of the Holy Spirit working within the parish

community and his own life is something that Driscoll can see looking back, and leans into as he moves forward. "It's a cultural mentality at St. Joe that the work we're doing is not our own," he said. "If it were, this would be a dramatic failure. We do our work, and engage in the necessary formation to do the work, but the Holy Spirit is going to do His will through us."

At the diocesan level, Kaltenbach also points to his gratitude for the Holy Spirit and the community of directors with whom he is privileged to work. "I'm grateful to get to work with our current DREs. I'm grateful for their service, ministry, reciprocity, and willingness to serve. It really is a blessing for me to be able to support them as best as I can in their ministry. They've supported me at the diocesan level as well."

"Prayer and spiritual life is the foundation of life, and ministry," Kaltenbach added. "Like the rest of the Christian life, ministry is full of its crosses and full of its joys. Only the Holy Spirit will give us the strength to bear those crosses and see those joys."



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NEWS BRIEFS

Pope Names New Members to Commission for Protection of Minors

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Pope Francis reconfirmed the leadership of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors and expanded its membership from 17 to 20 people, naming 10 new members and reappointing 10 returning members. U.S. Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley of Boston, President of the commission, said, "Coming from all over the world with varied backgrounds and a common passion for the well-being of children and vulnerable people, the members announced today include advocates and practitioners of prevention and protection to the many areas in which the Church ministers to children." The members include "representatives from canon law, social work, the medical and psychological professions, law enforcement, and the judiciary, as well as pastoral experts who currently work in dioceses and religious congregations," he said in a statement on Sept. 30, the day the appointments were announced. "They have all spent significant amounts of their professional lives listening to and supporting victim/survivors of sexual abuse by clergy and Church personnel," he said. The commission's 20 members include 10 women and 10 men. Twelve of the members are laypeople, three are women religious, three are bishops, and two are priests. Four represent Africa or the Middle East, five come from the Americas, five from Asia and Oceania, and six from Europe.

French Bishops Warn Allowing Euthanasia Would Upset Ethical Balance

PARIS (CNS) – France's Catholic bishops warned President Emmanuel Macron's government that "immoral legislation" to allow euthanasia risked overturning the country's "ethical equilibrium. Through decades, a balance has been found in avoiding relentless treatment and promoting palliative care – this 'French path' has gained a following and says something about our country's ethical heritage," said the 10-member Executive Council of the Bishops' Conference. "Our caregivers, who must face so many concrete difficulties sustaining our health system, often express how much they are attached to this balance – it gives honor to their profession and meaning to their commitment," bishops said. "During the COVID-19 crisis, our society made weighty sacrifices to save lives, particularly of the most fragile, even over-isolating the sick or elderly

Hurricane Ian Takes Toll on Florida Coastline



CNS photo/Shannon Stapleton, Reuters

The partially collapsed Sanibel Causeway in Sanibel Island, Fla., is seen on Sept. 29, 2022, after Hurricane Ian caused widespread destruction.

to preserve their bodily health. How can it be possible, just a few months after this great national mobilization, that society now gives the impression of seeing no other answer to life's fragility than active help in dying and assisted suicide?" the bishops asked in a statement the weekend of Sept. 24-25. The French government plans to legalize euthanasia by the end of 2023.

Russian Bishops: Nation Must Recognize Conscientious Objection to War

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) – Russia's bishops said Catholics face dilemmas responding to a mass call-up for the war in Ukraine, and they urged President Vladimir Putin's government to recognize conscientious objection. "The confrontation in Ukraine has grown into a full-scale military conflict and already claimed thousands of lives, undermining trust and unity between countries and peoples, and threatening the entire world's existence," the Moscow-based bishops' conference said in a pastoral letter. "The permissibility of partici-

pating in hostilities is ultimately a matter for the human conscience, which belongs to the most secret and holiest part of man – where he is alone with God, whose correct judgment he must always obey." The letter, quoting the Catechism of the Catholic Church, was published on Sept. 28 as Ukrainian forces continued an eastern counteroffensive, a week after Putin's announcement that at least 300,000 reservists were being called up to fight. The bishops said their hearts were "filled with grief and powerlessness" at the inability to "decisively change the situation and prevent further victims," adding that the mobilization had confronted Catholics with a "most serious moral choice."

Follow the Money: Brazil's Prisons Generate Income, Say Pastoral Workers

SÃO PAULO (CNS) – In Brazil, like most countries, prison ministry involves visiting and praying with inmates, but as Brazil's prisons increasingly are treated as moneymakers, the ministry also means advocating for the rights of prisoners. People who

work in the Brazilian bishops' prison ministry can tell of the problems: lack of running water during most of the day, poor hygiene, overcrowding, insufficient and low-quality food, and disrespect for basic human needs, including access to health care services. The bishops started the prison ministry 50 years ago, and German-born Sister Petra Pfaller, a member of the Missionaries of Christ who heads the program, sees money as one of the driving forces in Brazil's prison system today. "The Brazilian law offers many ways for a defendant to wait for trial out of custody. People with money can hire attorneys and manage to stay out of prison. The poor cannot do that," she said. "The Brazilian state has opted for a highly repressive policy when it comes to conflict resolution," she added. "And it targets poor Black young residents of slums."

Vatican Announces Theme for World Communications Day

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Pope Francis' theme for the next World Communications Day is a call for a peaceful dialogue that allows for uncomfortable

truths to be spoken of without resorting to contentious and hostile debate, the Vatican announced. Speaking the truth "means giving 'a reason for your hope' and doing so gently, using the gift of communication as a bridge and not as a wall," the Vatican said on Sept. 29 when it announced the theme of World Communications Day 2023. Each year, the Vatican and many dioceses mark World Communications Day on the Sunday before Pentecost; in 2023, it will be celebrated on May 21. The pope's choice for the theme is: "Speak with the heart: Veritatem facientes in caritate" (Speaking the truth in love). The Vatican publishes the pope's full message for the occasion on Jan. 24, the feast of St. Francis de Sales, patron saint of journalists. Also on Sept. 29, the Vatican announced several new members for the Dicastery for Communication, including Bishop Valdir José de Castro of Campo Limpo, Brazil, and Italian Archbishop Ivan Maffei of Perugia-Città della Pieve. Pope Francis also appointed new consultants for the dicastery, including U.S. communications expert Helen Osman, President of Signis, the World Catholic Association for Communication, based in Brussels.

Food Cannot Be Used as 'Bargaining Chip,' Pope Says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – The international community can no longer ignore the cries of the poor and the hungry who fall victim to food loss and waste, Pope Francis said. In a Sept. 29 message to Qu Dongyu, Director-General of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization, or FAO, the pope lamented the "paradox of abundance" – that there is enough food to feed the world population, but millions continue to starve due to its improper management and distribution. "Food cannot be the object of speculation," he wrote, referring to the betting on future food prices by financial markets. "Life depends on it. And it is a scandal that large producers encourage compulsive consumerism to enrich themselves without even considering the real needs of human beings. Food speculation must be stopped! We must stop treating food, which is a fundamental good for all, as a bargaining chip for a few," he said. The pope's message to Qu coincided with the U.N. International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste. FAO said the international day highlights a "clear call to action for public and private entities from across the food system to act now to reduce (food loss and waste) and raise awareness among consumers of the urgent need for actions they can take to cut food waste."

Parishes Create Street Evangelization Teams

BY CLAIRE KENNEY

Two parishes in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend recently launched street evangelization teams to minister to their local populations.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne currently has seven active members on their Street Evangelization Team. The team is led by Chris Langford, who has felt called to the ministry for years. After retiring last year, he found the opportunity to do so.

"I have wanted to do this since I was in my 20s," Langford explained. "Now I have an opportunity to do this."

So far, the team's initiative has led members to go door to door ministering about the Catholic faith, ministering in a park setting, and even organizing a prayer service at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton called Light the Fire, where the approximately 300 in attendance had the opportunity to go to confession, take advantage of priest counseling services, and pray.

"Individuals and families were invited to enter the church and light a candle for peace in our country and world," Langford said of Light the Fire.

St. Vincent de Paul Parish, also in Fort Wayne, is slated to officially launch their Street Evangelization Team soon. Led by Monica Aquila, Pastoral Associate for Communications, and Father Brian Isenbarger,



Provided by Chris Langford

Bill Davis, Michele Fox, and team leader Chris Langford set up to spread the Word of God at Indian Trails Park in Aboite Township in July as part of the Street Evangelization Team from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne.

Parochial Vicar, the team is currently working through its initial evangelization strategy.

"We are thinking through ways to bring the Gospel to those outside the walls of our church; to those who would never come onto our church grounds," Aquila commented. "We want to invite people to

know the love of God, that He has a plan for their lives, and that He wants a relationship with them."

While St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's team has received steady interest in the ministry, Langford explained that oftentimes many have trepidation about evangelizing.

"But Catholics are petrified to evangelize because they have no experience, feel they are not equipped, and fear a hostile response," Langford said.

However, in Langford's experience, once taking part in active evangelization, many find a comfort in the ministry.

"Those few who so far have gone out evangelizing with us have in most cases been quite nervous and uncomfortable," he explained. "But just doing it and seeing how gracious and pleasant the people we talk to are is rapidly making our people more and more comfortable."

Those that St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's Street Evangelization Team evangelize to are open to a conversation about Christ.

"No hostility," said Langford. "People are always courteous and sometimes receptive."

When evangelizing, Langford says he has prayed and conversed with a wide array of people with a wide array of needs. He has found that fallen-away Catholics, atheists, and other denominations alike are touched by the ministry.

There are "lots of hurting people," he said.

In every interaction, this team meets those they encounter in their journey and then caters their conversation and prayer to those needs.

"We meet people where they are at — what they need physically, emotionally," Langford said. "Encourage them to take the next step in faith."

For other parishes interested in launching a Street Evangelization Team, the diocese will host two formal trainings in the spring. St. Vincent de Paul will host one on May 6 and St. Pius X will host another on May 13.

122nd Safe Haven Baby Box Dedicated at Fire Station

BY RYAN GRILL

MISHAWAKA — On Wednesday, Sept. 28, the 122nd Safe Haven Baby Box in the country was dedicated with a blessing and unlocked at Mishawaka Fire Station #3. This is the 88th Baby Box in the state of Indiana. The dedication included speeches from Fire Chief Bryon Woodward, Mayor Dave Wood (a Knight from Council 1878), and Founder and CEO of Safe Haven Baby Boxes, Monica Kelsey.

The mission of Safe Haven Baby Boxes is to aid mothers in crisis as a last line of defense for life. The Knights of Columbus Councils in the Mishawaka and South Bend area have been working hard to bring another baby box to the area. Earlier in January, the 93rd Baby Box in the country was dedicated at South Bend Fire Station #11.

Much of the money raised came from the Knights them-



Photos provided by Ryan Grill

Knights of Columbus members Ray Sommer, George Adams, Gene Sherry, Scott Sherry, Rick Burmeister, Founder and CEO of Safe Haven Baby Boxes Monica Kelsey, Father Jim Fenstermaker, CSC, Mishawaka Fire Chief Byron Woodward, Ryan Grill, and Eric Van Meter stand beside the new Baby Box as part of the dedication, blessing, and unlocking ceremony at Fire Station #3 in Mishawaka on Sept. 28.

selves. This year alone, seven babies have been safely surrendered at Baby Boxes in Indiana. Being pro-life is one of the main focuses for the

Knights of Columbus, and having these boxes in the community speaks to the commitment of the brother Knights in the Mishawaka-South Bend area.



This is the view of the Baby Box from inside Fire Station #3 in Mishawaka. The Baby Box was dedicated and unlocked on Sept. 28.

Representing the Knights of Columbus in the area was the Color Corps from Assembly #242, Knights Eric Van Meter, Ryan Grill, George Adams, Rick Burmeister, Ray Sommer,

Gene Sherry, and Scott Sherry. These Knights are from area councils including Council 553, Council 5521, Council 5570, and Council 17043.



St. Vincent de Paul School Offers Unique Education Experience

BY JOSHUA SCHIPPER

Students at St. Vincent de Paul School had been back in the classroom for a little more than a month when they welcomed Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades to their parish on Sept. 27. He began his pastoral visit by celebrating Mass with the students and educators.

Concelebrating the Mass were Father Brian Isenbarger and Father Polycarp Fernando, both parochial vicars at the parish. Pastor Father Daniel Scheidt was in Rome to witness the ordination of Samuel Anderson, a son of the parish and graduate of St. Vincent, to the diaconate.

During the homily, Bishop Rhoades reminded those gathered that, on Sept. 27, the Church celebrates the feast of the parish's patron saint, St. Vincent de Paul.

"Four hundred years ago, there was a very good shepherd: a man who became a priest, who had a great love for the sheep, especially for the poor and the sick. And the slaves – the suffering. And do you know who that priest was? Vincent De Paul."

The bishop continued to tell the students about the life of St. Vincent de Paul, from his early years on the family farm, to being ordained at a young age. Bishop recalled that, although St. Vincent de Paul had initially been quite interested in material things, he eventually "realized that life wasn't about making money. But God was calling him to serve the poor. In his early years, as a priest, he was working in a couple of different parishes. And he was very committed to the poor. As a matter of fact, he started organizing groups of women in the parish, and some were wealthy women. And they were very good. They really wanted to help the poor."

Bishop Rhoades then applied this to the lives of the students, telling them that they should model the charitable attitude of their patron saint, not just in mind and heart, but



Photos by Joshua Schipper

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades opened the floor to questions about him, the Church, and the Catholic faith after Mass.

in actions.

"It's not enough to worship the Eucharist. That's really important, but we also are called to live the Eucharist. Actually imitate Jesus's self-giving love and service. Jesus, who healed the sick – who fed the hungry. I want you all to think about that today. Think about your patron saint. And remember that love and care and service for the sick and the poor and the suffering isn't just something for great saints like Vincent de Paul. It's part of the mission of every parish and every Catholic school."

After Mass, the student body prayed a rosary in the church before Bishop Rhoades opened the floor to questions about the episcopacy and the faith.

He told students, some of whom are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, that he chose the Apostle John as his confirmation name.

"I chose this apostle, who I thought was Jesus' best friend



Students asked about the day-to-day responsibilities of a bishop, as well as why Bishop Rhoades wore certain clothing and colors.

because I felt a close friendship with Jesus," he said. "I love Jesus very much. I wanted Him to be my best friend. So I chose John, and my friendship with Jesus grew. When I went to college, I started to go to Mass every day, and became even closer to Jesus. And then, when I was a sophomore, my second year of college, I really knew. I prayed and I knew that Jesus was calling me to be a priest."

One student asked Bishop Rhoades what his favorite prayer is. "Wow. I would have to say, although it's several prayers, the rosary. I love to pray the rosary. But the Our Father is the greatest prayer because Jesus gave us the Our Father."

Principal Zachary Coyle and Father Isenbarger then led Bishop Rhoades to various classrooms to show the bishop the innovative education programs that have been implemented at St. Vincent in recent years.

"We take both halves of our mission extremely seriously," said Coyle. "The first half is we empower the students to live and share their Catholic faith. The second half is that students grow in academic success. We're really intentional about that."

Coyle explained that, while the classes of 30 students might be a bit higher than many comparable schools in the area, each of those classrooms has a teaching assistant. The school also tests the academic classroom performance of students three times each year to collect data on areas where individual students might need more help, or if students would be better challenged by a more advanced curriculum.

Bishop Rhoades visited a computer science classroom which offers a robotics elective to students three times each week.

Coyle said that the junior-high elective program is something that makes St. Vincent unique, and that the program allows students "to meet in a class that they are passionate about. And they can change



Bishop Rhoades met three brothers of the Olson family, two of whom were featured on the poster of the Annual Bishop's Appeal this year.



St. Vincent Principal Zachary Coyle led Bishop Rhoades around the St. Vincent de Paul facility. Coyle said that his school has implemented programs to assess and assist students' academic abilities, as well as their mental health and well-being.

electives, quarter to quarter.”
 He also mentioned several other electives that the students can choose. “They are watching films, they’re looking at the study of making films, they actually are making short clips as well. But they’re really especially looking for that in a way to evangelize and share our faith. We’ve got our art teachers offering clay and paper maché. We actually have a kiln; we do pottery here. We also have, from the art side, portraiture. The students are learning how to paint self-portraits and portraits of others.”

Coyle also mentioned that St. Vincent has a leadership team comprised of teachers from every department of the school who help to advise him and give him “meaningful feedback” on what works and what does not work.

The principal, reflecting on the day, said that he is “so inspired that our students were in the church for two and a half hours with real, actual joy about speaking with Bishop Rhoades. I think they received him with this feeling that they were welcomed by their bishop: they knew that they could ask him whatever. They were comfortable. They were inherently at peace speaking with our successor to the apostles in a way that speaks to Bishop Rhoades’ leadership and goodness as a pastor – as the shepherd of the diocese. It speaks to his desire to engage with them.”



Smiling students greeted the bishop in their classrooms as he quizzed them in areas of Spanish and Social Studies.



As Bishop Rhoades passed by the playground, students rushed over to ask him questions and give him high-fives.



VATICAN ORDINATION, from page 1

in self-pity. Who wants that? And prayer. The Liturgy of the Hours, sanctifying all time to the Church and the entire world. ... When we get to heaven, I think we're going to be shocked at the difference our praying the breviary has meant to the world and for the world."

Bishop Vetter also called them to go into the streets – the streets of which he spoke were the deacons' college hallways – and to give themselves spiritually to those who walk the halls beside them every day. "It is a beautiful thing to be tired at the end of a day because of hard work. And no work should be beneath you.

"Finally, you're a group of talented, happy, holy, healthy men with great gifts, but you're also weak and broken, still in need of a savior, and you have one – the only one, Jesus Christ. ... And you may know, too, that those archangels are on your side, the messengers of Jesus Christ who is indeed alive."

After the homily, candidates came forth one by one and professed their obedience to their respective bishops before laying prostrate in front of the altar as the all-men's choir from the PNAC sang the Litany of Supplication over them. After this, Bishop Vetter laid his hands on each candidate, saying the prayer of ordination, followed by the vesting of the new deacons. Deacon Jacob Schneider vested Deacon Anderson and Deacon Brian Florin vested Deacon Langenbrunner.

For both new deacons, it was a special honor to be ordained in the greatest of all churches in the Eternal City. Deacon Anderson called it "Truly a privilege, a special blessing, not only to be in a basilica of such historical and spiritual importance, surrounded by so many people who've made the trip, especially for this. It's truly a beautiful, sacred space."

He was grateful for the family members and friends who were able to travel to Italy simply to show him their love and support and said, "I just pray it's an opportunity for them to encounter the love of Christ themselves."

While many family members and friends could not make the trip, there were other blessings that the new deacons received in being ordained in Rome. Deacon Anderson spoke of the family atmosphere at the PNAC, saying, "All the seminarians at the North American College put many hours into it, the ceremony — praying for the liturgy, singing in the choir, masters of ceremonies, guys working as ushers — everyone in the house was involved in putting this week on for both the pilgrims and those who

Jennifer Barton

Bishop Anthony Vetter lays his hands on the heads of the two deacon candidates from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Congratulations to SAM ANDERSON on his Diaconal Ordination
St. Peter's Basilica, Rome, September 29, 2022

"I have come not to be served, but to serve, and to give my life" — Mark 10:45

From his home parish family

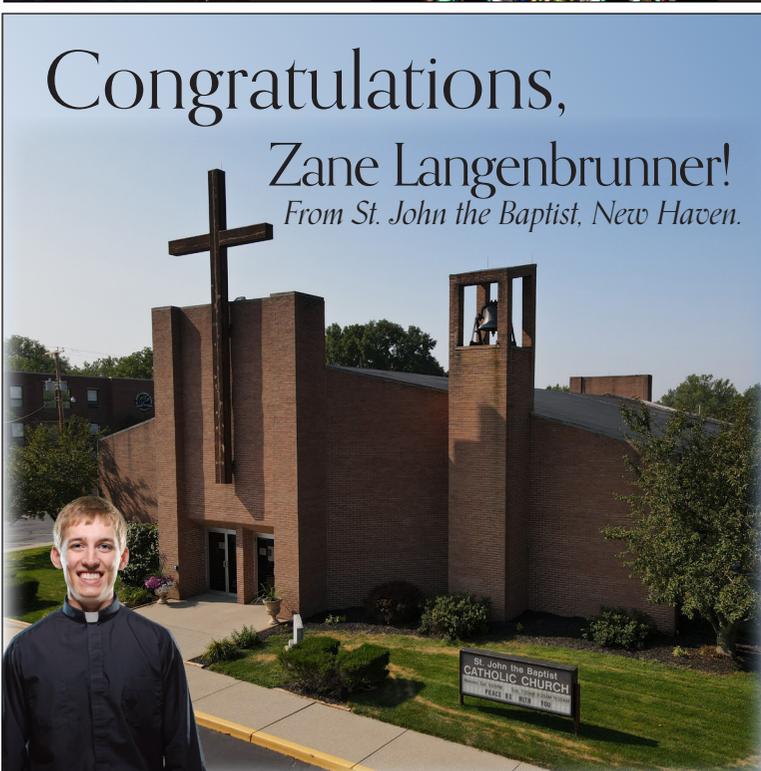


SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL CATHOLIC PARISH

Congratulations, Zane Langenbrunner!
from St. Monica Parish, Mishawaka



Congratulations, Zane Langenbrunner!
From St. John the Baptist, New Haven.





Provided by Father Mark Gurtner

Deacon Zane Langenbruner's first Mass as a deacon at San Patrizio, the National Church of the United States in Rome.



Provided by Father David Schunk, STL

Deacons Sam Anderson and Zane Langenbruner are all smiles after their ordination in Rome on Sept. 29. The two were asked by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades to study in Rome three years ago.



Jim Anderson

Deacon Sam Anderson's first Mass as a deacon at the church of his pastoral assignment, Santa Maria in Monserrato degli Spagnoli, the Spanish National Church.

were not here."

That community is what he expects to carry home to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. "I know we're just going to bring that back to the diocese, hopefully bring everything we learned here back to the service of the people," he said.

Deacon Langenbruner spoke of his gratitude to be ordained with his fellow classmates, and anticipates his priestly ordination with his fellow deacons back in Indiana. "It was really special. Those

were all guys that I arrived with three years ago. We've been through a lot of ups and downs over those three years, grown a lot together, done a lot of formation together, so it was really a great culminating moment of what the Lord has been doing in us in the seminary in the last couple of years."

He reported that many of the deacon candidates embraced each other in the sacristy just prior to the ceremony. "I think we just kind of sensed the gravity of the moment ... I felt more than anything grateful that I was going through this with those guys." The reality of his ordination, he said, hit him on the evening before the ordination as he said his nightly prayers, knowing that the next day he would be saying them as a deacon.



Welcome to the Diaconate Sam Anderson

From the staff,
clergy, and faithful of
St. Joseph Parish,
Mishawaka

Congratulations to Zane Langenbrunner on his Diaconate Ordination.



From his beloved
St. Bavo Family

Sam Anderson:

Thank you for spending
your summer with us.

- the Staff and Faithful of
St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne

 SAINT JUDE
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Psychedelic Drugs and New Mental Health Treatments

Researchers are investigating a new generation of drugs for treating mental illness derived from psychedelic substances. A molecule known as psilocybin, for example, found in “magic mushrooms,” appears to be helpful in treating patients with depression. Although these powerful psychoactive substances can be abused for their hallucinogenic/psychedelic properties, several strategies can help assure their therapeutic use in an ethically-sound way for the treatment of mental illness.

One strategy involves an approach known as “microdosing.” A microdose relies on a fraction of the dose that typically causes a hallucinogenic, psychedelic experience. Anti-depressant benefits have been reported with doses a tenth to a twentieth of the psychotropic “tripping dose,” thereby avoiding a full-blown psychedelic experience.

A 2022 study published in the journal *Nature* by researchers from the University of British Columbia confirmed that at one month post treatment, psilocybin microdosers demonstrated greater observed improvements in mood and mental health when compared to non-microdosed controls.

In addition to psilocybin, a faster-acting psychedelic drug known as dimethyltryptamine, or DMT, is also being studied for its ability to provide durable antidepressant activity for

some patients, with benefits reportedly lasting three to five months following treatment.

Psychedelic-assisted approaches show particular promise when combined with psychotherapy sessions to treat severe depression or post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or both. Following a microdosing session, an individual may report feeling more emotionally tender, more sensitive to his or her own feelings, and more open to breaking out of neurotic thought loops.

In the hands of a skilled therapist, it may be possible to use that period of reflection to help a patient find his or her way through a past trauma. Integration becomes quite important, as the therapist seeks to “imprint” new insights and create new pathways.

Some clinicians have emphasized that without supportive interventions and appropriate psychotherapy, if a painful experience is unlocked, there is a risk of re-traumatization and severe stress.

Individuals being treated with psychedelics might be triggered to confront unanticipated and painful memories; alternatively, visceral, uncomfortable, or frightening experiences may be provoked, potentially making matters worse for an individual who is seeking improved mental health. Accompaniment and therapy in psychedelic treatment is, therefore, particularly important. An already-established, trusted, and tested relationship with a psychotherapist is invaluable prior to turning towards approaches that rely on drug-induced alterations of one’s mental state.



MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

Although the physiological safety of psychedelics is relatively well established, psychological and psychiatric effects are less predictable, with effects that depend on setting, health, mood, belief systems, and cultural environment. A good measure of caution and circumspection are required and these agents should only be used under skilled supervision. People have entered into states of psychosis after experimenting with psychedelic drugs. Experiencing a “bad trip” can leave individuals with flashbacks for years. If someone is already on the brink of psychosis or despair, the wrong experience could be very damaging.

When it comes to psychotherapy, moreover, not all practitioners will necessarily be equally competent. The adage, “Be careful who you allow to

walk in the landscape of your mind,” implies that care and practical wisdom are called for when pursuing professional guidance and support. A competent Catholic psychotherapist can assist with treatment from a holistic angle that integrates spiritual, religious, and psychological dimensions, all of which may be needed for healing therapies to be most effective.

Young people require special attention and protection from drug-induced effects. Early exposure to mind-altering drugs can turn into disastrous multi-year stretches with various addictions. Mind-altering drugs raise the prospect of pushing youth with fragile, still-developing neural circuits “over the edge” and leading them into a future marked by struggles with substance dependencies.

For more extreme cases of depression, patients receiving larger psychedelic doses than microdoses have also sometimes reported enduring improvements. Advocates for the use of psychedelic substances note that while some may recoil at the prospect of “tripping” or encountering distortions in perception, those facing severe depression already have a highly distorted perception and that such drugs may help derail patterns of neural activity that underlie these distortions.

As clinical work with psychedelic substances advances,

we may begin to see the development of other variants of these molecules that will offer desirable therapeutic outcomes without the “hallucinations” that are often seen as a barrier for these types of drugs.

Recognizing a certain eagerness on the part of the public to become early adopters of psychotropic therapies, e.g. marijuana treatments promoted on limited evidence, it remains important to emphasize how prudence and caution are in order. In the words of one researcher, “public uptake of microdosing has outpaced evidence, mandating further prospective research.”

As these drugs begin to appear on the scene for valid therapeutic purposes, it will be important to acknowledge the risks and dangers of non-monitored or self-administered psychedelics, even as we seek to identify and carefully minister to mental health subpopulations that may benefit significantly from these novel and promising approaches.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D., serves as the Director of Education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org.

God’s Mercy for All



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Luke 17:11-19

The Second Book of Kings furnishes this weekend’s first Scriptural reading at Mass. The two books of Kings were once a single volume, but time passed and editors divided the volume into two parts.

They are among the Old Testament’s historical writings. While they are interested in the careers of the early kings of Israel, as the name implies, none of the Old Testament is primarily about history in and of itself.

Instead, the Old Testament books are concerned with religion, and more precisely with the relationship between God

and all the Hebrew people. In the view of the ancients, the most important question in life was how to live in faithfulness to God. Nothing else mattered.

So, while the kings are prominent in these books, religious figures are also much in evidence.

This weekend’s reading is an example. The central personality is not a king, but rather it is Naaman. Two strikes are against Naaman. He is a Gentile and he is a leper. It was much more than a coincidence of birth, religious choice, or bad health. Each circumstance smacked of estrangement from God. Leprosy was seen as punishment for sin.

Naaman was cured by bathing in the Jordan River. The Jordan formed an actual border between the Promised Land, home of the devout, and the foreign world, filled with treachery and death and peopled by unbelievers. Crossing the Jordan symbolized and was entry into the land of God’s chosen people.

After being cured, Naaman went to thank God, represented by the prophet Elisha. It is a

story then of divine mercy and of recognizing God’s power and mercy.

The Second Epistle to Timothy is the next reading. The epistle reassured and challenged Timothy, an early convert to Christianity, disciple of Paul, and bishop. Anyone who truly dies with Christ by dying to sin receives everlasting life with God.

St. Luke’s Gospel provides the last reading. Leprosy occurs throughout the Scriptures. What was it in today’s clinical sense? It obviously was chronic then and without any known cure. Modern medicine has an answer. Then, it was a fearful fate.

Unaware of most of the workings of disease, ancient Jews saw a curse from God in leprosy. Somehow, somewhere, the leper had disobeyed God.

Fearing contagion, communities forced lepers to live apart. Isolated and spurned, lepers were forced to live lives of want to the point of starvation.

This reading also has an ethnic component. Jews

scorned Samaritans since Samaritans long ago tolerated pagan invaders and intermarried with the pagans, producing offspring not purely Hebrew, thereby blurring the identity of the chosen people. Jews thought that Samaritans were the worst of the worst, incapable of anything good.

Amid this, Jesus healed and forgave. His actions were works of the merciful God. He was God.

Reflection

It is impossible today to imagine the amazement of people when they heard Jesus speak kindly of lepers or of Samaritans, who in popular opinion were irredeemable sinners shunned by God. This is critical for understanding the readings.

Presumably Jews, nine of the lepers cured in this story from St. Luke’s Gospel saw themselves as being entitled to God’s mercy and forgiveness.

The 10th leper was different. An unworthy Samaritan, he nevertheless realized that God’s mercy had come to

him. He gave thanks to Jesus, whom the leper understood to be the bearer of divine mercy.

By sinning, we all have deserted God. We all are lepers and Samaritans. We deserve nothing, yet with unending love, God cures us of the weakening effects of our sin, restores us to life, and welcomes us into the fold of those loyal to Him.

The key is our own humility and recognition of our need for God.

READINGS

Sunday: 2 Kgs 5:14-17 Ps 98:1-4 Tm 2:8-13 Lk 17:11-19

Monday: Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31:5-1 Ps 113:1b-5a, 6-7 Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday: Gal 5:1-6 Ps 119:41, 43-45, 47-48 Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday: Gal 5:18-25 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 11:42-46

Thursday: Eph 1:1-10 Ps 98:1-6 Lk 11:47-54

Friday: Eph 1:11-14 Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13 Lk 12:1-7

Saturday: Eph 1:15-23 Ps 8:2-3b, 4-7 Lk 12:8-12

Catholics Weigh in with their Concerns

Catholics have lots of opinions about their Church these days, from preaching to polarization. So imagine what happens when you ask 700,000 what they think. That's how many Americans took part in listening sessions that were part of a consultation for the next world Synod of Bishops in 2023.

Called "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission," the synod on synodality, when first announced, inspired more of a "synodal what?" than a "here's what's on my mind."

But according to the recently released "national synthesis," which brought together feedback from 178 dioceses and 112 organizations for a total of 22,000 individual reports, Catholics got over their puzzlement and sounded off: the good, the bad, the concerning.

As would be expected about almost any endeavor in the Church these days, the process has had its critics. Are we hearing from disgruntled factions rather than a representative sampling? Are disengaged or alienated Catholics having too much of a say?

Pope Francis would suggest that the doubters were failing to trust the Holy Spirit, and that listening is not legislating. It is encountering.

The report is neither long nor boring. It addresses the many wounds in the Church, beginning with the sexual abuse crisis. "The sin and crime of sexual abuse has eroded not only trust in the hierarchy and the moral integrity of the Church, but also created a culture of fear that keeps people from entering into relationship with one another," it summarized.

Catholics expressed concern about the impact of the pan-

dem and worried about divisions over the traditional Latin Mass. Both advocates for that Mass and those who prefer the Mass most commonly celebrated in most parishes "reported feeling judged by those who differ from them."

A lack of unity among the bishops was called "a source of grave scandal." There was also concern about marginalized groups, ranging from immigrants, the unborn and mothers, the disabled, the unmarried and remarried outside the Church, and gay and lesbian Catholics.

There is a lot in the report to mull over, which has now made its way to Rome. If you would like to read the report for yourself, go to www.usccb.org/synod.

One area I found particularly of interest was communications. There seemed a broad desire for "improvement in communication" throughout the Church, from the chancery to the parish to the parishioners, and likewise a concern about the "spread of misinformation."

The report also linked communication with transparency and accountability. Clearly, Catholic journalism can play a role in both, if journalists can be trusted to do their jobs.

It is difficult for organizations to be self-transparent and self-accountable, which is where the press comes in. The steady shrinkage of the Catholic press, especially diocesan press, also raises a concern about trustworthy sources of information.

The reports "lamented the challenge of identifying responsible Catholic media." Social media and the internet are often the only media available, yet they can be divisive and sensationalist, focused more



AMID THE FRAY

GREG ERLANDSON

on "hot-button issues" than the Church's "consistent ministry." And discerning what is true and false, good or bad, in what's online takes effort.

We will be hearing much more about the synod on synodality in the months to come. My hope is that a recovered appreciation for the value of Catholic journalism and Catholic media will be one of its fruits.

At its best, Catholic media provides a daily, weekly or monthly opportunity to listen, to see the people of God in action, and to learn how to share our gifts with each other and society. In many ways, Catholic media embody the synod's theme: communion, participation, mission.

Greg Erlandson, Director and Editor-in-Chief of Catholic News Service, can be reached at gerlandson@catholicnews.com.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for October 9, 2022

Luke 17: 11-19

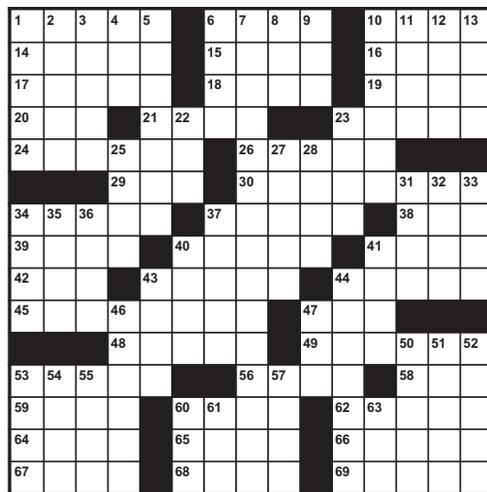
Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: One grateful, former leper. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JESUS	SAMARIA	GALILEE
VILLAGE	LEPERS	AT A DISTANCE
VOICES	MASTER	SAW THEM
PRIESTS	CLEANSED	HEALED
LOUD	FELL	FEET
THANKED HIM	NINE	FOREIGNER
STAND	AND GO	FAITH

NINE LEPERS

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

- 1 Son of Jacob
- 6 Cyberzine
- 10 Way down the river
- 14 Join
- 15 You wouldn't put one under a bushel basket
- 16 Buck ender
- 17 Judicial rulings
- 18 Bathing suit tops
- 19 Rivers in Spain
- 20 Consumed
- 21 Furniture wood
- 23 "The ___ of St. Mary"
- 24 St. Mary's Cathedral is this New South Wales capital
- 26 Follows orders
- 29 Second person to be
- 30 Razes
- 34 ___ of the Holy Spirit
- 37 Kitchen top
- 38 Also
- 39 Topping in a tub
- 40 Lake in the Sierra Nevada
- 41 Thrust with a knife
- 42 Symbol of Confirmation
- 43 Uncovered
- 44 Persian kings
- 45 Outer vestment worn by a

DOWN

- 9 Magellan, e.g.
- 10 "Bring Flowers of the ___"
- 11 Seed covering
- 12 He says there is no God
- 13 Hat-in-the-ring action
- 22 "... for ___ and tooth for..." (Ex 21:24)
- 23 Unit of computer memory
- 25 Western pact
- 27 Covenant seal
- 28 Overhang
- 31 Miss Kett
- 32 He survived the flood
- 33 Weeps
- 34 ___ Friday
- 35 Hip bones
- 36 Cut down
- 37 Indian dresses
- 40 Bye bye
- 41 Father of Elam and Aram
- 43 Small yeast cake
- 44 What Mary was
- 46 You cannot serve God and this
- 47 US Government agency
- 50 John's symbol
- 51 Lieu
- 52 Multitude
- 53 Opera singer
- 54 Lyric poems
- 55 Obtains
- 57 Highland dance
- 60 It's in for awhile
- 61 George Gershwin's brother
- 63 Non-pro sports org.
- deacon
- 47 Decease
- 48 Embarrass
- 49 Tangle up in
- 53 Most important teaching
- 56 Mountain range
- 58 ___ Z
- 59 As previously given
- 60 The Lord appeared to Moses in this
- 62 Rarin' to go
- 64 The power to reject
- 65 Zeus took away her wings
- 66 Caesar, for one
- 67 Org.
- 68 Author of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*
- 69 Kid leather
- 1 Iscariot
- 2 Oneness
- 3 Did a kitchen job
- 4 Letter letters
- 5 Radiators
- 6 "Able was I ere I saw ___"
- 7 One, holy, catholic, or apostolic
- 8 Doctors' org.

Answer key can be found on page 15



PELAGIA THE PENITENT

FEAST OCTOBER 8

In the fourth century, St. Pelagia was honored in Antioch as a virgin martyr. In the Middle Ages, a legend grew up around a penitent, who was given her name. This St. Pelagia inspired Christians as an enchanting icon of repentance. The story comes from St. John Chrysostom, who once told of an actress, famous for her glamour and notorious for her wickedness. She had suddenly repented, was baptized, and became a hermit. A bishop said to have encountered Pelagia used her example to call his brother bishops to repent: "What a reproach to us, seeing that we have not taken pains to make ourselves pleasing to God nearly as much as this prostitute ... has taken pains to please men."

Celebrating Catholic Leadership Event Held at the University of Saint Francis

BY NICOLE HAHN

Dozens of Catholic leaders from around the Fort Wayne-area gathered at the University of Saint Francis on Sept. 28 to connect, be inspired, and learn about an opportunity to support the next generation of faith-filled leaders through the Assisi Program for Discipleship and Leadership at USF.

The evening began with Mass with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at the St. Francis Chapel. Following Mass, guests walked to the Achatz Hall of Science for fellowship and food.

The culmination of the event was a presentation about the Assisi Program for Discipleship and Leadership, a four-year formation program open to students of all majors.

Five students are taking part in the pilot program this

year, with the official launch set for fall of 2023. The program is designed to help Catholic students who are intentional about their faith to navigate their collegiate experience as an engagement between their vocational training and their relationship with Jesus. It teaches them how that can translate into impactful and meaningful leadership in the workforce.

For a more in-depth story on the Assisi Program, visit todayscatholic.org/university-of-saint-francis-offers-program-focused-on-discipleship/.

For more information about the program and how you can help support it, visit go.sf.edu/assisiprogram.



University of Saint Francis and Catholic community leaders gather in fellowship to learn about the new USF Assisi Program for Discipleship and Leadership, in its pilot year, at a Celebrating Catholic Leadership event held on campus on Sept. 28.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades speaks with University of Saint Francis and Catholic community leaders about supporting the new USF Assisi Program for Discipleship and Leadership.

Photos by Nicole Hahn

Women Spiritually Filled at Kingdom Builders Conference

BY ERIKA BARRON

On Saturday, Oct. 1, more than 500 women came together for a full day of fellowship with the Holy Spirit and with each other at the 3rd annual Kingdom Builders Gathering, held at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, beautifully decorated to reflect the theme of the day: "Everything is Grace."

The number of attendees has almost tripled since 2020, the first year the gathering was held, and limited due to COVID-19 restrictions. Now in 2022, the event was in full swing as women from around the diocese and from as far away as Maryland came together for this special day as mothers and daughters, sisters, friends, and relatives of all ages.

The day began early as Catholic vendors from around the area prepared their merchandise for the attendees to peruse, while enjoying their coffee and breakfast treats. Kim Loxton of Totus Tuus Rosaries returned for her third year. "It's incredible to see all of these women gathering to focus on spiritual self-care. It's so important."

Foundress Mary Jo Parrish said the opening prayer before speaking to the crowd, reminding the attendees that, "Walking along the balance beam of life is difficult, but not impossible with Jesus holding your hand." She shared her wise advice and humorous stories on life as a wife, mother of 10, and most importantly, a



Photos by Erika Barron

Father Stephen Felicichia, Nicole Bobay, and Mary Jo Parrish broke out into an impromptu sing-a-long of the Beatles' classic "I Wanna Hold your Hand," recalling how Jesus wants to hold our hand as we walk through life.



More than 500 women gathered in the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum for the 3rd Annual Kingdom Builders Gathering on Saturday, Oct. 1.

child of God.

The second speaker, Father Jason Smith of the Legionaries of Christ, shared the importance of strong fathers, giving examples of his own father

and mother and their impact on his life and vocation with the crowd. He also spoke on hope and how central to the Christian life it is. "Despair is to desire something we feel is

was also the opportunity for anyone in attendance to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at one of the confessionals set up outside the hall.

The third speaker of the day was author Heather King, who shared the wisdom of St. Thérèse of Lisieux. She was also available to sign her newest book, "Shirt of Flame, A Year with St. Thérèse of Lisieux."

The final speaker was the editor of spiritualdirection.com, Claire Dwyer, who spoke on the hidden saint, St. Elizabeth of the Trinity, a contemporary of St. Thérèse, canonized in 2016 and deemed a saint for the laity.

Patty Berghoff, a parishioner of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Fort Wayne was in attendance and remarked, "I feel so refreshed. It's incredible to see all of these women gathering to refresh their souls at the well of Christ's love."

Many mothers had their infants in attendance as well, a practice highly encouraged at Kingdom Builders. "Your babies are always welcome here," said Parrish earlier in the day.

The day concluded with a raffle prize giveaway, donated from local businesses such as DeBrand Fine Chocolates, and various Kingdom Builders products. Finally, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament commenced, the most fitting way of ending a holy spirit-filled day. The women in attendance were rejuvenated in their relationship with Christ and with each other.

impossible to obtain; hope is to know it is possible," said Father Smith.

His presentation was followed by the celebration of Mass with Father Stephen Felicichia, the Chaplain for Kingdom Builders. In Father Felicichia's homily, he shared the story of St. Thérèse and how she and the communion of saints intercede daily in the lives of the faithful.

After Mass, the women reconvened for lunch in the main gathering hall and enjoyed more shopping at the different vendor booths. There

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

St. Stanislaus Kostka Polish-Style Chicken and Sausage Dinner

NEW CARLISLE — St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, 55756 Tulip Rd., will have a Polish-style chicken and sausage dinner on Sunday, Oct. 9, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Carry-out is available. Tickets are \$20 and available before and after weekend Masses, or by calling the parish office at 574-654-3781.

White Mass for Healthcare Workers

FORT WAYNE — A White Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on Tuesday, Oct. 18, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 1102 S. Clinton St., at 6:30 p.m., for all in healthcare and their families. A dinner arranged by the Catholic Medical Guild of Northeast Indiana will follow at nearby St. Mary, Mother of God Parish, Oechtering Hall. Dinner cost is \$15. You can RSVP for dinner at fortwayne.cathmed.org or call 222-6978 for RSVP or details.

America Needs Fatima Holy Hour

SOUTH BEND — America Needs Fatima Holy Hour of Prayer will take place on Saturday, Oct. 15, at Christ the King Parish, 52473 SR 933, at noon. This is an outdoor event, so bring a lawn chair and a rosary. For information, contact Dorothy Wheeler at 574-855-3915.

Christ Child Society of South Bend Boot Collection

MISHAWAKA — The Christ Child Society of South Bend will hold a boot collection on Sunday, Oct. 9 from noon to 3 p.m. at their Clothing Center, 2366 Miracle Lane, in Town & Country Shopping Center.

Gently used or new boots in any size from toddler to adult are welcome. Each child who comes to the Clothing Center receives NEW clothing, winter coat, and shoes. With the snowy South Bend winters, boots are a great need. Contact Lexie Fisher at 574-288-6028 or info@christchildsb.org.

Revive! City-Wide Mission Night

MISHAWAKA — Experience a radically unique and powerful Catholic event on Monday, Oct. 10, at Marian High School, Auxiliary Gym, 1311 South Logan St., from 7-9 p.m. Join us for a regional night of transformation featuring the Damascus Worship Collective and inspirational preaching from international revivalists. You and your family will encounter a God in Eucharistic Adoration who is living and active. Learn more and register: diocesefwsb.org/revive.

Memorial Mass for Those Who Have Lost a Child

SOUTH BEND — A Memorial Mass for those who have lost a child, including through miscarriage and abortion, will be celebrated on Friday, Oct. 14, at 7 p.m. at Christ the King Church, 52473 State Hwy 933. All are welcome, including siblings and grandparents. You will have the opportunity to record your child's/grandchild's name in a Book of Remembrance, take home a silk rose in honor of him or her, and pray together with others who have suffered the loss of a child. Sponsored by Marriage & Family Ministry, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. For more information, contact Lisa Everett at 574-234-0687 or email leverett@diocesefwsb.org.

Armor of God Men's Retreat

HUNTINGTON — An Armor of God Men's Retreat will be held on the weekend of Oct. 21 at St. Felix Catholic Center, 1280 Hitzfield St. Armor of God retreats are designed to allow men time to get away from their normal stressors and distractions and to get into the silence and spend time in God's word, listening to God's plan for them, and being fed spiritually with tools, practices, and topics designed to arm them to be the spiritual leaders that they are designed to be. Contact Robert Gregory at 317-502-6201, rob@fwjls.com, or visit armingmen.com/retreats.

Are You Afraid of the Dark?

FORT WAYNE — Father Brian Isenbarger will share what you should and shouldn't fear from demons, ghosts, and the supernatural on Friday, Oct. 21 in the church at St. Vincent de Paul, 1502 E. Wallen Rd., at 7 p.m. Contact Monica Aquila at 260-489-3537, monicaaquila@saintv.org, or visit saintv.org/halloween.

Fall Craft Bazaar

FORT WAYNE — Queen of Angels will have a Fall Craft Bazaar in the Monsignor Faber Activities Center, 1600 W. State Blvd., on Saturday, Oct. 22, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enjoy local vendors, delicious concessions, and much more. Contact Karen Graham at 419-518-0241 or CraftFair@queenofangelschool.com.

Evangelization Workshop

FORT WAYNE — An Evangelization workshop will be held on Saturday, Oct. 22, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Vincent

REST IN PEACE

Bristol

Betty Jean Drust, 77, St. Mary of the Assumption

Donaldson

Sister Mary Carolyn Welhoelter, PHJC, 80, Ancilla Domini

Fort Wayne

James Helmer, 89, St. Jude

Victoria Martin, 65, St. Vincent de Paul

Mark Shrader, 60, St. Vincent de Paul

Granger

James Trybus, 56, St. Pius X

Huntington

Sister Rose Ann Kaiser, OLVM, 89, Victory Noll

Janet S. Petre, 76, SS. Peter and Paul

New Haven

Elizabeth Lomont, 84, St. Louis Besancon

Francis Spieth, 87, St. Louis Besancon

Notre Dame

Sister M. John Anthony, CSC, 89, Church of Our Lady of Loretto

South Bend

Salem K. Ballin, 5 months, St. Adalbert

Teresa Farias, 49, St. Adalbert

Helen Nyari, 95, St. Adalbert

Casimir Bystery, 91, St. Casimir

Julius T. Plonka, 80, St. John the Baptist

William Miller, 94, St. Jude

Walkerton

James A. Chase, 76, St. Patrick

de Paul Parish Life Center, 1502 E Wallen Rd. Cost is \$10. This workshop, led by international speaker Michael Dopp, will equip and inspire you. Contact Monica Aquila at 260-489-3537 or monicaaquila@saintv.org.

Parish Mission: Transformed by the Eucharist

SOUTH BEND — St. Jude Parish, 19704 Johnson Rd., will

kick off a year of celebrating its 75th anniversary with a parish mission on the Eucharist on Sunday, Oct. 23, from 7-8 p.m. Sister M. Ignatia Henneberry from the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration will be leading a three-day reflection on how the Eucharist can transform your life. Contact Heather Buisson at 574-291-0570 or faith@stjudeparish.net.

SÉ SANADO

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Para Jóvenes Adultos de 18-39 años. El evento es bilingüe.

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BATTLE OF THE BISHOPS



Opponents on the Field, Saints and Knights Stand United in Christ

BY ERIC PEAT

Moments before engaging their opponents in a physical contest that would test the limits of their endurance and will, more than 100 young men paused to exhibit the ultimate symbol of submission and servitude to the Lord.

In what has become a tradition and a beautiful display of their shared Catholic faith, football players from Bishop Dwenger and Bishop Luers High Schools knelt on opposite sides of the midfield stripe to pray together before kicking off the 2022 edition of the Battle of the Bishops. As Bishop Luers Chaplain Father Patrick Hake led the entire stadium in prayer on the microphone, it was clear that this evening was about more than just a football game.

"Heavenly Father, thank you for the great gift of life, the great gift of our faith, the great gift today of Catholic education," Father Hake prayed aloud. "We thank you for the opportunity just to give our all to the Lord on the field and in life."

After asking for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin with a Hail Mary, all eyes turned to the gridiron. Father Hake even managed to sneak in a "Go Knights!" before handing over the microphone. Despite being a graduate of Bishop Dwenger, Father Hake later admitted that he now "bleeds red," a nod to the red and black Knights of Bishop Luers.

However, it was the Saints who would grab the early edge in the game. On their methodical opening offensive drive, Bishop Dwenger established its ground attack and desire to dominate the line of scrimmage. Sophomore quarterback Braxton Bermes, who was making his second-career varsity start, capped the drive with a ten-yard scoring strike to C.J. Davis. After Joe Moran added a 32-yard field goal early in the second quarter for a 10-0 lead, the Saints appeared ready to erase the memories of last year's 41-38 defeat to the Knights – a loss that snapped a streak of five straight Bishop Dwenger victories in the series.

That's when the Bishop Luers offense began clicking. Senior signal caller Charlie Stanski marched the Knights



Photos by Eric Peat

Team captains exchange a pregame handshake moments before the Battle of the Bishops game on Sept. 30.



Saints and Knights players and coaches kneel for a pregame prayer moments before the Battle of the Bishops game on Sept. 30.



down the field and connected with Brayden McInturf on a fade route from five yards out. On the ensuing possession, Bishop Luers' R.J. Hogue sacked Bermes in his own endzone for a safety, and the Knights had pulled to within a single point at halftime, 10-9.

"In this environment, I think Braxton grew up a lot," Bishop Dwenger head coach Jason Garrett said of his quarterback, who turned the ball over twice and only completed three passes. "He struggled a little bit. It's a big game, a big rivalry, there's a lot going on, and they mixed their looks good."

The Saints reverted to their ground-and-pound game in the second half, relying heavily on juniors Toby and Trent Tippmann carrying the football behind the stellar blocking of the offensive line and A.J. Ley, who Garrett said just converted to fullback earlier in the week. Although the Knights momentarily grabbed a 12-10 lead on a Roel Pineda field goal, Toby Tippmann found the endzone on a nine-yard touchdown scamper early in the fourth quarter to put the Saints back on top.

"It felt amazing," said Toby Tippmann, who ended the

night with 121 rushing yards on 20 carries. "I couldn't have done it without my lineman, though, every single one of them. I had all three of my blockers – A.J. Ley, Ethan Pflueger, and Trent Tippmann – and they made it super easy for me."

After a defensive stand, the Saints got the ball back with about seven minutes remaining and churned out run after run to keep the ball away from the Bishop Luers offense. Facing fourth-and-four from the Knights' 42 yard-line, the Saints iced the game with an eight-yard rush by Trent

Tippmann – a rush in which Tippmann was initially hit at the line of scrimmage but was pushed and carried forward by his teammates for first-down yardage.

"We just basically said, 'Toby, Trent, A.J., it's you guys, man. That's it,'" Garrett said of the final drive. "Very, very, very proud of Toby stepping up. He's really good. He hits it hard, makes good cuts – it's just awesome. That's why we do what we do, to see some of these kids get their opportunities."

In the end, Bishop Dwenger (5-2) walked away with a 17-12 victory over Bishop Luers (3-4), the latest chapter in the Battle of the Bishops being written about the reemergence of the Saints' running game and stingy defense. Garrett especially praised junior defensive back Carter Minix, who had to step in at corner to cover the Knights' leading receiver and Toledo signee Nick Thompson after senior captain Teddy Steele went down with an injury.

In fact, close, defensive battles have become the recent norm in the series. Five of the last seven meetings between the Saints and the Knights have been decided by a single score, and four of those five have featured both teams scoring 17 points or fewer. Garrett said he expects nothing less when these two teams get together.

"It's just awesome – the history, the lineage of it all," Garrett said of the rivalry. "You know what you're going to get; very few times is it not like this. You get everybody's best."

Even after an emotional win and a season-best individual performance, the unique and Christ-centered nature of the rivalry wasn't lost on Toby Tippmann.

"We get to start it out with a prayer, which is always good," said Tippmann. "It's probably one of the most fun games of the year. It's really cool when teams come together and we pray to God."

"You could talk for years and years about the blessing that football is to life, especially for these young men," said Garrett. "For our Catholic faith, that suffering that you can offer up in difficulty sometimes – I don't think there's a better sport to teach those lessons."