

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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Eucharistic Revival Grows with Revive Conference in Mishawaka

BY PHIL NISWONGER

A joyful assembly of about 500 children, young adults, families, and the elderly gathered for two hours on Monday, Oct. 10 at Marian High School from the surrounding parishes in Mishawaka and South Bend for a Revive Mission night of prayer, reflection, and adoration. It was sponsored by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and facilitated by the Damascus Mission Campus near Columbus, Ohio. This is part of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) three-year world-wide Eucharistic Revival movement.

The Damascus Music Band led those gathered in six prayerful songs, followed by Gina Whitmore of the Damascus

REVIVE, page 16



Brigitte Bowman

Young adults from various backgrounds and parishes around the South Bend-area come together to grow in faith and worship God at the Revive conference at Marian High School in Mishawaka on Oct. 10.

Tim Tebow Headlines Record Turnout at Right to Life Banquet

BY ERIC PEAT



Eric Peat

Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow delivers the keynote address at Right to Life of Northeast Indiana's Annual Fall Banquet on Oct. 10 in Fort Wayne.

“Life is on the line, and we have the ability to do something about it. Because we know that every life from womb to tomb is valuable. It matters so much to God, and it better matter to us.”

This impassioned plea, delivered by two-time national champion and Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow, set the tone for Right to Life of Northeast Indiana's (RLNI) Annual Fall Banquet on Oct. 10. A record crowd of more than 1,200 packed into the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne to offer prayer and support for the pro-life organization. After a rendition of “God Bless America” by Kathryn Burt, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades led those gathered in an opening prayer.

“We rejoice in our Supreme Court's decision, Dobbs vs.

BANQUET, page 2



More than Maintenance

Saint Anne Communities
Caregiver of the Year

Page 8

Helping the Homeless

Fort Wayne Respite Home
Built on Love

Page 9

Still Marching On

March for Life Focuses on
Protection Laws

Page 10

Pilgrims Poland-Bound

Saints, Eucharistic Miracles
Focus of Trip

Pages 14

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Jackson, which has lifted a dark cloud that has hung over our nation for almost 50 years," prayed Bishop Rhoades. "We rejoice in this judicial victory, yet we know it is not yet a cultural victory and that the evil of abortion will continue in many states. Strengthen us to continue to bear witness in love to the truth of the dignity of human life until all others reverence this precious gift."

During dinner, RLNI Executive Director Zach Rodgers shared some exciting news with those in attendance.

"In May, God provided a new office space for us. Our new address is 3106 Lake Avenue, and we are proud to be Planned Parenthood's newest neighbors," Rodgers said to much applause. "God provided this incredible opportunity, and we stepped across the threshold in faith. We now turn to you and ask you to step with us."

Rodgers announced the launch of the organization's first-ever capital campaign, with a goal of raising one million dollars over the next six months. These funds will not only be used to pay for the new office and renovations, but also to establish an endowment fund that will provide for the future needs of the location.

He then introduced Tebow as the keynote speaker for the evening. The former NFL quarterback and New York Times bestselling author is an outspoken pro-life advocate whose foundation fights for those who cannot fight for themselves. Tebow spoke about his athletic aspirations growing up and how everything changed during a mission trip to the Philippines when he was 15 years old. Tebow met a boy with his feet on backwards whose own village had discarded him, and Tebow said God opened his eyes when he fell in love with that boy.

"That day, when we were driving up that mountain to go to that village, I knew I wanted to be the best athlete that I could be – that I wanted to try to chase championships and try to chase MVPs," said Tebow. "But you see, that day, I realized that there was a more important MVP. And it wasn't to be the Most Valuable Player – it was to love the Most Vulnerable People. And ultimately, that's why we're here right now. We're here to love the Most Vulnerable People. We're here for MVPs."

Next, Tebow described agape love as choosing the best interest of another person and acting on their behalf. This greatest form of love, which Christ showed us on the cross, is what we are called to show others. However, just like the priest and Levite in the parable of the Good Samaritan, we often come up with excuses and walk on by those in need,



Photos by Eric Peat

A record crowd at the Right to Life of Northeast Indiana's Annual Fall Banquet applauds Tim Tebow after his keynote address.



Right to Life of Northeast Indiana's Case Ferree, Operations and Financial Coordinator, greets attendees following the fall banquet at the Coliseum.

according to Tebow.

"For all the times in my life, which have been way too many, I walked by when I had an opportunity to make a difference – to choose someone's best interest and act on their behalf," said Tebow. "I had a chance, I had an opportunity, but why didn't I? Because they weren't worth it? I think they're worth it, every single life. I believe they're worth it, because they were worth Jesus dying for, which means they're worth us fighting for. Every life has infinite value and worth because the Son of God, who has infinite value and worth, took their place on the cross."

Tebow also addressed what people are willing to sacrifice for a given goal or mission. Relating sacrifice to his own career, Tebow again brought his athletic achievements into perspective.

"Honestly, I would say I've been willing in my life to do more to win a game than I actually have for things that truly matter," admitted Tebow. "I've been willing to play a game

with a broken leg and other broken body parts, willing to wake up in the middle of the night, willing to do all of this to be able to score a touchdown or make the team. Have I ever been willing to do that for life? If I give so much up to have a better chance of making a team, I should be willing to do something much more drastic for so many lives that need it."

In a poignant moment, Tebow shared how abortion has personally touched his own life. He told the story of a pastor preaching in a jungle in the Philippines who felt a tug from the Lord to have another baby. Not long after, he and his wife were expecting their fifth child, but doctors urged them throughout the pregnancy to abort the child amid constant health issues. Instead, she put her trust in God and delivered the baby – a miracle, according to the doctor, since her placenta had not been properly attached.

"He took that baby, and he handed him to his mom, and that's the moment that I got to meet my mom, because I was

that little baby that only survived because my mom gave me a chance," said an emotional Tebow. "She gave me a chance because she trusted God, and I'm here today because my mom was willing to do that."

Tebow's willingness to share deep, personal stories left a mark on many in attendance like Judy Young.

"I thought he was a very powerful speaker," Young said of Tebow. "To share all those personal messages, I think, makes an even bigger impact and makes it much more real."

After Tebow's speech, RLNI's Abigail Lorenzen presented a pair of awards to individuals for their efforts in advancing the pro-life cause. The Daniel Award for Excellence in Pro-Life Public Policy was presented to Dr. Christina Francis, an OB/GYN who spoke out in defense of life in front of the U.S. House of Representatives in July. Meanwhile, Robin Atkins was the recipient of the Telemachus Award in recognition of her Reproductive Mental Health Certification Course that will soon be offered nationwide. In addition to the efforts of these two individuals, Young believes the impact of RLNI is also significant.

"I worked as an OB nurse for lots and lots of years," Young shared. "I was always very grateful for everything that Right to Life did to help the moms in need. It made a big difference in a lot of their lives."

Those who wish to help RLNI reach its capital campaign goal can donate online at ichooselife.org/donate or by mailing a check to Right to Life of Northeast Indiana, 3106 Lake Ave, Fort Wayne, IN 46805.



CNS photos/Vatican Media

Pope Francis meets with leaders of the Synod of Bishops' general secretariat in the library of the Apostolic Palace at the Vatican on Oct. 14. Pictured with the pontiff are Xavière Missionary Sister Nathalie Becquart, Undersecretary; Bishop Luis Marin de San Martín, Undersecretary; Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich of Luxembourg, Relator General; Cardinal Mario Grech, Secretary-General, and Jesuit Father Giacomo Costa, Consultant.

Pope Announces a Second Session for Synod Of Bishops Assembly

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Saying he did not want to rush the process of discerning how the Holy Spirit is calling the Church to grow in “synodality,” Pope Francis announced that the next assembly of the Synod of Bishops would take place in two sessions.

The synod assembly, with mostly bishops as voting members, will meet from Oct. 4-29, 2023, as previously announced, the pope said, but the assembly will have a second session in October of 2024 as well.

Pope Francis made the announcement on Oct. 16 at the end of his Angelus address. He had met on Oct. 14 with the synod leadership.

The pope and local bishops kicked off the listening and discernment process for the “synod on synodality” in October of 2021, and by November, the synod secretariat is expected to release a working document for continental assemblies.

Pope Francis said that “the fruits of the synodal process underway are many, but so that they might come to full maturity, it is necessary not to be in a rush.”

“To have a more relaxed period of discernment,” the pope announced, “I have

established that this synodal assembly will take place in two sessions” rather than the one originally planned.

“I trust that this decision will promote the understanding of synodality as a constitutive dimension of the Church and help everyone to live it as the journey of brothers and sisters who proclaim the joy of the Gospel,” Pope Francis told thousands of people gathered in St. Peter’s Square for the Sunday Angelus prayer.

The website of the synod secretariat describes synodality as a style seen in the Church’s life and mission that reflects its nature as “the people of God journeying together and gathering in assembly, summoned by the Lord Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel.”

While it does not imply everyone has a vote on issues facing the Church, it does mean that all the members of the Church – ordained or lay – have a responsibility to contribute to the Church’s mission and to pray, offer suggestions, and join in discerning the voice of the Holy Spirit.

A statement from the synod secretariat from Oct. 16 said Pope Francis’ decision to add a second assembly “stems from the desire that the theme of a ‘synodal Church,’ because of its breadth and importance, might be the subject of prolonged discernment not only by the mem-

bers of the synodal assembly, but by the whole Church.”

Although it did not feature the same widespread, grassroots listening sessions, the deliberations of the Synod of Bishops on challenges and joys facing families also met in two sessions. First, Pope Francis convoked in 2014 an “extraordinary general assembly” on “the pastoral challenges of the family in the context of evangelization.” Then, using the 2014 gathering’s final report as an outline, the ordinary general assembly of the Synod of Bishops met in 2015 to look at “the vocation and mission of the family in the Church and contemporary world.”

Cardinal Lorenzo Baldisseri, then Secretary-General of the synod, wrote to bishops’ conferences at the time, explaining that, “the two synodal assemblies, sharing the same topic of the family, become part of a single synodal process, which includes not only the two celebrative phases but also the intervening time, between synods, a time to reflect on the reaction to the first synod and to make a thorough theological examination of the Church’s pastoral activity in light of the succeeding one.”



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Monday, October 24: 5:30 p.m. – Board Meeting for Catholic Cemetery Association, Divine Mercy Funeral Home, Fort Wayne

Wednesday, October 26: 7 p.m. – Confirmation Mass, St. Joseph Church, South Bend

Thursday, October 27: 9:30 a.m. – Leadership and Authority Class, University of Notre Dame

Thursday, October 27: 7 p.m. – Confirmation Mass (English), St. John the Evangelist Church, Goshen

Saturday, October 29: 10 a.m. – Confirmation Mass (Spanish), St. John the Evangelist Church, Goshen

Sunday, October 30: 3 p.m. – Confirmation Mass, St. Jude Church, Fort Wayne

Nicaraguans Fleeing Ortega Regime Settle in Indianapolis, Tell Story

BY SEAN GALLAGHER

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) – Lucia has known turmoil and unrest in her home country of Nicaragua from the time she was a toddler in the late 1970s when Daniel Ortega and the Sandinista party first came to power there.

Her family was opposed to them, and three of her older brothers died as a result.

“My family suffered at their hands,” said Lucia – not her real name – who moved to Indianapolis from Nicaragua in July, in an interview with *The Criterion*, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

The initial rule of Ortega, whom Lucia called a “bandido,” came to an end in 1990, but he was reelected as president in 2006 and has ruled ever since. The legitimacy of the elections that have kept him in office have been increasingly questioned by international observers.

Nearly 40 years after Lucia’s family was scarred forever by Ortega’s government, its violence touched her again – this time through her then-young adult son.

In spring of 2018, students across Nicaragua took to the streets to protest against government corruption and political repression. More than 100 students died in the violent suppression of the protests.

At the time, Lucia’s son was assisting an uncle who ran a radio program that was opposed to the Ortega regime.

Members of a government-affiliated paramilitary unit tracked the uncle and Lucia’s son. The uncle escaped, but Lucia’s son did not. He was shot and killed in the streets.

“My son didn’t provoke

anything. It’s really hard and really difficult,” said Lucia through tears. “God is the one who strengthens us in times of anguish.”

Felix and Paholla Navarrete remember those protests well. It spurred them to leave the country. They, too, wound up in Indianapolis.

“Our churches had wide open doors,” Felix said of the response of the Church in Nicaragua to the protests. “They helped the people who needed a safe place to stay. All the priests that I knew were working very closely with their parishioners. It was so inspiring seeing that our Church was very close to the people who were suffering.”

During the time of the protests, Felix and Paholla started to experience pressure to publicly support the government.

“The political secretary would try to trap employees,” Paholla said. “They’d say that if you want to keep your job, you have to do whatever needs to be done at the protests against citizens who are marching.”

Felix and Paholla faced a life-changing choice: stay in Nicaragua with their well-established life? Or leave it all behind with no going back?

“We got to the point where we were thinking about what would be better,” said Paholla. “To stay for a position with a salary, or to show your children what was the right thing to do?”

With such a momentous decision looming, the family went to God in prayer.

“We prayed together as a family, and we asked God to guide us to take the right

Catholics Work to Help Venezuelans Expelled to Mexico Under Title 42

BY DAVID AGREN

MEXICO CITY (CNS) – Catholics working with migrants have mobilized to assist Venezuelans who are arriving at the U.S.-Mexico border in record numbers, but are being expelled back to Mexico under pandemic-era health restrictions.

The Mexican branches of Jesuit Migration Service and Jesuit Refugee Service, along with the Hope Border Institute, also expressed sorrow over a decision by the United States and Mexico to expel Venezuelans irregularly crossing the U.S.-Mexico border under Title 42, saying it leaves migrants unprotected and violates their right to seek asylum.

One official of Jesuit Migration Service said some expelled Venezuelans arrive back in Mexico confused and with little information.

In a statement on Oct. 13, the three organizations said, “The expansion of Title 42 to cover Venezuelans is an abuse of a public health order to dissuade those who are asylum-seekers or need protection without any legal or moral basis.” The statement was issued in the border city of Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, across the Rio Grande from El Paso, Texas.

“We urge the governments of both countries to act immediately, allocate all human, economic, and adequate infrastructure resources to guarantee their accommodation, clear information, and legal advice about their migratory situation, as well as food services and psychological first aid.”

The organizations said they had worked with some 330

Venezuelans being returned.

María Elena Hernández, Coordinator in Ciudad Juárez for Jesuit Migration Service, said on Oct. 14 that they were working with an additional 150 Venezuelans who arrived “in a state of terrible desolation, with little information and very confused.”

Hernández said the returned Venezuelans were given a document from Mexican immigration officials; it tells them to abandon the country within 15 days via the country’s southern border with Guatemala and Belize.

“But this document does not provide them an immigration status that allows them to travel safely through Mexico,” Hernández said. “They’re left in an unprotected state, and many of them do not have a passport or other identification, and they cannot attend their consulates because some of them have been persecuted politically” by the Venezuelan government.

The Oct. 12 decision to return Venezuelans to Mexico comes as Venezuelans arrive at the U.S.-Mexico border in record numbers.

The Washington Office on Latin America, a human rights think tank, said in an analysis that 153,905 Venezuelans – the second-highest of any nationality after Mexico – had been detained at the U.S. southwestern border between October of 2021 and August of 2022.

More than six million Venezuelans have fled the South American country in the past decade as the economy collapsed and political freedoms eroded. Most of the migrants relocated to other South American countries but have



CNS photo/Jose Luis Gonzalez, Reuters

Venezuelan migrants, expelled from the U.S., eat at the U.S.-Mexico border in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, on Oct. 16, 2022. They were sent back to Mexico under Title 42 as part of a new policy to curb the number of illegal crossings.

started heading northward as the welcome wears out.

Mexico imposed visa requirements on Venezuelans in January of 2021, prompting many migrants to risk the Darien Gap, a thick jungle between Colombia and Panama; it has no roads

and is notorious for bandits. Panama’s immigration service reported 48,204 people, mostly Venezuelans, passed through the Darien Gap in September, a 10-fold increase from January.

The U.S. government separately announced a program to allow 24,000 Venezuelans into

the United States provided they have a sponsor and pass health and security screenings. The program excludes Venezuelans who entered Mexico or Panama irregularly or hold permanent residency in a country other than Venezuela.

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CNS photo/Niharika Kulkarni, Reuters

People shop for lanterns at a market in Mumbai, India, on Oct. 28, 2021, ahead of Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights, which this year begins on Oct. 24 in most countries.

Vatican Calls Catholics, Hindus to Work Together to Counter Tensions

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – At a time when tensions are growing, fueled by “blatant misuse of social media” and by political manipulation, Catholics and Hindus are called to teach personal responsibility for civilized behavior and to promote “respect, love, and trust” among people, a Vatican official said.

Promoting “conviviality” requires each person to make a commitment to caring for one another and for creation, leaders of the Dicastery for Interreligious Dialogue wrote to Hindus around the world preparing to celebrate Diwali, a festival focusing on the victory of truth over lies, light over darkness, life over death, and good over evil.

The Vatican released its 2022 message to Hindus on Oct. 17 ahead of the festival that begins on Oct. 24 in most countries. The message was signed by Cardinal Miguel Ayuso Guixot, Dicastery President, and Msgr. Indunil Janakarathne Kodithuwakku, Dicastery Secretary.

Conviviality, the theme of the message, “calls for a readiness to walk and work together with charity, fraternity, and sense of co-responsibility for the common good,” the Vatican officials said.

Making the world a better place for everyone also requires recognizing “the transcendental dignity of every human person and his or her legitimate rights,” promoting sustainable development, and making a commitment to living in harmony with other people and with nature, they said.

The message noted “growing instances of tensions, conflicts, and violence in different parts of the world on the basis of religious, cultural, ethnic, racial, and linguistic identities and supremacies” and said they often are “fueled by competitive, populist, and expansionist politics,” by majority and minority movements, and “blatant misuse of social media.”

But, the Vatican officials said, “we, as believers, are not to give into pessimism but rather stay united and act as examples for others to emulate.”

“May we, Christians and Hindus, joining hands with those of all other religious traditions and people of goodwill, promote, individually and collectively, the spirit of conviviality and co-responsibility to transform this world into a secure home for everyone to live in with peace and joy,” they said.

NICARAGUA, from page 3

steps,” Paholla said. “We took a step of faith,” said Felix. “It was the hand of God that was working in every step. We saw it. We felt it.”

They left in early June of this year for Costa Rica for what appeared to be a vacation. Only their family knew of their plans. Felix and Paholla didn’t quit their jobs at the supreme court or do anything with their home to make it appear that they were leaving permanently.

“If we had done that, we would have been in trouble,” Felix said. “If we had stayed, we’d probably have become political prisoners,” Paholla said. “We would not have given up our faith for anything. We’d have been considered traitors by the government.”

In Costa Rica, they were surprised by being able to quickly secure visas for the family from the U.S. Embassy there to travel to the U.S. By the end of June, they had arrived in Indianapolis, where Paholla’s mother lives.

“I have always been confident in what God has planned for me and my family,” Felix said. “So, even when I thought that I would be in terrible danger if I stayed in my country, I always saw that God was acting in my life.”

Lucia, meanwhile, is concerned for her daughter, who still lives in Nicaragua with her husband and children.

She is also saddened by the suffering the Church in Nicaragua is undergoing.

In recent months, the apostolic nuncio and members of the Missionaries of Charity



CNS photo/Sean Gallagher, The Criterion

Husband and wife Felix and Paholla Navarrete kneel in prayer on Sept. 1, 2022, in Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Church in Indianapolis.

have been expelled from the country, priests have been arrested, Catholic radio stations have been shut down, and outdoor religious processions have been banned.

In early August, members of the national police in riot gear surrounded the home of Bishop Rolando Álvarez of Matagalpa, Nicaragua, after the government had accused him of fomenting violent opposition to the Ortega regime.

On Aug. 19, police officers in a predawn raid seized Bishop Álvarez and the priests, seminarians, and lay Catholics living with him and took them to Managua, Nicaragua’s capital.

Bishop Álvarez has been kept there under house arrest while the others seized with him were sent to Chipote Prison, notorious as a place where political prisoners have been tortured.

In a recent address, Ortega described the country’s Catholic

leaders as “a gang of murderers” who operate with Pope Francis “a perfect dictatorship.”

“The hardness of hearts of those in government is why they are doing this (to Bishop Álvarez),” said Lucia.

Despite the suffering that Lucia, her family, and the Church in Nicaragua have experienced, she has remained close to Christ.

“He helps heal our hearts, and He gives us forgiving hearts,” Lucia said, noting that she has forgiven the men who killed her son.

“I would love to return to Nicaragua to be with my family,” she said. “I am on the path right now that God has me on. The persecution there is so bad, and I am concerned about my family still there. I am afraid for them.”

Gallagher is a staff writer for The Criterion, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Texas Death-Row Inmate Takes Plea for DNA Testing to Supreme Court

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) – In oral arguments on Oct. 11, the Supreme Court considered the case of Texas inmate Rodney Reed, who has been on death row for more than 25 years and has gained the attention of Catholic leaders and celebrities for his claims of innocence. In this case, the justices were specifically looking at a procedural question: whether Reed had been too late in filing his civil rights lawsuit against state officials who had rejected his requests for DNA testing of crime-scene evidence he hoped would clear him. Reed, who is Black, was convicted by an all-white jury of the 1996 murder of a white woman, Stacey Stites. He has consistently maintained his innocence, explaining that he was in a secret relationship with Stites. His attorneys and activists have said that evidence unearthed since Reed's trial points to Stites' fiancé as the murderer. So far, the state has denied Reed's request for DNA testing, saying that evidence from the crime scene should not be tested because the items were improperly stored and could be contaminated. A Texas district court agreed in 2014 and three years later, the state's Criminal Court of Appeals affirmed that decision. Reed took his case to U.S. District Court in Texas and argued that the Texas law about post-conviction DNA testing violated his right to due process. The state in turn argued that his claims have a statute of limitations of two years that began in 2014 when the state district court made its initial decision not to test the DNA. A decision in *Reed v. Goertz* is expected next year.

Nuncio Urges More Accountability by Nations for 'Crimes Against Humanity'

UNITED NATIONS (CNS) – The Vatican's permanent observer to the United Nations told a committee of the world body that "civilian populations continue to be victims of widespread and systematic attacks." Where there is "credible evidence" of such attacks, "there must be accountability," he said. "Crimes against humanity are among the most serious crimes under international law and their prevention and punishment concerns the entire international community," Archbishop Gabriele Caccia said on Oct. 11. He made the remarks in a statement he delivered to the U.N. General Assembly's Sixth Committee during its plenary meeting on crimes against humanity. Attacks against civilian populations "are a reality of

Life Without Parole for Parkland, Florida School Shooter



CNS photo/Amy Beth Bennett, South Florida Sun Sentinel, Pool via Reuters

Hui Wang wipes away a tear at the Broward County Courthouse in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on Oct. 13, 2022, after a jury rejected a death sentence for Nikolas Cruz, the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooter. Cruz killed Wang's son Peter, along with 16 other people, on Feb. 14, 2018, at the high school in Parkland, Florida. The jury recommended that he be sentenced to life without parole. Cruz, now 24, pleaded guilty last year to 17 charges of premeditated murder and 17 counts of attempted murder.

our times," but they are "clearly prohibited under customary international law," the archbishop said, adding that "the perpetrators of these heinous crimes continue to enjoy impunity. Although crimes against humanity are conceptually distinct from war crimes, we must acknowledge that civilians are particularly at risk wherever war rages," he said, deploring "massacres, torture, rape, and the deliberate, indiscriminate targeting of civilian areas and humanitarian corridors."

More Than Two Dozen Reported Dead After Julia Lashes Central America

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) – Authorities in Central America feared the number of dead would increase after the weath-

er system known as Julia left much of the region buried in mud or covered in floods in early October. Five members of the armed forces of El Salvador are part of 28 reported fatalities related to Julia as of early Oct. 11, but the death toll is expected to rise. The country's secretary of environment said late on Oct. 10 that El Salvador had received the equivalent of about 15 percent of its annual rainfall in one day. Catholic churches there opened their doors to those seeking shelter from the storm. Nicaragua, where Julia made landfall as a Category 1 hurricane on Oct. 9, reported one death, though many doubt the government's account. The online news site *Divergentes* said reports from social media document at least two deaths. Authorities in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Mexico, however, reported widespread mudslides, flash floods, over-

flowed rivers, and thousands in shelters awaiting the system to dissipate as it travels north. Guatemala reported destroyed homes as well as roads and bridges washed away by Julia as authorities scrambled to look for people trapped under fallen trees and structures. Five soldiers in El Salvador, who had been monitoring a community for criminal activity, died when a wall from a house collapsed and buried them, one of the national newspapers reported.

Ian is Affecting Jobs, Housing for Many in Florida, Not Just Coastal Area

MIAMI (CNS) – With the full picture of the widespread fall-out and damages Hurricane Ian brought to southwest Florida

still coming into focus, the Miami region looks on with a collective sigh of relief: What if that had hit here? From Naples, just two hours west of Fort Lauderdale across Interstate 75, up throughout the greater Fort Myers, Port Charlotte, and Sarasota region, many residents and parish communities are facing a challenging close to 2022 and with the holiday season just around the corner. The post-Hurricane Ian landscape is expected to trigger housing, employment, and other cost-of-living complications for the entire state and in particular on the Gulf Coast. "We saw wind damage and heard stories of those who stayed for the hurricane and the trauma they went through but some areas we have been to saw significant flood damages, the waters had subsided, but the needs are going to be there," said Peter Routsis-Arroyo, CEO of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Miami. He served as CEO of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Venice before moving to Miami. Routsis-Arroyo's remarks followed a second tour he took of the area following Hurricane Ian. He connected with his Catholic Charities counterparts in the Venice Diocese and offered moral support during stops at churches and drive-up emergency distribution sites in Fort Myers, Arcadia, Bonita Springs, and more.

Dissidents, Catholic Leaders Want Famous Minsk Church Reopened After Fire

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) – Christian dissidents in Belarus accused officials of intimidation after one of the country's best-known Catholic churches was ordered to close following a suspicious fire. Belarus' Emergencies Commission said it was terminating the parish's permit to use the Church of Sts. Simon and Helena, popularly dubbed the Red Church, following the Sept. 26 fire, pending repairs and safety checks. The commission ordered the removal of all religious objects by Oct. 12. Archbishop Iosif Staneuski of Minsk-Mohilev urged the return of the church and its rectory, noting, "Many residents of our capital are greatly concerned about having no opportunity to pray or simply visit this church, while Minsk itself has been, in a certain sense, orphaned." In an Oct. 13 pastoral letter, Archbishop Staneuski encouraged Catholics "to pray for restoration of parish activities as soon as possible." The opposition-linked Christian Vision organization said an "immediate public investigation" should be launched into the fire, which was blamed officially on faulty wiring. The organization said Catholic representatives should also be allowed access to assess the church's current condition.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

North Regional Soccer Champions Named



Provided by Ryan Grill

The Knights of Columbus Council 5521 in South Bend hosted the North Regional Soccer Challenge Championship on Saturday, Oct. 8, at Father's Fields, Queen of Peace Parish, Mishawaka. The North Region includes eight districts which oversees a total of 48 councils within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Five students won their respective divisions and qualified to compete at the Indiana Knights of Columbus State Finals Soccer Challenge Championship on Oct. 30 at Guerin Catholic High School in Noblesville. The students will represent Mishawaka Catholic, Queen of Peace School (both in Mishawaka), and St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic School in Avilla. From left are Grand Knight Jim Wheeler, Joe Curylo, champions Elizabeth Curylo, Aryana Grill, Soccer Challenge Chairman Ryan Grill, champions Lane Barron, Lucy Warner, Nathaneal Crawford, and Knights Mike Botello, Eric Van Meter, and Nevin Siqueira.

Praying to Our Lady of Fatima



Phil Niswonger

The 105th anniversary of the Miracle of the Sun was honored in one of 20,000 nationwide Fatima Rally Rosaries at noon on Saturday, October 15. St. Patrick Catholic Church of South Bend held its fifth public rosary with 10 in attendance. One woman from Holy Family Catholic Church specifically came to give thanks to Our Lady of Fatima for a healing. Father James Nkemngong from Cameroon, West Africa, a graduate student in biblical studies at the University of Notre Dame, gave the blessing.

CYO Girls Volleyball Tournament Champs



Provided by Carin Freiburger

The St. Aloysius 7th-8th grade team defeated St. John New Haven and were regular season runners-up with an 8-1 record. Pictured from left are front row: Katie Creager, Callie Richard, Sophia Schafer, and Riley Goudy-Knuth. Back Row: Coach Carin Freiburger, Kiara Crismore, Emma Richard, Trina Crismore, Grace Freiburger, Coach Bridgette Schroeder, and Coach Meagan Richard.

Cooking for the Community



Provided by Steve Ludwiski

On Saturday, Oct. 7, Father Michael Ammer, Parochial Vicar at St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne, took his famous "Holy Smokes" barbecue ministry to the residents of the Senior Town Apartments. Not only did the residents appreciate the cooked-to-order burgers, franks, and accoutrements, they spent lunchtime enjoying the company of the volunteers from St. Jude. Pictured is Father Ammer with Jessica Heise, Pastoral Associate, and a member of the Senior Town community.

*Beyond Maintenance:***Retirement Home Worker Honored for Caring Heart**

BY ERIKA BARRON

Maintenance work is an important part of any business. Working on anything that may need fixing and building upkeep are only a small part of the daily task of a Maintenance Supervisor. At Saint Anne Communities in Fort Wayne, Maintenance Supervisor John Eastman has gone above and beyond the typical duties of someone in his position; so much so that his coworker and the Environmental Service Coordinator for Saint Anne Communities, Allison Geyer, nominated him for the 2022 IHCA Caregiver of the Year award.

To everyone whose life has been touched by Eastman, his winning of the award came as no surprise; that is, no surprise to anyone but Eastman himself, who humbly says, "It's not just me" when asked about the award.

A Fort Wayne native, Eastman worked as a mechanic for more than 30 years. Feeling a little burned out from working the same job for so long, a friend suggested the move to Saint Anne, thinking it might be just the change of pace he needed. While leaving his position was a difficult one, Eastman took the plunge and began his new job as Maintenance Supervisor. He quickly learned that his job would not just be fixing things, but changing the lives of the residents and the staff of Saint Anne Communities.



Saint Anne Communities Maintenance Supervisor John Eastman is honored with the 2022 IHCA Caregiver of the Year award.

Almost immediately, John asked his manager if it would be possible for him to attend a residential outing, as there needed to be a staff member present for each resident to help push wheelchairs and help with whatever the residents may need. This was a welcomed offer, and not only did the residents themselves

love having Eastman along, but he also loved being there. "After that first outing, I was hooked," Eastman recalled. He soon asked his manager if he would be able to attend all of the outings.

"A few weeks ago, John took the residents for a day to his lake house!" Geyer excitedly shared. At the lake house,

Eastman took the residents on a pontoon ride around Big Long Lake and had a cookout, providing some of their favorite foods.

Another favorite outing for Eastman is the zoo. "They love it!" he recalled. Outings also have included chocolate confectionary classes and the Fantasy of Lights at Christmastime. Eastman's cell phone is full of photos of these outings, capturing the true joy on the faces of the residents.

Eastman is also known to drive residents to their appointments, with special trips for



2022 IHCA Caregiver of the Year Award.

ice cream afterwards. Visitors to the home are as likely to find him fixing a wheelchair as to find him praying with a resident for a loved one. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he took the training needed to help with the dietary needs of residents when they were short-staffed. At Easter, Eastman even took on the task of playing Easter Bunny, dressing up in full rabbit costume to visit the rooms and interact with the residents. "One lady was so excited she chased me around the hallway. She was all smiles," he fondly recalled.

Elaine Wilson, COO and Administrator for Saint Anne Communities remarked that: "John takes care of the residents, mentally, physically, and spiritually."

Eastman has gone far beyond the duty his position requires of him, turning a career into a vocation, saying, "Every day is different and there has never been a day where I haven't wanted to come to work."



John Eastman assists a resident at Saint Anne Communities.

FOLLOW YOUR

VOCATION

SO HE CAN

DISCOVER HIS.

VIEW OPPORTUNITIES
IN OUR SCHOOLS
AND APPLY:

diocesefwsb.org/school-careers





Photos by Bethany Beebe

Ave Maria House Gives Dignity to Homeless with Love

BY BETHANY BEEBE

To know Ave Maria House is to know Dottie Carpenter.

Carpenter knows where the bus passes are.

She knows where the sugar for the cereal and coffee can be found.

She knows where the extra towels and soap wait for those who want to take a shower.

She knows where the mail is for the 50 people, give or take, who call the shelter their permanent mail stop.

She knows who is next to use the laundry, now limited because one of the two washing machines is broken.

These, among other things, are all services Carpenter and her team of volunteers offer the homeless population of Fort Wayne at the Ave Maria Hospitality House across the street from St. Mary Mother of God Church and its attached soup kitchen. The daytime homeless shelter is open Monday through Thursday from about 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Winter hours may change, but whenever it is open, the mission has been the same since its inception in 2008.

Father Philip Widmann, who passed away in 2021, got the project off the ground, giving it to Carpenter. "He trusted me with the job that he knew I could do," she said.

Carpenter was working at St. Mary's Soup Kitchen one Sunday morning and stepped outside, speaking to those receiving soup. Her takeaway from the conversation was that the homeless lacked a welcoming place to spend the day. Meetings with the parish council, prayer, and guidance by the Holy Spirit led to Carpenter's job at the helm of the house, a structure owned by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Regarding her job, "I love

these guys," she said. From the coffee station, a visitor smiled and said, "Wouldn't trade it for nothing."

Love is a clear motivator for Carpenter. While Catholic, she exudes an ecumenical love, saying we are the feet, hands, body, and heart of Jesus. "I believe," she said, "that He wants us to care about people, and I do."

She pictures Jesus strong, healthy, and walking along a seashore. "I can't do everything He did," she commented. "But I can do what I do and do it well."

Those who enjoy the ser-



DOTTIE CARPENTER



vices of the house return that love. Carpenter will be 90 next June, and when she arrives, "the guys come and help me in," she said. With medical issues that have begun to crop up, her retirement may be this year, but even if she does retire, Carpenter plans to be a regular volunteer.

"Even if I only come once a week when I retire, I still want to be able to do that," she said. "If they want to change it when I'm gone, they can."

Everyone is respectful of the matriarch. "I run a very tight ship," she said. "They don't get away with much when I'm here ... or when I'm not here." Violators of the rules can be expelled for a calendar year, unlike the potential for lifetime expulsion at the

Rescue Mission. Carpenter feels it is her Christian duty to be forgiving. Rules are basic: no swearing, no filthy or off-color language, respect each other, respect the house, respect her, and respect the volunteers.

Some who seek rest and rejuvenation come each day, while others come less frequently, but still regularly. "They feel welcomed, accepted, cared about," she said. "It is home to them."

Even though the homeless can eat three meals a day at the Rescue Mission, like any doting grandmother's home, good food plays a central role. Visitors like their food sweet or hot, she said, and sugar and hot sauce consumption speak to that end. Whether chili or cookies, comfort food seems to



be around regularly. The next thing she would like to make for them is a pot of greens: "I don't like them, but I'll cook them."

Carpenter said she is used to cooking for a big family. The resident of Fort Wayne's north side has five biological and three foster children, who all "see me frequently ... we are very close."

One person at Ave Maria she is close to is her "right hand," Ricky. Ricky came to Ave Maria an alcoholic and enlisted Carpenter's aid for accountability, promising not to visit if he had been drinking. Eventually a success story of Alcoholics Anonymous, he has been clean for four years. Much of the work – from cooking to organizing to assisting Carpenter – would not be accomplished without him.

"I was a pain in the butt, though," he said with a laugh.

One thing that is no laughing matter is raising funds to keep the operation going. Donations go directly back into caring for the homeless. An event in the near-future is

set to keep the mission going strong.

The day-respite shelter will be having a benefit at St. Mary Mother of God Church. A food buffet, cash bar, silent auction, and bake sale will all be part of the festivities held from 7-11 p.m. on Saturday, October 22. The DeeBees will offer their musical talents, with dancing for those who wish to take part. Tickets are \$25 per couple and \$15 per individual, and donations are also accepted. Those interested can contact Dottie Carpenter at 260-705-1690 or Judy Finley at 260-705-6344.

For those who cannot attend the benefit but would still like to help this great mission, donations are always welcome, and can be delivered to Ave Maria Hospitality House or at the front desk at St. Mary Mother of God Parish office. Monetary donations and goods such as snacks, soft drinks, coffee, cold cuts, peanut butter, hygiene products, laundry detergent, socks, or underwear all go directly to the cause of enhancing the dignity of those in need.



CNS photo/Tyler Orsburn

With Roe overturned, March Will Focus on Congress

BY KURT JENSEN

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) – Jeanne Mancini wants it to be clear: The national March for Life in Washington, D.C. will continue even with the U.S. Supreme Court overturning *Roe v. Wade*, its 1973 ruling that found a right to abortion in the U.S. Constitution and legalized it nationwide.

The court overturned *Roe* on June 24 in its ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, a challenge to a Mississippi law banning abortion after 15 weeks. The court affirmed the law 6-3 but also voted 5-4 to overturn *Roe* as well as 1992's *Casey v. Planned Parenthood* ruling,

which affirmed *Roe*.

The Jan. 20 March for Life will be the 50th rally and march since the first such event on Jan. 22, 1974. Organized by Nellie Gray, a government lawyer, and the Knights of Columbus, it took place on the first anniversary of the *Roe* ruling.

This January, there will be one difference: The march up Constitution Avenue, which has always ended at the Supreme Court building, will end at the East Front of the Capitol instead.

This reflects the pro-life movement's focus on politicians instead of Supreme Court justices, and support for a national abortion ban at 15 weeks of gestation, in a bill proposed by Sen. Lindsey

Graham, R-S.C.

Mancini, in her capacity as head of March for Life Action, the organization's lobbying arm, added her support for that measure in September.

"Limiting abortions after 15 weeks is the least we can do to protect women, as well as babies who at this stage are already fully formed in their mother's womb and can feel pain," her statement read. "It is consistent with what we know from science about the harm of late abortion, as well as in line with where Americans stand on the issue."

The "Protecting Pain-Capable Unborn Children from Late-Term Abortions Act," as the bill is called, includes exceptions for rape, incest, or to save the life of the mother. The measure also has been introduced in the House.

Currently, the Democratic majorities in the Senate and House make it impossible for that bill to advance, so its future may depend on the outcome of the Nov. 8 midterm elections, if Republicans win a

majority of seats.

On Oct. 13, Mancini announced the theme for the Jan. 20 rally and march: "Next Steps: Marching in a Post-Roe America."

"We are going to celebrate," she said during a news conference at the Heritage Foundation offices. "History is shifting now, and we have to take stock of all that has happened."

Mancini called the national march "critical to our strategic plan."

Always held at or near the anniversary of *Roe*, the march attracts groups from across the country, with many traveling to Washington, D.C. on a bus pilgrimage.

Although March for Life doesn't attempt estimates, the single largest rally and march in the event's history is considered to be the 2020 event at which President Donald Trump spoke at the rally on the National Mall. It drew more than 100,000 participants.

The following year, buffeted by both the COVID-19 pandem-

ic and the Capitol violence of Jan. 6, saw the smallest gathering, when an invited group of 80 met halfway with about 120 others. Mancini left red roses, the march's emblem, near the rear entrance of the Supreme Court.

The strategic plan for organizers includes increasing the number of marches in state capitals to all 50 states in the next seven years. Currently, marches have been held in California, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Ohio, and next year one is also planned for Arizona.

"The culture of death is pervasive," Jonathan Keller, President of the California Family Council, said at the news conference. "It's amazing to think it took 50 years. But praise God, here we are."

The pro-life movement "can't simply abandon blue states and retreat to red states," he added, referring to Democratic- and Republican-led states, respectively.

A number of "red" states have banned most abortions since the *Dobbs* ruling returned the issue to the states. However, some of the new state laws face court challenges.

The rally's featured speaker will be Tony Dungy, who was head coach for the Indianapolis Colts in the NFL for 13 seasons. Speaking at the annual Rose Dinner that weekend will be Jonathan Roumie, who plays Jesus in the TV series "The Chosen."

Counterprotesters over the years have been few in number. This past January, the march was briefly delayed when members of Patriot Front, a neo-Nazi group, attempted to lead it.

"I wouldn't call any march I've been part of a predictable march," Mancini told Catholic News Service at the time. "It's always been a little bit unpredictable."

RESPECT LIFE

HELP END HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Awareness is key, talk to your children.

Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ



Partners in the work of the Spirit

It was you who created my inmost self;
and put me together in my mother's womb;
for all these mysteries I thank you.

For the wonder of myself, for the wonder of your works.

Psalm 139:13-14

CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
South Bend

Catholic Mobilizing Network Honors Advocates Working to End Death Penalty

BY CAROL ZIMMERMANN

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) — At an Oct. 10 ceremony at the Vatican Embassy in Washington, D.C. Catholic advocates working to bring an end to the death penalty acknowledged leaders in the fight against capital punishment in the U.S.

They also vowed to remain committed to the ongoing work of building the culture of life.

About 200 people attended the event, held on World Day Against the Death Penalty and sponsored by Catholic Mobilizing Network, a national Catholic organization working to end the death penalty and promote restorative justice.

The apostolic nuncio, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, welcomed guests to the “house of the pope” and called it fitting that they gathered there because of the pope’s support of their work and his own statements against the death penalty.

The nuncio pointed particularly to Pope Francis’ revision of the Catechism of the Catholic Church four years ago to say capital punishment is “inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person.”

The archbishop urged those involved with the work of Catholic Mobilizing Network not to give up. “Keep going! Be bold!” he told them, emphasizing that “together we can build a culture of life.”

During the event, Catholic Mobilizing Network officials presented Washington Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory with the Archbishop Fiorenza Dignity & Life Award for his longtime commitment to raising awareness of capital punishment as a critical life issue for U.S. Catholics.



CNS photo/Rick Reinhard, courtesy Catholic Mobilizing Network
Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the U.S., welcomes guests to the Vatican Embassy in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 10, 2022, for an awards ceremony on the World Day Against the Death Penalty. The event was sponsored by Catholic Mobilizing Network, a national Catholic organization working to end the death penalty and promote restorative justice.

The award is named in memory of Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza of Galveston-Houston, a longtime death penalty abolitionist who died in September at age 91.

Cardinal Gregory said it was an honor to accept the award because he was “privileged to call Archbishop Fiorenza a cherished friend and mentor.” He said the archbishop spoke out against the death penalty even as the state of Texas, where he ministered, continued to use it.

“If he were here with us this evening, he would encourage the members of Catholic Mobilizing Network to continue with your advocacy to end the death penalty,” the cardinal said.

Cardinal Gregory added that he would continue to lend his voice to the chorus of many others, including the pope, to end this practice.

the award without the support that many in the room had given them over the years.

Syl said he and his wife had relied on their faith to sustain them and to respond as they did after their daughter’s death.

He said they had both prayed the Lord’s Prayer “thousands of times” and knew that the message of asking for forgiveness required “that we forgive those who trespass against us,” but it wasn’t until they went through their ordeal that they truly understood what it meant to forgive others.

“We both realized that if we could not stand by our principles when it was difficult, then they were simply not our principles,” he said.

Syl joked that the American philosopher of baseball fame, Yogi Berra, noted that “when you come to a fork in the road, take it.”

“There were no directional signs at our fork in the road, but our faith turned us in the right direction even as the police and the prosecutors were pushing us in the other direction,” he said.

He also noted that many people they have met in the same predicament “have chosen the other path,” of seeking the death penalty, and have waited decades, or are still waiting, for executions — which takes its toll on family relationships and mental health.

“If we can help survivors in these cases choose the bet-

ter path when they are at their fork in the road, it would be a tremendous tonic for their long-term welfare and accelerant for further elimination of the death penalty,” Syl said, adding that he was grateful that God had given him and his wife the “vision to see the better path.”

In closing remarks, Krisanne Vaillancourt Murphy, Executive Director of Catholic Mobilizing Network, noted the group is “the only national faith-based organization dedicated to ending the death penalty.”

In the past 13 years, she said, its work has been to “wade into the murkiest depths of the criminal legal system and proclaim the good news Jesus came to share — that another way of doing justice is possible.”

She said so many church-going Catholics “still cling to revenge as a way to tolerate or justify the practice of the death penalty” but opponents of the death penalty also are not alone.

For example, she said earlier that day a group of Catholic leaders sent a letter to Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt urging him to stop the state’s plan to execute one person a month for the next two years.

Vaillancourt Murphy said advocates of ending the death penalty should be energized and emboldened in the work they are doing together and also be encouraged by signs of hope including Virginia’s outlawing of the death penalty last year.

Speak up for those who can't speak for themselves.
 Speak up for the rights of all those who are poor.
 — Proverbs 31:8

Parishioners of
St. John the Evangelist
 GOSHEN

WE ARE PRO-LIFE

Parishioners of
St. Mary of the Annunciation, Bristol

“Each one of them is Jesus . . . in disguise.”
 — Mother Teresa

What the 'Wedding Foot Washing' Gets Right About Marriage and Faith

I don't think I'll ever forget the photograph of the group of little kids.

They were gathered on the edge of the dance floor — five of them — sitting in their dresses and dress shirts watching, at full attention, as the new husband knelt at his bride's feet, poured water over them, and washed them. The bride, Our Sunday Visitor's very own Ava Lalor, looked at her husband with a smile of joy and love, as smartphones around the room were raised to capture the moment that would be posted on social media later.

The "wedding foot washing" has become more popular at wedding receptions in recent years, and it's not hard to understand why. It's a moving visual of the Christlike service that spouses will have to render to one another during their years of marriage, and it is a direct obedience to Jesus' instruction to his disciples the night before he was put to death.

"Do you realize what I have done for you?" Christ asks after he has washed his disciples' feet. "You call me 'teacher' and 'master,' and rightly so, for indeed I am. If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another's feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do" (Jn 13:12-15).

In our family, we have done some version of the foot washing for the past three years on Holy Thursday, and it is a powerful thing to see my husband

pour water over the small feet of those that he serves day in and day out. Even more striking, the kids, even at their young ages, want to then take up the pitcher and wash each other's feet, and then those of their parents. "I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do."

I've been thinking about this photograph of small children at the wedding a lot because it seems to me that it captured a moment of pure evangelization. Through the witness of Ava and her husband, those children were taught that marriage is about dying to self and living like Christ. And maybe the rest of us were reminded, too.

I believe that most of us would agree that the U.S. Church is in an uncomfortable posture these days. For many reasons, fewer people are identifying as Catholic, while the segment of those who are disaffiliated is growing. Fewer people are attending Mass, and some of those who do go aren't sure why they're there. Fewer sacraments are being celebrated. Dioceses are pivoting to strategic planning, parishes are being consolidated, and some religious groups are shuttering longtime facilities in order to accommodate diminishing resources and shifting needs. It's a time of prayer, evaluation, and discernment that can feel wrapped in great uncertainty about the future.

But when rightly examined, too, it's a great opportunity. For we know that, though numbers might be diminished, the



GUEST COMMENTARY

GRETCHEN CROWE

Catholic Church is not going anywhere. This one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic faith was instituted by Jesus Christ Himself, built upon the rock of Peter, and given to the apostles — and to us — to share with the world. This is our mission and our call. And this is what Ava and her husband got so right on their wedding day. The best way for us to share our faith with the world is to witness to it: to treat one another with dignity and respect, to model service, to show love to all.

Though the Church may look different institutionally now than it did 50 years ago, and though it may look different still 50 years down the road, the need for strong, effective witness to the Faith not only remains but is ever more urgent.

Gretchen R. Crowe is Editorial Director for Periodicals at Our Sunday Visitor.

Counseling the Counselors: Providing More Support to Our Priests

Is there still a stigma around mental illness? Is it more pronounced among priests?

The answer to those questions became resoundingly clear last summer when Paul Ruff addressed a gathering of 250-some priests from The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Ruff, a 66-year-old licensed Catholic psychologist and Director of Counseling Services for The Saint Paul Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, was sharing results of a survey they had participated in, exploring areas of reported satisfaction and concern. He told them he'd been talking to the archbishop about how to increase accessibility to mental health services for priests.

Spontaneous applause broke out.

"That let us know the stigma is gone," Ruff said. "I'm not going to just secretly say that's a good thing, but I'm going to applaud it. The need is felt, it's palpable."

Further evidence: When a priest comes to Ruff's office at the seminary — where he counsels both seminarians and priests — he isn't shy.

"I've always told priests I see, 'If you want to come in the back door, to not do the long walk down the hall and maintain some sense of privacy, you can call me when you arrive.' They always say, 'No, it's good for guys to know I'm coming in here.' And when someone



TWENTY SOMETHING

CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

asks, 'What are you here for?' they say, 'Oh, some mental health stuff with Ruff.' 'Oh, great.'"

His work is part of The Saint Paul Seminary Institute for Ongoing Clergy Formation. Founded in 2016, it supports priests and deacons in active ministry through a variety of retreats, workshops, and counseling services. Given the breadth and depth of its offerings — about 25 events a year — it is unique.

"It's really helpful because our lives are full," said Father Peter Williams, Pastor of St. Ambrose Catholic Community in Woodbury. "How do we help priests go from survival mode to flourishing?"

By providing year-round opportunities for intellectual, pastoral, spiritual, and human formation.

Their well-received programs are expanding in scope and impact, thanks to new grants from Lilly Endowment Inc. and the Haggerty Foundation. The grant from Lilly Endowment

CAPECCHI, page 13

Show Humility Before God's Greatness



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Luke 18:9-14

The Book of Sirach, one of those books classified by scholars collectively as the Wisdom literature, provides this weekend's first Scriptural reading.

The Wisdom literature began when devout Jews and conscientious Jewish parents realized that, amid the pagan societies to which they had emigrated, they needed to convince their children of the worth of the ancient Hebrew religion.

Since the paganism amid

which they lived had Greek origins and therefore human reasoning was elevated almost to the status of the divine, the authors of this literature sought to persuade audiences that the Hebrew religion in itself was the summit of human logic.

The Book of Sirach was composed when Greek mythology was the accepted way of thought. This mythology presented gods and goddesses who on occasion were selfish, petty, and outright cruel; powerful but hardly endearing.

By contrast, Sirach offers a picture of the God of Hebrew revelation as far above the tawdry shortcomings and schemes of humans.

God does not bargain. He is supremely just. God could be nothing else.

The Second Epistle to Timothy provides the second reading. Timothy was one of Paul's disciples. Paul taught him the deep meaning of the Gospel and guided him in the process of spiritual develop-

ment. Paul also ordained him a bishop.

In this reading, Paul encourages Timothy to be true to the Lord. The great apostle offers himself as an example. He has been imprisoned and mistreated for Christ. His way has been rocky and uphill, but he always has remained loyal.

St. Luke's Gospel supplies the final reading. Jesus presents the smug and boastful as being foolish. By contrast, a humble and unassuming man is the model of wisdom.

The reading makes two points. First, it teaches that those who have heartfelt love for God will endure. Gaudy outward appearances mean nothing. Good works are to be praised, but good works must rise from sincere faith and love.

Second, the reading echoes what already has been said in the first reading. God is perfectly just.

Human nature blurs our vision. We may see in our good words more than they are. To

be truly good, they must spring from a humble faith, prompted by the knowledge that we are good only because God guides us and strengthens us.

Anyone who seeks an end other than God, as the Pharisee sought other ends in the story told by Luke, chase after phantoms. The humble man in the Gospel story was truly wise. His wisdom caused him to be humble. He received the reward. He succeeded. He achieved.

Reflection

The Book of Sirach suggests an age and a condition very long ago but quite like circumstances met in life today or in any day. Humans always exaggerate their ability. It is a byproduct of original sin.

Despite contradictions and missteps among humans, the fact remains that God alone is almighty and truly wise. God alone is the model of perfection. God alone provides the

only reward. God is everything.

Humility is an essential Christian virtue. It is not a denial of who and what we are. Rather, it expresses the deepest insight of who and what we are. It sees us as we are, but its very frankness unsettles us so often.

READINGS

Sunday: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18 Ps 34:2-3, 17-19, 23 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18 Lk 18:9-14

Monday: Eph 4:32—5:8 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday: Eph 5:21-33 Ps 128:1-5 Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday: Eph 6:1-9 Ps 145:10-14 Lk 13:22-30

Thursday: Eph 6:10-20 Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10 Lk 13:31-35

Friday: Eph 2:19-22 Ps 19:2-5 Lk 6:12-16

Saturday: Phil 1:18b-26 Ps 42:2-3, 5cdef Lk 14:1, 7-11

The 60th Anniversary of Vatican II

I am composing these words on October 11, 2022, which is the 60th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council, easily the most momentous ecclesial event of the 20th century. I think it's fair to say that we Catholics have been talking, arguing, and wondering about, denigrating, and celebrating Vatican II pretty much non-stop for the past 60 years. Even the most cursory survey of the internet will reveal that the lively discussion shows no signs of running out of steam.

Both its advocates and critics over these past six decades have sought to find the interpretive key to the complex set of documents produced by the council fathers. When I was coming of age, most commentators said that "Gaudium et Spes," the sprawling text on the Church in the modern world, was the most basic of the Vatican II texts. And indeed, "Gaudium et Spes" launched 10,000 workshops on the Church's obligation to scrutinize the "signs of the times" and to drop a defensive posture vis-à-vis the secular world. Still other ecclesiastical pundits during those years argued that the first of the Vatican II documents to be approved—namely, "Sacrosanctum Concilium"—the great constitution on the sacred liturgy, was the most fundamental. And indeed, that text, which inaugurated the transformation of the Mass and compelled us to think about the liturgy in a fresh way, proved massively influential. And a considerable group of analysts held that "Lumen Gentium," the lyrical document on the nature of the Church, was the lens through which to read the whole of the council. And to be sure, most of the theologians present at Vatican II would have taught that ecclesiology, the formal study of the Church, was indeed the paramount concern of the fathers. Therefore, a case can be made for all these documents.

But I find myself on this anniversary in agreement with George Weigel's suggestion that the most basic of the texts, indeed the one by whose light

the entire assemblage of texts should be understood, is "Dei Verbum," the constitution on divine revelation. Now, "Dei Verbum" has much to say on technical matters of biblical interpretation, including the central importance of distinguishing among the various genres employed by scriptural authors. It speaks eloquently of the subtle relationship that prevails between the revealing God and the active, intelligent human authors through whom God effects his revelation. It also explores most helpfully the play between Scripture and the interpretive tradition that necessarily accompanies the reception of Scripture across the centuries. But it is not due to these achievements that I consider "Dei Verbum" so pivotally important.

What is of greatest significance is its simple assertion that Christianity is a *revealed* religion—that is to say, one based upon the self-manifestation of God. There are many religions and religious philosophies that are grounded in human experience, in our intuitive sense of God. They put a special stress, accordingly, on the human quest for the divine. If you go to the religion section of any bookstore or library, you will find dozens of volumes with this theme. But Christianity is not primarily the story of our search for God; it is the story of God's relentless search for us. It is not primarily our words about God, but rather God's Word spoken to us. Hence, Christianity is not something that we have invented; instead, it is something that we have received. To be sure, the Church's doctrine, liturgical practice, sacramental discipline, etc., develop over time, becoming ever more expressive of Christ's intention, but they retain their essential form and purpose, standing over and against whatever we might want them to be.

This perennial idea, given modern expression in "Dei Verbum," is of crucial significance today, when a culture of self-invention holds sway, sometimes even within the



WORD ON FIRE

BISHOP ROBERT BARRON

Church. On that errant reading, doctrine, morality, liturgy, sacraments, and structures of authority are expressive of the will of the people and hence can change according to the whim of the people. But again, if Christianity is a revealed religion, then we must conform ourselves to what has been given to us and resist the temptation to compel what is given to conform itself to us.

Considering these observations, we can see why "Dei Verbum" should be the interpretive lens for the entire council. Let us look simply at the other texts and themes that we have referenced. The liturgy is not a ritual expressive of our spiritual longings, but rather a participation in the objectivity of Christ's death and resurrection. The Church itself is not a society that we have put together for our purposes and on our terms, but rather the Mystical Body of Jesus. And the mission of the Church in the modern world is not a matter for our own determination but has rather been given to us by Christ: "Go and preach the Gospel to all nations." All of these have been received, not fabricated. So if we forget the central teaching of "Dei Verbum," then "Lumen Gentium," "Sacrosanctum Concilium," and "Gaudium et Spes" will be fundamentally misunderstood.

Might I suggest, by way of conclusion, that a very good way to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council is to find a copy of "Dei Verbum," curl up by the fireplace, and read it.

Bishop Robert Barron is the Bishop of Rochester, Minnesota, and the Founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministries.

been trained to think about the self-care we need and how to take that not as a luxury but as a responsibility. What's your stewardship, as a resource?"

Getting fresh air can make a big difference. "We live in strange days," Ruff said. "We live in more and more virtual worlds, and we weren't meant for a virtual world."

Some psychologists prescribe gardening. "Digging in the dirt helps with depression," Ruff said. "Research shows that. It might be biologically driven. We're part of a biome, and we want to be in it."

The work of the Institute for Ongoing Clergy Formation

is cause for rejoicing, Father Williams said. "It should be a note of pride for the whole Church, all people of God, that we're caring for our priests and wanting them to grow."

Ruff senses that response among lay people. "It's kind of like when you're a child, and you see your parents are doing things to take care of themselves. It's reassuring to you that they're going to be ok. We cheer for that."

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for October 23, 2022

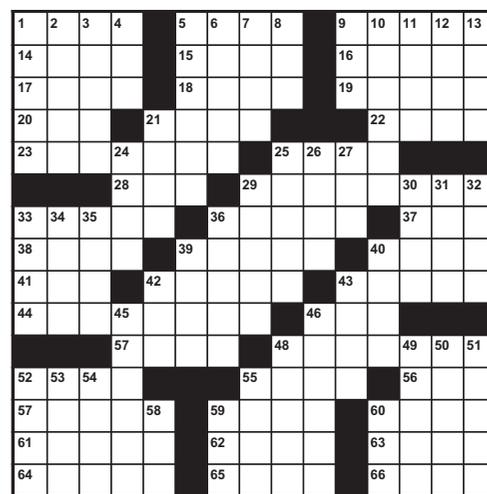
Luke 18: 9-14

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: Two types of prayer. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

RIGHTEOUS	WENT UP	TEMPLE
PRAY	PHARISEE	TAX
COLLECTOR	HIMSELF	THANK YOU
I FAST	TWICE	A WEEK
HEAVEN	BEAT	HIS BREAD
BE MERCIFUL	TO ME	SINNER
I TELL	JUSTIFIED	HUMBLED

WHICH SINNED?

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



ACROSS

- 1 ___ works
- 5 The three kings
- 9 Canonized pope known as "the Great"
- 14 "Mercy!"
- 15 Not a base
- 16 Spicy concoction
- 17 Bring into existence
- 18 "Comin' ___ the Rye"
- 19 Essential
- 20 Before, to Byron
- 21 Prompted
- 22 Depend
- 23 Name given to the fox
- 25 Pats gently
- 28 Turnabout, familiarly
- 29 Incitement of rebellion
- 33 He played a pope and wanted to be a priest when he was a young boy
- 36 Cut into small pieces
- 37 Oxlike antelope
- 38 Picnic intruders
- 39 Swedish imports
- 40 Campus figure
- 41 Owing
- 42 In an appropriate manner

DOWN

- 43 Esther has the longest one in the Bible
- 44 Describes 55D
- 46 The Supreme Being
- 47 City in Northwest France
- 48 Take communion
- 52 Lenten duty
- 55 Foot covering
- 56 It means nothing
- 57 Beam of light
- 59 Coconut husk
- 60 Apollo creator
- 61 Reduce by two
- 62 Stopper
- 63 Single entity
- 64 Bay
- 65 ___ gin fizz
- 66 Bordeaux bean?
- 1 Wife of the prophet Hosea
- 2 Chicago airport
- 3 Best way to sing
- 4 Catchall name
- 5 Catholic star of "Samson and Delilah"
- 6 Pained
- 7 Enclose

- 8 Words at the end of the aisle
- 9 ___1, papal license plate
- 10 "Blessed are those who hunger and ___ for righteousness..." (Mt 5:6)
- 11 Beer type
- 12 Israel's airline
- 13 Greasy
- 21 First child
- 24 Convent dwellers
- 25 Annual race
- 26 Summer drinks
- 27 Make an offer
- 29 Commandment word
- 30 Composer Stravinsky
- 31 Singles
- 32 Und clothed
- 33 Muslim judge
- 34 E Pluribus ___
- 35 Separate article
- 36 He entered Judas
- 39 Location
- 40 Yield
- 42 Title of address for a friar or monk
- 43 Sotto ___
- 45 Eight days of a holy season
- 46 Patron saint of England
- 48 African animal, for short
- 49 Silly
- 50 Catholic custom of dropping into the Church for a few minutes to say a quick prayer
- 51 Tickle pink
- 52 Alphabet string
- 53 Mr. Greenspan
- 54 Shout heard on the trading floor
- 55 See 44A
- 58 Encountered
- 59 TV station
- 60 Kernel

Answer key can be found on page 15

CAPECCHI, from page 12

Inc. was made possible through the Pathways for Tomorrow Initiative. They are enabling more guidance for pastors at schools and a major boost in mental-health support.

Warding off burnout is crucial, Ruff said. "How do I stand in this vocation in the too-much-of-everything and live it in the way that I just carry the part that's mine? If we try to do it all, we can't."

In addition to examining their prayer lives, Ruff prods priests to assess their sleep and dietary habits. "It's our dilemma as men—we haven't

Poland Pilgrimage an Opportunity for Growth in Love of Eucharist, Saints

BY JENNIFER BARTON

Next May, Father Bob Garrow will walk in the footsteps of saints. He, along with some of his parishioners at St. Stanislaus Kostka in New Carlisle, are preparing to step back through time and explore the legacy of many Polish Catholics saints, both ancient and modern, through a pilgrimage to Poland in the spring.

Father Garrow said that he is embarking on this trip because, "In the last year, I have really felt a pull from God that I need to take people on pilgrimage to this Catholic country."

With the Eucharistic Revival currently taking place, he found that this was a good time to fulfill his longtime dream to visit Poland. There will also be an emphasis on the Eucharist, as several Eucharistic miracles that have occurred in Poland are on the itinerary. Even learning more about his parish's patron saint can help deepen devotion to the Eucharist, as St. Stanislaus Kostka "received the Eucharist many times miraculously," Father Garrow stated.

In fact, the first location the pilgrims will stop at is a church with a connection to theirs: St. Stanislaus Kostka in Warsaw, both named for the 16th century Jesuit novice who was said to have received Communion from St. Barbara and two angels on his sick bed and was miraculously healed. St. Stanislaus Kostka is not the only saintly Pole that the group will contemplate on the trip, though. A better-known saint and one who is to be a central



Poland with St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, New Carlisle

focus of the trip often prayed to St. Stanislaus Kostka – St. John Paul II. The pilgrimage includes visits to sites such as Karol Wojtyla's birthplace as well as Krakow, where he studied for the priesthood and served as archbishop.

Another saint the group will encounter is St. Faustina Kowalska, a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy and the saint who instigated devotion to Jesus in the Divine Mercy. She was beatified and canonized by her fellow countryman, St. John Paul II.

The timing for the trip seems providential, as throughout the past year, Father Garrow has been taking online courses on St. Faustina and the Divine Mercy devotion. He even recently offered a course on the book "The Second Greatest Story Ever Told: Now is the Time of Mercy" by Father Michael E. Gaitley, MIC. "Throughout the episodes," Father Garrow stated, "it discusses the Polish culture and the trials and tribulations they have gone through yet have remained faithful to God." One such tribulation was

the Holocaust, in which Poland became a major target for "cleansing" by the Nazis, and this trip to Poland includes memorializing those who lost their lives for the Catholic faith. Father Garrow's group will visit Auschwitz to pay tribute to one of the most famous saints of the Holocaust, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and others who perished there.

With a love for the Polish culture, it also made sense for Father Garrow to lead a group from a parish dedicated to a Polish saint and an area of Indiana where many can

trace their lineage back to that nation. "Our parish has a long-standing tradition with many of the parishioners' family ancestry originating from Poland. What a wonderful chance for those who can go, to experience this Catholic culture, the food, the people, and learn more about some of the great saints of our modern times."

As the purpose of a pilgrimage is to grow in love and devotion to God, learning about the lives of the saints and how to walk in the footsteps of those closest to Him can help a person increase in holiness.

There are other saints and blessed whom Father Garrow and company will encounter on the journey, providing opportunities to grow in friendship with these holy men and women. This in turn can help deepen the faith lives of the pilgrims themselves.

For more information on Father Garrow's pilgrimage to Poland in May, visit www.canterburypilgrimages.com. To join the pilgrimage, email reservations@canterburypilgrimages.com or call 800-653-0017.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

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

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.

Vocation Discernment Come and See

FORT WAYNE — An open house for Catholic men and women wishing to know more about living in a discernment house and assistance in discerning the priesthood or a married, single, consecrated, religious, work, and/or other vocation will be held on Saturday, Oct. 22, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Mary's Glen Chapel, 2514 Reynolds St. Mass, brunch, talks on vocation discernment, and tours of Annunciation Women's Discernment House and Guadalupe Men's Discernment House will be offered. Contact Madeline Nugent at 260-739-6882 or copenitents@yahoo.com.

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.

John Bosco Jam

SOUTH BEND — All are welcome to enjoy a friendly basketball game between Catholic priests of our diocese and various religious orders vs. religious brothers and seminarians of the Congregation of the Holy Cross at Saint Joseph High School, 453 N. Notre Dame Ave., on Friday, Oct. 28. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and the game begins at 6:30 p.m. Contact Father Drew Curry at Saintjohn.bosco@gmail.com.

Most Precious Blood Rosary Society Craft Show

FORT WAYNE — The Most Precious Blood Rosary Society will have a Christmas Craft Show on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the school gym, 1529 Barthold St. In addition to homemade crafts, decorations, and clothing items, also featured will be Tupperware, Young Living Essential Oils, and Mia Belle candles and melts. Baked goods will be available as well as breakfast and lunch items for purchase. The proceeds

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Sue Seculoff, 91, St. Vincent de Paul

Huntington

John C. Trook, 84, SS. Peter and Paul

Fort Wayne

Mary Hertel, 79, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Dennis Loney, 73, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Mary Alice Newton, 103, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Jim Helmer, 89, St. Jude

New Haven

Carole Ann Tenbarger, 79, St. John the Baptist

South Bend

Paul Coughlin, 96, Christ the King

Raymond Flory, 92, Christ the King

Kathleen Gorman, 77, Holy Cross

from this event allow the Rosary Society to continue its ministry to the parish and community. Contact Ann Kenny at 260-579-2895 or ann.kenny3@gmail.com.

St. Aloysius Craft Show

YODER — The second annual St. Aloysius Craft Show will be held on Saturday, Nov. 5,

from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the St. Aloysius gymnasium, 14623 Bluffton Rd. Even more vendors this year offer a unique shopping experience. Coffee, concessions, and lots of baked goods will be available to enjoy while shopping. Admission is free. Contact Amanda Freiburger at 812-325-8563 or saintscraftshow@gmail.com.

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St. Joseph Parish, Fort Wayne

Friday, October 28, 5:45 p.m. (English)
St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne

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/event



Phil Niswonger

Revive was put on by Damascus missionaries out of Columbus, Ohio. Around 500 people attended the evening event, including many young people.



Brigitte Bowman

REVIVE, from page 1

team, who energized everyone by speaking about the simplicity of Jesus' love.

She was followed by the keynote speaker, Brad Pierron, who began his inspirational ministry while a student at Ohio State University in 2014. His dynamic presentation focused on life experiences, as God created mankind to experience life through the Trinity. He spoke of how the history of God's people comes through the experiences He prepares for them. Even the simple example of the ram's head being stuck in a thorn bush so that Abraham could use it as a sacrifice instead of his son may in turn be a prototype of Jesus' crown of thorns – both a sacrifice.

Pierron continued, "We are made for love and sacrifice." Even God required the sacrifice of Adam and Eve to avoid the special tree of the Garden in order for them to show their love of God by giving up one thing only. That was all they had to do. Even the simple detail that Jesus was placed in a feeding manger in the town of the "House of Bread" is deep in its meaning. All these point to Jesus in the Eucharist – a sacrifice to show His love for humanity. In the Eucharist, Jesus brings love and sacrifice back together. Christians are to have faith in one miracle, the resurrection of Jesus, so that they can experience resurrection through Jesus. Pierron quoted Cardinal Peter Turkson of Ghana when asked about the fantastic growth of Catholicism in Africa. He said, "We worship God and get changed."

Adoration and Benediction came next in the evening.

Whitmore returned to proclaim, "The King of the Universe dwells with us. In the Eucharist is the fullness of healing as is written in Revelation 12. 'Evil is conquered by the Blood of the Lamb.'" She then enjoined anyone present to share their faith and to serve others. Three people came forth to share their special experience of how they were touched by grace during the evening.

After the final song, attendees were invited to experience small group intercessory prayer provided by 20 volunteers.

Nathan Sergio was one of the prayer intercessors for the event. He said that he hoped there would be an outpouring of the Holy Spirit during the evening. Tina Masterson of St. Anthony de Padua Parish in South Bend said she felt the energy, the joyful youth, and the fruitfulness of both the prayer and worship.

Eric Snyder, a member of the Knights of Columbus and parishioner at St. Patrick Church in South Bend, connected with the great insights of both the Old Testament and Jesus Christ as they reflect the love God's people have for Him and the worship of the One True God. Sandy Wagner of St. Joseph Catholic Church, South Bend, came because she enjoys such praise music.

The Damascus staff and yellow-shirted volunteers were cheerful and welcoming. The Damascus ministry began in 2015 and now has 60 members in their full-time ministry, mostly young adults. They specialize in youth summer camps, extended missions, and retreats. Their charism comes from the example of St. Paul, who came out of Damascus to evangelize more ministers.



Brigitte Bowman



Phil Niswonger

Revive attendees worship Jesus, present in the Blessed Sacrament.