Ben Shapiro Addresses Right to Life Jubilee in South Bend

BY JOSHUA SCHIPPER

Co-founder and Editor Emeritus of The Daily Wire Ben Shapiro addressed an audience at the Right to Life Michiana Annual Benefit Jubilee on Oct. 27.

The well-known podcaster spoke on the June decision by the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn Roe v. Wade, and broke down numerous arguments that people can use to address pro-choice positions.

Prior to the keynote speech, both the widower and the mother of Rep. Jackie Wolarski (IN-02) received a lifetime achievement award on behalf of the former representative, who died in a car accident in August. Right to Life representatives noted her dedication to pro-life causes, and her family was met with a standing ovation upon receiving the award.

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita was also in attendance at the jubilee. Rokita will be defending Indiana’s new abortion restrictions in front of the state Supreme Court in January. The law, which initially went into effect in September, was halted by a judge shortly thereafter.

In his address, Shapiro said that Right to Life Michiana is “changing the state of play” locally and at the state level.

“They’re engaged in sidewalk advocacy, church outreach, adoption, and crisis pregnancy outreach... They’re softening the ground. And the good news is that, in Indiana, the ground is already soft. Basically, only a judge stands in the way of the ban on nearly all abortions in the state of Indiana.”

Shapiro said that, for decades, the decisions of the Supreme Court had prevented the pro-life movement from making significant progress in saving lives through the legal system.

“Now that barrier is gone. And that means that, this time, we can actually save lives. It means that what we do each and every day just became significantly more effective and more important. The Supreme Court is no longer standing in the way preventing us from doing the things necessary to save the preborn.”

He continued, “Pro-lifers are, in fact, winning the argument. Pro-lifers have been winning the argument for nearly 50 years at this point, largely thanks surprisingly to technology. The ultrasounds today are astonishingly accurate. I saw one fairly recently showing babies moving in the womb from the earliest stages of pregnancy.”

Shapiro used an analogy to

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Military Chaplains:
Charging the Gates of Hell with their Troops

BY JENNIFER BARTON

Only one percent of the population in the United States shoulder the load of protecting the other 99 percent of Americans through serving in the military. In 1954, Nov. 11 officially changed from Armistice Day — commemorating the end of World War I — to Veterans Day, a day to honor all those who served in the armed forces (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs website).

It is sometimes hard for those who have not served to understand the lifestyle and mentality of those who have. The spiritual needs of servicemembers vary greatly from civilians. Long deployments, separations from family members, stress and trauma, and dealing with losses in combat can have an incredibly negative impact on a soldier or airmen. Suicide rates in the military are typically much higher than civilian rates.

Military chaplains serve the spiritual needs of these men and women. Two priests within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend who fill this role, one a longtime veteran, the other a newly commissioned officer, spoke with Today’s Catholic about their experiences.

Father David Meinzen, Major, Indiana Air National Guard

One of the chaplains at the 122nd Fighter Wing in Fort Wayne, Father David Meinzen, a priest in the Byzantine Rite (in
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**Father Julius Okojie, Captain, US Army Reserves**

Father Julius Okojie has refined his answer to the question of why he became a chaplain for the 472nd Corps Battalion in Chicago. “When I was a kid, there were three things I wanted to be. I wanted to be a priest, a soldier, and a surgeon,” he said. His childhood pastor in Nigeria was an army chaplain and he wanted to emulate that. He was ordained to the priesthood 13 years ago and came to Indiana to study at the University of Notre Dame, maintaining dual citizenship with his home country.

After two years of working through the process to become a military chaplain, Father Okojie received his commission and first assignment.

His work is important because, he explained, “We have a huge population of soldiers who are Catholics, but we have a limited number of Catholic priests who are chaplains.” The Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA only endorses ordained priests as Catholic chaplains, so unlike Protestant chaplains, this severely limits the number of Catholic chaplains in the military. Father Okojie estimates that for about 1.8 million Catholics across six branches of the service, there are little more than 200 priests – far outnumbered by their Protestant counterparts and the Catholic population they serve.

In addition to the roughly 1,600 members of his flock at St. Thérèse, Little Flower Parish in South Bend, he has another flock of nearly 500 soldiers in the Chicago area. Since he is chaplain for both Catholic and non-Catholic soldiers, his job is to provide religious rites and advise soldiers in spiritual matters. “You can only perform those religious rituals that your views as well as his approves. Like in my case … I can’t do anything that goes against Catholic consent.” So, if a soldier requests something that’s contrary to my faith, then I would not perform it. I would look for a chaplain or someone who would provide those services. And of course, you can have issues of conscience, but I should be able to love this person and care for them through the process. “I can’t do it, but I still try to be there for them.”

This primary task as a new chaplain is to build relationships with his soldiers, “so they’ll trust me.”

This includes going where the soldiers are to host Bible studies, counsel soldiers in the darkest hours of their lives, and simply spend time with them. He has even requested his portable chaplain kit for future use in providing the sacraments in deployed locations. “They say the chaplain ministers to the soul of the Army,” he said. For Father Okojie, that means “ministering to very young soldiers, still trying to figure out where they belong, their place in the world, and trying to know who they are. I feel like this is a very good opportunity for me to help shape them in that way in the future.”

And if the day comes when Father Okojie is called to leave his South Bend flock to deploy with his troops, he said, “The Lord will take care of St. Thérèse.”
Coyle knows the challenges of cultivating a spiritually fruitful environment for young people. Ultimately, they recognize that it cannot be achieved without God. He has been encouraged by many initiatives throughout the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend that have exhibited success educating students in Christian faith and shared, “I want to celebrate God at work in our diocese, recognizing the Lord’s work in our schools and within our families. Giving praise to Him is our highest priority!”

Coyle’s pilot episode explored benefits of the PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention and Support) system of discipline at St. Vincent’s school. First introduced in 2015 under the direction of former principal Cheryl Klinker, PBIS incentivizes good behavior by encouraging habits of charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines these fruits as “perfections that the Holy Spirit forms in us as the first fruits of eternal glory.” Coyle explains that “these fruits are the observance principles into regular family interactions and foster a deeper sense of purpose and joy in their children.”

Coyle exclaimed, “How do you achieve more goodness in the world? You plan for it, you get creative, you work proactively in specific ways, and you arrange opportunities to bring people together, giving the Holy Spirit room to work. These conversations reflect the ways educators are purposefully striving to bring the Gospel to life in the midst of our schools and inviting our students to respond with an intentional gift of self.”

Throughout the course of the show, Coyle has and will continue to interview principals, teachers, coaches, parents, youth ministers, college professors, and others. Coyle emphasized, “God speaks to us through so many ways in education; we want to be able to share the goodness that is happening in our midst and others could benefit from hearing about and employing in their own lives. It is a blessing to be able to interview so many great people who work in this diocese and explore with them how a particular aspect of their ministry reveals the activity of God.”

“Spirit in the Schools” is affiliated with Spoke Street Media, whose mission is to “Amplify the voice of the Creator by fostering content that invites.” The podcast can be accessed at spokesstreet.com/spirit or downloaded via most podcast apps. New episodes are released each Wednesday.

### Novena to Christ the King: Nov. 11-19

The Church celebrates the Solemnity of Christ the King on Nov. 20. Nov. 11-19, the nine days preceding the Solemnity, let us offer our prayers to Christ the King for the freedom of the Church.

#### Prayers

**Our Father**

Glory be

#### Prayer to Christ the King

Lord, Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King, the beginning and end of all things...

You have made Your Church to be a people that bears witness to the goodness and beauty of Your Kingdom. By Your Holy Spirit, You have united us as one body, called to live as one family of God.

Fill our hearts with Your grace, that we would be close to You by being close to the vulnerable and marginalized. Give us the patience to share one another’s burdens, and give us the courage to always be friends of the truth. May we remain with You always.

Amen.

### Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

- **Monday, November 7:** 10 a.m. – Cabinet Meeting, Archbishop Noll Center, Fort Wayne
- **Tuesday, November 8:** 4 p.m. – Church Property Conference, University of Notre Dame
- **Wednesday, November 9:** 9:30 a.m. – Our Sunday Visitor Institute Meeting, Hilton Garden Inn, Fort Wayne
- **Thursday, November 10:** 8:30 a.m. – Our Sunday Visitor Board Meeting, OSV Archbishop Noll Room, Huntington
- **Friday, November 11:** Thursday, November 17 – United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Committee on Doctrine, Baltimore, Maryland

### November 13

**Intention**

May children waiting to be placed in a loving home and the caregivers who serve those children find strength and support from the Church.

### November 14

**Intention**

May all children witness in the face of attacks on our churches convert hearts to faith in Jesus Christ.

### November 15

**Intention**

May all people in Nigeria be free to worship without fear of attacks at the hands of violent extremists.

### November 16

**Intention**

May governments respect the opinions of all health care workers.

### November 17

**Intention**

May all Christians serve to speak to the conscience of all health care workers.

### November 18

**Intention**

May all people of faith in China enjoy the freedom to worship and practice their faith in its fullness, without undue interference from the government.

### November 19

**Intention**

May all Christians serve Christ the King and bear witness to his reign.
Ecce Choir ‘Unveils’ Nature of Sacred Music in Church

By Christopher Lushis

The Second Vatican Council expressly taught that “the musical tradition of the universal Church is a treasure of inestimable value, greater even than that of any other art.” In recent years, Jessica Schuster, an artist passionately dedicated to making this treasure better known and appreciated by the faithful, has brought the Fort Wayne-South Bend diocese many experiences of inestimable treasure through her singing and direction of sacred music.

Founder of a young adult choir that regularly tours Indiana and Ohio, Schuster has sought to evangelize and inspire audiences, leading them to into the heart of the Gospel through an immersive encounter with beauty. The choir, named “Ecce” (Latin for “Behold”), is comprised of vocalists between the ages of 21 and 28, who through the gift of their music and their whole being “seek to testify to the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and give witness to the reality of His presence and His love,” as described by Schuster.

Having performed at numerous parishes since their founding in 2017, Ecce was most recently given the opportunity to sing at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Fort Wayne, for a three-part event entitled “Sacred Music Unveiled.” Beginning with a concert, Schuster and her choir educated minds and elevated hearts through reflections from Scripture and the saints coupled with performances of traditional Catholic songs, both in English and Latin.

Before their final song, “Aedonas Te Christe”, Schuster explained, “When we are faced with the overwhelming love of God, when we behold His beauty, our hearts can only respond, ‘We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You, because by Your holy cross You have redeemed the world.’ His love for us is why we sing … it is the only reason why we sing. St. Mother Teresa once said, ‘When you look at the crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then. When you look at the Sacred Host [The Eucharist], you understand how much Jesus loves you now.’”

Father Terry Coonan, Pastor of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, remarked afterwards, “This choir has found a true recipe for effective evangelization and transformation of hearts. The music, coupled with the short explanations before each piece is sung, is exceedingly helpful for people to process what they are hearing and to pray through it all. It’s a great format that really allows for a prayerful encounter with the Lord through the music.”

Following the concert, Schuster led a 45-minute seminar presentation, sharing more...
about the choir and why sacred music is important to Catholic faith and liturgy.

Beginning with a story about her time teaching religion to first graders, she recounted her attempt to introduce them to a simplified sung version of the “Ave Maria” (Hail Mary) to help them learn about the beauty and mystery of the Annunciation. She said students enjoyed it, taught it to their friends, and desired to learn more songs like it. As she pondered this experience, she came to realize that although these little ones would not be able to articulate all the intricacies of the Annunciation, they understood something so much more profound from this music that they could not have gotten simply from me speaking to them about the topic. They encountered the music as something beautiful, good, attractive, to be delighted in, and to be shared over and over again.

She continued, “Sacred music takes these mysteries of our faith that are so amazing — even our adult brains cannot fully understand their depth and beauty — and unvels their splendor in such a way that they penetrate our hearts; not only our minds, but our entire person. This is because God wants all of us! We are called to use our gifts to respond to His love with a full gift of ourselves and glorify Him.”

It is for this reason that God has given the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass to the Church, to provide intimate access to the greatest mystery of all, the redemption of the world and God’s outpouring of love from His Sacred Heart. Schuster reminded others that, “we may know intellectually what is going on at Mass, but we can become numb to it, getting distracted, letting it become routine, not letting the truth of God reach our hearts. But when the Mass is sung, as we have experienced at Vatican II, we are reawakened and God’s majesty is unveiled anew.” She clarified, “now, the Mass is already the perfect sacrifice; it is intrinsically beautiful, but sacred music unvels the beauty that is always taking place.”

Throughout history, the Church has set forth instructions on how to perform sacred music in ways that reveal the beauty of the Lord. Regarding this, Schuster shared a quote from St. Pope John Paul II, who echoed the sentiments of St. Pius X, “the more closely a (musical) composition for church approaches in its movement, inspiration, and savor the Gregorian melodic form (chant), the more sacred and liturgical it becomes; and the more out of harmony it is with that supreme model, the less worthy it is of the temple.”

To provide those present an opportunity to participate in this type of beauty, Schuster concluded her talk by leading the congregation in singing “Ave Verum Corpus” in unison.

After her presentation, the choir returned to sing for the evening Mass, giving parishioners an opportunity to hear the music sung for its highest purpose: to glorify God within the sacred liturgy. Jennifer Litchfield has been part of Ecce since 2019. A parishioner of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, and current senior at Purdue Fort Wayne, Litchfield shared that “through the choir, I have realized how much and how many people need beauty brought to them — true beauty, pure beauty. I have been able to see through my own faith
Hong Kong Cardinal, Others, Return to Court; Defense Presents Case

HONG KONG (CNS) – Cardinal Joseph Zen Ze-Kin and other activists returned to court on Oct. 26 to face charges of failing to register a legal fund meant to help those involved in anti-government protests. Prosecutors said the now-defunct 612 Humanitarian Relief Fund should have been registered with police due to its “massive” size and “systematic” mode of operation, according to the South China Morning Post. In September, the West Kowloon Court found that defendants had a case to answer over their alleged failure to register the fund within a specified period. The case involves the Societies Ordinance, which says “any club, company, partnership, or association of persons, whatever the nature or objects, to which the provisions of (the) ordinance apply,” must register with the police commissioner or ask for an exemption. Cardinal Zen, 90, is being prosecuted as a fund trustee along with former lawmakers Margaret Ng, Ng Ot-yee and Cyd Ho Sau-lan, singer Denise Ho Wan-see, and Hui Po-keung, a former university professor. Sing Ho, the group’s secretary, was charged as the organization’s secretary. Defendants can be fined HK $10,000 (US $1,274). The court will hear submissions from the defense on Oct. 31.

Catechists in Myanmar Deliver Supplies to Those in Hiding

Pah Kler, a Burmese Catholic catechist who supervises the movement of food and other humanitarian supplies to internally displaced families hiding in the forests of Myanmar, loads food on a boat in Mae Sam Laep, a Thai village on the Salween River, which marks the border between Thailand and Myanmar, on Sept. 29, 2022. Boats are loaded here with food and other humanitarian supplies, the first stage of transporting the material to communities of displaced people within Myanmar.

Moms’ Group Protests Ruling Striking Down Abortion Laws

ST. PAUL, Minn. (CNS) – It’s a busy time of year for St. Paul residents Susan and John Neuville, parents of five children, including two teenage girls. As the school year begins, they face a growing stack of permission slips and release forms for their children’s sports clubs and activities. “I’m required to supply the name of another adult to contact in case of emergency to advise on treatment if I’m unreachable,” Susan said. Without adult permission, her children cannot go on a field trip, have their photo taken, receive basic dental care, be vaccinated, or be served ice cream. “What I would like to understand is how it would make any sense to have that same child decide whether or not to have an abortion,” she said during a news conference at the Minnesota Capitol this September. “Wouldn’t this be the most critical time to ensure that she has the best support available, most likely her own parents?” Susan, who is blevied by a group of mothers, was speaking out against a July 11 ruling by Ramsey County District Court that struck six abortion laws down including the law requiring that parents be notified at least 48 hours before an abortion is performed on a minor. Susan, a member of the pro-life group MOMS – Mothers Offering Maternal Support – had spoken out, along with other group members, against the judge’s decision.

Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice Participants Continue its Early Spirit

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) – Nearly 2,000 students came to Washington, D.C. from Oct. 22-24 for the Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice, described as the largest annual Catholic social justice gathering in the United States. The participants - from Jesuit high schools, universities, parishes, and groups - spent their time listening to speakers and workshops on social justice issues, praying, and talking with legislators on Capitol Hill. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the event hosted by the Ignatian Solidarity Network. The first teach-in was under a tent in Fort Benning, Georgia, near the military school formerly known as the School of the Americas, where participants protested the school’s link to human right violators in Latin America, including the training of Salvadoran soldiers responsible for the murder of six Jesuits and two women at Central American University in 1989. Today, the annual teach-in has moved to Washington, D.C. and incorporates many social justice issues, but its focus of bringing injustices to light remains the same. Participants still draw inspiration from the Salvadoran martyrs, whose pictures line the main stage and are the focus of a prayer service held on the opening night of the conference each year. A persistent theme at this year’s gathering was recognizing the work and experiences of social justice advocates in the past and the need to collaborate on Capitol Hill. This year marks the first of what will be many rebuilding through the disaster relief work of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Owensboro and other community organizations. Joey Hazelwood, Project Manager for the long-term recovery group of Ohio County – where Hartford is located – said after the Oct. 3 dedication ceremony: “We couldn’t have done it without Catholic Charities.” Katina Hayden, Catholic Charities’ Director of Disaster Case Management, met with Hazelwood during one of the county’s meetings about long-term recovery and told him Catholic Charities could help because that’s what their disaster relief is about. Hazelwood’s team broke ground for the Filbacks’ new house in March. Over the following months, his team of hundreds of volunteers from across the country worked hard to provide the Filbacks with a new place to call home. “We’ve seen things changing these past six months,” Hazelwood said, adding: “It’s hard to explain … one of the best things we’ve got to do.”

Archbishop Offers Prayers for Pelosi’s Husband After Hammer Attack

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CNS) – San Francisco Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone said he was praying for the husband of House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi after police said he was “violently assaulted” at home early on Oct. 28 by a man with a hammer. “Please join me in praying for the swift recovery of Paul Pelosi and comfort for his wife and family too.” Mother Mary hear our prayer,” Archbishop Cordileone tweeted. San Francisco Police Chief William Scott in an Oct. 28 news conference identified 42-year-old David Depape as the suspect, saying he will be charged with attempted homicide. Scott said authorities were called to the Pelosi home at 2:27 a.m. for a priority well-being check and, upon responding, officers said they encountered the speaker’s husband, 82, and a suspect holding a hammer. “The suspect pulled the hammer away from (Pelosi) and violently assaulted him … our officers immediately tackled the suspect and disarmed him,” Scott said. Both were taken to a local hospital for treatment, police said. Scott said Depape will also be charged with assault with a deadly weapon, elder abuse, burglary, and other additional felonies.

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A vocation to the religious life always springs from something—some outside influence or seemingly random remark that another person makes can help a young man to discern his calling to the priesthood. Retreats, World Youth Day events, and even the presence of parish priests and religious sisters can impact the spiritual lives of young men and women who desire to give their lives to God and others by extension. Several priests from within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend shared stories of those who influenced their vocations throughout their younger years, echoing into their lives of service today.

Father Bill Kummer
Pastor, St. Joseph - Hessen Cassel, Fort Wayne
Growing up at St. Peter Parish in the late 1950s and early 1960s, it was generally expected that all young guys would be asked to consider the seminary. In addition, my Catholic family would have presented the idea to me, with the exception of my father, who would have preferred his only son to provide him with grandchildren. Dad got his wish as many people call me “Father”. There were of course two young priests who were influential in keeping the idea of seminary alive for me. They were Father Joseph Emanuel and Father Robert Yaste. I still think of them occasionally in my old age. I realize that this story will be of little inspiration or have the ability to plant seeds of priestly ministry. It is however my story and I thank our good God every day for the priesthood.

Father Daniel Niezer
Pastor, St. Dominic, Bremen
There are many people, family, friends, and priests that encouraged me in my discernment process, and I am grateful for them. I will recount one story here. It was the summer before entering college, and I found myself participating in the World Youth Day celebrations in 2011. While on this pilgrimage, the diocese made a stop for a few days in Lourdes, France. One evening, a couple of priests and my high school classmate Spenser St. Louis decided to take a walk down to the famous grotto. It was a beautiful evening. Spenser (now Father Spenser) was ready to begin his first year in the seminary while I had never even given a iota of a thought to being a priest. I was just on this pilgrimage for the experience. While we were walking, I can’t even remember the conversation we were having with these two priests, but at one point, someone joked about me becoming a priest. While we were all laughing at the joke that was said, one of the priests, Father Tony Steinacker, stopped laughing and said, “No seriously, you should be a priest.”

That was the first time I remember somebody intentionally inviting the thought of being a priest into my mind and heart. Honestly, at the time, I remember laughing it off and taking no notice of it, but looking back, together with the whole experience of World Youth Day, that was a moment of grace. Now that I am a priest, I think of how powerful just a simple invitation can be. Who knows, maybe there are some young men who just need to hear another person say, “I think you should be a priest.”

God wants to work through us, and these simple words could be exactly what is needed to let God begin that work of instilling a vocation in our hearts.

Father Jacob Runyon
Pastor, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
Here is one story that helped me on the road to priesthood:
When I was getting more serious about my Catholic faith, I started making a conscious effort to pray every day. Before this, I was faithful to Sunday Mass, but I can’t say that I was faithfully praying every day. As I was getting into this habit, a friend shared with me his experience of Confession as being an important part of his prayer life. At this time, I think I had been away from Confession for about two years. So, I was a little bit worried about going to Confession because I had been away. Still, I could feel God calling me to experience His mercy in this sacrament. So, I went into Confession. I confessed my sins, including the fact that I had been away from Confession for two years. I was afraid that the priest was going to yell at me or something. Instead, he was kind, warm, and compassionate. He encouraged me to continue my newly formed habit of daily prayer, gave me a penance, and gave me absolution. This Confession was a wonderful experience for me. One of the reasons I felt myself wanting to become a Catholic priest was so that I could provide experiences like that for other people. I hope and pray that anyone who comes to Confession with me will find God’s love and mercy.

Father Jay Horning
Pastor, St. Bernard, Wabash
Many people have had an impact on my call to the priesthood, even my call to the Catholic Church. Going back to college and attending the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne, I was introduced to the love of Christ through many friends. Working at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Fort Wayne furthered that desire to share Christ with others, particularly the youth. Wild oppor...
much less visible than priests today (we hope they are more visible today, anyway). We mar-ily saw them at Mass on Sunday and in Confession; oftentimes weekly or at least every other week, and we'd marched over from grade school. I was out on my bicycle with a friend in the neighborhood (as all churches and sisters and priests lived “in the neighborhood” back then). I might see Father going from church to rectory or visa versa and maybe sister too. I was out for a walk after dinner. But it was how it was, and we had tremendous regard for priests and sisters in those days, as I pray we still do today.

So, how does this bear witness to my vocational call to the priesthood, the question asked and story to share? Well, let’s set the stage a little... In my grade school days, we had eight sisters teaching in the school and eight lay teachers; yes 16 classrooms, no teacher aids, and class-rooms that averaged 49-52 students per room. I realized long after, in fact on the day of my first Mass, that our (then) principal in our (then) school of my eight years, a Holy Cross Sister was at most 25 years old, as principal and teaching eighth grade. I don’t think a week ever went by in all eight years of grade school that Sister didn’t manage to speak to our future vocation in life. One was always encouraged to be someone in life who brought good to the community: a doctor, a nurse, a fireman, policeman — you get the picture — it wasn’t about how much you were going to make, but about what you did for people through life, beyond yourself. Of course, in that list of possibilities, always at the top was to consider being a priest or religious. The seed was planted from the very start of my life in grade school. Sister Dorothea was our principal and the eighth-grade teacher in my years in grade school. She planted the seeds for the most part that stayed in my heart. She also showed great concern for me and my well-being — my mother had died by my age of seven and I was an only child living with my father who worked by day, of course, and was prone to drink in the evening. Sister must have had some awareness. She kept an eye out for me, encouraged, taught, mothered me to some degree, gave me certain responsibilities or school or even to set at the convent and do my schoolwork while maybe waiting for the plumber to show up. She was a shining example to me of what a caring religious was all about. My vocation surely came from her example more than any other. It stuck with me and while it wasn’t until I was in my twenties that I went to the seminary, the vocation and its meaning came from her seeds planted very early on. When I had my first Mass as a priest, she was there, still Dorothea, and was proud to see the fruits of her encouragement. I’m sure. I asked her at that time (I was 31 then) how old she was. She said, “52,” and I smiled, and in the same voice she used while teacher and principal, she asked, “And what is so amusing about 52, John?” My response as I ducked for cover was, “Gee, I thought you were at least that old when I had you in grade school!” She said, “You may not get to say your second Mass, John,” as we both laughed. Long story I suppose, not the usual role model expected, maybe, but bless those dedicated sisters of those days and the great amount of good they did for the Church! Their good works surely went with them as they now have a very special place in heaven.

Dear seminarians, your vocation is the possibility of a vocation dedicated to Christ and the Church. Thank you, Nate, for guiding me to Jesus and laying the foundations for the priest-hood!

Father Jose Arroyo
Pastor, St. Paul of the Cross, Columbia City

As a teenager, I had an excellent pastor who was not only intelligent, but had a missionary zeal. He understood the Church as being uni-versal and he knew that he was comfortable in his native Colombia. However, he wanted to bring hope to the Catholic Church in Puerto Rico and a hurricane came to the east coast in the late 1980s. He eventually served most of his priestly ministry outside of his native country and directed “all things for all people” to those he was called to serve. He was my pastor for 14 years and had a great love for consecrated life. Although he was a diocesan priest, he wanted religious sisters to serve the missions. He was a brilliant man, respected by all and directly, along with the lay faithful of my parish. I can say that I am indebted to them, and it is thanks to their witness and encouragement that I am a priest of Jesus Christ!

Father Stephen Felichia
Pastor, St. Peter, Fort Wayne

The person who helped me most in my vocation would have to be Nate Proulx. He was the brother of St. Vincent de Paul Life Teen pro-gram when I was in high school. He helped me discover my vocation by first helping me to discover who Christ was. I am very grateful for his constant dedication to serve the youth by always leading Bible study on Wednesdays and helping out on Sundays at Life Night. I think what really helped me to encounter Christ was his witness of joy in the Lord. God worked through Nate to help me encounter Jesus, which radially opened my life to the possibility of a vocation dedicated to Christ and His Church. Thank you, Nate, for guiding me to Jesus and laying the foundations for the priest-hood!

Father Stephen Felichia
Parochial Vicar, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne

A priest must have his head screwed on straight, and a heart for love of the Lord. My uncle is Father Greg Holicky (a retired priest of the Diocese of Gary), and my earliest memo ries of him were of a man who knew everything, a mind that never forgot a single fact, and who had placed itself entirely at the service of the Church. A truly beautiful mind. And I remember thinking, “A priest has to be smart.” A priest was smart. That was key to the identity. A priest placed the power of his vocation very mind at the service of the Almighty. That was inspiring. I wanted to be similar. I wanted to perfect the higher powers of my human nature and make of it an offering to the One who had given me whatever I had. But I wouldn’t have moved on so noble an idea without the heart of my father, Bob Felichia. My priesthood is the outgrowth of his single-minded devotion to the Church. I dedicate this book to Nate Proulx as a testament to his life, heart, and vocation.
Today's Catholic

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

what they call us. I have a
great one. I model my mind
to the best of my ability) on
that of my Uncle Greg. And I
model my heart on my dad. To
know and to love. I still strive
to know as my uncle, and to
love like my dad. The good of
my priesthood is inspired by
those two
men. Any
imperfection
is my fault
alone.

Father

Terry

Coonan

Pastor, St.
Elizabeth Ann
Seton, Fort
Wayne

When I
was in high
school, I defi-
nitely heard from a few people
that I would be a good priest. I
definitely remember one young
priest saying that our family,
having four sons, could give the
Church one or two priests.
While I quickly brushed it
aside verbally, it did indeed
plant a seed in my heart that
slowly grew into an awareness
of God's calling to give my life
in this way.

However, another impor-
tant part for me listening to
that call was the support from
the rest of the Catholic com-

munity. My family's love for
their faith, as well as their
respect for and appreciation of
our parish priests, was very
important to me feeling open
to that vocation for myself. But
even if I didn't have them, I
would have had the generous
support of my youth group
(adults and peers), my col-
lege buddies, and my mentors
who had given me advice over
those years of discernment. In
college, my buddies threw a
surprise farewell party for me
and Father Chris Lapp, which
meant a lot to me and I'm sure
to him too. I also remember
old girlfriends being happy for
me—a sign of a good dating
relationship, I wager! But seri-
ously, the support of fellow
Catholics was essential, partic-
ularly their manifest apprecia-
tion for their parish priests.

As a more private person,
I was shyer about sharing my
vocational discernment with
others. When I did open up to
certain people, I needed, and
received, affirmation and
support from those indi-
viduals. Given the space
to make a free choice was
essential, and I am grateful
for all those who helped me
along that path to semin-
ary and priesthood.

Father Andrew

Curry

Pastor, St. John Bosco,
Churubusco; Immaculate
Conception, Ege

I grew up in the
Polish and
Hungarian
west side of South Bend
and attended Holy
Family Catholic
Parish. For the first
20 years of my life,
our church was in
the basement of
our school. Msgr.
Bernard Galic
was the pastor of my youth. He
was there when I received First
Communion, Confirmation (by
Bishop Schoenberg), and was
our pastor even when I was
ordained and then had my
first Mass, which was in the
new church built just after the
year 2000. I remember Msgr.
Galic always shaking hands
after Mass, and when I shook
his hand, I always had a
strong sense that the priest
represents Christ.

In my youth, my family dis-
covered the alleged apparitions
of the Blessed Virgin Mary in
Medjugorje. This sparked a
love of Mary in my life. I've
read a lot of books and articles
on Medjugorje, and when I
read these in my youth, it
made me think of being a
priest in this same Eucharistic
and Marian spirit.

When I was in middle
school, I remember Denis
Nolan coming to my parish to
talk to the youth about Mary.
He was the first layman I had
ever heard talk with such pas-
sion and articulation for Jesus
and Mary. I remember think-
ing at that moment that if I
ever were to be a priest, I'd
want to be like him. He wasn't
even a priest!

In many ways, I have never
sought God. I was just put
in the presence of so many
good Catholics, and to me the
Church's thought and teach-
ings all made sense. In my
youth, I did not have a desire
to be a priest, but I loved the
Catholic faith and the
theology of the priest-
hood.

Father Thomas

Zehr

Pastor, St. Mary, Huntington

I think one of the most
important pieces of vocational
discernment is simply being
open to however the Lord
might be calling you. We all
would love God to whisper
(loudly and clearly) into our
ears and He says, "Thomas,
I want you to be a priest!" But
that's not typically how He
speaks. He very often speaks
through others. By listen-

ing to how someone might be
speaking about you, whether
by a simple compliment, an
affirmation, a word of direc-
tion or correction, that could actu-
ally be the Lord's words being
spoken through another. This
is certainly the case with me. I
always point to a few sources
of my vocation to the priest-
hood; my solid Catholic family,
being a Catholic, a young 
man in high school,
and having
regular prayer time as a
family, my high school youth
group, the priests at my parish,
and finally the voices of many
people who simply said, "You
know what, you could be a
great priest." Simple words like
that eventually made me con-
sider the possibility of priest-
hood more seriously. We can't
always see what others might;
for my case, they saw how God
was working in me better than
I could. While not every word
spoken to you is going to be a
direct message from God, it is
worth listening to what those
good, holy people in your
community that simply want
the best for you and for the
Church. Be open. Be receptive
to the Lord's words, however
unique, however scary, how-
ever crazy. God does crazy
good things with crazy people
who are willing to follow
Him!

Vocations are everyone’s business

Contact:
Father Andrew Budzinki, Vocation Director
260-422-4611
info@discernpriesthood.com

discernpriesthood.com
FATHER GLENN KOHRMAN
Pastor, Holy Family and St. John the Baptist, South Bend

Life is a mystery, and my call to be a priest has been a great gift to me. My parents instilled in me my faith and the need to seek out one’s call.

My uncle, Father Don Isemberger, was a great example. He loved his people and did a great job of being around even though there were a lot of nieces and nephews. When I was at Purdue, ultimately ending up with a Master’s Degree in Mechanical Engineering, the priests on campus were outstanding examples and gave me some great counsel, particularly Father Theodore Rothrock and Father Richard J. Wiesenberger as I discerned entering the seminary after my engineering coursework was finished.

A turnip and a rutabaga?

Obviously, more conversations had to take place, but it was through one person’s insight that planted the “seed” that helped to grow my vocation to the priesthood.

Mr. Glenn Kohrman
The Father Solanus Casey Vocation Society provides financial, personal, and prayer support to the seminarians of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Through its work and prayers, the society aims to encourage more generous responses to Christ’s call for laborers in his vineyard, raise awareness of the need to pray for the men and women who have taken the first step in responding to his voice, and express appreciation for their gift to the Church.

The society takes its name from Blessed Solanus Casey, a Franciscan friar who spent his final earthly years at St. Felix Friary in Huntington. The group invokes his intercession and promotes him as a recent example of holiness from within the diocese. The simple yet profound virtue which quickly put Blessed Solanus Casey on the path to canonization can inspire more men today to lead similar lives of priestly service.

Previously connected with the national Serra Club, the society operates in Fort Wayne, while a Serra Club chapter, which originally served the entire diocese, continues an active ministry in the South Bend-area. According to Aaron Kennerk, current President of the Father Solanus Casey Vocation Society, the benefit of separating to form a group in each city is that “you’re getting both sides of the diocese, really making sure that they feel the love, that we are praying for them, and anything they need, just let us know.”

The society functions as a nonprofit organization which assists the seminarians monetarily as well as spiritually. Along with the St. John Paul II Fund and annual Pentecost Collection, it contributes to the educational costs of the young men studying to become priests of the diocese. When ordained, they also receive a gift from the society to support their future ministry.

Formerly based at St. Joseph Hospital in downtown Fort Wayne, the society now utilizes the spiritual center at St. Vincent de Paul Parish for their meetings. The group gathers monthly, typically on First Fridays, for Holy Mass followed immediately by lunch and a guest speaker. The featured priest or seminarian shares his vocation story, and as the men speak, Kennerk notices that they visibly “light up with the joy of the vocation they have been called to and they chose to say ‘yes’ to.”

The society boasts a membership count in the thirties, composed of primarily retired Fort Wayne residents. It is slowly expanding and looking to continue growing, because, as Kennerk states, “the more relationships we can create with them, so that they can feel more and more supported, I think it better.”

One pivotal aspect of these relationships comes through spiritual sponsorships. Sponsors intentionally pray for a particular seminarian with whom they have been matched. Quiet, prayerful support is the backbone of the group’s mission, and “spiritual sponsorship is another step of individualizing the seminarians and having a one-on-one person committed to praying for them.” The society further fosters friendships with the seminarians by hosting biannual Christmas dinners to meet them and their parents and express gratitude for their study, prayer, service, and witness to the diocese.

On their birthdays and at Christmas, the society mails cards to each seminarian. In his speech at the most recent meeting, Father Brian Isenbarger mentioned his appreciation for these communications from the society during his years of study. Many seminarians have shared that receiving mail, especially from children, greatly encourages them as well. Kennerk’s four- and five-year-old children write birthday cards for those he sponsors. He highlights the value of these communications to the seminarians, who are in formation either for consecrated virginity or with a community of sisters. The posters prompt prayers for these women in their discernment and invites other young ladies to consider this vocation. Of the laity’s consciousness of religious life, Kennerk points out, “more awareness that that’s something women go into is powerful, and you almost need more things like posters to tell them, because you don’t see that on a daily basis.”

While several orders of religious sisters work within the diocese, their presence is less visible than that of priests, and most Catholics rarely interact with religious brothers and sisters. In the past, the society regularly hosted dinners for religious, but as the number of sisters able to attend declined, these events ceased. Following this change, Kennerk commented, “We turned our focus more toward the diocesan priests that we have and the seminarians, but we still hold the sisters close to us in wanting to find ways, when we can, to support them.”

The society does this primarily through prayer, and Kennerk urges that “we desperately need more people to pray for vocations. And not just for the priesthood. Yes, it’s a focus of ours, but not just for the priesthood.”

This earnest hope for an increase in answers to God’s calling both to the priesthood and religious life is the heart of the society’s work.

BY MIRIAM BARRY

SOLANUS VOCATION SOCIETY

National Vocations Awareness Week

How is God calling You?

Discerning your vocation?

Here are a few tips from the Congregation of Holy Cross’ Office of Vocations:

1. Prepare your heart. Begin not by asking but by knowing God. Attend regular Mass and Confession, reflect on Scripture, pray, and offer service.
2. Ask the question. Ask for the desire to receive the answer so that when it comes you might embrace it.
3. Listen for God’s call. Waiting for an answer takes patience, but God makes his will known to those who seek it with sincere hearts.
4. Address fears and questions. It is in answering God’s call that we find our greatest joy. If you think you may be called, follow the QR code below to learn more about the process of discernment or to reach out to a Vocation Director.

vocations@holycrossusa.org
cscvocations.org
Watching ‘The Crown’

Watching ‘The Crown’ on Netflix in anticipation of the release of Season 4 on Nov. 9, (Yes, I do realize that Season 4 first released in November 2020, but Baby No. 3 has put me officially about two years behind on pretty much everything!) In Season 4, the gap between history and present day is growing ever smaller, and we begin to encounter more well-known individuals that have been alive and active in living memory. Margaret Thatcher, Princess Diana, a maturing Prince Charles, a toddling Prince William. The show is so well produced and so intriguing that I often find myself spending significant chunks of time down the Google rabbit hole after an episode. "Oh, Google, did Queen Elizabeth really talk to an extraterrestrial? Did Diana Spencer really pass the Balmoral Test with flying colors?" (Yes.) "Were Nerissa and Balmoral Test with flying color?" (Yes, she did, and reportedly enjoyed it. Prince Philip did not.)

What would it be like for each of us to watch our own lives unfold before us? Major successes and joys celebrated; major defeats and sorrows endured. What rating would we give ourselves, in hindsight, for the decisions we've made? How would we respond during certain crises, or the way that we treated another human being? How many times did we get for "Bad Choice Read," as the "Breaking Bad?" "Better Call Saul" franchise framed it? How many times did we lose patience over something small? How many times did we opt for something else — anything else — instead of praying, worship, or reading Scripture? If we were able to watch the series of our life, surrounded by our friends and family, would we be proud of what was on the screen? Would we be embarrassed? Gratified?

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

Of a Lesser-Known Gospel Story that is Pretty “Cool”

Recently I was talking to a group of young adult Catholics and mentioned a gospel passage that they said they had never heard. It is the Gospel of the temple tax and how Jesus told Peter to go catch a fish and, in its mouth, will be a coin that will pay the temple tax for Jesus and Peter. In a certain sense, it is one of the more charming Gospel passages and kind of "cool." It shows Jesus’ sovereignty over creation and the rather interesting twist of finding money in the mouth of a certain fish from a large school of likely millions of fish. In the Holy Land today, when you have a meal near the Sea of Galilee, many of the restaurants serve "Peter’s Fish" that is served with a coin in its mouth. The Bible-study students I was with earlier today, most of them early thirties, were perplexed that they had never heard of this passage. It is from Matthew 17:22-27.

Let’s take a look at this lesser-known story and ponder it.

First of all, it is likely a confusing passage to anyone who hears it proclaimed in the United States because the New American Bible Revised Edition (NABRE), used for the lectionary in this country, makes what I would argue is an inaccurate translation of the Greek text. Here is the passage in question (the crucial section is presented in italics):

"Ok, Google, did Queen Elizabeth watch ‘The Crown?’" (Yes, she did, and reportedly enjoyed it. Prince Philip did not.)

What would it be like for each of us to watch our own lives unfold before us? Major successes and joys celebrated; major defeats and sorrows endured. What rating would we give ourselves, in hindsight, for the decisions we've made? How would we respond during certain crises, or the way that we treated another human being? How many times did we get for "Bad Choice Read," as the "Breaking Bad?" "Better Call Saul" franchise framed it? How many times did we lose patience over something small? How many times did we opt for something else — anything else — instead of praying, worship, or reading Scripture? If we were able to watch the series of our life, surrounded by our friends and family, would we be proud of what was on the screen? Would we be embarrassed? Gratified?

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

Life is Short, Afterlife is Forever

This weekend, observed as the Thirty-Sunday in Ordinary Time, the Church presents as the first reading a section from the Second Book of Maccabees. Maccabees, First or Second, rarely appears as a reading at Mass. These books are not from a period only two centuries before Christ. They rose from a very dark period in the history of God’s people.

When Alexander the Great, who had conquered so much of the present-day Middle East, died, his generals scrambled to succeed him. One of them, Ptolemy, became the pharaoh of Egypt, an ancestor of Cleopatra. Another of them, Seleucus, took over Syria. A successor of Seleucus, Antiochus IV, believed himself to be divine. He demanded that his subjects, including the Jews, worship him. Anyone who refused this demand paid dearly. These two books of Maccabees inspired the pious Jewish martyrs who refused to forsake the one God of Israel.

This weekend’s reading describes specifically the martyrdom of Antiochus IV reserved for those who denied that he was a god. Heroism, therefore, is one lesson. The other is about the afterlife. The reading mentions the afterlife as a reward for holy living on earth. The afterlife as a doctrine was not well refined in the more ancient Hebrew writings. Thus, Maccabees expands the notion.

The Second Epistle to the Thessalonians provides the second reading. This work too was written when times were very hard for true believers, Christians in this case. The epistle is challenging, but encouraging. Regardless of whatever may lie ahead, it insists that if we place our trust in God and hold firm to their bond with the Lord. Times may be bad, even terrifying, but they will pass. God and those devoted to God will be victorious!

St. Luke’s Gospel, the source of the last reading, continues the theme of the afterlife. Its message is clear. Those persons faithful to God in this life will live with God triumphantly and eternally in the next life. This reading also says that the ways of God are beyond our experience and our understanding. We are humans; nothing more. We are nothing less in that we can decide to live properly to receive as God’s gift eternal life itself. We are nothing more in that we need God.

Reflection

War has horrified every generation of Americans since the Revolution. Americans died in the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World Wars I and II, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf, Afghanistan, and the various other military actions. While tensions usually preceded the wars, often a sudden event ignited them. People’s lives forever changed.

Then came COVID. In early 2020, no one in the War, that human life would change because of it, but it did.

St. Luke wrote for believers who knew that catastrophe and death might well come to them because of persecution then under way.

The Gospel consoled and inspired them. It told them, as it now tells us, that human sin, turning away from God, brings upon people enormous injury and ultimate devastation. If we follow God, we find the better way to life, to concord, to wholeness, God’s law has proven it, the last. No other human philosophy can make the same claim.

Finally, God’s eternal reward, awaiting the just, will never fade or go away. True believers move not to death, but they pass death as a milestone on their way to eternal life.

Life on earth is uncertain. Wars show this. All the epidemics that have infected people too. Sin inevitably weaves a deadly web. We know “not the day nor the hour.” In this “vale of tears,” Christians must endure terrible things, but if they cling to Christ, the future is glorious.

READINGS

Sunday: 2 Mc 1:12-14; Ps 119:53-56; 1 Ths 2:16-20; Lk 20:27-38
Monday: Mt 1:1-9; Ps 24:1b-4b; Lk 17:1-6
Tuesday: Mt 1:21-8; Ps 33:24, 18, 23, 27, Lk 17:10
Wednesday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 Ps 46:2-3, 5-6; 9:1 Cor 3:19-21, 16-17
Friday: Lk 2:16-21
Thursday: Phil 2:70 Ps 146:10-17; Lk 17:20-25
Saturday: 2 Jn 4-9 Ps 119:1-2, 10-11, 17-18 Lk 17:26-37
Sunday: 3 Jn 5 Ps 112:1-6 Lk 18:1-8

MSGR. CHARLES POPE

“When they came to Capernaum, the collectors of the temple tax approached Peter and said, ‘Doesn’t your teacher pay the temple tax?’ Yes,” he said. When he came into the house, before he had time to speak, Jesus asked him, “What is your opinion, Simon? From whom do the kings of the earth take tolls or census tax? From their subjects or from foreigners?” When he said, “From foreigners,” Jesus said to him, “Then the subjects are exempt.” But that we may not offend them, go to the sea, drop in a hook, and take the first fish that comes up. Open its mouth and you will find a coin worth twice the temple tax. Give that to them for me and for you” (Matthew 17:24-27).

The NABRE translation makes little sense; kings do in fact collect taxes from their “subjects.” Their subjects are not exempt from taxes, tolls, or censures.

In contrast, the Greek

POPE, page 13

Pope St. John Paul II once said, “Those who believe in life after death and who therefore respect life in this world live better: they are kind to one another, they are generous and they are not afraid of life in this world. It is from this conviction that the true fear of death arises.”

Life today is precious. Let us live it as it should be lived: with the conviction of a sure & certain future in Christ’s kingdom, within the joy of the realization that the Lord’s promise is true, ‘I came that they might have life and have it more abundantly.'

Life is Short, Afterlife is Forever.
Let Us Double Our Seminarians!

I t was fully my intention to have all of the Winona-Rochester seminarians stand at one point during my installation Mass homily. I had told the people that, in the words of St. John Paul II, “de eucharistia” (“The Church comes from the Eucharist”), and since the Eucharist comes from priests, it logically follows that if there are no priests, there will be no Church. So I wanted everyone to see and acknowledge the young men in our diocese who are actively discerning a call to this indispensable way of life.

During the octave, something came to me as an inspiration. I hadn’t planned to say it. It wasn’t in my text. But I blurted out, as the applause was dying down, “Let’s double their number in the next five years!” A confirmation that this was perhaps from the Holy Spirit, or that at every step I’ve made so far in the diocese, have, with enthusiasm, echoed those words back to me. In fact, the last time one of the Serra groups has told me that she and her colleagues have decided to take up the challenge. We have 20 seminarians at both the college and major theological levels, which is pretty good for a diocese our size. And we have a wonderful seminary that they can tell, I’ve never forgotten the powerful man on earth. That is no question: We need more priests.

friend, colleague, or elder told him that he would make a good priest. I know that there are folks who harbor in their hearts a conviction that a young man should enter the seminary, for they have noticed his gifts of kindness, prayerfulness, intelligence, etc., but they have never summoned the courage or taken the time to tell him. Perhaps they’ve assumed that others have done so. But this tragically misses an opportunity. I would say simply: if you have noticed virtues in a young man that would make him an effective priest, assume the Holy Spirit has given you this insight so that you might share “it” with that young man. Believe me, the plainest words you speak could be seeds that will bear fruit 30, 60, and 100 fold.

Finally, if you feel strongly about vocations, pray for them. In the Bible, nothing of more moment is conceived apart from prayer. God delights in our cooperation with his grace, but the work of salvation is, at the end of the day, His. So ask Him! Might I suggest a particolar intercessor in this regard? Therese of Lisieux, the Little Flower, said that she entered the convent “in order to save souls and especially to pray for priests.” She also said that she would spend her heaven doing good on the earth. Let us, therefore, petition her intercession as we ask the Lord to double the number of our seminarians in the coming years.

Bishop Robert Barron is the Bishop of Rochester, Minnesota, and the Founder of Word on Fire Catholic Ministry.
St. Mary Celebrates 125 Years Since the Dedication of the Parish

The altar at St. Mary Catholic Church in Huntington is decorated for a special Mass to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the dedication of the parish on Oct. 30.

Father Thomas Zehr poses with the altar servers following a special Mass to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the dedication of St. Mary Catholic Church in Huntington.

Father Thomas Zehr, pastor of Saint Mary in Huntington, and Father Tony Steinacker, pastor of SS. Peter in Paul in Huntington, are dressed up and taking part in the 1920s themed Trivia Night, an annual fundraiser for Huntington Catholic School on Oct. 29. More than $10,000 was raised for the school.

St. Mary Celebrates 125 Years Since the Dedication of the Parish
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

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

St. Charles Fine Arts Craft Fair
FORT WAYNE — St. Charles Borromeo will have a crafts fair in the school, 4916 Trier Rd., on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Contact scharlescraftfair@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. Contact Mary Till at 260-385-8563 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. Contact Amanda Freburger at 812-325-8563 or saintalscraftshow@gmail.com.

St. John Bosco Craft Bazaar
CHURUBUSCO — St. John Bosco Parish, 216 N. Main St., will host a craft bazaar on Friday, Nov. 11, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 12, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Freshly baked cinnamon rolls and coffee will be served in the morning. Stay and enjoy a lunch of delicious homemade soup, sandwich, and chips, served all afternoon. Handmade crafts, homemade baked goods, and our famous hand rolled noodles will be offered for sale. A gently-used shop with many bargains will also be available. A raffle with a chance to win one of several prizes will cap off the event.

St. Mary’s Christmas Bazaar
AVILLA — St. Mary Parish, 232 N. Main St., will have a Christmas bazaar on Sunday, Nov. 13, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Table rental is $20. Call Rose for more information at 260-693-3454.

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 1-3 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 unique itinerant ministry. Childcare is available to registered parishioners of St. Pius. Register online by Sunday, Oct. 30, at stpius.net/fallretreat. Contact Ashley Logsdon at alogsdon@stpius.net or 574-272-8462, ext. 122.

Open House at Saint Joseph High School
SOUTH BEND — Saint Joseph High School, 453 N Notre Dame Ave., will have an open house on Nov. 6, from 1-3 p.m. Guests will tour the school, learn about co-curricular opportunities, and meet students, faculty, and administra-

You can also mail them to: Amy Tatay attatay@christthekingonline.org.

You can also mail them to: Amy Tatay attatay@christthekingonline.org.
counter claims that, over the summer, a “right to abortion” had been removed from the constitution by the Supreme Court.

“There was never a right to abortion any more than there was a right to segregation in the United States. Brown v. Board did not find that there was a right to segregation; it found that there was never a right to segregation.”

“There was never a right to abortion; that right never existed.”

He admitted, however, that ultimately arguments for the value of human life have their origins in a God who gave that life value.

“If you believe in the inherent human value of life, then you’re going to have to acknowledge that we are made in the image of God. The single-most important sentence in human history is that man was made in the image of God.”

Shapiro fielded questions from the audience, including a question posed by a reporter from Today’s Catholic. When asked about how to open a dialogue with pro-choice friends, Shapiro spoke from personal experience, and said that it depends on what type of friendship you wish to pursue.

“If your friends are unable to take the fact that you are pro-life, then they’re not very good friends. That’s the first thing to recognize. And then I think you can have open and honest conversations with them if they’re capable of having those open and honest conversations.”

He added that he has acquaintances with whom he “wildly disagrees,” and they tend to avoid discussing hot-button issues. However, there are people with whom he disagrees “and we’re able to have complex, interesting conversations on these topics. And I find those conversations worthwhile. You have to decide what kind of friends you have, and what kind of friends you want to have.”

Another attendee asked about the potential for a nationwide constitutional pro-life amendment or other national legislation. Shapiro said that, while from a moral standpoint he is absolutely in support of national restriction of abortion, from a legal perspective he has serious doubts about the longevity of national abortion restrictions. Rather, he recommends building support at the state level and that, at a time where there is enough momentum and support for legislation, bring the issue to a national level.

“The fight is going to continue. And it’s going to continue beyond the borders of Indiana and the borders of our towns. It’s going to move out to other states – and it should. And then the march begins anew. Our job just got a lot more complicated, but also a lot more hopeful … For the first time within living memory of many of us, we actually have the opportunity to save human lives at scale. That’s an amazing opportunity, and we would be betraying our own destinies and our own purpose if we were to blow that opportunity.”

The mother and the widower of former Congresswoman Jackie Walorski (IN-02) receives a lifetime achievement award on behalf of Walorski at the Michiana Right to Life Jubilee. Right to Life representatives noted that Walorski, who died in a car accident in August, had a strong dedication to advancing pro-life causes.

Joshua Schipper

SÉ SANADO a través del amor
BE HEALED through love


11-12-22 • 4:30 p.m.
Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe / Our Lady of Guadalupe
225 Gilliam Dr., Warsaw, IN

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BANQUET, from page 1

... The single-most important sentence in human history is that man was made in the image of God.

BEN SHAPIRO

FOR THOSE IN A SEASON OF INFERTILITY

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF
HOPE AND HEALING

THURSDAY
DECEMBER 8
7 p.m.

SACRED HEART PARISH CENTER
ON THE CAMPUS OF NOTRE DAME

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