

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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Road to Sainthood Begins at Home, in Classroom

BY JENNIFER BARTON

Becoming a saint takes work. Fourth-grade students at St. Jude School in Fort Wayne work both in the classroom and at home to become Peter, Joan of Arc, or Elizabeth Ann Seton. These children learn their histories and dress the part – literally. Every year, fourth graders from around the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend get the opportunity to be a saint for a day, but what does it take to become Kateri Tekakwitha or Philip Neri?

At School

Teachers Ali Stineburg and Mary Saillant work to prepare their students well in advance

for the All Schools Mass, roughly eight weeks beforehand, introducing students to saints through books and videos. Stineburg has four years of experience in this area; Saillant has two. In a joint email, the two teachers explained that once their students become familiar with various saints, they are then tasked with choosing one to learn about and portray.

Many of the students chose saints based on such factors as their birthday falling on the saint's feast day or because they or a relative share a name. One young boy named Sammy chose Carlo Acutis "because he is the patron of the internet, and I like to watch videos about saints."

On a more somber note, another boy chose St. Peregrine, the patron saint of those with can-



At the Purcell Pavilion on the campus of the University of Notre Dame on Oct. 21, Mari Miller and Caroline Brown from St. Joseph Grade School dress as their chosen saints of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and St. Elizabeth of Hungary.



Photos by Jennifer Barton

The longstanding tradition of fourth-grade students dressing as saints for the All Schools Mass continues this year in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend as students bring forth food donations to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum on Oct. 17.

cer because his father had cancer.

Milla said she "picked St. Catherine (of Alexandria) because she cared for others more than herself. She was the patron of young girl students."

Catholic schools help build the "foundation for spiritual development" for these young students, as Stineburg and Saillant wrote. "Studying the lives of saints is important in developing faith-filled young Catholics. The saints become our students' holy heroes. Everyone needs a hero, especially young children."

Instead of looking up to fic-

tional superheroes, the two teachers agree that: "Studying the lives of saints gives our fourth graders lifelong role models that will never disappoint."

At home

Charlene Thurber's daughter Mia is a third-generation student at St. Jude. Charlene's mother, along with Charlene and her siblings are all St. Jude alumni, and now her own children attend the school, with Mia

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PUBLISHER: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

PUBLICATION DIRECTOR: Nicole Hahn

Editorial Department

PUBLICATION MANAGER:

ASSISTANT PUBLICATION MANAGER:

Jennifer Barton

PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

Business Department

BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION:

circulation@diocesefwsb.org

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE:

Erika Barron: ebarron@diocesefwsb.org

Website: www.todayscatholic.org

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editor@diocesefwsb.org



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Ukraine Bishop Predicts New Exodus of Refugees: 'How Can They Stay?'

BY JONATHAN LUXMOORE

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) — A Ukrainian bishop has warned of a humanitarian disaster caused by Russian attacks on his country's power and water supplies and predicted a "huge new wave of refugees" desperate to survive winter.

"While front-line fighting continues, we now face constant attacks from Russia's S-300 missiles and Iranian kamikaze drones — it's worst at night, when people go to sleep not knowing if their apartment block will be hit," said Auxiliary Bishop Jan Sobilo of Kharkiv-Zaporizhzhia.

"Many who never previously considered leaving are now in western Ukraine or have left the country, and I think another huge wave of refugees will soon converge on Poland and other countries. If there's no water, gas, or electricity in their homes, how can they stay there?"

The Zaporizhzhia-based bishop spoke as Russian strikes continued against civilian targets in Kyiv and other cities, wrecking infrastructure and energy supplies in the approach to winter.

In an Oct. 21 Catholic News Service interview, he said some parts of his eastern city were already experiencing power and water cuts, sometimes for hours, while many residents left the city at night for safety, to sleep in makeshift facilities.

"Multistory buildings have been smashed, with people blown to bits in their homes as they slept," Bishop Sobilo told CNS.

"The whole civilian and social infrastructure is being shot up, including energy installations supplying power to smaller outlets. Some towns closer to the front line haven't had gas or electricity for half a year."

Ukrainian government sources said hundreds of missile and drone attacks were recorded in mid-October against dozens of towns and cities, including in the Dnipro and Donetsk regions, where Ukrainian forces have recaptured swathes of territory in a two-month counteroffensive.

Meanwhile, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy confirmed on Oct. 20 that a third of Ukraine's power stations were now destroyed, leaving more than a thousand urban areas without electricity.

Bishop Sobilo said his Zaporizhzhia curia were receiving a weekly supply truck from the Catholic De Paul International charity, as well as aid from the Rome-based Missionaries of the Holy



Photo by Vyacheslav Madiyevskyy

A Ukrainian woman holds her baby on a bed in a bomb shelter during the Russian invasion in Kharkiv on Oct. 12.

Family. These supplies were passed on to needy people in other towns, including those in Russian-occupied areas.

However, he added that half of Zaporizhzhia's population of 750,000 had now fled, and he said parish life was dwindling as fewer Catholics attended Mass.

The region's majority Eastern-rite Catholics and communities of Orthodox and Protestants also faced declining participation, Bishop Sobilo said, as fewer people took to the streets, fearing rockets and bombs.

"Many have gone in search of a safer place to spend the winter, while transport is now intermittent and there are fears air raid sirens will sound and they'll come under fire," the bishop said.

"People are tired and fearful, knowing remaining power supplies could suddenly be disrupted, leaving them struggling to survive cold and hunger. Those now leaving aren't looking to improve their lives, just to find any means of survival."

In an Oct. 19 Italian TV interview, Bishop Pavlo Honcharuk of Kharkiv-Zaporizhzhia said his own city, Kharkiv, 20 miles from the Russian border, now resembled Sarajevo during the 1992-95 Bosnian war. He appealed for more humanitarian aid, with

temperatures set to drop to minus 30.

The Vatican's nuncio, Archbishop Visvaldas Kulbokas, told the Rome-based SIR agency on Oct. 17 that Russia's Iranian-supplied Shahed-136 explosive drones had struck civilian sites close to his Kyiv office, but said he believed Ukrainians would "rather die than live under a regime which destroys and is based on violence, injustice, and lies."

Bishop Sobilo said the resumption of Russian attacks on Kyiv had intensified local insecurity, highlighting that "all Ukraine" was now threatened.

He added that President Vladimir Putin's Sept. 30 annexation of Ukraine's Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk, and Zaporizhzhia regions — a move condemned on Oct. 12 in a U.N. General Assembly resolution — had been ignored by local residents, who also had "paid no attention" to his follow-up Oct. 19 declaration of martial law.

"These occupied areas are already suffering from war, with terror and death stalking civilians in Bucha, Izium, and other places, so how could it make sense to announce a state of war?" the bishop said.

"The so-called annexation is really just an occupation and

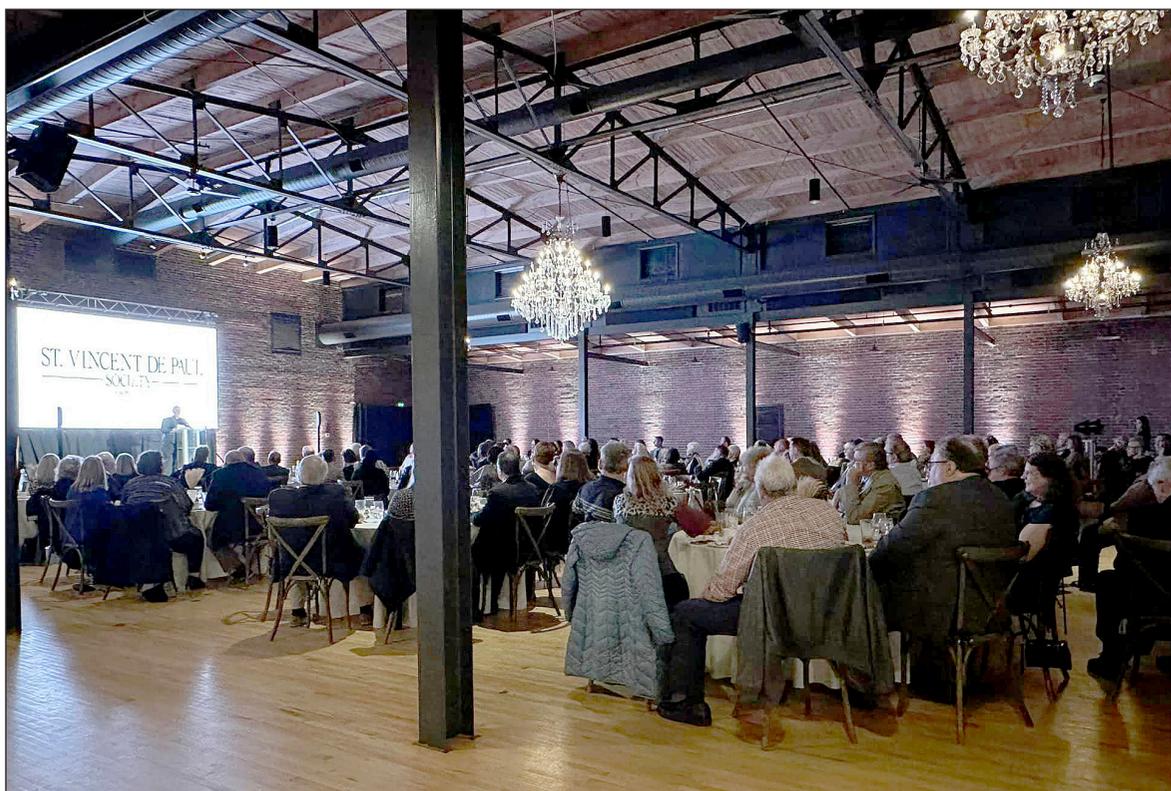
people don't want this, even if they currently have no other options. Most are expecting these territories to be liberated and eventually returned to Ukraine."

In an Oct. 20 message, the head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk of Kyiv-Halych, said he had recently visited Mykolaiv, where "devastating shelling and bombardment" had caused a lack of drinking water. He said Russian forces were using deported Ukrainians "as a human shield" while retreating from the southern port of Kherson.

The archbishop said Russian forces had attacked power plants near several cities and appeared ready to cause floods by blowing up dams on the Dnieper River.

Bishop Sobilo told CNS that Ukrainian Catholics were grateful for help already provided by the West, but would fully depend on further support, including food, medicine, and clothing, to survive the winter and "keep hopes alive for the future."

"As long as we're alive, and there are still people here, our priests and nuns will be here with them, enduring the same hardships," the bishop told CNS.



Angelo DiCarlo

Hundreds gather to celebrate the work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County and to raise funds to continue the mission at the annual Founder's Gala in South Bend on Oct. 19.

Disciple of Jesus Keynotes Founder's Gala for St. Vincent de Paul

BY JILL A. BOUGHTON

The Oct. 19 Founder's Gala at the Armory in South Bend was a celebration of the way members of St. Vincent de Paul conferences, spread across 18 parishes in St. Joseph and Elkhart counties, have encountered Jesus by visiting their poorer neighbors throughout the past year. It was also a fundraiser and auction to sustain this outreach in the future, with a goal of raising \$70,000.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, who prefers to be introduced as a disciple of Jesus rather than with a list of his many accomplishments, told the 200 people in attendance that he has a personal devotion to Blessed Antoine Frederic Ozanam, who founded the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Paris when he was only 20 years old. Before leading grace, Bishop Rhoades offered a prayer for the miracle necessary for the canonization of this man whom St. John Paul II beatified during World Youth Day in 1997. He also shared how he tries to follow the example of Jesus and Blessed Frederic Ozanam in the personal interactions he has with the homeless people who stop by Ave Maria House next door to his rectory in Fort Wayne.

"It's so important to know our roots," said Bishop Rhoades. "During his short life, Blessed Frederic Ozanam was a devoted husband and father, a brilliant student who earned advanced degrees in both law and literature, a prolific writer,

and a popular professor. But he never forgot a hostile classmate's challenge: 'What is your Church doing today to meet the needs of society?' He took to heart what he learned from Blessed Rosalie Rendu of the Daughters of Charity: 'Be kind and love, for love is your first gift to the poor.' Throughout their lives, Frederic and his friends continued to visit the needy of Paris in their homes, bringing friendship as well as material and spiritual assistance."

Founded in 1833, the St. Vincent de Paul Society spread like wildfire, coming to the United States (St. Louis) in 1845, and to South Bend in 1904, with a conference in St. Patrick Parish. It's still spreading, with a brand-new chapter at Christ the King represented at the gala. Bishop Rhoades pointed out that although the Society provides food and financial assistance, it "is not just a social service agency or a benevolent society. It is a Catholic apostolate, rooted in the teachings of Jesus and His life of service to others, especially to the poor and suffering."

After the keynote speech by Bishop Rhoades, Laura Hollis, President of the Board of Directors, reported on the work of the St. Joseph County Council throughout the past year. "Although it seemed as if everything would get back to normal after the pandemic a year ago, many factors have made life more challenging for our needy neighbors," she said. "These include rising food and housing costs as well

as the end of extra subsidies and the eviction moratorium, along with a reduction in food stamps."

She continued, "As a result, 68 percent more people are coming to the walk-in pantry, even though it's only open two days a week. Appointments for Sweet Dreams (beds for children) and financial assistance fill up minutes after sign-ups open. Since May, 522 households have sought assistance for the very first time, including an 84-year-old who said she'd always been able to get by on her own. During the past year, parish St. Vincent de Paul conferences made 3,903 home visits, 900 more than the previous year. During the summer, 57 families a day requested assistance."

Hollis encouraged attendees to view their generous prayer and financial support as an investment in the St. Vincent de Paul Society and all those it serves.

The emcee for the evening was Angelo DiCarlo of Redeemer Radio, one of the major sponsors of the gala. Other major sponsors included ABC 57/Weigel Broadcasting, First Source Bank, Indiana Trust and Wealth Management, Tire Rack, University of Notre Dame, Pat and Laura Flynn, John and Catherine Hiler, Timothy and Susan Liddell, and St. Matthew Parish St. Vincent de Paul Conference.

For more information about the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County or to make a donation, visit their website at svdpsb.org.



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

- Monday, Oct. 31: 5:45 p.m. – Pastoral Visit and Presentation to Seminarians, Moreau Seminary, University of Notre Dame
- Tuesday, Nov. 1: 9 a.m. – Mass and Pastoral Visit, St. John the Baptist School, South Bend
- Wednesday, Nov. 2: 6:30 p.m. – Mass and Reflection, World Youth Day Pilgrim Meeting, Sacred Heart Church, Warsaw
- Thursday, Nov. 3: 7:30 p.m. – Confirmation Mass, Corpus Christi Church, South Bend
- Sunday, Nov. 6: 10:30 a.m. – Confirmation Mass, Holy Cross Church, South Bend

White Mass Offers Honor to Those Who Work in Medicine



Erika Barron

The faithful gather on Tuesday, Oct. 18 for the White Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, honoring those in the medical field.



Julie Bryan

Following the White Mass honoring members of the medical community, attendees gather for a dinner and reception arranged by the Catholic Medical Guild of Northeast Indiana at St. Mary Mother of God Parish.

Cardinal Gregory Blesses Shrine's Replacement of Vandalized Mary Statue

BY RICHARD SZCZEPANOWSKI

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) — Ten months after a marble statue of Our Lady of Fatima in the Rosary Walk and Garden outside the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception was vandalized and destroyed beyond repair, a replacement statue was blessed on Oct. 23 by Washington, D.C. Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory.

"We have gathered here in joy for the solemn blessing of this image of the Blessed Virgin Mary," the cardinal said, praying that those who honor Mary "be of one mind with Christ and trace in their hearts the pattern of Mary's holiness."

"May they search for peace, strive for justice, and realize your love, as they pursue their journey through life toward your heavenly city, where the Blessed Virgin Mary intercedes as mother and reigns as queen," the cardinal prayed.

The new statue is an exact duplicate of the original statue that was vandalized on Dec. 6, 2021. National Shrine security camera footage recorded a man climbing the garden's locked fence and attacking the statue with a hammer after cutting off the statue's hands.

Msgr. Walter Rossi, Rector of the National Shrine, noted that the replacement statue was carved following the exact specifications of the original, which could not be repaired after the attack. "Her hands were cut off, her nose and face were disfigured, and her crown was destroyed," he said.

Prior to the blessing, the priest led about 50 people who had gathered at the statue in praying the rosary. Among those in attendance were Newt Gingrich, former Speaker of the



Javier Diaz, Catholic Standard

Washington, D.C. Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory blesses a new statue of Our Lady of Fatima at the Rosary Walk and Garden outside the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on Oct. 23, 2022. The new statue replaces one that had been vandalized in December of 2021.

U.S. House of Representatives, and his wife, Callista, the former U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican.

"Our Lady has asked us to pray especially for peace in our world that faces unrest," Msgr. Rossi said. "Let us pray for peace in our world and peace of mind, body, and soul."

The Rosary Garden was

completed in 2017, the 100th anniversary of Mary's appearances to three shepherd children at Fatima, Portugal. The centerpiece of the garden includes the statue of Mary with the three visionaries — Lucia dos Santos and her cousins, St. Jacinta and St. Francisco Marto — kneeling in prayer before her.

The garden also includes a life-size marble crucifix and mosaics illustrating the joyful, sorrowful, glorious, and luminous mysteries of the rosary.

In the past year, there have been multiple incidents of vandalism to Catholic properties in the Archdiocese of

Washington.

In October of 2021, a swastika was found painted on a pillar at the parking lot of Annunciation Catholic Church in Northwest Washington.

In August of this year, St. Anthony Catholic School, located in the same Washington Brookland neighborhood as National Shrine, was vandalized twice in less than a week.

The school's statue of St. Anthony was toppled and decapitated and benches were pulled up from the school playground, and later the principal's office was ransacked, with a statue of the Blessed Mother and one of St. Joseph

destroyed, along with Advent candles.

Also in August, vandals broke a window pane at another local Catholic church and put a running hose through it, covering the vestibule with water.

In July, multiple fires were set inside St. Jane Frances de Chantal Church in the Washington suburb of Bethesda, Maryland. The Stations of the Cross were also taken down from the walls and the tabernacle was broken open. Local firefighters immediately extinguished those fires, which damaged some pews.

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BEST OF HOME CARE LEADER 2018

New York Priest and Longtime Notre Dame Professor, Msgr. John Meier, Dies

YONKERS, N.Y. (CNS) — A funeral Mass was celebrated on Oct. 22 at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers for Msgr. John P. Meier, a Scripture scholar, professor, and indefatigable writer whose book "A Marginal Jew" hit best-seller lists in the 1990s. Msgr. Meier died on Oct. 18 at the age of 80. He was born in New York City in 1942 and received his undergraduate theological training at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, followed by graduate studies at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1967. His first assignment was as an associate pastor. By 1972, he had returned to St. Joseph's Seminary, this time as a professor and soon afterward he returned to Rome to obtain a Doctorate in Sacred Scripture in 1976 from the Pontifical Biblical Institute. He led the seminary's Scripture Studies Department before taking on a professorship at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. in 1984. He taught there for 14 years before moving on to the University of Notre Dame



Barbara Johnston, Courtesy University of Notre Dame

in 1998. Msgr. Meier retired in 2018 after 20 years in Notre Dame's Theology Department, but he stayed on campus to take on occasional teaching assignments and to continue his research and writing. Msgr. Meier wrote four additional "A Marginal Jew" books and was at work on a fifth when he died. It is not known whether someone else will complete the work or whether it will remain unfinished.

Father Jack Overmyer Celebrates 25 Year Jubilee



Photos by Erika Barron

A Saint Anne Communities resident shares a heartfelt thank you with Father Overmyer for his 25 years of priestly service during his Jubilee Celebration on Oct. 20.

Saint Anne Communities residents gather for cake and punch to celebrate Father Overmyer's 25th jubilee. Father Overmyer has served as Chaplain of the retirement home since 2007.



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For up-to-date information about Eucharistic Revival events and resources in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, visit diocesefwsb.org/eucharist or diocesefwsb.org/eucaristia.

For information at the national level, go to eucharisticrevival.org.

Vatican, China Renew Agreement on Appointing Bishops

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Saying it is committed to “respectful dialogue” with China’s communist government and to “fostering the mission of the Catholic Church and the good of the Chinese people,” Vatican officials announced a renewed agreement with China on the appointment of bishops. The “provisional agreement,” forged in 2018 and renewed in 2020, has been extended for another two years, the Vatican announced on Oct. 22. The text of the agreement has never been made public, but Vatican officials said it outlines procedures for ensuring Catholic bishops are elected by the Catholic community in China and approved by the pope before their ordinations and installations. In the past four years, only six bishops have been named and installed under the terms of the agreement. Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican Secretary of State, interviewed by Vatican News on Oct. 22, noted that the achievements of the agreement also included the lifting of the excommunications or irregular status of seven bishops who had been ordained with government approval, but not the Vatican’s consent and, he said, “the first six ‘clandestine’ bishops have also succeeded in being registered and thus have had their position made official, being recognized as bishops by public institutions.” Many dioceses are still without bishops or have very elderly bishops, he said, but the process is continuing. However, Cardinal Parolin also acknowledged “there are dioceses in which, despite all efforts and good will, no fruitful dialogue exists with local authorities.”

Pope Urges French Politicians to Reject Euthanasia

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – As France begins a national debate on euthanasia, Pope Francis urged politicians from the country’s northern region to reject the “throwaway culture” and instead focus on providing care and relief to those nearing the end of their lives. “I dare to hope that on such essential issues the debate can be conducted in truth to accompany life to its natural end and not to get caught up in this throwaway culture that is everywhere,” the pope said on Oct. 21 as he met with mayors and other elected local, regional, and national officials making a pilgrimage sponsored by the Archdiocese of Cambrai. French President Emmanuel Macron, who is scheduled to meet with Pope Francis on Oct. 24, announced in early September the begin-

NEWS BRIEFS

Ukraine Russian War



CNS photo/Vladyslav Musienko, Reuters

Firefighters raise a ladder to help a local woman evacuate from a residential building destroyed by a Russian drone strike in Kyiv, Ukraine, on Oct. 17.

ning of a nationwide discussion about allowing euthanasia in some cases; he called for local debates, country-wide consultations with health care workers, and discussions with political parties to reach a decision in 2023. Pope Francis began his talk to the pilgrims by noting how much the region and people of Cambrai had suffered with shuttering of coal mines, steel mills, and textile factories, and he urged the officials to pay particular attention to the region’s poor and needy. “Welcome and care” must be the guiding principles of their public policies, the pope told them.

Video Shows Clergy Abducted in Cameroon Pleading for Help

YAOUNDÉ, Cameroon (CNS) – Catholic clergy who were abducted by separatists in Cameroon have pleaded with their bishop to secure their release in a video. “It is quite difficult, and we are only begging ... that you do everything possible to get us out of here. It is a matter of do or die,” Father Cornelius Jingwa, one of the priests, said in the 45-second video. “If you look at us, you’ll see our faces are very dismal and unhappy.”

The video, released on social networks on Oct. 19 and run by the Cameroonian News Agency, showed the five priests with a nun, Sister Jacinta Udeagha, seated in a forest, accompanied by three distressed lay catechists. All nine were seized on Sept. 16 when 60 attackers destroyed St. Mary’s Catholic Church in the southwestern village of Nchang, close to the Nigerian border. In the video, Father Jingwa said he had fallen ill since his abduction and pleaded with Bishop Aloysius Fondong Abangalo of Mamfe to take steps to obtain the hostages’ release. “My brothers, too, are not feeling fine at all – so please, kindly, my lord, get us out of here,” the priest said. “Do whatever it takes to listen to these boys and do what they ask of you.”

‘Ecological Disaster’: Religious Leaders Want End to Ghana’s Illegal Mines

ACCRA, Ghana (CNS) – Religious leaders called for a week of fasting and prayer for the environment because of the devastation that illegal mining, or “galamsey,” is causing, including adversely affect-

ing people’s health and the economy. “We are calling for a week of fasting and prayers to pray for change of hearts and for God’s mercy upon our nation for the destruction we have caused the environment,” said Archbishop Philip Naameh, President of the Ghana Catholic Bishops’ Conference, on Oct. 17. He spoke on behalf of the Christian ecumenical bodies, which include Christian and Muslim leaders, among others. “With immediate effect, we call on religious leaders to wear red armbands to show our deep concern for the destruction of our environment through galamsey,” he said. “For many years now, our sovereign country Ghana has been witnessing, under our very naked eyes, the saddest environmental coup d’état ever unleashed upon our nation, heralding a programmed and complete ecological disaster or destruction.” Archbishop Naameh said that in pastoral and social visits around the country, “we see, denounce, and cry over the wicked and greedy destruction of our forest resources.” He decried the cutting down of cash crops on a massive scale, degrading of the land, and polluting the rivers with mining chemicals like mercury, chlorine, and cyanide, which kill aquatic life.

Bishop in South Sudan Appeals for Food Amid Continued Atrocities

NAIROBI, Kenya (CNS) – The bishop of a diocese in South Sudan is appealing for food as his region in the county’s south has been hit by rebel atrocities. In a video message, Bishop Alex Lodiong Sakor Eyobo of Yei said the militant Sudan People’s Liberation Movement in Opposition had committed atrocities, particularly in Morobo County, within Central Equatoria state. “The people are fleeing the affected areas due to these meted out atrocities by these militant rebels,” the bishop said. He mentioned rape, murder, and the burning of food storage facilities. He stressed the fleeing people were in dire need of food. “Humanitarian organizations really need to respond to these people fast to make sure that our brothers and sisters are rescued from that condition created by our own people,” said Bishop Sakor Eyobo. The Sudan People’s Liberation Movement in Opposition is a mainly South Sudanese political party and rebel group. In 2013, it split from the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement due to political tensions between President Salva Kiir and Vice President Riek Machar, tensions that eventually led to the outbreak of civil war in 2013.

Stories of Released Ukrainian Women Make Blood Run Cold, Says Archbishop

LVIV, Ukraine (CNS) – After Ukrainian women were released in a prisoner swap with Russia, the head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church said their stories “simply break the heart, make the blood run cold in your veins. This war will go down in history as one in which Russia uses sexual violence as a weapon against Ukraine,” said Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk of Kyiv-Halych. On Oct. 17, more than 100 Ukrainian women were released from Russian captivity. Andriy Yermak, head of the Ukrainian Presidential Office, said it was the first female-only exchange, and he called it “especially emotional and truly special. Mothers and daughters, whose relatives were waiting for them, were held captive,” Yermak said. On Oct. 18, Archbishop Shevchuk thanked God that the women were able to return to their families. “Let us wrap these women together today with our attention, love and prayer, and warm them up with our national warmth,” he said.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

St. Jude Knights Make Generous Contribution



Joshua Schipper

On Oct. 5, St. Jude Fort Wayne Members of the Knights of Columbus present a check to Father Andrew Budzinski, Vocation Director for the John Paul II Seminarian Endowment Fund, from the second annual St. Jude Knights of Columbus Golf Outing held in August. Pictured from left to right are Aaron Kennerk, Darren Zink, Father Andrew Budzinski, Christopher Mettler, and Steve Ludwiski.

Hospice Service Seeks Volunteers

FORT WAYNE — Heart to Heart Hospice is looking for volunteers to match with their patients in need. These patients may be in nursing homes, assisted-living facilities, or in their private homes. Volunteering with Heart to Heart is a minimal time commitment and is flexible around each volunteer's schedule. Volunteers offer a variety of services for our patients and their families, including:

- visiting patients, providing companionship
- reading books to patients
- watching TV with patients
- singing to/playing music for patients
- making phone calls or writing letters for patients
- celebrating holidays with patients
- providing emotional/spiritual support
- sitting with patients to relieve caregivers
- helping with light house-keeping/yard work

Heart to Heart serves La Grange, Steuben, DeKalb, Noble, Whitley, Allen, Wells, Adams, and Huntington counties. By volunteering and giving your time, you can have a significant impact on the quality of life for patients with life-limiting ill-

nesses and their loved ones. To volunteer, please contact Jenna Monhaut at jburke@htohh.com or 260-203-5441.

Upcoming Lectures at Holy Cross

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross College will be offering a series of lectures on campus in October and November. The lectures are as follows:

- "Great Discoveries in Mathematics (GPS)" by Dennis Vandenberg and Raymond Griffith; Oct. 28, 11 a.m., Pfeil Center Board Room at Holy Cross College at Notre Dame.
- "Great Turning Points in History" by Angel Cortes, Ph.D., and guest; Nov. 4 at 11 a.m., Pfeil Center Board Room at Holy Cross College at Notre Dame.
- "Does Literature Have a History" by Anthony Monta, Ph.D., and guest; Nov. 18, 11 a.m., Pfeil Center Board Room at Holy Cross College at Notre Dame.
- "Virtuous Leadership in a Time of Global Upheaval" by Alexander Harvard, Founder of the Virtuous Leadership System; Nov. 21 at 7:30 p.m., Driscoll Auditorium at Holy Cross College at Notre Dame.
- "Great Philosophical, Political, and Economic Movements" by Clyde Ray,

Ph.D., Edwige Tia, and David Lutz, Ph.D.; Dec. 2 at 11 a.m., Pfeil Center Board Room at Holy Cross College at Notre Dame.

Women's Shelter Receives Donation

FORT WAYNE — St. Joseph Missions was recently invited by BFGoodrich Tires to participate in the Michelin Charity Golf Tournament in Greenville, S.C. Proceeds of the golf tournament were distributed among 10 selected charity organizations. This donation of more than \$63,000 will be used locally to serve the women at St. Joseph Missions who have nowhere to call home.

"Being invited to Michelin's Charity Golf Tournament was such an honor! We are a new start up non-profit, so we are watching every dollar. This was such a blessing. With these funds we will be able to serve more women so they don't have to sleep on the streets, in their cars, abandoned buildings, or storage units," said Erin Ness, Interim Executive Director.

St. Joseph Missions Women's Shelter is a 24-hour, 7-day-a-week emergency shelter in Allen County exclusively for single women who are experiencing homelessness.

Grotto at St. Francis Xavier Parish Honors Beloved Late Pastor

BY ANDREW JACOBS

Jesus often withdrew to places of solitude and silence to rest and pray. The new grotto at St. Francis Xavier Parish in Pierceton provides such a place for parish members, visitors, and anyone in the community.

The grotto is a memorial to the late Father Charles Herman, a beloved former Pastor of St. Francis Xavier, who passed into eternal life on Dec. 11, 2020. Assigned by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades to the small but faithful parish in 2014, Father Herman was the first full-time priest in residence in more than 50 years, the parish having been served by a series of shared priests during that time. "Father Chuck" was known by his parishioners as a pastor who loved Jesus and cared deeply for the people of his parish.

"In the summers, when our parish size swells due to many visitors who spend time on the lakes in the surrounding area, Father Chuck celebrated Mass at the nearby Jellystone Park campground until he had to undergo two foot surgeries," said Dulcie Stevens, Parish Secretary at St. Francis Xavier. "Father Chuck worked tirelessly to build our parish into a special community, and we believe he did just that."

Although Father Herman

battled Parkinson's disease in his later years, he didn't allow his physical ailments to deter him from serving his flock. During his time as pastor, the first-ever parish rectory was built a few blocks from the church, as well as a new sacristy behind the church building, and other improvements, all with the aim to better serve both the physical and spiritual needs of the parish and help it continue to grow.

After Father Herman's passing, the St. Francis Xavier Parish Council and Financial Council conceived of the idea of a memorial grotto, to both honor their beloved former pastor and to continue his legacy of building and improving spaces on the church grounds.

The grotto was blessed by Bishop Rhoades on Oct. 2 following holy Mass. Joining Bishop Rhoades in the blessing was current Pastor Father Daniel Chukwuleta. Attending the blessing were Father Herman's brother, Tom, and his wife Amy, as well as many members of the Parish and Financial Council.

The space currently features a statue of St. Joseph, Father Herman's favorite saint, and includes a small bench beneath a young tree where visitors can sit for moments of quiet prayer. Stevens explained that construction of the space was paused when the builder suffered a death in his family, but the grotto will eventually include decorative landscaping rock, grass, and a statue of a guardian angel to complement the statue of St. Joseph.

More photos are available at www.todayscatholic.org



Provided by Rick Zydek

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and Father Daniel Chukwuleta, Pastor at St. Francis Xavier in Pierceton, bless the new grotto at the church on Oct. 2. The grotto is a memorial to the late Father Charles Herman, pastor of the church from 2014 until his passing in December of 2020.

The Saints Go Marching In



Fourth graders Lucy Ryan and Mary Darling represent St. Philomena and Our Lady of Fatima, respectively. They are students at St. Charles Borromeo School in Fort Wayne.



Students from Most Precious Blood School in Fort Wayne pose outside the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum after Mass.

SAINTS, from page 1

in fourth grade. Charlene's sister also has a son in the same grade at St. Jude.

Charlene remembers dressing as then-Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha when she was in fourth grade. For her saint, Mia chose St. Philomena. Watching her daughter go through a similar process was an enjoyable experience for Charlene. "It was kind of cool to see why she chose who she chose" and watching Mia learn about St. Philomena. Mia brought home a book that she would read in the car and told her parents different things about her chosen saint. In her research, Mia learned that St. Philomena was actually removed from the calendar of saints due to lack of evidence of her existence.

Mia did the research and created her own Power Point slide presentation for the class; Charlene helped outfit her for the day. Searching for pictures online of St. Philomena, Charlene and Mia were able to agree on the general idea of what her costume could look like. Part of the appeal of St. Philomena was that she was often pictured in pink, Mia's favorite color. "But it worked out because she's the patron saint of something you like," Charlene said to her daughter.

According to Mia, St. Philomena is the patroness of

infants and children, and Mia would like to become a teacher when she grows up.

At Mass

Gray skies and a chilly wind greeted students on both sides of the diocese for the big day. In Fort Wayne, the Bishop Luers High School choir sang for the Mass. At the South Bend Mass, a choir made up of students from multiple Catholic schools and led by Jeremy Hoy performed, with a beautiful Litany of the Saints sung prior to the celebration, while an instrumental and handbell choir accompanied singers throughout the liturgy.

On the Fort Wayne side, the All Schools Mass took place on Oct. 17, the feast day of St. Ignatius of Antioch; Oct. 20 was the feast of St. Paul of the Cross as students traveled to the University of Notre Dame's Purcell Pavilion for Mass.

Though there were bishops and priests aplenty in both saintly crowds or youngsters, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades could not find any student who had chosen to impersonate the early Church father or the founder of the Passionists. He began his homily, then, by speaking about the great King David of Israel, whose anointing was the focus of the Old Testament reading. "This is a story that's good for all of us to

think about, how God chooses us. He has a plan for each one of us; He looks into our hearts, and He knows what He wants us to do."

Bishop Rhoades then pointed to the priests representing their parish schools, saying that God chose those men to be priests. Then he spoke to the children of their anointing in baptism. "Because you were anointed, you were chosen to be Christians. God chose you to be His adopted sons and daughters; to be united to His Son, Jesus. We've all been anointed, and we have a mission."

He spoke about obedience in allowing God to work His will in the lives of His children, with the Blessed Mother as the prime example of humble obedience. "All of the saints were chosen by God with a mission." That mission is to cooperate with God's will and to grow in holiness, to be with Christ forever in heaven.

Stineburg and Saillant affirmed the bishop's message when they wrote in their email: "We are all called to be saints. In learning about the saints, students learn how people just like us became saints and now live in the kingdom of heaven. This lays the groundwork for them to begin their journey to sainthood as young Catholics."



St. Therese students pray at the All Schools Mass in Fort Wayne.

For All Schools Mass



Two students from Christ the King pose for a photo after the Mass at the Purcell Pavilion at the University of Notre Dame.



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades points out that the priests concelebrating Mass in South Bend were chosen by God for their vocation, as all God's children are chosen to love and serve God in some manner.



English contemporaries St. Thomas More and St. John Fisher, who were both executed by King Henry VIII, make appearances at the South Bend Mass, represented by two St. Joseph Grade School students.



Erika Barron

In Ali Stineburg's fourth-grade classroom at St. Jude School in Fort Wayne, students learn about the saints and how they will give a presentation to their fellow students about the saint they chose to represent.



Caroline Thurber helps her daughter Mia, a third-generation student at St. Jude School, prepare for the All Schools Mass by outfitting her as St. Philomena.

Photos by Jennifer Barton

'Walking with Moms in Need' Helps Expectant, New Moms 'Where They're At'

BY KURT JENSEN

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) — Dioceses and parish volunteers who have embraced the "Walking with Moms in Need" initiative are still in the early stages of assessing its effectiveness.

Statistics, counting the numbers who have been helped, are an inconclusive means of measuring how well the initiative is working, but anecdotes so far give an encouraging picture.

This initiative of the U.S. bishops aims to connect pregnant women and their families with parishes and to a growing network of resources with the help of volunteers.

The rollout of the program was slowed because it was launched on March 25, 2020, just as the pandemic began to take hold, but it is underway.

"It's not an abortion alternative," Cindy Ketcherside, Coordinator at St. Theresa Parish in Phoenix, observed in an interview with Catholic News Service. She calls the women "abortion vulnerable," but "what we've found are more working moms who already have children."

Seldom do the women have to be dissuaded from an abortion. By the time "Walking with

Moms in Need" is involved, that decision usually has already been made not to have an abortion.

Promoting the initiative is typically as simple as posters on parish bulletin boards and brochures. But those in need, going by anecdotal evidence, come to the program from all directions, and even through private conversations following Mass.

The common thread in the parish-level stories: There's no such thing as a stereotype of the women who are helped.

Kathleen Wilson, Coordinator of Respect Life for the Archdiocese of Detroit, likes to tell the story of the single mother with triplets. Forced to move back in with her mother because of the financial strain, she turned to the initiative for clothing, medical, and nutrition needs.

"It shows you that we're accompanying them even in very challenging circumstances."

Another was a 17-year-old girl. Wilson praised the parish's "lack of (harsh) judgment" so it was able to "embrace these young parents. There's been this continuation of supporting this young life as a parish family."

The key question to ask, she said, is "How do we meet that person where they are?"

Parishes are encouraged to

find the skills within their ranks, and Wilson knows of one that included a lactation specialist who was happy to add her expertise.

Megan Morris, Director of the Life Center of Santa Ana, California, calls that loving the mother "where she's at. Our hope is not only saving the unborn baby, but bringing the mother and baby home to Christ and a community of support," she said.

There are training sessions for volunteers. Each mother is assigned a companion to accompany them on the stressful trek of applying to state agencies that provide nutrition and housing assistance.

Among the worries, "formula is a big one," Ketcherside said. Other help includes finding access to parenting classes and vouchers for Section 8 subsidized housing.

Sometimes the contact begins with a phone call, said Denise Malone, the Respect Life Coordinator at St. Rose Philippine Duchesne Parish in

Anthem, Arizona.

"I heard from a grandmother. Her very young daughter had had a baby out of wedlock. So, the mom and the baby were living with the grandparents," Malone told CNS.

And the request was a little different from food, shelter, and clothing. "They wanted the mother to financially support the child. They asked for help in finding at-home day care. Money wasn't an issue. And they wanted the mom to enroll in classes. So that was successful."

The key to training volunteers: "Active listening is a really, really big thing, and being able to understand the mom and where they're coming from. You can't make assumptions."

Another common element, Malone has found, is "fear. They're all in a position where they're fearful they can't raise the child that they're pregnant with. It is going to be a heck of a lot better to know that the mother will have their baby and

we will protect them."

"They're overwhelmed," Ketcherside agreed. "They don't know where to go."

In July, pro-life leaders in Baltimore for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Diocesan Pro-Life Leadership Conference noted that supporting women in choosing life is a top priority for them especially in the wake of the Supreme Court's *Dobbs v. Jackson Whole Women's Health* decision on June 24.

Since *Dobbs*, interest in "Walking with Moms in Need" seems to have increased somewhat. For example, in the 10 days following the ruling, the Archdiocese of Detroit's "Walking with Moms in Need" webpage received nearly 1,600 unique page views.

In 2021, Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kansas, Chairman of the Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, said the initiative "directly confronts the false, yet popular, narrative that the Catholic Church merely condemns abortion, without providing the resources or support women need in raising their children."

More information about "Walking with Moms in Need" can be found online at walkingwithmoms.com.

Walking with
Moms in Need



SS. Peter and Paul Parish • St. Mary Parish • Huntington Catholic School, Huntington



Provided by Maddie Johnson

Father Craig Borchard, Pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Elkhart, displays archival plans for a past campus expansion.

Getting Real about Church Real Estate: Notre Dame Leads Efforts to Improve Property Management

BY ELIZABETH SELF

The University of Notre Dame's Fitzgerald Institute for Real Estate (FIRE) has had a few reasons to celebrate in the first five years since its founding. With its first graduates belonging to the class of 2022, the new real estate minor has retained 379 undergraduate students. Popular majors of the cohort include finance and architecture, and from this group has sprung most of the undergraduate interest in FIRE's Church Properties Initiative, an exciting collaboration with the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend that has involved faculty, students, and professionals alike.

Whatever they study, students desire hands-on experiences. One opportunity provided by the initiative is the Church Properties Workshop, a one-credit applied learning course. Program Director Madeline Johnson explained how the course reflects the work of the initiative overall: "We have affiliated faculty who in their respective fields are doing academic research. But our institute is very much this hybrid of the academy and individual needs on the ground." With an extensive waitlist for the workshop and many more students interested in the institute's course listings, FIRE has proven that students are excited to get out and see actual properties in the community.

Johnson considered this

"How much better might it be for the Church to view its properties in such a market as assets rather than liabilities, and as opportunities to exercise good stewardship of its land holdings in service to and pursuit of its divine vocation."

— Philip Bess

interest in community — particularly in church property — a theme of the Notre Dame student body. She shared that in class in the spring of 2022, students presented church property case studies, and most chose their home parish or high school. She explained that considering these spaces with a new purpose gave them a "look under the hood" and provoked questions about the Church that they might not otherwise ask. The initiative introduces its students to a network of professionals who are people of faith, passionate about serving the Church with their expertise.

The institute offers an undergraduate seminar in the spring that focuses largely on the differences between mainstream real estate and the Catholic Church or any nonprofit entity. Lawyers, canon lawyers, and leaders of nonprofits such as Catholic Charities speak to the students, and Johnson shared that: "Many of our guest speakers explicitly invite students to consider a career in the nonprofit sector, which I think is exciting."

As he considered the initiative's interdisciplinary approach, University of Notre Dame School of Architecture Professor Philip Bess expressed the necessity of such mentorship given today's culture: "The standard practices of both contemporary architectural practice and the modern real estate industry are each deeply problematic, as the most cursory observation of our current patterns of human settlement demonstrate." He continued to explain that "both architectural practice and real estate development are deeply embedded and complicit" in what is a truly systemic "hyper-individualist culture."

Bess continued, "The hope should be that the Catholic context of the Notre Dame School of Architecture and the Notre Dame Fitzgerald Institute for Real Estate can both inspire the better angles of architects and real estate developers," and focus future building projects away from "excessive self-interest."

FIRE continues to build on its existing relationship with the local Church. Bishop Kevin

C. Rhoades, Johnson explained, has given them access to and a platform within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend to learn much. By Bishop Rhoades' invitation, Church Properties Initiative representatives spoke in September to the priests of the diocese at a presbyterate meeting.

Students assisting through parish visits will likely compile a report on demographic trends in the diocese. On a more local scale, students will help develop site-specific projects, as they discover the needs of pastors.

Johnson said that the institute is "almost actively researching" how to transfer real estate principles to Church business matters. But this trade in ideas goes both ways and encourages those in the field of real estate to think bigger. Johnson said, "Because the Church context forces us to broaden the frame of reference, we're invited to do the same in mainstream real estate as we 'create places of lasting value,' as our tagline suggests."

One practical lesson the Church can take from real estate, Johnson shared, is a

sense of her portfolio and core assets. To that end, the institute completed an inventory of all diocesan properties and have now moved into the needs-assessment stage. From site visits, students and institute staff will compile a report for Bishop Rhoades with actionable insights.

Johnson explained that of all anticipated projects, the renovation and repurposing of rectories and the institutional memory of parishes for property management seem most relevant and extensive. Ultimately, the institute's plans depend on the needs of the diocese, and, as Johnson shared, "Nobody knows church property better than a local pastor."

While diocesan leaders are as tempted as anyone else to sell real estate holdings in this market, Bess considered: "How much better might it be for the Church to view its properties in such a market as assets rather than liabilities, and as opportunities to exercise good stewardship of its land holdings in service to and pursuit of its divine vocation."

"One hopes," Bess added, "real estate developers, attorneys, and bishops might understand how beautiful and durable buildings and cities create durable wealth, provide long-term benefits both environmental and civilizational, and are genuine goods in and of themselves."

An Imaginative Awakening

One reason to travel, either literally or through reading, is to break out of the everyday habits of the mind that prevent us from seeing the world in a different light. Our imagination, especially since the rise of positivism — what we might call “scientific thinking” — as our chief mode of thought in the modern world, is remarkably pedestrian. We go through life thinking that we know and understand everything around us because we can count it, weigh it, smell it, see it, touch it, hear it. That everyday items of life — every piece of bread, every glass of wine — may signify something that our senses cannot fathom is foreign to our way of thinking. Even the thought that men and women of centuries past apprehended that reality with imaginations formed by something other than positivism strains our imagination.

And yet they did. Traveling in Paris and Strasbourg, as my wife Amy and I have been the past five days, one cannot help but be struck by the vestiges of that former imagination — in the titles of places and of streets, in the names of food and of drink, in the words and phrases of everyday etiquette that still bear within them their Christian origins.

The persistence of that Christian imagination well into the modern age can be grasped when one visits, say, a medieval church such as Sainte-Chappelle in Paris or the Cathedral of Notre-Dame

de Strasbourg and then a place such as Sacré-Coeur on Montmartre in Paris — the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on the Mountain of the Martyr (St. Denis) in Paris. Consecrated on Oct. 16, 1919, Sacré Coeur bears witness in every stone and stained-glass window to just how real the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist perpetually adored above the high altar of the church was in the imagination of those who built and contributed to the building of the basilica.

We need those moments to wake us up, to shake the foundations of our own imagination, to see the world, for a moment, through the lens of an imagination formed by something other than the crudely materialistic philosophy of our age that permeates all of our education and entertainment. Like the child who cries out “I see Jesus!” when the priest elevates the host, being confronted with the artifacts of a world created by an imagination other than our own can help us to pierce the veil that the modern world has cast over our own minds.

But just as it takes effort for us to hold onto that brief moment of awakening summoned forth in our imagination through the voice of a child, so, too, the imaginative awakening that traveling or reading the literature or philosophy or theology of a past era may stir in us is something that must be consciously cultivated if we wish it to grow. Do we want



ALL
THINGS
NEW

SCOTT P. RICHERT

to revitalize belief in the Real Presence of Christ, beginning with ourselves? We can start by entering into the imagination of those for whom that belief was central to their being — and by recognizing that faith is not something we hold in place of knowledge (as the modern world says it is), but the theological virtue that is for us the “evidence of things not seen.”

In the words of St. Thomas Aquinas, still sung by Catholics today during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, “What our senses fail to fathom / let us grasp through faith’s consent.” Our faith must shape not only our will and our reason but our imagination, and thus drive us deeper into a true knowledge of the world around us and all that it signifies.

Scott Richert is the Publisher of Our Sunday Visitor. Visit OSVNews.com.

Wisdom of Night Prayer

“Lord, now let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled.”

Thus begins the Cantic of Simeon, the prayer drawn from the words of the prophet who held the baby Jesus in the Temple at the presentation (Lk 2:29-32), a prayer often known by its Latin name “Nunc Dimittis” (“now dismiss”).

A cantic is a hymn of praise, and the church’s daily prayer through the Liturgy of the Hours includes multiple canticles.

The Cantic of Zechariah (Lk 1:68-79, known as the “Benedictus”) begins the day in morning prayer, and Mary’s Magnificat (Lk 1:46-55) is lifted up in evening prayer. Add in the Cantic of Simeon for night prayer, and the whole day is wrapped in praise to God.

But the wisdom of Simeon’s song can speak to us not just at night when we release to God’s mercy all that has been done and undone in the day. Its words also bring truth to each stage of life and each moment in which we need to ask God’s help in closing a chapter.

This fall, I found myself praying the words when I pictured my sister and brother-in-law as empty nesters, launching their last child off to college: “Lord, now let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled.”

The words can speak to both parents and children, caught up in the endless dance of drawing close and letting go. The cantic came to mind again as I watched my fourth son leave



GUEST
COMMENTARY

LAURA KELLY FANUCCI

for his first day of kindergarten, the lump welling in my throat as it did for all his brothers.

Let him go in peace into this new chapter that’s beginning. Let me go in peace from this stage that’s now ending.

Picture those you know who are transitioning into retirement, leaving behind single life for marriage, beginning a new stage in life, or watching a child do the same.

A thousand times in the span of a human life, if we’re lucky, we can lift up our hands to heaven and pray the prophet’s words as our own hope: “My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared.”

The Church’s wisdom invites us to remember Simeon’s words each night. This short cantic reminds us of God’s providence, preparing a way for salvation, and our own humanity, humbled to praise God for what we have witnessed even as we step back in surrender.

Imagine if we could truly end each day, each week, or each year in peace, trusting in God’s word and believing in God’s care. The practice of

FANUCCI, page 13

God’s Gifts Guide Us to Heaven



THE
SUNDAY
GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time Luke 19:1-10

The Book of Wisdom provides this weekend’s first reading. As the natural environment has absorbed more and more public interest, the pope and other agencies of the Church have addressed the problems of exploiting nature. This reading, while composed many, many centuries ago, states the underlying principle in the Church’s current teaching regarding respect for the environment.

This principle is that God is the Creator of all, and the author of all life. It should

be recalled that Wisdom was written in a world highly influenced by Greek philosophy, which saw gods and goddesses as being within nature. Jews understood God’s supremacy over nature and saw nature as God’s gift to all people, its vitality critically necessary.

For the second reading, the Church offers a passage from the Second Epistle to the Thessalonians.

The natural environment in which humans live while on earth is marvelous, and as God’s loving gift, is a means to an end — eternal life, to which God calls us. Most of all, God gives us Jesus to guide us. The Lord became human, as are we, bonding with us in the mystery of the Incarnation. Jesus redeemed us on Calvary. In the Lord, we find the way to eternity.

On our journey, we wisely utilize all of God’s merciful gifts, protecting and revering them for ourselves and unselfishly securing them for others; indeed, in future generations.

The Pauline epistles summoned Christians, such as the

faithful in Thessalonica, to realize the wonder and greatness of God’s great gift of Jesus.

Never do the Pauline epistles lead anyone down a primrose path. They remind believers that the path through life, following Jesus, is rough, uphill, and crooked, beset with dangers and detours, attractive but dangerous. To reach our goal, we must remain on the straight and narrow.

For its last reading, the Church gives us St. Luke’s Gospel’s story about the Lord on the way to Jericho, an ancient city near the Dead Sea. Jericho was and is a city seated at the foot of the forbidding Judean mountains, a virtual oasis in a stark and lifeless terrain.

While Jericho offered security to many, only Jesus truly brings life and security. Here Jesus met Zacchaeus.

Zacchaeus was wealthy, but his wealth was a burden. People loathed him because he was a tax collector. Tax collectors worked for the detested

Romans, and the system made tax collectors little better than legalized thieves. Taxes funded Roman oppression, making life miserable for the Jews, Zacchaeus’ own people.

Nevertheless, Jesus, the Lord of life, God’s gift to Zacchaeus, saw Zacchaeus, despite everything, as a gift from God, worthy of the mercy of Jesus.

Climbing the tree on the part of Zacchaeus teaches two important lessons. Despite his wealth, he was subject to the simple, inevitable obstacles confronting everyone, namely the inability to see through others. Secondly, Zacchaeus desperately wanted to see Jesus. Material wealth brought him no lasting satisfaction.

Reflection

In a few weeks, the Church will close this liturgical year. Then the Church will lead us into a new year of worship and reflection, but before then, will call us to close this year profoundly hopeful and thankful. We have hope. We give

thanks because we possess Jesus, God’s wondrous gift to us, the most precious of God’s many gifts to us. Yet God gives us many gifts to brighten our lives on earth and lead us to heaven.

This weekend’s reading anticipates the Feast of Christ the King, the great celebration closing this year. God loves us. He has provided for us the way to peace and joy. He is abundantly generous and merciful.

READINGS

Sunday: Wis 11:22—12:2 Ps 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14 Thes 1:11—2:2 Lk 19:1-10
Monday: Phil 2:1-4 Ps 131:1bcde 2-3 Lk 14:12-14
Tuesday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14 Ps 24:1bc-4b, 5-6 1 Jn 3:1-3 Mt 5:1-12a
Wednesday: Wis 3:1-9 Ps 23:1-6 Rom 5:5-11 Jn 6:37-40
Thursday: Phil 3:3-8a Ps 105:2-7 Lk 15:1-10
Friday: Phil 3:17—4:1 Ps 122:1-5 Lk 16:1-8
Saturday: Phil 4:10-19 Ps 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a 9 Lk 16:9-15

Joyful Saints

To an extrovert like myself, being part of a joyful crowd is a foretaste of heaven. A crowd of happy people generates even more laughter and joy, much like a snowball that grows in size as it rolls downhill. Merriment builds and bubbles to the point where it's almost impossible to pick out any individual voice among the sheer volume of happy noise.

The communion of saints is an excellent image of such a joyful crowd. In the letter to the Hebrews, we read that we are surrounded by a great "cloud of witnesses" (12:1), who themselves preserved the faith, handed it on, and now encourage us in our life of faith. And while all of the baptized are already members of this communion of saints (even you and me), the Church publicly recognizes particular people as worthy of imitation. In a formal process called "canonization," the Church examines the life, writings, and ongoing impact of candidates for recognition as saints. Those who are considered worthy are added to the formal list (the "canon") to be celebrated and honored throughout the universal Church.

In this month of October, we have several examples of saints who are notable for being especially joyful models of Christian discipleship. The month began with St. Therese of Lisieux (Oct. 1), the much-beloved patroness of missionaries who herself was a cloistered Carmelite nun. In her autobiography, *The Story of a Soul*, she described being healed of a nervous tremor when she looked at a statue of the Virgin Mary and saw the statue smile. "Our Blessed Lady has come to me, she has smiled upon me. How happy I am," she wrote. She is best remembered for her "little way," having devoted her life to daily acts of kindness and charity toward her sisters in the convent. Though she suffered much in her short life due to illness, succumbing to tuberculosis at age 24, she took consolation in easing the sufferings of others through performing small works of love with a joyful heart. Her little way continues to encourage people today.

Pope St. John XXIII (Oct. 11), known as "the Good Pope," is remembered chiefly for convoking the Second Vatican Council. He was raised in a large fam-

ily, the 4th of 13 children, born to sharecropping parents in northern Italy. He spent most of his life in diplomatic service on behalf of the Vatican and was noted for nurturing cordial relations with the Muslim world, as well as his efforts to aid European Jews and other refugees to escape persecution during World War II. But he was also remembered for his witty remarks. Legendarily, when once asked how many people worked in the Vatican, he is said to have replied, "About half." Another story relates that not long after his election, he overheard a woman exclaim in a loud voice, "My God, he's so fat!" "Madame," the new pope replied, "the holy conclave isn't exactly a beauty contest!" The Good Pope is a model of not taking oneself too seriously, no matter how lofty the vocation to which God has called you.

October features another influential Carmelite saint, Teresa of Avila (Oct. 15). Born into Spanish nobility in 1515, she entered religious life at age 20, and soon became known for providing spiritual direction to her fellow nuns and visitors to the convent. She experienced deep intimacy with God in her prayer, as well as periods of soul-crushing spiritual dryness. Like one of her own heroes, St. Augustine, she wrote extensively about her own struggles in being a disciple of Jesus Christ, penning several autobiographical books and treatises on mystical spirituality. She viewed the lax discipline that was practiced at her convent as a distraction that prevented intimacy with Jesus and worked to reform her order.

But St. Teresa did not impose a deadly religious seriousness on her sisters, saying that, "A sad nun is a bad nun. I am more afraid of one unhappy sister than a crowd of evil spirits."

... What would happen if we hid what little sense of humor we had? Let each of us humbly use this to cheer others." Her own intimate relationship with God is perhaps best illustrated by a story describing her slipping down an embankment during a fierce rainstorm, where she fell into the mud. Looking to heaven, she admonished God, "Why would You let this happen to me?" The Almighty replied, "This is how I treat my friends," to which Teresa



KEN HALLENIUS

HUMOR IN THE MIX

responded, "Then it's no wonder why You have so few of them!" How many of us feel close enough to our Lord to be able to complain in the same familiar tone we would use with a dear friend?

On Oct. 22, we celebrated a contemporary witness of joy, St. John Paul II. Having been an actor and playwright in his younger days, the Polish pope had a stage presence and a sense of timing that even the best comedians would love to have. One day, he slipped on a newly installed piece of carpeting in St. Peter's Basilica and fell several steps. On his way out, he said to the crowd, "I have fallen, but I have not been demoted." While speaking in New York's Central Park during a pastoral visit to the United States, he mentioned one of his favorite Polish Christmas carols, which he then began to sing. When the crowd enthusiastically cheered his performance, he responded, "And to think - you don't even know Polish!" Ad-libbed remarks like these are comedy gold, especially when they unexpectedly come from the mouth of a pope or a saint.

But for me, the most memorable phrase from St. John Paul the Great is one that comes to mind every time I think about him. At the beginning of his first homily as pope, he urged the entire Church to "Be not afraid! Open wide the doors to Christ!" This is a joyful legacy - a reminder to trust in God, "who wills everyone to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4). This is the sort of encouragement that we find among the communion of saints, that great cloud of witnesses.

Ken Hallenius is a syndicated radio host and podcaster living in South Bend. For more, visit blog.hallenius.org.

parents watch in wonder. I catch echoes of grandparents meeting grandchildren, the joy of older faces beholding brand-new ones for the first time. Simeon's wisdom invites us to behold and to let go; to marvel at what God is doing in our lives, in each chapter's opening and closing; then to let ourselves step back, slipping into the silence of the night or the dawning of a new stage, trusting that what comes next has been prepared for us, too. May "Nunc Dimittis" become your own prayer whenever you find yourself tonight: "Lord, now let your servant go in peace."

Laura Kelly Fanucci is a Writer, Speaker, and Author of several books. Her work can be found at laurakellyfanucci.com.

FANUCCI, from page 12

prayer invites us to engrave these words on our hearts as we engrain these truths in our souls: What God has spoken will be fulfilled.

Even if it takes a lifetime to see. Even if some days we fear it will never come.

Each year on the feast of the Presentation of the Lord, I love to picture Anna and Simeon holding the Christ Child as His

been prepared for us, too. May "Nunc Dimittis" become your own prayer whenever you find yourself tonight: "Lord, now let your servant go in peace."

Simeon's wisdom invites us to behold and to let go; to marvel at what God is doing in our lives, in each chapter's opening and closing; then to let ourselves step back, slipping into the silence of the night or the dawning of a new stage, trusting that what comes next has

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for October 30, 2022

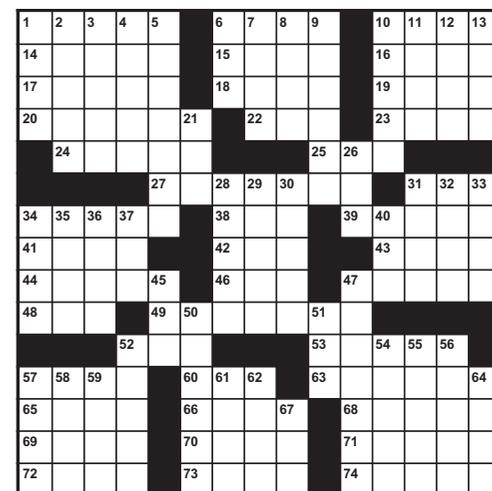
Luke 19: 1-10

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: Tree climbing with Zacchaeus. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JERICHO	ZACCHAEUS	CHIEF
TAX COLLECTOR	TO SEE	CROWD
STATURE	HE RAN	SYCAMORE TREE
PASS	LOOKED	HOUSE
RECEIVED	BEHOLD	HALF
THE POOR	TODAY	SALVATION
ABRAHAM	TO SEEK	LOST

SYCAMORE TREE

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



ACROSS

- 1 Joseph's prison mate
- 6 Musical staff sign
- 10 Deborah sat under this kind of tree in Judges
- 14 Beneficial
- 15 Sandwich shop
- 16 Slovenly person
- 17 Shallow water
- 18 "___ Small world"
- 19 On the ocean
- 20 "O Salutaris ___"
- 22 Pouch
- 23 Financial graph points
- 24 Clay pigeon sport
- 25 An ancestor of Jesus, in Matthew 1
- 27 Leaves
- 31 Actress Thurman
- 34 Catholic physicist, Marie ___
- 38 Pronoun
- 39 It was in the carcass of the lion that Samson killed
- 41 *East of Eden* son
- 42 ___ pro nobis
- 43 Crescent-shaped figure
- 44 Peter or Paul, for example
- 46 Roman crowd?
- 47 "The Stranger" author
- 48 "...and thus death came to ___" (Rom 5:12)
- 49 Certain glands
- 52 River of Devon
- 53 Approaches
- 57 Biblical stargazers
- 60 Birds of the air don't do this
- 63 Themes
- 65 Cyberzine
- 66 Designer Piccone
- 68 This cross has three bars
- 69 Let out one's breath audibly
- 70 Repeat
- 71 Vinegar (comb.)
- 72 Aide (abbr.)
- 73 Journey
- 74 Inward feeling

DOWN

- 1 Catholic governor of Florida and son of a president
- 2 A musketeer
- 3 Mall stall
- 4 Tickle pink
- 5 Mitigate
- 6 CC + CC

- 7 Permits
- 8 Actress Lancaster
- 9 Patron saint of cab drivers
- 10 Song of David
- 11 Too
- 12 Early movie mogul
- 13 Some CEOs
- 21 ___ loss for words
- 26 Palm product
- 28 Church singers
- 29 Lofty nest
- 30 The "A," for one
- 31 E Pluribus ___
- 32 List from which to choose
- 33 Affirmative votes
- 34 Pedro's home
- 35 Mountain range
- 36 Irritate
- 37 There was no room here
- 40 Pay ending
- 45 Matthew collected this before he met Jesus
- 47 Jesus met him on the road to Emmaus
- 50 Where Jesus went for 40 days
- 51 Wee crawler
- 52 Octave
- 54 With speed
- 55 Age
- 56 Sings like Ella
- 57 Flat-topped rise
- 58 Parisian friends
- 59 Jokes
- 61 Above
- 62 Dry watercourse
- 64 ___ gin fizz
- 67 Alphabet string

Answer key can be found on page 15

Saints are 2022 ICCL Varsity Girls Soccer Tournament Champs

MISHAWAKA — The ICCL Tournament Championship game for Varsity Girls Soccer was held on Oct. 23 at Marian High School's Abro Stadium between the Eagles of St. Joseph South Bend and the ICCL Regular Season Champs, the Saints of Mishawaka Catholic School. The weather condition was great for late October with the temperature starting out at 75 degrees with no rain. After taking a 1-0

lead at half, the Mishawaka Catholic Saints Varsity Girls Soccer team defeated St. Joseph South Bend in the Tournament Championship game 4-0, finishing the season undefeated with a 9-0 record.

Joining the Mishawaka Catholic School Varsity Girls Soccer team were students from Queen of Peace School in Mishawaka and St. Jude School in South Bend.



Photos by Ryan Grill

The Mishawaka Catholic Saints ICCL Varsity Girls Soccer Tournament Champions pose for a photo. Pictured from left are: Coach Matt Mammolenti, Millie Mammolenti, Leah Gradeless, Milana Micola, Coach Mike Micola, Brynna Micinski, Julia Marino, Holly Hamel, London Grove, Aryana Grill, Coach Ryan Grill, Ally Callan, Bella Connors, and Olivia Micola.



Players from Queen of Peace School in Mishawaka who joined the Saints this season pose for a photo. Pictured from left are: Elizabeth Dabler, Emma Murphy, Kendall Bradely, and Aubrey Bradely.



Players from St. Jude School in South Bend who joined the Saints this season pose for a photo. Pictured from left are: Flannery Coman, Reese Carver, Paytin Mason, and Ciara Foley.

Thinking You are Holier than Others is Form of Self-Worship, Pope Says

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — "Spiritual arrogance" — thinking one is holier or better than others — is a temptation everyone faces and is a form of self-worship, Pope Francis said.

"Where there is too much 'I,' there is too little God," the pope told an estimated 35,000 people gathered in St. Peter's Square on Oct. 23 for the recitation of the Angelus prayer.

Commenting on the Gospel parable about the Pharisee and the tax collector, the pope said the lesson Jesus was trying to teach was that to approach God, people must look inside themselves and be aware of their own needs and failings.

"Indeed, in humility we become capable of bringing what we really are to God, without pretense: the wounds, the sins, and the miseries that weigh on our hearts, and to invoke His mercy so that He may heal us, restore us, and raise us up," the pope said.

In the Gospel story, the tax collector "asks for forgiveness, and the Lord raises him up," the pope said, while "the Pharisee exalts himself, self-assured, convinced that he is fine."

But not only does he praise himself and list all the good he



Photo by Vatican Media

Young people from Portugal join Pope Francis in the window of his studio overlooking St. Peter's Square on Oct. 23, as they help him use a tablet to be the first to register to attend World Youth Day 2023 in Lisbon.

does, the Pharisee expresses his disdain for others.

"This is what spiritual arrogance does," the pope said. Some may wonder, "Father, why are you talking to us about spiritual arrogance?" Because we all risk falling into this trap. It leads you to believe yourself righteous and to judge others."

"This is spiritual arrogance: 'I am fine, I am better than the others: this person does this, that one does that,'" he said. Such thinking means "you

adore your own ego and obliterate your God."

After reciting the Angelus, Pope Francis invited two Portuguese young people to join him at the window of his studio overlooking St. Peter's Square. While one held a tablet, the pope became the first person to register as a pilgrim for World Youth Day 2023, which will be held Aug. 1-6 in Lisbon, the Portuguese capital. He made sure the young man and woman with him signed up next.

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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.

Most Precious Blood Rosary Society Craft Show

FORT WAYNE — The Most Precious Blood Rosary Society is hosting a Christmas Craft Show on Nov. 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the school gym, 1529 Barthold St. Get an early start on your Christmas decoration and gift-giving shopping. In addition to homemade crafts, decorations and clothing items, we will also feature Tupperware, Young Living Essential Oils, and Mia Belle candles and melts. Baked goods will be available as well as breakfast and lunch food items for purchase. The proceeds 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. Charles Fine Arts Craft Fair

FORT WAYNE — St. Charles will have a craft fair in the School, 4916 Trier Rd., on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Almost 150 booths full of unique, hand created items will be set up. Local vendors who specialize

in creating original art like jewelry, paintings, sewn creations, ornaments, wreaths, tee shirts, tumblers, towels, rosaries, and much more will be there. Traditional Sloppy dogs will be in the cafeteria to purchase for lunch. **NEW THIS YEAR:** We will be having a raffle of some of these great homemade items! All proceeds go to the St. Charles Fine Arts Fund, which helps in areas of art, music, and drama. Contact stcharles-craftfair@gmail.com.

St. Mary's Annual Snowflake Bazaar

HUNTINGTON — St. Mary's Rosary Sodality will host a Craft Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the St. Mary's gymnasium, 903 N. Jefferson St. Featured will be crafts for sale, a bake sale, and a lunch served at 11:30 a.m. Dine in or carryout available. Contact Mary Till at 260-385-4571 or mandmtill81@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.

Mass for the Deceased

FORT WAYNE — Father Daniel Whelan will offer a Mass for the Deceased on Saturday, Nov. 5, at 10 a.m. at the outside Altar in the Catholic Cemetery, 3500 Lake Ave. If the weather is bad, it will be in the Resurrection Mausoleum. Following Mass, there will be a procession in the cemetery while the rosary is prayed.

Fall Afternoon Retreat: Encounters on the Road

GRANGER — St. Pius X will offer a fall afternoon of retreat, Encounters on the Road, on Sunday, Nov. 6, from 1-4:30 p.m. The retreat will conclude with a talk by special guest Meg Hunter-Kilmer, who has spent the past decade "on the road" helping people to encounter Christ through her

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William Sluyter, 53, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Judith Gandolfo, 81, St. Vincent de Paul

Goshen

Thirston E. Perrin, 93, St. John the Evangelist

New Haven

Carol Ann Puls, 89, St. John the Baptist

South Bend

James Mumford, 76, Cathedral of St. Matthew

Theresa H. Marshall, 94, Holy Family

Barbara Ortiz, 51, St. Adalbert

Vickie Zakowski, 67, St. John the Baptist

Warsaw

Patricia Majewski, 84, Sacred Heart

unique itinerant ministry. Childcare is available to registered parishioners of St. Pius. Register online by Sunday, Oct. 30, at stpious.net/fallretreat. Contact Ashley Logsdon at aogsdon@stpious.net or 574-272-8462, ext. 122.

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Father Tom Shoemaker, presiding

**Wednesday, November 2
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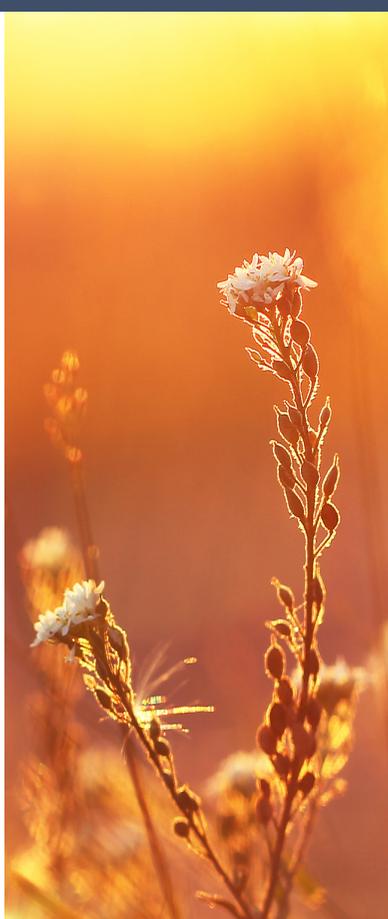
Catholic Cemetery

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Unique Prizes for Raising Money at Most Precious Blood School

Students at Most Precious Blood School in Fort Wayne were challenged to a "Money War" in October to raise funds for needed school resources. The goal was to raise \$3,000, with prizes going to the top three classes. However, the students far exceeded all expectations, collecting more than double the amount expected.

The grand prize of a bowling and pizza party in the school's bowling alley went to the second-grade class, fourth grade came in second place for an ice cream party, and fifth grade took third place for a class movie and popcorn party.

Additionally, fundraising goals of \$2,000 and \$3,000 were set with a prize of taping a teacher to the wall and shaving the principal's head, respectively. Students eagerly anticipated the festivities on Friday, Oct. 21, when the entire school celebrated their victory, duct-taping teacher Darcy Quinn to the wall of the gymnasium and shaving Principal Stan Liponoga's head. On that day, second grader Gianna White, the top donator for the school, had the privilege of becoming principal for the day. The grand total raised was \$6,069.04.



Photos provided by Kim Bentley



Most Precious Blood School Principal Stan Liponoga is seen here on Oct. 21 in before, during, and after pictures of having his head shaved as a reward to the students for meeting fundraising goals. Students also got to have fun at the expense of Resource Teacher Darcy Quinn by duct taping her to a wall in the school's gymnasium.

