

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Volume 96 No. 22

TODAYSCATHOLIC.org

Seven Men Ordained to the Priesthood

Seven Men Ordained to the Priesthood

Special Section

Pages 1 and 10-16

Vessels Consecrated for New Priests

Bishop Consecrates Chalice and Patens

Page 17

Brother Columba O'Neill

Pursuit of Cause for Beatification Continues

Page 18

Serving Our Children for 19 Years

Principal Stephen Hoffman Retiring from Christ the King

Page 19



John Martin

During the Mass of Ordination to the Priesthood on Saturday, June 3, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, the seven men becoming priests lay prostrate at the altar to symbolize their unworthiness for the role they are taking and to show their reliance on God and the prayers of the Christian community in their ministry.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad” is Psalm 118:24. Rejoicing filled the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on Saturday, June 3, when more than 1,000 people gathered for the ordination of seven men to the holy priesthood. Conferred by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, families watched their sons and brothers declare their intention to assume the responsibility of the office of the priesthood and promise obedience and respect to Bishop Rhoades and his successors.

“I extend an especially warm welcome to the parents and families of our seven deacons about to be ordained priests. Thank you for all you have done to foster and support the vocation of your sons and brothers. May the Lord bless you with joy this day! And welcome to the priests who are here representing the seminaries where these men received their priestly formation: to Monsignor Michael Heintz, Academic Dean at Mount Saint Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg (who, as you know and I’m proud to say, is a priest of our diocese); to Father

Anthony Brausch, the Rector of the other Mount Saint Mary’s Seminary in Cincinnati; to Father Joseph Moriarty, Rector of Bishop Simon Brute College Seminary in Indianapolis; and to Monsignor James McNamara, Spiritual Director and Father Michael Romano, Director of Admissions, both from the Pontifical North American College in Rome. We are truly grateful for your presence with us today,” said Bishop Rhoades in his opening remarks.

Anne and Theodore Smith were delighted to be present at the ordination ceremony.

For Anne, it was her first time coming. Theodore went to an ordination as a young boy and doesn’t remember much. “I was amazed by how many traditions were part of the Mass. The entire ceremony was beautiful, and I teared up many times watching the men dedicate themselves to their faith,” noted Anne.

Theodore said, “I don’t remember the Knights of Columbus escort happening when I went to an ordination when I was young, and I thought that was a neat

ORDINATION, page 10

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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

PUBLISHER: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

PUBLICATION DIRECTOR: Nicole Hahn

Editorial Department

PUBLICATION MANAGER:

PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

Business Department

BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION:

circulation@diocesefwsb.org

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE:

Erika Barron: ebarron@diocesefwsb.org

Website: www.todayscatholic.org

260-456-2824

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

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

MAIN OFFICE: 915 S. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, IN 46802. Telephone 260-456-2824. Fax: 260-744-1473.

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

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

Today's Catholic may be reached at:
Today's Catholic,
P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN
46856-1169; or email:
editor@diocesefwsb.org

Find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/todayscatholicFWSB

Follow us on Twitter

@diocesefwsb

Follow us on Instagram

Saint Joseph High School Graduates
Encouraged to Let Their Light Shine Brightly

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

“We gather to give praise and thanks-giving to God for all the gifts He has bestowed on the class of 2023 from Saint Joseph High School,” was the greeting from Bishop Rhoades at the Saint Joseph Baccalaureate Mass. The celebration included assistance from newly ordained Deacons Harry Verhiley and Andrew Oross.

The celebration took place on Thursday, June 1, the feast of St. Justin Martyr, a scholar who in his search for the truth converted to Christianity and is known as the patron saint of philosophers. Bishop Rhoades noted how fitting the Mass took place on this feast day filled with a room of scholars searching for the truth.

“Catholic education is all about the search for truth on the wings of reason and faith,” said Bishop Rhoades.

The 194 members of the class of 2023 spent their time at St. Joe High School living out the school’s animating principle of God Calls, We Answer.

Graduates CeCe Farrell and Mitchell Kazmierzak were awarded the 2023 Principal’s Award. It is given annually to a student who exhibits the qualities of the school’s core values of Reach Higher, Build Family, Serve with Joy, and Discover Our Gifts. Peter Letherman won the Appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy award. Anna Maffetone won the Thomas Gerencher Award, a scholarship given in memory of longtime St. Joe English teacher Tom Gerencher to an outstanding student in the subject of English.

Third-generation St. Joe student Sydney Taylor won the 2023 Charles Martin “Touch a Life” Scholarship. Awarded by the Community Foundation of St. Joseph County, it’s given to a promising African American student in strong academic standing desiring to give back to their community. The scholarship includes \$5,000 in tuition assistance and a \$3,750 paid summer internship, and there is only one recipient in the county.

Graduate Elijah Diller was awarded the 2023 Reed A. Oei Memorial Scholarship. Reed Oei was a passionate scholar, a key member of the St. Joe Quiz Bowl team (winning four straight championship titles), and a top-ranked student-athlete on the men’s tennis team. After graduating in 2018, Oei double majored in math and computer science at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, later graduating



Derby Photography

Students and staff of Saint Joseph High School gathered at St. Pius X Parish in Granger for the Baccalaureate Mass with Bishop Rhoades on Thursday, June 1.

magna cum laude with nine published papers and national recognition. While pursuing his Ph.D. in math, he lost his battle against cancer at the age of 23. To honor Oei’s legacy, his family established this special scholarship and it’s awarded to a student who demonstrates exceptional academic performance, especially in math, who plans on majoring in math or computer science, who shares positive contributions in the school environment, and who displays exceptional character.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades talked about the blessings the students received at their baptism with the light of Christ entrusted to their parents. He said that throughout their lives, parents and god-

parents have kept that light burning brightly, passing on the Light of Christ by raising them in the faith and showing them that faith is not only a way of thinking or an idea, but a way of acting, and a manner of living.

“Graduates, now it’s up to you as you go forth from high school, to choose to walk on this path of faith, the path upon which your parents and this Catholic school have guided you. The path of holiness,” said Bishop Rhoades. “Jesus invites you to follow Him on this path. It is the way of the cross. Jesus said whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. This may seem foolish in the eyes of the

world. In fact, Saint Paul wrote as we heard in the first reading that the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God.”

Bishop Rhoades talked about the power of the cross and how it can be frightening and a symbol of loss of life, but the opposite is true with the cross being a supreme manifestation of God’s love. “It shows us that each of us is loved personally by Jesus with a passionate and faithful love, a love without limits, a love that even conquers death. We can choose to follow Him on that path of love inspired by His love,” noted Bishop Rhoades. “We are encouraged to do so by the fact that the love of Christ did not end with His crucifixion, but culminated in the joy of His resurrection so evil does not have the last word.”

He encouraged the graduates to hang a crucifix in their next location and life journey. The crowd was told to say a prayer before it every day remembering that God triumphed on the cross not with violence but with love.

“I pray that you will live your lives deeply, not superficially, that you will live intensely, not apathetically, that you will live generously and not selfishly. Please don’t hide your light under a bushel basket. In a world where there is so much darkness, the Church needs you to share the light of the faith you have received, and in the power of the Holy Spirit to be witnesses of faith, hope, and charity in the world,”

“We are the Light of the World” –
Bishop Luers High School Grads

BY GEORGIA LIEB

It was a joyful day on Friday, May 26, for the Bishop Luers High School Class of 2023. The ceremony events began at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, celebrating the Baccalaureate Mass with the Most Reverend Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. Several priests who have connections with Bishop Luers High School assisted. The seniors dressed in their graduation gowns and processed in at the beginning of Mass, followed by faculty and staff. Students also assisted in a variety of ways throughout the Mass. The Bishop Luers High School Choir provided music along with senior Brenden Harrigan,



Georgia Lieb

Members of the Bishop Luers High School Class of 2023 find their families for photos following the Baccalaureate Mass with Bishop Rhoades at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on Friday, May 26.

Students Keep Faith Life Active While Home from College

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

The life of a college student is filled with routines, outings with friends, late-night study sessions, and lots of Door Dash. Summer begins, and while students are elated at the chance to slow things down and enjoy some downtime, after a few weeks, they find loneliness for the social interactions of college life. One way to combat that angst is participating in the College Crew Ministry in South Bend, a program for both young adults who are home for the summer and for students who are staying at their local universities for jobs, classes, and internships.

"I started working at St. Pius about five years ago in youth ministry. Throughout the last several years, I have built relationships with so many young people who have graduated from high school and went off to college. When they returned home from school, there was no ministry for them in the area," said organizer Brittany Tull, Faith Formation Associate at St. Pius X in Granger.

Tull said the student would come home to their families, but feel a little out of place. "Outside of their families and seasonal jobs, there wasn't really anything for them in the South Bend area. I did some digging and found that the campus ministry programs at all of the local Catholic colleges also stop for the summer. I realized this was an opportunity to help these young people reconnect with the community and, for some of them, reconnect with their faith."

That's when Tull had an idea. "I saw the good work that College Crew was doing in Fort



Lisa Kochanowski

College Crew South Bend kicked off their 2023 summer series on Tuesday, May 30, with volleyball, a cookout, and night prayer at St. Pius X in Granger.

Wayne and decided to replicate it and bring it to our people in South Bend."

The group kicked off the summer on Tuesday, May 30, with volleyball, a cookout, and evening prayer. Upcoming events include Eucharistic exposition with praise and worship, stories of the saints with Meg Hunter-Kilmer, a talk about life as a pilgrimage with JP Lichon from Verso Ministries, a segment about living your faith in college with Father Gabe Griggs, and learning more about faith and mental health with Beth Hlabse,

MS, LMHCA.

"I hope that College Crew provides a space in which faith-based friendships are formed," notes Tull. "I also hope that the participants at College Crew might feel at home within the Church and find a great space to grow in their faith."

All events are hosted at St. Pius X in Granger, and a listing can be found on Instagram at @collegerecwsb and Facebook at College Crew South Bend. Students can also be included on a distribution list by emailing collegerecwsb@gmail.com.

who was the cantor. Senior Abigail Spoltman read the First Reading. Seniors Anna Weigmann, Julio Ortega, and Grace O'Connor presented the Gifts.

Bishop Rhoades congratulated all of the students on their graduation. He asked their parents to think back to the time when their child was baptized and received the Light of Christ. "Graduates, now it is up to you, as you go forth from high school, to choose to walk on this path on which your parents and this school have guided you. The path of faith, the path to holiness."

Bishop Rhoades went on to talk about the Cross of Christ and carrying our crosses to follow after Him. He encouraged all the students to hang a Crucifix in their room, wherever they go after high school, and to say a prayer before it every day. He mentioned that the

large crucifix in the Cathedral is the very same crucifix that was in the first Catholic church built in Fort Wayne in the mid-1800s.

"The world will be impacted, for better or for worse, by the way you live your lives. Your true happiness will not be found in money, in a career, or in worldly success. Place your deepest hopes in the Lord because only He can satisfy the deepest desires of our hearts."

Following the Baccalaureate Mass, Bishop Rhoades and the Class of 2023 posed for photos on the Cathedral steps. It was perfect weather, and family and friends took photos outside with their graduates.

After a break for lunch, the Commencement Ceremony began in the Grand Wayne Center. The faculty processed in and sat on the stage facing the graduates. For Commencement, it is a tradition for the faculty to

wear black robes. The graduates then processed in, some carrying large banners with words that represent different facets of Bishop Luers High School.

Co-Valedictorians Genevieve Cicchiello and Abigail Spoltman gave their speeches and Principal Jim Huth said some congratulatory words of encouragement. Senior choir members performed "The Times They Are A-Changin'" by Bob Dylan. Students then walked across the stage, 105 students in total. Principal Jim Huth handed out diplomas, while Assistant Principal Scott Kreiger gave each student a San Damiano Cross as a parting gift from Bishop Luers. Cheers erupted at the end of the ceremony as the newest Alumni of Bishop Luers High School tossed their caps high into the air.



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Monday, June 12 to Friday, June 16: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Plenary Assembly, Florida
Tuesday, June 13: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Meeting of USCCB Committee on Doctrine, Florida
Tuesday, June 13: 6:30 p.m. – Meeting of USCCB Committee on Religious Liberty, Florida
Wednesday, June 14: 12:30 p.m. – Meeting of Bishops Advisory Group of the Eucharistic Revival, Florida
Saturday, June 17 to Sunday, June 18: National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, Rome



Priest Assignments

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

Reverend Samuel Anderson, to Parochial Vicar, St. Joseph Parish, Fort Wayne, effective June 13 to September 10, 2023.

Reverend Brian Florin, to Parochial Vicar, St. John the Evangelist Parish, Goshen, effective June 20, 2023.

Reverend Robert Krisch, to Parochial Vicar, St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne, and part-time Chaplain at Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne, effective June 20, 2023.

Reverend Zane Langenbrunner, to Parochial Vicar, St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Elkhart, effective June 13 to September 10, 2023.

Reverend David Langford, to Parochial Vicar, Sacred Heart Parish, Warsaw, effective June 20, 2023.

Reverend Jacob Schneider, to Parochial Vicar, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne, effective June 20, 2023.

Reverend Ryan Timossi, to Parochial Vicar, Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, Fort Wayne, effective June 20, 2023.



Forty Hours Devotion

Parishes are Listed in Order by Date

JUNE

St. Francis Xavier, Pierceton: June 4-6
St. Patrick, Ligonier: June 11-13
St. Pius X, Granger: June 11-13
St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend: June 11-13
St. Mary, Huntington: June 11-13
Sacred Heart, Fort Wayne: June 16-18
St. Stanislaus Bishop and Martyr, South Bend: June 25-27
St. Catherine, Columbia City: June 26
St. Joseph, Roanoke: June 27
SS. Peter and Paul, Huntington: June 27-29 (updated)

For the complete schedule, visit diocesefwsb.org/eucharist.

The Crucifix is Center of Dwenger Baccalaureate Mass

BY CHRISTOPHER LUSHIS

Addressing the 2023 graduates of Bishop Dwenger High School, Bishop Kevin Rhoades laid before them the path of the Cross and the opportunity to walk this path of life and holiness as they go forward. He exclaimed, "Our Lord himself invites you to walk the path of faith, the way of the Cross. Jesus said, 'If you wish to follow me, you must take up your cross and follow me.' Our Lord invites you to embrace His cross, the sign of His love, as the source of new life."

He continued, saying, "Graduates, the cross can frighten us, because it seems to be a denial of life. But the opposite is true. It is the supreme expression of God's love and the source from which eternal life flows. It is only love that can free the world from evil. It shows that each of us is loved personally by Jesus with a passionate and faithful love, a love without limits, a love that even conquers death. We can choose to follow Him on that path of love, inspired by His love to live no longer for ourselves, but for Him and with Him for others. We are encouraged to do so by the fact that the love of Christ did not end in His crucifixion but culminated in the joy of His resurrection. Evil does not have the last word. Truth and love triumph. The Cross, which for many is a scandal or foolishness, is in fact, as St. Paul wrote, the



Christopher Lushis

Bishop Dwenger High School graduates pose for a photo with Bishop Rhoades following the Baccalaureate Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Wednesday, May 24.

power and wisdom of God. The foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength."

At this baccalaureate Mass, celebrated on Wednesday, May 24, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, Bishop Rhoades also drew attention to the physical cross before their eyes displayed in the Cathedral sanctuary.

He said, "The large crucifix behind me, is the oldest item in this cathedral. As a matter of fact, it is older than the cathedral! This cathedral was built in 1860, but previously on this spot was a small, simple wooden church, the first Catholic church built in Fort Wayne.

That crucifix was in that first church. The French missionaries and the Miami native peoples prayed before that cross and celebrated Mass, and here we are today. That faith that was planted here nearly 200 years ago, we also profess. We look at that crucifix and we see, as they did, the power and the wisdom of God."

Bishop Rhoades emphasized to the current Bishop Dwenger students that he will be praying for them as they proceed to the next stage of their life's journey, wherever it may lead, that they will remain faithful to Christ and His cross.

Before the final blessing, Jason Schiffli, Principal of Bishop Dwenger, came forward to bestow a special award

upon two graduating seniors that connected rather well with bishop's homily.

Schiffli explained, "Several years ago, in reflecting on the Catholic identity of Bishop Dwenger High School, a new

award was created reflecting the four pillars we consider to comprise a well-rounded individual: Faith Life, Life of Service, Academic Life, and Active Life. This award, called 'The Bishop's Cross,' recognizes one male and one female member of the senior class who best personifies the four pillars and represents their class."

The winners of The Bishop's Cross for 2023 were announced to be Sofia Vazquez and Joseph Moran. Each received a "Penal Cross" which takes its name from a series of laws passed to suppress the Catholic population in Ireland. The Penal Codes restricted opportunities for employment, land ownership, and even worship for Catholics. Schiffli stated to the students that the Penal Cross depicts the powerful symbol of Christ's triumph, in a thinly shaped way, so that it could be easily hidden up one's sleeve unnoticed.

It serves as a recognition that these students lived their Catholic faith with conviction

Make a BIG IMPACT with a future gift!

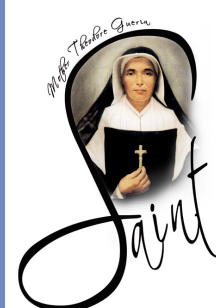
To achieve your estate plan goals, choose the right gift vehicle for you:

- Appreciated Securities
- Beneficiary Designations
- Charitable Gift Annuity
- Charitable Remainder Trust
- Donor Advised Fund
- Give From Your IRA
- Memorials & Tribute Gifts
- Wills & Living Trusts
- AND MORE!!



YOUR GIFT MATTERS

and will have an impact on the Sisters of Providence for years to come!



For more information, contact Cami Pritchett, Constituent Engagement and Planned Giving Manager, at 812-535-2807.

Sisters of Providence
OF SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS
Breaking boundaries, creating hope.®

Annual St. Mary of the Knobs Corvette Raffle WIN A NEW CORVETTE OR \$75,000 CASH!



YOU HAVE 3 CHANCES TO WIN!
• 1st Prize NEW Corvette or \$75,000 Cash
• 2nd Prize Wins \$2,000
• 3rd Prize Wins \$1,000

OUR PAST WINNERS:
2022 William Kinzer, New Albany, IN
2021 John Taylor, Louisville, KY
2019 Barry Thornby, Montrose, MI
2018 Jackie Kirby, Louisville, KY
2017 Greg Huber, Borden, IN
2016 Richard Bergman, Marathon, WI

St. Mary of the Knobs
License# 003072

Valued at
\$75,000 MSRP

**ONE CALL, THAT'S ALL! ORDER TICKETS NOW AT
812-923-8192**

\$30 each or four (4) for \$100

ONLY 10,000 TICKETS AVAILABLE, FIRST COME FIRST SERVED.

Drawing held at St. Mary of the Knobs on June 17, 2023.

You need not be present to win.

Winner responsible for all taxes.

Complete rules available at yoursmk.org.

Volunteers will
respond promptly

ONLY 10,000
tickets will
be sold so get
YOURS TODAY!

All Proceeds Benefit
St. Mary of the Knobs
Parish & School

Lead Sponsor **John Jones** AUTO GROUP

Other
sponsors
include:

WesBanco

santec

Huber's

priceweber

ROBERTS

MITSUBISHI

DIAMOND



SCAN to
Order Tickets
online

during their high school years, while also encouraging them to remain faithful to this identity through the difficult moments that life will bring.

Schiffli exclaimed, "It is our hope that these recipients, no matter the opposition, will look upon this cross throughout their lives as a source of triumph and comfort."

Bishop Rhoades also thanked people at Bishop Dwenger High School for educating the two deacons who assisted at this Mass, Deacon Jacob Schneider and Deacon Caleb Kruse. Deacon Schneider, who proclaimed the Gospel, is a 2013 Bishop Dwenger graduate preparing for his ordination to the priesthood on Saturday, June 3. Deacon Kruse, a 2014 Bishop Dwenger graduate, taught these graduating seniors. Kruse was ordained to the diaconate last month and will be serving at St. John the Baptist, New Haven, this summer before running to Mt. St. Mary's Seminary for his final year of studies.

The Future Is Bright for Graduating Knights of Marian High School

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

"We call on the Holy Spirit to guide them in their futures and help them continue to grow in their faith," was the opening blessing by Bishop Rhoades at the Marian High School Baccalaureate Mass celebration on Thursday, May 25, at St. Pius X Church in Granger.

After four years of academic excellence, spiritual guidance, and athletic prowess on and off the court, the Marian Knights, class of 2023, are graduating and heading on to their next journey filled with hope and inspiration.

"The Marian Class of 2023 has blessed the school in many ways. They are hardworking, caring, compassionate, dedicated, and intelligent. They have navigated the difficul-



Derby Photography

Marian High School Principal Mark Kirzeder celebrated his last Baccalaureate Mass as principal of the school and prays that God will bless the class of 2023 in all they do.

ties of the last several years and have emerged truly as an Easter people, filled with joy and hope," said Marian High School Principal Mark Kirzeder. "We will miss the Marian Class of 2023 and pray that God will bless them in all they do."

This year is unique for Kirzeder being his last Baccalaureate Mass as principal of the high school.

"At the end of the year, I am always excited for our graduates. They have worked for so long to achieve the goal of high school graduation, and it is gratifying to see them achieve this milestone in their life. I have been blessed to teach many members of the Class of 2023. I have grown to know them closely, and therefore, I am also very proud of them," said Kirzeder.

A special moment for this year's graduation exercises was the inclusion of members of the Bernadette Scholars Program. Affectionately known as "the Bernies," they are pioneers of a program for the next generation of learners.

"The Bernadette Scholars program was developed four years ago specifically for students with moderate cognitive impairments. Bernadette

Scholars attend classes as a cohort as well as alongside their peers on a daily basis. They also are eligible for an alternative diploma at the end of the program," noted Kirzeder. "The Marian community is so proud of our first five graduates and all that they have accomplished. Moreover, we have been truly blessed by their presence in our building every day."

Bishop Rhoades, students, families, and guests came together in prayer and thanksgiving one last time as the Marian High School community for the Baccalaureate Mass.

"Congratulations on your graduation, and I'd like to begin by thanking your parents. Parents, I invite you to think back to the day of your son's or daughter's Baptism. You may recall that after your child was baptized, the priest or deacon presented you with a candle lit from the Paschal Candle and said to you and the godparents, 'This light is entrusted to you to be kept burning bright so that your child, enlightened by Christ, may walk always as a child of the light,'" said Bishop Rhoades. "Parents, thank you for passing on the light of Christ to your children, for

raising them in the faith and showing them that faith is not only a way of thinking or an idea but a way of acting, a manner of living."

He noted how parents were the first to teach their children to pray and introduced them to the life of the Church. The family was the first and most important school, a school of faith and love. Then the choice was made to send their child to a Catholic school to educate them within the Church to grow in faith and love.

"Graduates, now it's up to you. You should go forth from Marian to choose to walk on this path upon which your parents and this Catholic school have guided you. The path of faith, the path of holiness. Jesus invites you to follow Him on this path," noted Bishop Rhoades. "It is the way of the cross. Jesus said whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

Bishop Rhoades invited each graduate to hang a crucifix in their room wherever they go whether it's to college, to the work world, or to the military.

"Say a prayer before it every day. Look at the face of Christ, crucified. It's the face of God, the God who triumphs on the cross," said Bishop Rhoades. "It's the face that brings reconciliation and light to this world. When you look at the crucifix, see the outstretched hands and arms of Jesus, embracing it, drawing you to Himself, and folding you in His Loving hands. I encourage you to entrust yourselves to Him and strive to live in His love and bring that love to others in your daily life."

Bishop Rhoades concluded, "In a world where there's so much darkness, the Church needs you to share the light of faith that you have received, and in the power of the Holy Spirit to be witnesses of faith, hope, and charity in the world. May God bless you and may Mary our mother, our patroness, Our Lady of Lords, the greatest disciple of her Son, the Queen of all Saints take you by the hand and encourage you to walk enthusiastically on the path of holiness."

The next journey is bright for the 158 graduates of Marian High School.

"The prayer that I have for all Marian graduates is that they will continue to stay close to the Lord and the Blessed Virgin Mary. I pray that they will continue to keep prayer at the center of their lives so that they can truly learn what vocation God is calling them to and that they would have the courage to answer God's call in their lives," said Kirzeder.

ONCE YOU'VE READ

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

ENHANCE YOUR SPIRITUAL
LIFE WITH ITEMS FROM

Good Shepherd
BOOKS • GIFTS

**Print subscribers receive 30% OFF
one regular-priced item
*20% on books, CDs & DVDs***

Must present this original PRINT coupon at time of purchase

**Digital subscribers receive 20% off
one regular-priced item**

Must show your digital copy of coupon at time of purchase.

Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. M-F and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sat.

LIMIT: one coupon per visit. Some restrictions apply.
Expires June 30, 2023

www.todayscatholic.org/subscribe

www.goodshepherdbookstore.org

915 S. Clinton St., Fort Wayne | Free Parking in the Garage

Nationals Pitcher, Dodgers Players Join Chorus Criticizing LA Team for Plan to Honor 'Sisters' Drag Group

LOS ANGELES (OSV News) — Washington Nationals starting pitcher Trevor Williams, known for his devout Catholic faith and prominent tattoos, expressed his disappointment with the Los Angeles Dodgers' decision to re-invite and honor a controversial group called the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. The Dodgers' announcement came after the franchise initially rescinded their invitation due to backlash from political and religious leaders across the nation. Taking to his social media accounts while the Nationals were in Los Angeles on May 29, Williams voiced his concerns about the Dodgers' decision, sparking widespread attention. His viral tweet quickly gained millions of views and was shared by tens of thousands of people, illustrating the growing outrage from both Catholics and non-Catholics alike. Williams stated, "To invite and honor a group that makes a blatant and deeply offensive mockery of my religion, and the religion of more than 4 million people in Los Angeles County alone, undermines the values of respect and inclusivity that should be upheld by any organization." He asked the Dodgers to reconsider. Two Dodgers players, starting pitcher Clayton Kershaw and reliever Blake Treinen, became the latest on the team to criticize their team's decision. Kershaw told the Los Angeles Times, "I don't agree with making fun of other people's religions." Treinen, in a lengthy tweet, said honoring the Sisters' group "disenfranchises a large community and promotes hate of Christians and people of faith."

New Head of Bishops' Anti-racism Committee Praises Investigations into Racist Histories, Champions Black Catholic Saint Causes

CHICAGO (OSV News) — Ahead of the U.S. bishops' meeting in Orlando, Florida, June 14-16, Bishop Joseph N. Perry said that new investigations by church institutions into their involvement with slavery and Indian boarding schools are "very healthy" and aid a collective examination of conscience. Bishop Perry was named Chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism on May 10. An auxiliary bishop of Chicago, he succeeded Archbishop Shelton J. Fabre of Louisville, Kentucky,

Eucharistic Procession in Spanish Draws Thousands in New York City



OSV News photo/Jeffrey Bruno

A clergyman elevates a monstrance in a Eucharistic procession through the Manhattan borough of New York City to St. Patrick's Cathedral for a Pentecost Vigil on May 27. The Charismatic Renewal event in Spanish attracted close to 2,700 people.

who served two terms as the committee's chairman. While society fights racism through the courts and public policy, the bishops' work has emphasized racism as a sin and the need for personal conversion, he said. "The whole push for this ad hoc committee is evangelization — evangelization toward a deeper understanding and empathy with human dignity, broadly across the board," he said.

Second Graders at Nashville Catholic School Make, Sell Bracelets to Buy Therapy Dog for Peers at School Where Mass Shooting Occurred

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (OSV News) — Two second-grade students at Overbrook Catholic School in Nashville have been "busy bees" the last month, making 2,500 beaded bracelets, and it's for one very special reason — to raise \$17,000 to purchase a therapy dog for the students of The Covenant School, where an assailant killed six people including three 9-year-old students on March 27. "We

knew they've been through a lot and thought it would just be nice to do something for them," said Evelyn Thallemer. Thallemer and her best friend since kindergarten, Matilda Crosswy, have been making beaded bracelets together for many years with the help of their moms. After creating promotional videos for social media to promote the bracelets, the orders soon came pouring in as the posts began to go viral, and even caught the attention of "Good Morning Nashville" on WKRN News Channel 2. Within just a few weeks, the girls not only met their \$17,000 goal, but nearly doubled it, earning approximately \$30,500. As a result of all their hard work, a golden retriever puppy, provided by Comfort Connections, was delivered to The Covenant School on May 23 and will go through training over the summer months.

St. Peter's Basilica Opens Exhibit on Marian Coronations

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In 1636, the Vatican began supporting, and regulating, Marian coronations. The local community, typically a church or

Marian shrine, was required to write to the Vatican confirming that the image was of "continuous and ancient devotion, used for religious purposes, and generated an increase in Marian devotion," said Pietro Zander, Curator of a Vatican exhibit, titled "Crowned Madonnas," during a tour of the Marian imagery in St. Peter's Basilica on May 30. Once the image was crowned, the community was obliged to send a letter to the Vatican guaranteeing that the act of coronation followed the prescribed rules along with a painting of the coronated image. "These images started arriving — these paintings, since there wasn't photography at the time — are beautiful since they were commissioned by artists," said Zander. Often, text at the bottom of the painting explained the community's devotion and told of the coronation event. Hundreds are still preserved in the Vatican and, beginning on the feast of the Visitation of Mary on May 31, 15 of them from throughout Italy went on display in St. Peter's Basilica. Each image comes from a different region in Italy and is accompanied by the story of a community's source of devotion.

Archbishop: Months Leading to Synod Is a Time for Faithful to Live Response to Divine Grace 'More Intensely'

WASHINGTON, D.C. (OSV News) — The months leading up to the October world Synod of Bishops in Rome offer an opportunity for the faithful "to live more intensely our response to divine grace," the President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said on May 31. The time of preparation for the synod "reminds us the unique experience of Christ in the sacraments is a gift to be shared," said Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the Archdiocese of the Military Services, the Conference President. "The knowledge of God obtained in our study, our prayerful attentive listening to the Word of God, and the voices of others ... is not self-serving, but pushes us forward." Archbishop Broglio said in his homily at a Mass offered at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. for the feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Washington Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory was the principal celebrant of the Mass. The feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary commemorates Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth, who in her advanced age was pregnant with John the Baptist. Pope Francis requested that on this feast day, special Masses be offered at Marian shrines throughout the world for the synod.

Priest Is Among Heroes Fighting Flames in Canadian Wildfires

CHATEH, Alberta (OSV News) — While Canada is fighting wildfires from western Alberta province to eastern Nova Scotia, at least one priest is on the frontlines of the battle in firefighter uniform. Father Gerald Mendoza, Pastor at Our Lady of Assumption Parish in Chateh and St. Peter and St. Paul Church in Rainbow Lake, both located in Alberta province, is also a volunteer firefighter. He assisted in the putting out of blazes in both of his communities — and he helps out around the fire hall. Though mindful of not appearing to be "showy," Father Mendoza said he tries to bring a "priestly presence" to the fire hall by praying the rosary in his firefighting gear. Around 16,400 people had to evacuate their homes near Halifax, Nova Scotia's largest city, on May 29. Drier than normal weather conditions have already caused nearly 550 wildfires in the province — more than 100 more wildfires than in 2022.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Pauline Cooperators Make Promises to Evangelize



Erika Barron

On Sunday, May 28, the feast of Pentecost, Michael Heinlein, Author and Editor of simplycatholic.com, and his wife Gretchen R. Crowe, Author and Editor-in-Chief at OSV News, made their promises as Pauline Cooperators after Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in the presence of Bishop Rhoades. Two Sisters from the Daughters of Saint Paul were there to welcome them into their new spiritual roles. The Pauline Cooperators are a group of lay men and women, founded in 1917 by Blessed James Alberione. A Pauline Cooperator commits themselves to “growing in relationship with Jesus the Divine Master, the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and giving Him to the people of today through the mission of evangelization with the modern means of communication.” While each Cooperator’s journey is different, this common goal is largely achieved through the use of media, in all its many forms.

Distinguished Graduates Named



Provided by Lois Widner

Congratulations to Elizabeth Hill and Pete Allen who were named the ACNPSA (Allen County Non-Public School Association) Distinguished Graduates for 2022-2023. Hill and Allen are St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School’s two 8th-grade recipients of this special award. They were recognized with all other recipients at a special breakfast in May.

CCFNEI Teacher Awards

FORT WAYNE — The Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana is proud to announce the winners of the 2nd Annual Catholic Teacher Award. From an endowment created by the late Catherine Schmenk, the Foundation established a Catholic Teacher Award in 2021. The award is given to four primary grade teachers who exemplify their hard work and efforts inside and outside the classroom, all while bringing their students closer to Jesus. Many nominees were submitted throughout the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, but four teachers came out as winners: Amy Ray, St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne; Anita Hunckler, Cathedral



AMY RAY



ANITA HUNKLER

School of St. Matthew, South Bend; Mary Baldinelli, Christ the King, South Bend; and Therese Sullivan, Sacred Heart School, Warsaw. These four teachers have been awarded a check for \$1,000 each and in addition \$1,000 has been placed in their respective school’s endowment fund.

MARY
BALDINELLITHERESE
SULLIVAN

The Tradition of Rose Petals from On High Continues at St. John the Baptist in Fort Wayne

BY CHRISTOPHER LUSHIS

On the first Pentecost, as the apostles were gathered together in prayer, the Holy Spirit came upon them with unexpected power, filling them with new joy and strength.

This initial outpouring of grace in the form of fire continues to be commemorated in the Church’s liturgy nearly 2,000 years later. At St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, a special tangible reminder of the Holy Spirit’s unexpected action in the world is displayed annually on this feast.

Following the final blessing, hundreds of rose petals begin to fall from high above, reminding those present of the constant outpouring of love that the Holy Trinity longs to bestow upon His Church.

Those who witness and experience this sight are filled with wonder, excitement, and joy. Even for those who have



Christopher Lushis

Father Andrew Budzinski, Pastor, and Father Paolo Degasper, Parochial Vicar, watch as rose petals are dropped from the ceiling air vents to symbolize the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost on Sunday, May 28.

seen it before, the outpouring invokes a profound sense of delight and a reminder that God is simultaneously ever-ancient and ever-new.

The history of this phenomenon extends back to the seventh century. As the apostles went forth to share the truth of

the Christian faith across the globe, their efforts, after much persecution, led to the conversion of Rome. The Pantheon, one of Rome’s former pagan temples, was newly consecrated as a Catholic church on May 13,

ROSE PETALS, page 22

Blessing of the Blossoms

BY DENISE FEDOROW

Parochial Vicar of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Goshen, Father Logan Parrish, gave a blessing of the blossoms at Kercher's Sunrise Orchards on Sunday, May 7. The orchard is owned by parishioners Tom and Maureen Kercher, along with Tom's sister Janet and her husband Steve Dudley.

The family business celebrated its centennial last year and Tom and Maureen's children, Bill, Mollie, and Laura are all involved as the 5th generation of Kerchers. The orchard has more than 600 acres of different apple varieties as well as sweet corn, pumpkins, squash, cabbage, broccoli, and peaches.

The weather cooperated for

the blessing of the blossoms, which the Kerchers said hadn't been done for many years. The Kercher's children, grandchildren, and approximately a half dozen parishioners and their families accompanied Father Parrish out to the orchard where the apple trees were in full bloom.

Father Parrish began with a prayer saying, "You have given us the earth to cultivate so that we may gather its fruit and sustain life."

He went on to a reading from Genesis where the Lord said, "Let the earth bring forth vegetation, every kind of plant that bears seed and every kind of fruit tree on earth that bears fruit with its seed in it. And so, it happened."

He continued, "God also said, 'See I give you every seed-bearing plant all over the



Photos by Denise Federow

St. John the Evangelist Parochial Vicar Father Logan Parrish offers prayers and scripture readings prior to blessing the blossoms of the apple orchard in Goshen owned by parishioners Tom and Maureen Kercher on Sunday, May 7. Father Parrish was assisted by members of the 6th generation of the family, Max Kieffer (holding the book) and Andrew Kercher.

earth and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food."

Father Parrish then went on to offer prayers including, "You have told us that Christ is the vine and we are the branches. Grant that by living in your Son, we may produce much good fruit."

The group then prayed The

Lord's Prayer together.

Father Parrish continued, "Oh Holy Lord and Father, you commanded us to work the land and to cultivate it. Your holy people pray that you'll grant us an abundant harvest from our fields, vineyards, and orchards. In your goodness protect the land and the crops from winds and hail and let a

rich crop grow from the seeds we plant. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen."

Father Parrish then blessed the blossoms on several of the apple trees by sprinkling them with holy water.

Maureen Kercher then invited everyone for refreshments of apple cider and cookies in their pavilion.



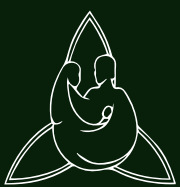
St. John the Evangelist Parochial Vicar Father Logan Parrish visits with children of the parish, many of whom are grandchildren of Tom and Maureen Kercher, as well as members of the Gerwels and Woodiel families, who came out for the blessing of the blossoms at Kercher's Sunrise Orchards.

Take the Plunge....

Do something today that will have a ripple effect on tomorrow. Contact us today on the many ways to remember your Catholic parish, school or ministry in your estate plan.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
OF NORTHEAST INDIANA

Mike Shade • mshade@ccfnei.org or 260-399-1436



CREDO
FAMILY MEDICINE

PRIVATE

INDEPENDENT

PRO-LIFE



(260) 4- FAMILY • credofamilymedicine.com • Fort Wayne, IN

Dr. Andrew J. Mullally, MD Dr. David J. Moran, MD Nicholas M. Lesch, PA-C
Cassandra E. Kaiser, PA-C Dr. Emily M. Krach, DO

St. Vincent de Paul Principal Brings Joy and School Celebration to Students in Unique Ways

BY CHRISTOPHER LUSHIS

Zachary Coyle, Principal of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School in Fort Wayne, enjoys finding tangible and creative opportunities for his students. Since arriving as Principal at St. Vincent's in 2021, Coyle has been known to occasionally greet children at the start of the day by wearing various costumes, some of which have been constructed by students in advanced math classes. At the conclusion of the 2022 academic year, he even surprised many kids — and parents — by welcoming them in while riding upon a horse.

In continuation of these creative efforts, he arranged for a Fort Wayne Fire Department firetruck to come to St. Vincent's campus on Tuesday, May 24, for students to climb

aboard and explore before the start of the school day.

Coyle exclaimed, "We are here in our final week of school trying to celebrate our kids. Celebrating that school is good, that life is good, and reminding our students that we delight in them! We are really excited to give the kids this joy and to remind everyone that school should be fun! I think sometimes that gets lost in the modern world. People forget that, but kids don't forget that, and I think we do a good job here at St. Vincent's of not forgetting that. This fun experience is a way to celebrate the goodness of the year and give them some real smiles on their way in for their final week."

He added, "I really want to thank Kyle Groves, because this would not have happened without him. Kyle is one of our school dads, has three kids in the school, and is on active

duty in the local fire department. I can't thank him enough for all the creative magic to make this work and get this truck to come here."

Regarding the inspiration for this event, Groves emphasized, "We thought there is no better way to come into your last week of school than by walking past a fire truck. We organized with the fire department and crew at Station 13 to see if they could come over and allow the kids to walk past them and greet them as they came into school today."

When the children learned they could go into the firetruck, climb aboard, and sit in the front seat, they shared shock, amazement, and great delight.

The opportunity to interact with the firefighters brought joy to the adults too, as some kids excitedly requested to receive autographs from the FWFD crew; a new experience



Christopher Lushis

St. Vincent de Paul Principal Zac Coyle poses in authentic firefighter gear for a photo with some of his students in front of a FWPD firetruck on Wednesday, May 24.

for the men.

Speaking on the educational value of this type of experience, Coyle said, "The particular fruit of the Holy Spirit we've focused on at the school this month has been 'joy.' In thinking about how we could grow and increase that for our kids, we felt this was a real opportunity for pure joy. Young children love trucks, but I think there is this actual understanding that our firefighters protect us. I think there's a deeper spiritual level to this type of thing. They continue to learn in this Catholic environment that God is our Father, and He protects us too. We can respond with joy at recognizing His love for us."

Coyle's joy has been tangibly felt by students who have

seen him dress up throughout the year. Some have used their math skills to make him special costumes out of cardboard, including a wolf (in honor of English teacher Matt Wolff), the Wizard of Oz's Tin Man, a dinosaur, and even a giant cake. He said, "It has been educational and great fun. We try to lead each child to see their value, understand their worth and potential, and help them to grow. The effort to serve the broadest range of kids possible was started in a major way by previous Principal Cheryl Klinker and we continue to live this out on a daily basis. It is an exciting privilege to walk with our students. Now I need to start working on how we will open school on August 9!"

Congratulations to the Bishop Luers High School Co-Valedictorians



Abigail Spoltman



Genevieve Cicchiello

and all the graduates from
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish.

Indiana's Premier Butcher Shop and Deli



4924 S. Calhoun St., Ft. Wayne
260-338-0022

2820 Maplecrest Rd., Ft. Wayne
260-485-0003

Mon-Fri 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Sat 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Sun 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**CATERING, MEAT BUNDLES,
PREPARED FOOD, AND MORE!**

It's not just Feders, it's family.

2323 Almon St., Huntertown
260-637-0111

Mon-Sat 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Sun 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



CATERING, CUSTOM PROCESSING,
WILD GAME, HOG ROASTS

Parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul



John Martin

The seven deacons gather prior to the Mass of Ordination to the Priesthood on Saturday, June 3, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.



Joe Romie

During the Promise of the Elect, the men were guided to declare their commitment to the priesthood and obedience to the shepherd of the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese.



Joe Romie

Bishop Rhoades bows his head in prayer during the Mass of Ordination to the Priesthood on Saturday, June 3, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

ORDINATION, from page 1

part of the ceremony. I'm glad I got to experience this at an older age because I feel like I didn't really get a lot out of it as a kid."

Throughout the ceremony, several different rituals were performed starting with an escort for the seminarians, deacons, priests, and Bishop Rhoades by 13 members of the Knights of Columbus.

At the beginning of the Rite of Ordination, the candidates were formally presented to Bishop Rhoades by Father Andrew Budzinski. The men lay prostrate at the altar to symbolize their unworthiness for the role they are taking and to show their reliance on God and the prayers of the Christian community in their ministry.

During the Promise of the Elect, the men were guided to declare their commitment to the priesthood and obedience to the shepherd of the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese. The Litany of Supplication was a calling for prayer to God that He pours heavenly gifts in abundance to those chosen for priesthood.

In the Laying on of Hands ritual, Bishop Rhoades and the entire college of priests laid their hands on the heads of the elect per the apostolic tradition. After the Prayer for Ordination, the seven newly ordained were vested with the stole and chasuble as a sign of their priestly office.

The tradition of the Anointing of Hands was a memorable moment for the congregation. They watched Bishop Rhoades anoint the palms of each new priest with chrism as a symbol of wisdom and strength. Upon anointment, priests are prepared for the duties they are part of in their new sacred ministry.

Since the Eucharist is at the heart of the priesthood, after their hands were anointed, the bishop handed each new priest

kneeling before him a paten and chalice. "Receive the oblation of the holy people to be offered to God. Understand what you will do, imitate what you will celebrate, and conform your life to the mystery of the Lord's Cross," said Bishop Rhoades.

The final tradition of the Rite of Ordination is the Fraternal Kiss of Peace, first given by the bishop as a welcome into the diocesan presbyterate. This is followed by the entire presbyterate and visiting clergy offering a kiss of peace to the newly ordained.

An African proverb, "It takes a village to raise a child," was visually represented and acknowledged during the ordination ceremony. The church was full of men and women who guided each young man on their journey to priesthood.

"It's hard to put into words my feelings. This has been a very emotional day," said Mary Krisch, mother of Father Robert "Bobby" Krisch. During the ceremony, she thought about the many people unable to be with her son on this special day, but she knew they were with him in spirit.

"Receiving communion from our son for the first time as a priest was very memorable," noted John Krisch about an impactful part of the ceremony. Having a son as a priest takes on a whole new meaning to his faith journey.

Mary Krisch said her son's calling came to him later in life. He had been working as a certified personal accountant (CPA) in the business world and didn't start his exploration of the priesthood until he was in his later 20s. Faith was a strong part of his upbringing having faithful grandparents and a rosary brigade who prayed relentlessly for her son during his discernment.

"My mom had four boys and

ORDINATION, page 13

THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF Saint Pius X Catholic Church

gives thanks to God for parishioner

Brian Florin

Congratulations to you and Samuel Anderson, Robert Krisch, Zane Langenbrunner, David Langford, Jacob Schneider, and Ryan Timossi on your Ordination to the Priesthood.



Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me.

~John 12:26





Joe Romie
Father Zane Langenbrunner receives a blessing from Bishop Rhoades during the Mass of Ordination to the Priesthood.



Joe Romie
The seven men lay prostrate at the altar during the Rite of Ordination as part of the Mass of Ordination to the Priesthood.



Joe Romie
Bishop Rhoades performs the Laying on of Hands ritual of the elect per the apostolic tradition on Father Brian Florin during the Mass of Ordination to the Priesthood.



Bishop Rhoades performs the Anointing of Hands of Father Samuel Anderson during the Mass of Ordination to the Priesthood. This is where the palms of each new priest are anointed with chrism as a symbol of wisdom and strength.

More photos are available at www.todayscatholic.org



Joe Romie
Father Robert "Bobby" Krisch receives his paten and chalice from Bishop Rhoades during the Mass of Ordination to the Priesthood.



Joe Romie
Pictured are the seven newly ordained priests, Bishop Rhoades, and those who assisted in the Mass of Ordination to the Priesthood on Saturday, June 3, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

St Jude Parish, Fort Wayne

sends

Congratulations

to

Father Ryan Timossi
&
Father Sam Anderson

ON THEIR ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

Glory and Praise Forever

Each day, the people of St. Vincent's ask the Lord
to send His Church good and holy Priests.

Today we thank the Lord boundlessly and forever for parish son:

Father Samuel Anderson



together with Zane Langenbrunner, Brian Florin, Robert Krisch, David
Langford, Jacob Schneider, and Ryan Timossi who will be
ordained by Bishop Rhoades on June 3, 2023.

ORDINATION, from page 10

wanted one of us to become a priest," said John Krisch. "That didn't happen, but she did get a grandson who became a priest."

Father Zane Langenbrunner's parents loved being part of their son's discernment and journey to the priesthood. "It's so special that he got to be part of this large group. We were able to go to Rome when he was ordained as a deacon. It was the most powerful moment of my life," said Michael Langenbrunner. "It's been so fun for the parents of the seminarians. I hate to see it end."

Angela Langenbrunner said many parts of the ceremony were memorable, but her greatest moments came from seeing so many familiar faces in the crowd. Reverend Barry England, the priest Father Zane Langenbrunner grew up knowing well, participated and was the official vesting priest at his ceremony. "So many people who were part of this formation came out to support him," said Angela.

Michael Langenbrunner said

his son is a personable young man who he believes will do great things as a priest. "I'm looking forward to seeing how people react to him. People have always been drawn to him," said Michael.

The day concluded with a procession out of the church, and visitors had the opportunity to receive a blessing from one of the newly ordained priests.

"Before the final blessing, allow me to say a few words of thanks. First of all, a big thank you to all involved in planning and assisting with this beautiful ordination liturgy: Brian MacMichael and Karen Fitzpatrick of our Diocesan Office of Worship, our superb MCs and servers, and the amazing choirs from here at our cathedral and Saint Pius X in Granger for the beautiful sacred music today. I repeat my deepest thanks to the wonderful parents and families of our newly ordained priests. May the Lord bless you for your witness of faith and love that have brought our new priests to this day! Thank you to all the priests who have concelebrated this ordination

Mass, especially the pastors and the parish families who have supported the vocations of our new priests, along with the Catholic schools where most of them received their grade and high school educations. I wish to thank Father Matthew Coonan, my Vicar for Clergy, Father Andrew Budzinski, our Diocesan Vocation Director, and his assistant, Christine Bonahoom for all their hard work. After nine years in this ministry, Father Andrew will be going to South Bend to serve as

Pastor of our co-cathedral, Saint Matthew's. Father Andrew, I can't thank you enough for your devoted service to our seminarians these past nine years and for all you have done to promote priestly vocations in our diocese. Thank you also to all our deacons and religious sisters here present. Thank you to the members of the Serra Club of South Bend, the Blessed Solanus Casey Society of Fort Wayne, the Knights of Columbus, and to everyone who has prayed for and supported our new priests

on their journey to this day. Please continue to pray for them as they begin their priestly life and ministry. Finally, Father Samuel, Father Brian, Father Robert, Father Zane, Father David, Father Jacob, and Father Ryan, thank you for saying 'yes' to the call of Jesus to follow Him as His faithful disciples and also now as His priests in service of the Church. Congratulations on your ordination," said Bishop Rhoades at the end of the celebration.



Father Jacob Schneider
(Summer 2022)

Prayerful congratulations to
Father Jacob Schneider

as well as

Father Samuel Anderson,
Father Brian Florin,
Father Robert Krisch,
Father Zane Langenbrunner,
Father David Langford, and
Father Ryan Timossi

on your ordination to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ.

From the People of Corpus Christi Catholic Community, South Bend.

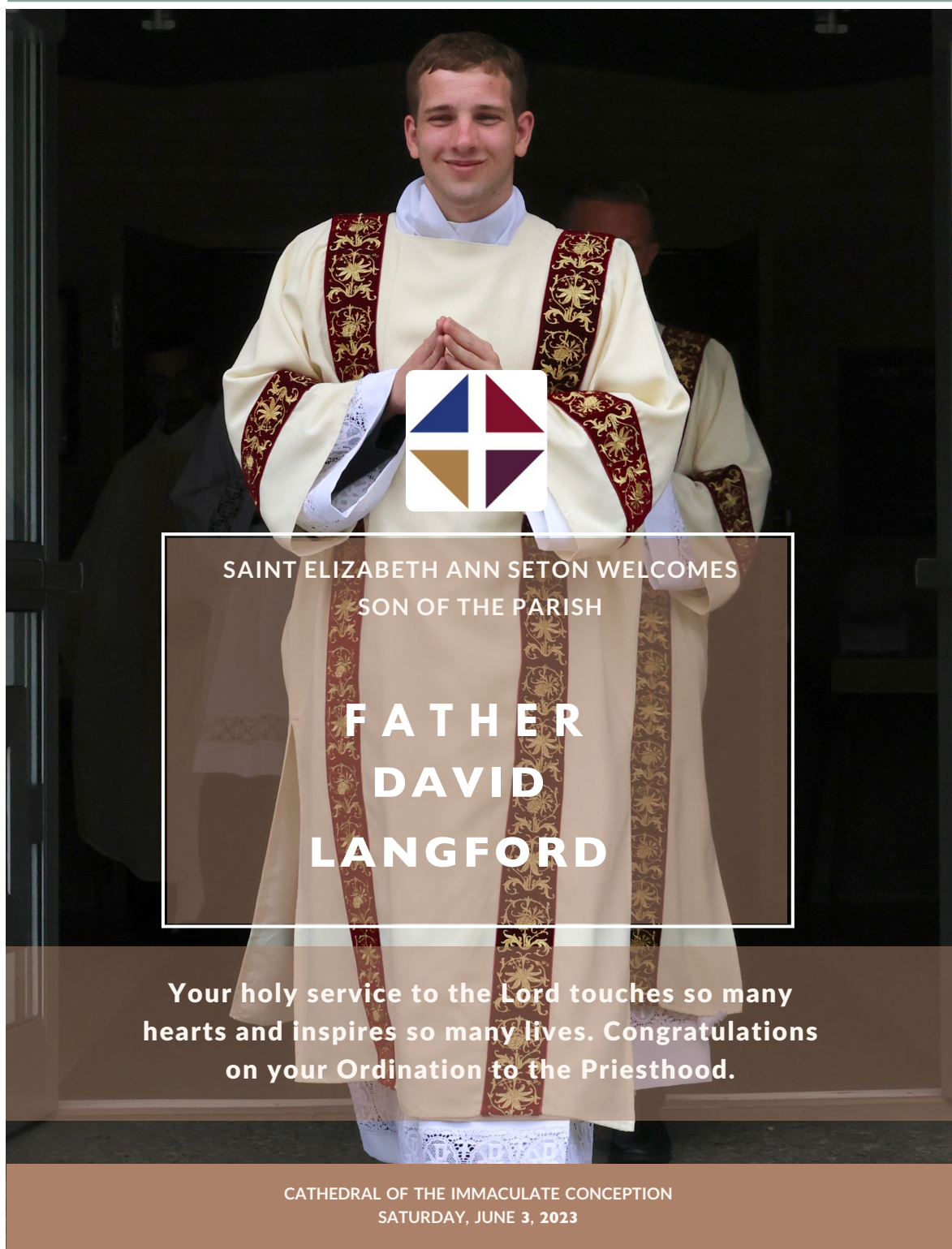


Congratulations



Father
Zane
Langenbrunner!

From the friends, family, and staff of
St. John the Baptist Parish,
New Haven

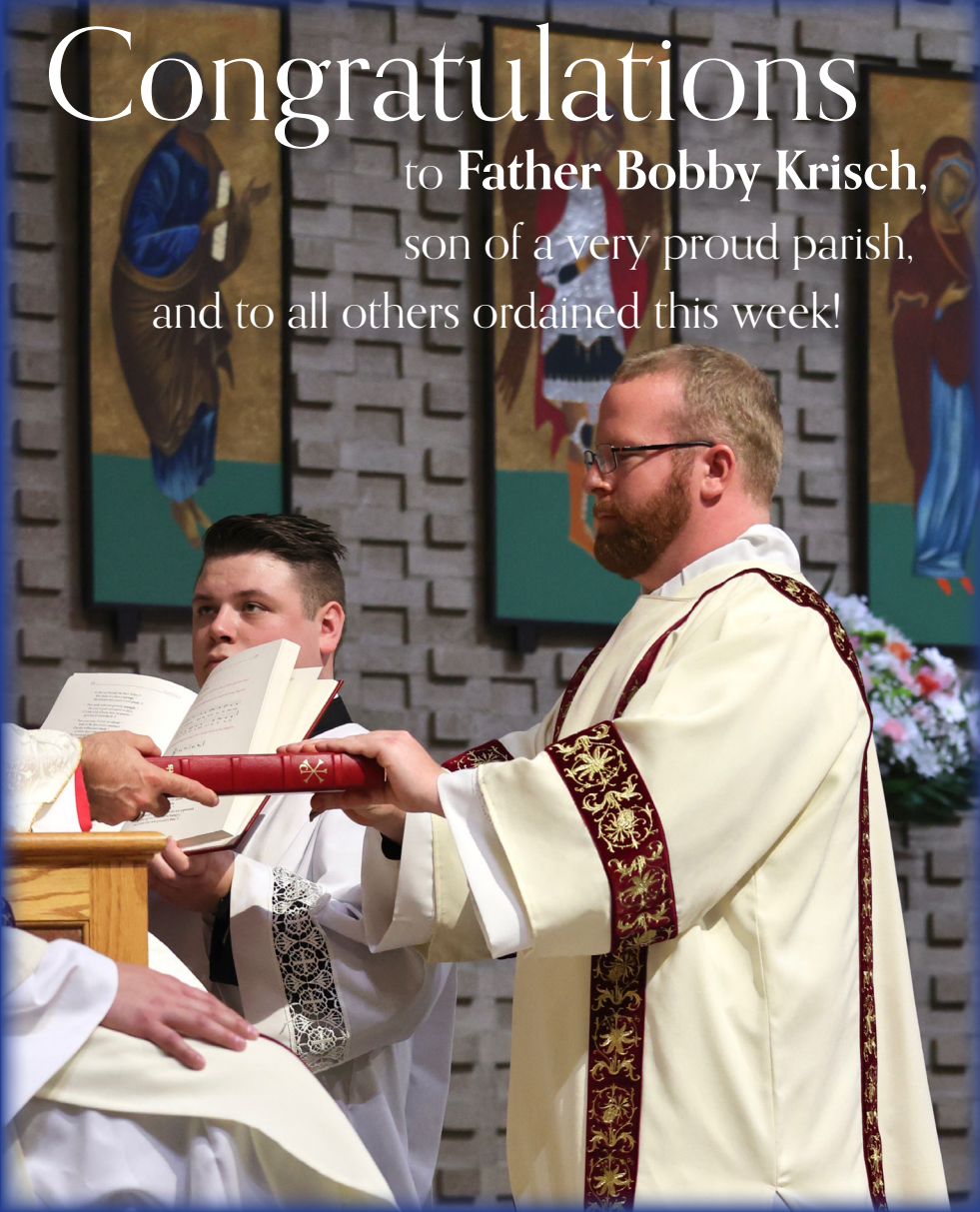


SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON WELCOMES
SON OF THE PARISH

FATHER
DAVID
LANGFORD

Your holy service to the Lord touches so many
hearts and inspires so many lives. Congratulations
on your Ordination to the Priesthood.

CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2023



Congratulations

to **Father Bobby Krisch**,
son of a very proud parish,
and to all others ordained this week!

From your St. Jude Parish Community



Once a Saint... Always a Saint!

Congratulations to BD Alumnus

Reverend Samuel Anderson '13



May God bless him as he enters the Order of the Priesthood
through the Sacrament of Holy Orders!

bishopdwenger.com (260)496-4700 saints@bishopdwenger.com



Once a Saint... Always a Saint!

Congratulations to BD Alumnus

Reverend Jacob Schneider '13



May God bless him as he enters the Order of the Priesthood
through the Sacrament of Holy Orders!

bishopdwenger.com (260)496-4700 saints@bishopdwenger.com

Congratulations

to the newly ordained priests
and deacons!

*Thank you for saying **yes**.*







CATHOLIC CHARITIES
FORT WAYNE + SOUTH BEND

St. Monica Parish


in Mishawaka sends heartfelt

Congratulations to






Father Bobby Krisch
Summer 2020



Father Zane Langenbrunner
Summer 2019



Father Jake Schneider
Summer 2018

Congratulations

to Father Bobby Krisch
on his ordination to the priesthood.



St. Robert Bellarmine
North Manchester

CONGRATULATIONS
ON YOUR ORDINATION!



BOBBY KRISCH
CLASS OF 2009



BRIAN FLORIN
CLASS OF 2012



With thanks and appreciation
for your priestly ministry
from the Marian Family.




MARIAN
HIGH SCHOOL

The community of
St. Nicholas Catholic Church
in Laguna Woods, California

CONGRATULATES

Father Ryan Timossi

on the occasion of his ordination to the priesthood!





THE SERRA CLUB
OF SOUTH BEND

offers heartfelt congratulations to



Father Samuel Anderson



Father Brian Florin



Father Bobby Krisch



Father Zane Langenbrunner



Father David Langford



Father Jake Schneider



Father Ryan Timossi

as they enter the priesthood.

Congratulations

to Father Zane Langenbrunner
on his ordination to the priesthood.



St. Robert Bellarmine
North Manchester

'All of us Rejoice in the Gift of Your Ordination'

Bishop Rhoades delivered the following homily at Mass with Ordination of Priests on Saturday, June 3, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne:

I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer, for, I tell you, I shall not eat it again until there is fulfillment in the kingdom of God."

It was Holy Thursday night when Jesus said these words. He had already instructed Peter and John where the Last Supper was to take place and to make the preparations. Jesus was very intentional in the planning because He was about to celebrate with His disciples a Passover meal unlike any other. He was keenly aware of the suffering and death that awaited Him the next day. He was about to accomplish His mission, the mission He had received from the Father: the salvation of the world. Jesus was ready to give His life for the life of the world. He was about to bring the Jewish Passover to fulfillment as He would "pass over" from death to life and bring humanity to true freedom in the promised land, eternal life in heaven.

At the Last Supper, Jesus anticipated the sacrifice He was to offer the next day on Calvary. He transformed it into a gift of love. He made this gift present in advance in the bread broken which became His body, and in the wine poured out which became His blood. Full of love for His disciples, Jesus wanted to give them as a parting gift the gift of His very self: His flesh as real food and His blood as real drink. That's why He eagerly desired to eat the Passover with His apostles — out of His love for them and for His disciples throughout the ages, He instituted the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Our Lord wanted to have this feast with them in which He would transform the gifts of creation and become one with them. This is God's desire: to share His life with us, to bring us into communion with Him, truly **Holy Communion**.

Not only did Jesus institute the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper, He also instituted the ministerial priesthood. As Our Lord established the new covenant in His blood, He made His apostles the bearers and ministers of that covenant. He made them His priests, empowering them to speak and act in His very person. He did so when He issued the command: "Do this in memory of me." Jesus commissioned them to perform the same rite He had just done. He made them the instruments through which His Paschal Mystery would be made pres-

ent throughout history.

Today, the Lord will make Sam, Brian, Bobby, Zane, David, Jacob, and Ryan, His instruments through which His Paschal Mystery will be made present in the midst of God's faithful people here in our diocese and beyond. Through the laying on of my hands and the prayer of ordination, God will consecrate them so that they will be able to speak and act in the person of His Son. In a new and radical way, they will be united to Christ. A new seal will be imprinted on their very being when the Holy Spirit descends upon them, configuring them to Christ the High Priest, the Head and Shepherd of the Church. These men, our brothers, will become sacramentally identified with Jesus, the eternal High Priest. Jesus will act through them every time they stand at the altar and celebrate the Eucharist.

My sons, as you will celebrate the Eucharist which makes present the sacrifice of the cross, the full gift of Christ to the Church, so also it is from the Eucharist that you will receive the grace and the obligation to lay down your lives in generous sacrifice for the people you are being ordained to serve. You are called to live the mystery that is placed in your hands, the mystery of Christ's love unto the end, of which the Eucharist is the sacrament.

In the Gospel, we heard that the apostles really didn't understand the significance of what Jesus had said when He instituted the Eucharist since they immediately began to argue among themselves about who was the greatest among them. So, Jesus exhorted them: "let the greatest among you be as the youngest, and the leader as the servant." And He made the startling pronouncement: "I am among you as the One who serves." There is no greater act of service than to give up one's life, which Jesus was about to do. At priestly ordination, when the bishop presents the paten and chalice to the newly ordained, he specifically says to them that they are to imitate the Eucharistic mystery they will celebrate and to conform their lives to the mystery of the Lord's cross. They are to imitate the life of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, who laid down His life for His sheep. The priest's pastoral charity flows from the Eucharist and, from the Eucharist, the priest receives the grace and obligation to give his life in humble service to the Church. My sons, this will be your path to holiness as priests — living the Eucharist that you celebrate!

With your ordination today, you will also receive the sacred power to absolve sins and to

anoint the sick. The overcoming of evil by forgiveness was central to the mission and ministry of Jesus. So it must be for you who will share in His priesthood. This ministry of reconciling Christians with the Lord through the sacrament of penance is a beautiful gift to the Church. Jesus is giving you the key to reopen the door to the Father's house for sinners. I pray that you will carry that key with you and use it often, being readily available to administer this sacrament to the faithful. Never forget that you are to be images of the Good Shepherd who went in search of the lost sheep. Of course, it is essential that you yourselves have recourse to this sacrament. We priests must be the first to recognize that we are sinners and to believe in the divine pardon expressed in sacramental absolution. Only then can we be good confessors.

Also prominent throughout Jesus' public ministry was His great compassion for the sick and suffering. He healed many. He has given to the Church the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick for those in serious illness and has entrusted to priests this ministry to bring healing to their souls and sometimes even healing of their bodies. I especially exhort you to always be ready to bring this sacrament to those who are dying, even if you are called in the middle of the night. May it never happen

that a person is not fortified for their final journey due to your lack of availability or neglect.

My sons, you have already been exercising the ministry of the word in your ministry as deacons. As priests, you will continue to be heralds of the Gospel of Christ. As you make present, by the power of the Holy Spirit, the Body and Blood of the Lord in the Eucharist, you are also empowered by the Spirit to make the light of God's word, the light that is Christ Himself, present in the world. You are to teach in Christ's name the truth of the faith. This is so greatly needed in the midst of the rampant relativism in today's culture. In this context, we may sometimes feel that ours is a voice of one crying out in the wilderness, but we must not be discouraged in our prophetic office, knowing that we are proclaiming the truth that saves and that serves the true good of souls. I encourage you to carefully prepare your Sunday homilies and not to neglect weekday homilies, and to be involved in imparting catechetical formation in our schools and parishes. May you joyfully obey the missionary mandate of Jesus: "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to the whole creation."

Finally, I encourage you always to be men of prayer, to cultivate and grow in your relationship with the Lord each day not only by celebrating the Eucharist with prayerful devo-

tion, but also by spending time with Jesus in heart-to-heart conversation, in meditating on His word in Sacred Scripture, and in praying the Liturgy of the Hours with and for the Church throughout the day. Eucharistic adoration and regular confession should also be staples of your spiritual life. And never tire of invoking our Blessed Mother and meditating with the holy rosary. Without prayer, you will not have the strength and zeal you will need to give of yourselves in love to God's people. I know how committed you all are to prayer. May that commitment endure so that you do not fall into spiritual mediocrity, worldly comfort, and superficiality in your priestly life!

All of us rejoice today in the gift of your ordination, a gift from the heart of Christ, a gift for the Church and for the world. And for you, it is a sacred responsibility and a path to sanctity. May Mary Most Holy, the Immaculate Conception, always be with you with her love and protection! May she watch over you and intercede for you that you will be holy priests after the heart of her Son!



Congratulations!

FATHER BOBBY KRISCH

Love,
your
St. Mary's
Family

ST. MARY OF THE
ANNUNCIATION CHURCH

BRISTOL

Holy Vessels Consecrated for Service Pre-Ordination

BY JOSHUA SCHIPPER

In preparation for their ministry as priests, the seven men ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, June 3, had their chalices and patens consecrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades in the week leading up to their ordinations.

Meeting in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd at the diocesan chancery office in Fort Wayne, the candidates placed their chalices and patens on the altar. In addition to his primary chalice, Deacon David Langford also placed a small travel chalice on the altar.

The seven men expressed excitement at seeing each other's chalices for the first time, each with a design different from the rest, and Bishop Rhoades joyfully welcomed Deacons Zane Langenbrunner and Samuel Anderson back from their studies at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. Having returned to the U.S., both deacons made their profession of faith and oath of fidelity before Bishop Rhoades began the consecration of the holy vessels.

All seven deacons gathered in front of the altar as Bishop Rhoades consecrated their patens and chalices, rubbing chrism oil on the precious metals that will hold the Body and Blood of Jesus.



Photos by Joshua Schipper

In preparation for ordination to the priesthood on Saturday, June 3, Deacons Ryan Timossi, Brian Florin, Samuel Anderson, David Langford, Bobby Krisch, Zane Langenbrunner, and Jacob Schneider have their chalices and patens consecrated by Bishop Rhoades in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd in the Archbishop Noll Center in Fort Wayne on Wednesday, May 31.

Praying over the patens, Bishop Rhoades said, "Let us pray, dear brethren, that by the help of God's grace, these patens may be consecrated and hallowed, for the purpose of breaking over them the body of our Lord, Jesus Christ, who suffered death on the cross for the salvation of us all."

He contin-

ued, "Almighty, everlasting God, who instituted the laws of sacrifice, and ordered, among other things, that the sprinkled wheaten flour should be carried to the altar on plates of gold and silver, be pleased to bless, hallow, and consecrate

these patens destined for the administration of the Eucharist of Jesus Christ, your Son, who for our salvation, and that of all mankind, chose to immolate Himself on the gibbet of the cross to you, God the Father, with whom He lives and reigns forever and ever."

At this, he prayed over

and rubbed chrism oil on each individual paten.

Over the eight chalices, he said, "Let us pray, my dear brethren, that our Lord and God, by His heavenly grace and inspiration, may hallow these chalices, about to be consecrated for use in His ministry, and that He may add the fullness of His divine favor to the consecration performed by us, through Christ our Lord, Amen."

Then, he said, "Oh Lord our God, be pleased to bless these chalices made by your devout people for your holy service. Bestow that same blessing which you bestowed on the hallowed chalice of your servant, Melchisedech. And what we cannot make worthy of your altars by our craft and metals, do you nonetheless make worthy by your blessing, through Christ our Lord, Amen."

He prayed over each chalice, rubbing each with chrism oil.

After the consecration, the deacons used lemon juice to help remove the chrism oil before absorbing the mixture with slices of bread. Cleaning his chalice, one deacon commented that having chrism oil on his hands was a foretaste of the anointing that would soon come at his ordination that weekend. The bread, having absorbed the chrism oil, will either be burned, buried, or washed into a sacrarium.



Deacon Zane Langenbrunner uses lemon juice and bread to absorb the chrism oil used to consecrate his chalice in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd in the Archbishop Noll Center in Fort Wayne on Wednesday, May 31.



Chalices of the seven deacons set to become priests on Saturday, June 3, sit on the altar in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, for Bishop Rhoades to consecrate. The chalices are then wiped with lemon juice and bread to absorb the chrism oil.

Pursuit of Cause for Beatification for Holy Cross Brother Columba O'Neill Continues

BY CHRISTOPHER LUSHIS

Nearly one year ago, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend announced that the formal process for sainthood had been opened for Holy Cross Brother Columba O'Neill, a humble cobbler who lived with tremendous devotion to Jesus and Mary.

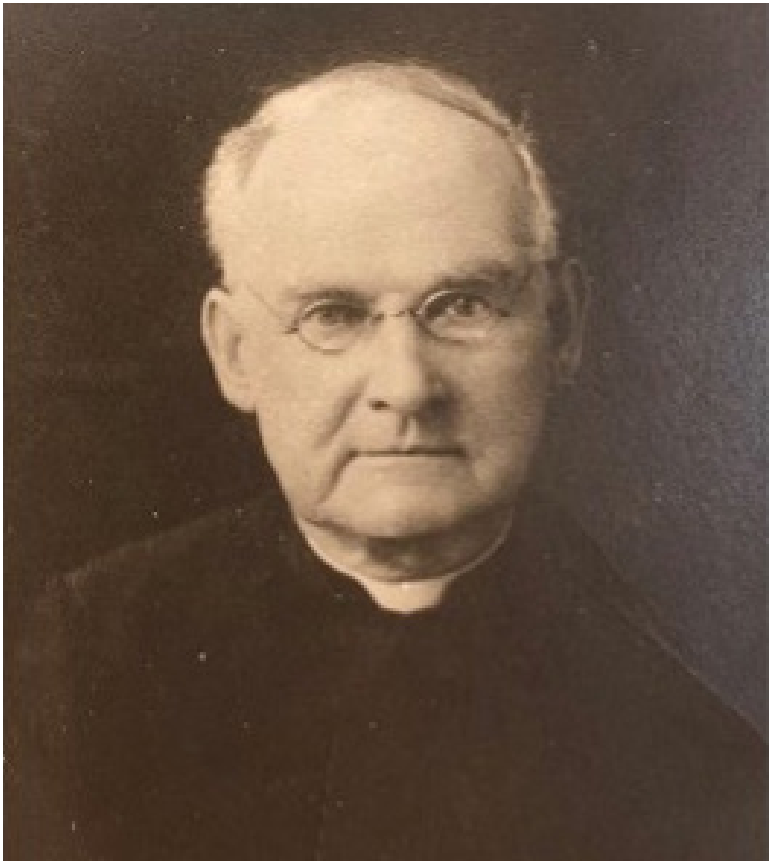
In recent weeks, the bishops of Indiana met to discuss the cause of this man whose simple trust in the providence of God touched thousands of lives. Following their meeting, Bishop Rhoades shared, "I am very happy that the bishops of the Indianapolis Province (the bishops of the five Indiana dioceses) gave their unanimous support to our pursuing the cause of the beatification of Brother Columba O'Neill. My brother bishops were very inspired when they learned about Brother Columba's holy life. I will now be forwarding the summary materials to the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints at the Vatican to request their approval for our initiating the diocesan phase of the cause."

Brother O'Neill, born on Nov. 5, 1848, in Mackeysburg, Pennsylvania, received an emergency baptism (*sub conditione*) because, due to a severe foot deformity, he was not initially expected to live. While he carried a noticeable limp throughout his life, he persevered through this difficulty and became a shoe cobbler, repairing and creating specialized shoes for others with foot and ankle problems.

From an early age, he felt a desire to serve God in a religious order. While he was denied entrance into at least one community on account of his foot, he remained resilient and later entered the Congregation of Holy Cross after meeting with Father Edward Sorin, founder of the University of Notre Dame.

Originally given the legal name John, he took the religious name Columba at his final vows in 1874 and was assigned to serve in the St. Joseph Orphan Asylum in Lafayette, Indiana, for nine years before returning to Notre Dame in 1885. He also served as caregiver to Father Sorin beginning in 1891 and remained so until Father Sorin's passing two years later. During much of his religious life, Brother O'Neill continued to serve as a shoe cobbler, while also volunteering at night to serve the sick.

But perhaps what Brother O'Neill became most known



BROTHER COLUMBA O'NEILL

for was distributing badges of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Beginning in around 1890, he crafted more than 10,000 images of Mary and 30,000 images of the Sacred Heart, which he would give away to those he met in his shoe shop and in his travels. The badges included instructions and prayers for a novena. It was not long before he began to learn that miracles were taking place.

The archives of the Midwest Province of Holy Cross Brothers hold nearly 14,000 letters written to Brother O'Neill requesting these badges and asking for his prayers of intercession for spiritual, physical, or psychological healing. Though he had a limited education, he sought to reply to each letter personally. Brother O'Neill recorded in his diary in an entry from 1920 that he had received 1,400 letters testifying to favors received from the Lord.

During his lifetime, Brother O'Neill was known as the "divine healer" and the Miracle Man of Notre Dame. In 1923, he passed away in the infirmary of the Community House from the effects of Spanish Influenza, which he had contracted in 1918. This building now bears his name, Columba Hall. From 1923 through 1960, there was an active Apostolate of Brother O'Neill and the Sacred Heart. His apostolate and cause for canonization were revived in 2020.

Holy Cross Brother Joe

DeAgostino, C.S.C., shared, "The formal opening of Brother Columba O'Neill's cause points out the very real plausibility of saints living among us in their simple ways without any great fanfare by merely being obedient to their vocation."

The postulator for Brother O'Neill's cause for canonization is Holy Cross Brother Philip Smith, C.S.C. He continues to compile evidence for Brother O'Neill's pathway towards sainthood and invites all who have experienced favors through Brother O'Neill's intercession to share this information as the process continues. He can be reached at psmith@brothersofholycross.com or by calling 574-631-8972.

Those interested in praying for Brother Columba O'Neill's intercession in their need are invited to pray this prayer of private devotion: "O Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, through the intercession of Brother Columba, grant that I, like him, may come to you in my hour of need. Be my buckler and shield. May your will always be accomplished in my life. Let me, like Brother Columba, live completely the virtues of faith, hope, and charity. O Jesus, through your Most Sacred Heart, I plead that you grant my petition ... I plead for this favor. Take it and place it in your open Heart, and when the Eternal Father sees it covered with the mantle of your most Precious Blood, He will not refuse it. It is not my prayer but Yours. Amen."

UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

1. Publication Title
Today's Catholic

2. Publication Number
40-3630

3. Filing Date
05/23/2023

4. Issue Frequency
Published weekly, except for the last Sunday in December and even

5. Number of Issues Published Annually
44

6. Annual Subscription Price
25.00

7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®)
915 S. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802 or P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46801-1169

Contact Person
Nicole Hahn
Telephone (include area code)
(260) 456-2824

8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer)
Publisher's Address: 915 S. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address)
Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades, 915 S. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Editor (Name and complete mailing address)
Nicole Hahn, Editor, 915 S. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address)
Nicole Hahn, Editor, 915 S. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)

Full Name
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

Complete Mailing Address
915 S. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box ☒ None

Full Name
None

Complete Mailing Address

13. Publication Title
Today's Catholic

14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below
05/22/2023

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation

a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)

b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)

(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)

5735

3708

(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)

(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®

(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)

c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))

5735

3708

d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)

(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541

(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541

(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)

(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)

e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))

0

0

f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)

5735

3708

g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))

h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)

5735

3708

i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)

100

100

* If you are claiming electronic copies, go to line 16 on page 3. If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip to line 17 on page 3.

UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

16. Electronic Copy Circulation

a. Paid Electronic Copies

b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)

5735

0

c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)

5735

3708

d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c x 100)

☐ I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership

☒ If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the 6/11/23 issue of this publication.

☐ Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner
Nicole Hahn, Editor *Nicole Hahn*

Date
05/23/2023

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).



Enjoyment of Working with Kids Leads to Vocation in Education

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

Principal Stephen Hoffman of Christ the King Grade School in South Bend was a bit of a late bloomer when it came to his career path. He did not attend college right away and took time to discern what exactly he wanted to do with his life.

"My wife Cathy kept telling me I needed to go back to school to teach since I loved working with students. In 1995, we moved to South Bend and I started working at Martin's Supermarket. Then in 1996, I started at Bethel College and graduated in 2000 with my Bachelor of Science in Education with a minor in business," said Hoffman. "I then was offered a grade 6-8 mathematics position at Our Lady of Hungary and started teaching. While I was teaching, I applied to Indiana Wesleyan University (IWU) and started taking my Education Leadership classes there, graduated from IWU in 2004, and started as the Christ the King principal in 2004."

After 19 years of working with children in the primary grades, Stephen Hoffman is retiring from his position at Christ the King Grade School and taking a new education journey as a principal in Indianapolis. He and his wife are moving to the Indianapolis area to be closer to their family.

"I have a sister in New Whiteland. We have a daughter in Speedway, three grandchildren in the Speedway area, and my wife has a brother on the west side of Indy," noted Hoffman. "In fact, we put a down payment on a home in Shelbyville, Indiana. We will be moving there and I will be next year's principal at St. Joseph Catholic School. I am super excited about the next chapter in my life, but I will also miss all the students here at Christ the King School. So, it is bittersweet."

He said his time at the school has been filled with many memories, fruitful col-

"I hope that the students learned kindness, caring, loving, and friendship."

— Principal Stephen Hoffman

laborations, and dedicated staff that have made his time at the school unforgettable.

"There are so many moments that were awesome here at Christ the King School. I would say the biggest would be the school receiving the Blue-Ribbon Award," recalled Hoffman. "This brought so much excitement to the school. It is something that not just the school received, but every student, teacher, parent, parishioner, and community received. It took everyone to accomplish getting the Blue-Ribbon Award and everyone contributed to this great feat."

Hoffman said he will also miss his interactions with the community when he leaves.

"I will really miss the students, teachers, staff, and parents. The school is the biggest ministry of the church, and everyone must work hand in hand to make it work. I feel God brought me here for a reason and now He is calling me somewhere else. It is hard to just identify one thing I will miss because there are a lot of things that I will miss but the students would be at the top of the list," Hoffman said.

Being in education comes with obstacles, especially for the leader of the institution. "I would say the biggest challenge as a principal would be to never stop and become stagnant. Education changes every year, and we all have to stay up to date with what is going on and keep pushing forward. Education does not stop after you get a job. You always need to keep learning and improving," said Hoffman.

One special moment that happened recently was Hoffman was awarded the Key to St. Joseph County at a St. Joseph County Council meeting. Bill number 69-23 was passed



Provided by Stephen Hoffman

Christ the King Grade School Principal Stephen Hoffman poses for a photo with Father Stephen Lacroix, Pastor of Christ the King Church, at a Key to St. Joseph County Recognition Ceremony.

unanimously.

"Getting the key to the county was very humbling. To have people thank you for things that you have done over the years is very nice, but very humbling at the same time. Yes, I was the principal, but there are a lot of people that also helped me make those things a reality. A lot of people know that I try to stay out of the limelight so getting recognition is just not in my wheelhouse. So, I was just very humbled by the key," said Hoffman.

Inspiring students has been a goal for Hoffman since day one. Recently, he received a message from a former student upon hearing about the retirement that noted Hoffman made everyone's experience at Christ

the King Grade School special and how the love the principal sent through the halls and students' hearts was unforgettable.

"I hope that the students learned kindness, caring, loving, and friendship. I hope that the community knows that I care about everyone and will do what I need for them," said Hoffman.

Principal Hoffman has made a lasting impression on the Christ the King community and will be missed by all. "Steve really cares about the students. Even though our school has close to 500 students, he knows all the kids by name, and each of them feels known by their principal. He consistently puts in a lot of extra hours that no one sees

because he is so dedicated, and he takes a lot of pride in our graduates, often following their accomplishments and even going to their high school events. Being a principal is a demanding job, but I'm pretty sure that it's Steve's love for the students that has given him the stamina to do it for 19 years," said Father Stephen Lacroix, Pastor of Christ the King Church. "Steve is a quiet leader, but he possesses a deep faith and a strong trust in the Lord. I've seen that faith guide some of the biggest decisions he's had to make at Christ the King, and I've been grateful to have someone with that kind of faith leading our school. I'm grateful that he'll be able to move closer to family and hopefully have a job that's a little less stressful. He's earned it."

Longtime Christ the King volunteer and past parent Aimée Matthews said upon Hoffman's arrival, the school had several different principals, and the community was anxious for a new leader that would provide stability and be invested in the children.

"That is exactly what we got with Mr. Hoffman. He quickly learned the names of all the students, and he busily set about making improvements and advancements to our curriculum, building, and staff. Our building was equipped with state-of-the-art technology, he updated safety protocols and cameras, as well as our school was awarded a national Blue-Ribbon status for excellence in education," said Matthews. "Most importantly, the students felt loved and valued by Mr. Hoffman. He was often seen in the classrooms as well as at Christ the King School sporting events. He also attended high school and college events for former students. For 19 years, Mr. Hoffman has been loved by the students. I wish him the best of luck in his new chapter and hope he knows how much he is appreciated and that his legacy will live on at Christ the King School."

Catholics and Intercommunion

Intercommunion, the reception of the Eucharist in the Catholic Church by non-Catholic Christians (or reception by Catholics in other Christian communities) is a very touchy subject. Many Catholics who have a non-Catholic spouse or who have friends of other Christian traditions often perceive that an injustice is being perpetrated, and that Catholic limitations on intercommunion are contrary to the nature of the Gospel's teaching of love and acceptance. Why, then, are non-Catholics asked not to receive Eucharist at Mass?

The reasons behind the Catholic Church's limitations on intercommunion are generally misunderstood. Quite often it is assumed that only Catholics are morally worthy to receive the Eucharist, while those who are not Catholic are unworthy because they are of another Christian denomination. This is not really the case. The rationale behind the Catholic Church's limitations on intercommunion is not based upon moral or religious superiority. There are many believers — Presbyterians, Lutherans, Methodists, Episcopalians, Baptists, and others — who are perhaps morally or religiously better Christians than nominal Catholics. But that is not what is at stake in intercommunion. The Catholic discipline of not practicing intercommunion is based upon a theology of the Eucharist: what it is, what it does, and what it signifies.

It is clear from the New Testament and early Christian literature that the celebration of the Eucharist, the breaking

of the bread, was part and parcel of the new-born Church's self-understanding. In Luke's description of the first Christian community (found in Acts 2.43-47), it is clear that the common life, prayer, and the Eucharist were the mainstay of the infant Church; that link between community life and the Eucharistic celebration is not insignificant. Justin Martyr, a convert to Christianity writing about 60-70 years after the evangelist Luke, lays down three prerequisites for admission to Eucharistic communion: baptism, acceptance of basic Christian doctrine, and a moral lifestyle. Justin further emphasizes the importance of what the later tradition would refer to as "real presence" — the Eucharist is not to be received as ordinary bread and wine, but as the flesh and blood of Jesus, who Himself took flesh for our salvation.

Many Christian denominations do not, in fact, share the same understanding of the Eucharist which Catholicism holds, teaches, and celebrates. Some view communion simply as a symbol and memorial of what Jesus has done for us. While such ideas about symbol and memorial are quite true, they are ultimately insufficient. Catholicism maintains that the Eucharist is more than a symbol: it is a special kind of sign which effects or brings about what it signifies (that is, in fact, what the word sacrament means). Jesus Christ, in the words of the Council of Trent (Session 13, October 1551), is truly present "body, blood, soul, and divinity" under the appearances of bread



GUEST COMMENTARY

MSGR. MICHAEL HEINTZ

and wine. It is a re-presentation of the Paschal Mystery: all the power and promise of Christ's life-giving death and resurrection are made present and available to us through the celebration of the Eucharist. The Mass is also more than a memorial meal. It is first a sacrifice, and its status as a meal is subordinated to its sacrificial reality. It is important properly to coordinate these two dimensions or aspects of the Eucharistic offering. It is a meal because it is first a sacrifice; the very nature of consuming a sacrifice is what establishes communion between the offeror and the one to whom the offering is made. There is nothing implicit in "meal" that is necessarily sacrificial. However, there is implicit in sacrifice necessarily an element of "meal" in that one shares in the offering by consumption. So, the Eucharist is both, but it is a meal because it is primarily a sacrifice, not a sacrifice that is essentially a meal. But doctrinal differences regarding the Eucharist are not the sole obstacle to intercommunion.

We need to look at what the Eucharist signifies and effects (does) in order to understand precisely why intercommunion is, in actuality, a counter-sign to the Eucharist itself. Thomas

Aquinas (1225-1274) teaches that the ultimate end (what he calls the *res*) of the Eucharist is the building up and strengthening of the unity of the Church as Christ's Body. The grace particular to the Eucharist is to draw communicants into greater unity with Christ and thus within the Body of Christ, the Church, by — at the same time — signifying that unity. The Eucharist, simply put, is both a sign and source of unity in the Church. This notion is neither new to Aquinas nor unique to him. An ancient Christian document called the *Didache* (compiled around 110 AD, just a generation or so after the New Testament texts) contains what is arguably the most ancient Eucharistic prayer. The prayer found in the *Didache* asks God not for private graces for individual believers, but to gather, protect, and safeguard His Church. Thus, the Eucharist is not only about uniting *individual* believers to Christ through a share in communion, but more fundamentally about uniting a *community* of believers together through their communion with Christ in the Eucharist. It is our Eucharistic communion with Christ that establishes the fraternal bond of charity among believers, not the other way round.

Based upon this summary of what the Eucharist is and what it does, it should become more evident why intercommunion poses a problem. When one receives the Eucharist, she is placing herself in communion of mind and heart with the Church. It is an act which signifies not only a spiritual union with other

members of the Church, but also a public affirmation of the beliefs of that community and a commitment to the practice of the faith as it is experienced and shared by that community (recall Justin's prerequisites). The reception of communion by members of a differing Christian denomination cannot be a sign of unity among those believers when, in fact, significant differences in belief and practice remain between Catholics and those of other Christian traditions (not to mention the differences among the Protestants and Christians of the reformed tradition themselves). Eucharistic communion would then be a counter-sign: it would signify a unity which does not (yet) exist among these Christians. This lack of unity is an unhappy reality, but a reality nonetheless. Praying publicly with Christians of other denominations (particularly through services of the Word) can be a rewarding and beautiful ecumenical venture. But sharing Eucharistic communion with other Christians would be a misuse of what the Eucharist is meant both to signify and effect. So, while we must strive for greater unity among all Christians, we should realize that the limitations on intercommunion are based not upon inequality or elitism (political and social categories), but rather are rooted in the very nature of what the Eucharist is and what it does.

Msgr. Michael Heintz is on the faculty at Mount St. Mary's Seminary, Emmitsburg, Maryland.

'I Am the Living Bread Come Down from Heaven'



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Feast of Corpus Christi John 6:51-58

This weekend, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, or as perhaps it is better known by its Latin translation, Corpus Christi.

Feasts in the Church have a dual purpose. They call Catholics to celebrate with faith the person, or event, recalled by the feast. Also, they are opportunities for the Church to instruct its members in a point of belief considered particularly important, as drawn from the experience of Jesus or the saint commemorated, or from a doctrine held by

the Church.

In this weekend's feast, the Church invites us literally to join in the Eucharist, as we participate in the Mass and receive Communion, and the Church instructs us about the Eucharist.

As its first reading, the Church presents a reading from the Book of Deuteronomy. One of the five books of the Torah, and heavy with references to the Exodus, Deuteronomy recalls the passage of the Hebrews from Egyptian slavery to the Promised Land.

Moses, the central figure, speaks in this reading, reminding the people that they owed their survival, life itself, to God. When they were lost in the barren desert, with no hope for finding food, God gave them manna to eat. God guided them through the wilderness.

For its second reading, the Church gives us a selection from Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians. The Synoptic Gospels, Matthew, Mark, and Luke record the Last Supper in detail. This reading from First

Corinthians also records the institution of the Eucharist.

Parallel accounts among these biblical sources tell us about the Lord's providing the Eucharist, but their similarity and very presence in the New Testament tell us how important the Eucharist was for the first Christians.

St. John's Gospel furnishes the last reading. It is among the most profound, and loveliest, passages in the entire Scripture. In this reading, Jesus declares, "I am the living bread come down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread, he shall live forever; the bread I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world."

The Lord spoke these words, almost certainly, in Aramaic. They were recorded in the Gospel in Greek. The English version is a further translation. Despite the years, and despite the translations, it is clear that Jesus spoke of the Eucharist as we understand it today. He used no symbolic phrases, no vague suggestions that the Mass merely remembers the Sacrifice of

Calvary. He said, "I am the living bread come down from heaven."

The Eucharist is the flesh and blood of the Risen Lord. The link between the Eucharist and the Lord's sacrificial gift of self on Calvary is clear from the text. The Eucharist is the flesh of Jesus given "for the life of the world."

Reflection

For long centuries, the Church has called the physical consumption of the Eucharistic species as "Holy Communion." Of course, it is holy. It is Jesus, the Son of God, and the Savior. "Communion" is a further, more deeply descriptive term. This term's incorporation of "union" is clear. In receiving the Eucharist, we unite ourselves with Jesus. We receive the "body, blood, soul, and divinity" of Christ into our very body and soul. It is the most complete of unions.

The first syllable recalls the Latin preposition "cum", or "with." In the Eucharist, we

unite with Christ, and Catholic piety always has celebrated this fact. We also unite with other believers, with the "community" of believers, or the Church.

God has given us the Eucharist, as manna was God's gift to the Hebrews. We rejoice that in Communion we unite with the Lord. Important to remember, we unite with the whole Church, and we act as part of the Church.

READINGS

Sunday: Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a Ps 147:12-15, 19-20 1 Cor 10:16-17 Jn 6:51-58

Monday: 2 Cor 1:1-7 Ps 34:2-9 Mt 5:1-12

Tuesday: 2 Cor 1:18-22 Ps 119:129-133, 135 Mt 5:13-16

Wednesday: 2 Cor 3:4-11 Ps 99:5-9 Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: 2 Cor 3:15—4:1, 3-6 Ps 85:9ab, 10, 11-14 Mt 5:20-26

Friday: Dt 7:6-11 Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10 1 Jn 4:7-16 Mt 11:25-30

Saturday: 2 Cor 5:14-21 Ps 103:1-4, 8-9, 11-12 Lk 2:41-51

Suicidal Fears and Authentic Accompaniment

When we realize that someone we love may be suicidal, it can be complicated to figure out how best to respond. The threat of suicide from a friend or family member obviously needs to be taken seriously, and we need to respond with loving support and accompaniment. Providing such help, however, will not necessarily be synonymous with granting every request or affirming every assertion they make.

Suppose that a friend shares that he has just lost his entire personal fortune in the most recent stock market crash. He tells you that he is going to commit suicide unless his investment accounts somehow get shored up to the same levels they were prior to the crash. Even though you wish to show compassion to him in his difficult situation, and would want to do everything you could to deflect his suicidal thinking, it wouldn't be appropriate to go along with his demands by replenishing all his accounts with your own funds.

That your friend is threatening suicide reveals that on some level, he has adopted a false understanding of himself, where he perceives himself as valuable only when he possesses substantial sums of money. To support him authentically would mean assisting him to break free of this illusion, so he can grasp the liberating truth that his personal identity and self-worth do not depend on his financial assets.

Clinical psychotherapist Lisa Marchiano shares another example: "If I work with someone who's really suicidal because his wife left him, I don't call his wife up and say, 'Hey, you've got to come back.' We don't treat suicide by giving people exactly what they want."

Instead, a good psychotherapist helps a suicidal husband navigate his new situation by offering support and encouragement, and by assisting him

to understand who he really is, despite the absence of his wife. His suicidal thinking indicates he has not fully grasped the fact that his own identity and existence still remain objectively good, dignified, and worthwhile even if his wife may have painfully walked away from their marriage.

Similarly, imagine a girl wants liposuction, despite the fact that she is thinner than a pencil from years of battling an eating disorder. She is very unhappy, and even suicidal, on account of her delusion that she is massively overweight. We could not encourage or consent to liposuction for her as an "affirmation strategy," but would need to support her in addressing the mental and personal issues that underlie her morbid fear of gaining weight and the disturbed perception of her own body.

Dr. Paul McHugh, formerly Psychiatrist in Chief of the Johns Hopkins Hospital Psychiatry Department, offers a parallel analysis for the situation of gender dysphoria. He notes that the belief by a male that he is a female trapped inside a male body is similar to "the feelings of a patient with anorexia nervosa that she is obese despite her emaciated, cachectic [wasting away] state. We don't do liposuction on anorexics. So why amputate the genitals of patients? ... We psychiatrists, I thought, would do better to concentrate on trying to fix their minds and not their genitalia."

Gender dysphoria is a particularly sensitive area that needs to be addressed with charity and truth-centered compassion. Those who struggle with gender dysphoria have significantly elevated rates of suicide compared to the general population. Regrettably, some physicians who prescribe puberty blockers or cross-sex hormones, or who perform transgender surgeries on young people, will use this higher rate of suicide to pressure parents to support so-called "gender-



FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

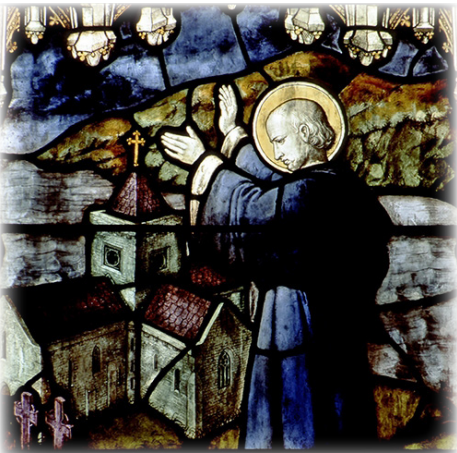
MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

affirming" interventions for their children. The implication is that parents should do whatever their children ask for, to stave off a possible suicide.

In the case of a boy who declares he is actually a girl, if a parent expresses any hesitation about proceeding with surgeries to remove healthy sexual organs, some physicians have been known to ask, "What do you want? A dead son or a live daughter?" Such a query offers a false dichotomy, suggesting only two possibilities, while leaving out the third and most important option, namely a "live son" who is led away from his suicidality and false notions about his gender through professional supports, including appropriate psychotherapy, and through strong, loving familial and personal accompaniment.

When loved ones manifest an elevated likelihood of committing suicide, it makes no sense to adopt a posture of automatically yielding to every request they make, nor is it reasonable to affirm untrue assertions they may be focused on or even obsessed with. Rather, we need to care for them in a more truthful way — accompanying, supporting, and helping them to address underlying personal and psychiatric issues — so they can begin to find real healing and experience a new wholeness and integration in their lives.

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



COLUMBA

FEAST: JUNE 9

This abbot, one of Scotland's patron saints, was born in Ireland. Also educated and ordained in Ireland, he spent 15 years preaching and founding monasteries, including Derry, Durrow, and Kells. But his clashes with King Diarmaid over a psalter copy and the rights of sanctuary resulted in a clan feud and battle in which 3,000 men died. Choosing exile as his penance, Columba left for Scotland with 12 kinsmen about 561 to found the island monastery of Iona. He evangelized the Picts and converted their king. Iona monks went on mission all over Europe and its monastic rule was the standard until the Rule of St. Benedict. Columba, also called Colmcille (for Columba and cell), had enormous influence over Western monasticism.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

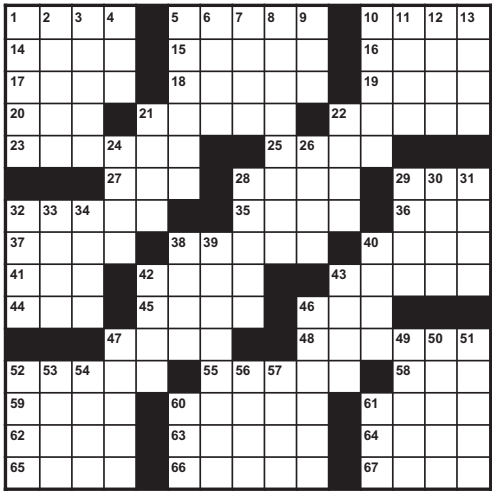
Gospel for June 11, 2023
John 6: 51-58

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Solemnity of the Most Precious Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Cycle A. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

BREAD	DOWN	EATS
FOREVER	MY FLESH	HOW CAN
THIS MAN	TO EAT	JESUS
SAY TO YOU	SON OF MAN	DRINK
BLOOD	ETERNAL LIFE	RAISE
LAST DAY	FOOD	I IN HIM
LIVING	DIED	ANCESTORS

EAT AND DRINK

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



www.wordgamesfor Catholics.com

ACROSS

- 1 One of the three in 1 Corinthians
- 5 ____ magna
- 10 Mild oath
- 14 Affirm with confidence
- 15 Shun
- 16 Architect Mies van der ____
- 17 Bundle
- 18 Impertinence
- 19 Facility
- 20 Hairy Addams cousin
- 21 An eccentric person
- 22 Church Law
- 23 Tried out
- 25 Streetcar
- 27 Pay ending
- 28 Number for the last Leo
- 29 Defensive weapon (abbr.)
- 32 June birthstone
- 35 Hie's partner
- 36 Avril follower
- 37 Ratio words
- 38 What the choir does
- 40 St. ____ Chrysostom
- 41 Naval rank (abbr.)
- 42 "... and the ____ was God"
- 43 Sausage
- 44 Tropical cuckoo
- 45 Continental money
- 46 In the name of the Father, and of the ____
- 47 Wife of Shiva
- 48 Advent foliage
- 52 One of the seraphim or cherubim, for example
- 55 Paul surprised a soldier when he spoke this
- 58 Playbill feature
- 59 Heavy hammer
- 60 Coniferous evergreen forest
- 61 Abbreviation, abbreviated
- 62 Beak
- 63 One way to buy stock
- 64 "____ my sheep." (Jn 21:17)
- 65 Full of unresolved questions
- 66 Of necessity
- 67 Unit of computer memory

DOWN

- 1 Distinctive dress worn by religious
- 2 Egg-shaped
- 3 Rawhides
- 4 Poetic before
- 5 North American country with approximately 40% Catholic population
- 6 ____ plaisir
- 7 Flesh of a hog
- 8 Turning
- 9 Summer drink
- 10 The pharaoh had one about fat cows and lean cows
- 11 Horse of mixed color
- 12 Charlie Chan's remark of surprise
- 13 Prom attendee
- 21 Jacob's ____
- 22 Son of Eve
- 24 Bull
- 26 Rivers in Spain
- 28 Tic-tac-toe alternatives
- 29 Cupid
- 30 Sounds of disgust
- 31 Aromatic herb
- 32 Size of type
- 33 Jock's network
- 34 To you, to Pierre
- 38 Spiritual principle of human beings
- 39 Supply with water
- 40 St. Peter's feast day is the 29th of this month
- 42 Well-being
- 43 John Paul II's "On Human ____"
- 46 Takes an oath
- 47 Maiden name of a Catholic princess
- 49 Type of monastery
- 50 Dalai Lama's homeland
- 51 Multitude
- 52 Both (prefix)
- 53 Inexperienced person
- 54 Deep hollow
- 56 Matured
- 57 See 10A
- 60 Convert into leather
- 61 Military location (abbr.)

Answer key can be found on page 23

Advertise in Today's Catholic

With a variety of options for web and print advertising,
let us help you reach YOUR demographic.

Call 260-399-1449

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Member FDIC

USB UNION SAVINGS BANK

David Egts

Low Closing Costs & Great Rates

"MORTGAGE CLOSING COST CRUSHER"

260-418-6191

CERTIFIED RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE PROFESSIONAL
NMLS 229839

RE/MAX RESULTS

Andrea "Andy" Hall
260-417-5093
AHallResults@gmail.com

Caitlin Berghoff
260-403-9898
CaitlinBerghoff@remax.net

Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

PNC Bank Building

LEONARD J. Andorfer & Co., LLP

110 W. Berry Street, STE 2202
Fort Wayne 46802
(260) 423-9405
Fax: (260) 422-9206

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

- Tax Planning and Preparation
- Corporations, Individuals and Partnerships
- Estates and Trusts • Auditing Services

Visit us at www.ljandorfer.com

HOOSIER PHYSICAL THERAPY

MICHAEL F. BARILE
DC, PT

3030 LAKE AVE SUITE 26
FORT WAYNE, IN 46805

PHONE: 260.420.4400
FAX: 260.420.4448

www.hoosierpt.com

LINDA RILEY
Senior Loan Officer
NMLS: 234665

C: 574.551.9330
O: 574.268.9033
F: 574.268.2955

310 Enterprise Drive
Warsaw, IN 46580

lriley@ruoff.com
ruoff.com/lindariley

Peerless CLEANERS

Ft. Wayne, Auburn, Angola & Warsaw

4121 Hillegas Rd.
Ft. Wayne, IN 46808
260.422.9374

JUST FILL THE BAG, WE'LL DO THE REST!

***FREE Pick-Up & Delivery**

***Select areas of Ft. Wayne Only**

www.peerless-cleaners.com

Closest Concepts
YOUR STORAGE SPACE SPECIALISTS

Catholic Family Owned since 1988 • Jon & Shelley Ross – St. Joseph Roanoke Parishioners

Fort Wayne 260-483-6763 Indianapolis 317-849-8444

www.closestconceptsinc.com

CENTURY 21
Bradley Realty, Inc.

KATIE BROWN
REALTOR®

Serving Our Community Since 2008!

260.437.5025

Expertise You Can Rely On

BAIRD

Mike Kendzicky, CLU
Michael Kendzicky, CPWA®
Samantha Hengen, CFP®

Private Wealth Management
4220 Edison Lakes Parkway, Suite 100
Mishawaka, IN 46545
574-247-6830 • 800-866-9022
rwbaird.com

©2022 Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated.
Member SIPC, MC-876200.

Fech Insurance Solutions
260-435-0860

Helping You Understand the Medicare Maze

fechinsurance@gmail.com

Dennis Fech

Serving Your Insurance Needs:
Medicare Advantage, Medicare Supplements,
Prescription Drug Plans, Final Expense,
Life Insurance, Fixed and Indexed Annuities,
Hospital Indemnity, and more.

ROSE PETALS, from page 7

609, as the Basilica of St. Mary and the Martyrs. Uniquely designed with a large oculus, or circular opening, at its central height, a yearly tradition began at the Pantheon of pouring down rose petals through the oculus at the conclusion of Mass on Pentecost. This ritual continues today, as firefighters in Italy's state fire service, the Vigili del Fuoco, pour out tens of thousands of petals each year symbolizing the descent of the Holy Spirit.

Inspired by this visible display of God's love, Father Andrew Budzinski, Pastor of St. John the Baptist, decided to bring the tradition to Fort Wayne. For the last six years, the final Mass of Pentecost Sunday weekend at St. John the Baptist has been highlighted by a shower of rose petals from on high.

As the petals fall, growing exclamations of delight are heard among the congregation. Once the recessional hymn concluded, petals continued to pour down, with youth and adults alike displaying a childlike joy at the scene. Some ran up to try and catch the petals, while others simply marveled at the sight.

In his homily for the feast, Father Budzinski remarked on the necessity to provide a visible witness of God's truth, goodness, and beauty to bring more souls to Christ. He recounted his amazement and gratitude that the parish's unassuming "free Catholic books" library on the street corner behind the church had recently been the catalyst for a couple walking through the neighborhood to enter RCIA. Father Budzinski reminded his parishioners that Jesus asks His disciples to be in daily relationship with Him, to become filled with His divine life. From there, the

Lord sends His followers out to invite others to encounter the joy of this relationship.

Some in attendance who do not belong to St. John the Baptist but were invited to witness the beauty of this Mass with the roses remarked that the experience was enjoyable.

For others who have seen the display in prior years, the event has become something to look forward to. Parishioner Dr. Lewis Pearson, a Professor of Philosophy and Interim Dean in the College of Arts, Sciences, and Business at the University of Saint Francis, wore a unique suit for the occasion. With a noticeable display of bright red flowers upon a black background, his appearance garnered the attention of Father Budzinski, Father Degasperi, and several parishioners.

Pearson shared, "Wearing a suit is a way to show respect to others (at least, that's how I was raised growing up in the South), and wearing that (particular) suit is a way to share some fun with others. I'm so grateful for the joy and vitality that God gives us in the gifts of His Church and the Holy Spirit. It's hard to be gloomy either wearing or looking at something so colorful and vibrant. It makes gratitude so much easier and almost reflexive. You saw the joy on the faces of all the children trying to catch the rose petals — it's like that. And to reference Father Andrew's homily, things like showers of rose petals and rose-printed suits can serve as a kind of witness, turning an event or a person into a 'library on the corner.' When people look and smile at such spectacles, it's a great opportunity to greet them with a 'Happy Pentecost!'"

The Pentecost tradition begun in Rome came full circle for Father Budzinski in 2018. He shared that after the first year his parish embraced this custom, he traveled to the Vatican for the diaconate ordination of now Father Spenser St. Louis. He stated, "After arriving in Rome, I reached into my pocket for something and one of the petals from St. John's was in there. And I didn't put it in there! But I took it to the Pantheon, wrote St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, and the year on it, and left it on the floor in the center of the church where they throw the rose petals." He emphasized that the ways of the Lord are quite mysterious, but always for the purpose of drawing us more deeply into His love.

More photos are available at www.todayscatholic.org

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.

Sensory Friendly Mass at St. Vincent de Paul Continues

FORT WAYNE — Each Sunday, the 1:30 p.m. Sensory-Friendly Mass at St. Vincent de Paul, 1502 East Wallen Rd., provides a safe, comfortable, and stigma-free setting for children and adults with sensory challenges, mental illness, or any kind of disability to feel engaged and experience Mass in a meaningful way. To find out more information about this Mass at St. Vincent or if you are interested in offering a sensory-friendly Mass at your parish, please contact Allison Sturm at asturm@diocesefwsb.org or 260-414-5960.

Sacred Music in Honor of Corpus Christi

SOUTH BEND — A Sacred Music Concert to celebrate the Solemnity of Corpus Christi will be held on Sunday, June 11, from 4-5 p.m. at St. Therese, Little Flower Church, 54191 N. Ironwood. The concert will feature the various music ministries of St. Therese, including the Filipino Choir, professional soloists, The Silvertones from the Forever Learning Institute, and new original music. Come and celebrate "Jesus, the

Bread of Life." Contact Joseph Higginbotham at 574-272-7070 or joe@littleflowerchurch.org.

Fatima Quarterly Mass and Fellowship

FORT WAYNE — Join the World Apostolate of Fatima at St. Jude, 2130 Pemberton Dr., on Tuesday, June 13, for Holy Mass, Adoration, and fellowship. Mass begins at 6 p.m., followed by a short period of Eucharistic Adoration. Afterward, there will be time for fellowship in the parish hall. All are invited and encouraged to come. Contact Seth Ball at seth@fatimafwsb.org for information.

Holy Smokes Benefits A Mother's Hope

FORT WAYNE — This men's only bourbon and cigar benefit supports moms and their babies who are experiencing homelessness. Holy Smokes will be held on Thursday, June 15, at 5:30 p.m. at The Charles, 3127 Carroll Rd. Tickets are \$75 per gentleman and include dinner, soda/beer, two bourbon tastings, and one cigar. To purchase tickets or become an event sponsor, visit go.amhfw.org/holysmokes23.

Return Community Gathering

GRANGER — Return Community Gatherings are designed to support you in walking with your children back to faith and the Church. The next session will be held on Monday, June 19, at St. Pius X Church – Parish Life Center, 52553 N. Fir Rd. "Shedding Light on the Millennial Mind" will be presented by Caty Burke, Associate Director of Diocesan Marriage & Family Ministry. Sessions include prayer, table sharing of progress, a presentation, and small group discussion. The event is co-sponsored by Ablaze Mission and the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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

www.wordgamesforcatholic.com

REST IN PEACE

Angola

Dennis Renier, 80, St. Anthony of Padua

Fort Wayne

Geraldine James, 79, St. Charles Borromeo

Linda Mattes, 79, St. Charles Borromeo

Diane Burch, 79, St. Jude

Jim Griffith, 102, St. Jude

Frank Seranni, 89, St. Jude

Fredrick Cartwright, 71, St. Vincent de Paul

Granger

David Keck, 82, St. Pius X

Karen Keck, 80, St. Pius X

Ed Leininger, 74, St. Pius X

James Walsh, Jr, 92, St. Pius X

Huntington
Keenan S. Kaiser, 65, SS. Peter & Paul

Mishawaka
Bruce Fingerhut, 80, Queen of Peace

New Haven
Ray Keelan, 90, St. John the Baptist

Patricia Oberley, 89, St. Louis Besancon

South Bend

Beth Benac, 94, Christ the King

Cynthia Kujawski, 70, Christ the King

Floyd C. Smith, 89, Christ the King

Paulette K. Hayes, 69, Holy Family

Alfons M. VanOverberghe, 84, Holy Family

Juan Ramirez, 49, St. Adalbert

Bend. Participation is free of charge. Registration is requested but not required at: ablazemission.org/return.

Visit www.ablazemission.org/return for information.

SUBMIT EVENTS at TodaysCatholic.org/event

McElhaney-Hart FUNERAL HOME



715 North Jefferson
Huntington

(260) 356-3320

www.mcelhaneyhartfuneralhome.com

First Saturday Devotion

Our Lady, Patroness of America Center



Mass the First Saturday
of each month at 11 a.m.

OF THE HOLY FAMILY

PatronessOfAmerica.org



2730 E. Northport Rd., Rome City, IN 46784 260-404-4990

A trusted local team that treats you like an individual

At D.O. McComb & Sons, we offer personalized funeral and memorial services arranged by our compassionate staff. We believe every final tribute should be as unique as the life it represents.

Serving Fort Wayne families since 1925.



260-426-9494 McCombCares.com



Fresh Cut Flowers | Custom Silk Arrangements | Plants | Gourmet Fruit Baskets | Balloons | & more!

Mary Green
Owner

574.232.3354
800.994.2687
www.wygants.com

More than 90 Adults Confirmed at Cathedral Masses

BY CLAIRE KENNEY AND
ERIKA BARRON

On Saturday, May 27, 62 adults were confirmed during at Mass at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend.

Bishop Rhoades confirmed the candidates, who are all parishioners in the western side of the diocese, in both English and Spanish. During the Mass, the bishop spoke of the important role of the Holy Spirit.

"In his homily, Bishop Rhoades first and foremost asked the candidates to regularly pray to the Holy Spirit," said Deacon John Burzynski who assisted at the Mass. "(He prayed) that the same Spirit that they were baptized into would strengthen their faith and give them fortitude in their spiritual lives."

"He also spent some time discussing the Fruits of the Holy Spirit and of course the



Photos by Erika Barron

Bishop Rhoades anoints the forehead of a candidate with Sacred Chrism oil, sealing him with the Holy Spirit, as he becomes a Confirmed Catholic on Sunday, May 28, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort

Gifts of the Holy Spirit," Deacon Burzynski went on to say of the bishop's message. Parochial Vicar Father

Kenneth Amadi from St. Joseph Parish in Mishawaka and Father Terry Fisher, Rector and Pastor of St. Matthew Cathedral also

assisted in the Mass.

Approximately 30 additional adult candidates were confirmed on Sunday, May 28 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. All are parishioners in the eastern side of the diocese.

This Mass was also celebrated in English and Spanish and took place on the feast of Pentecost. On this day, the faithful recalled the Holy Spirit descending upon the Apostles as tongues of flame on what many lovingly call "The Birthday of the Church."

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades addressed those being confirmed and said, "The sacrament of Confirmation is the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the apostles on the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended upon them as tongues of fire." He reminded those gathered that through the sacrament of Confirmation, they too receive

the gift of the Holy Spirit.

After the homily, the candidates renewed their baptismal promises and received The Laying on of Hands. Bishop Rhoades extended his hands over the candidates and prayed that God may impart the Holy Spirit on them. Each candidate was then presented to Bishop Rhoades by their sponsor, a person who has lived a life of faith and leads by this example. Bishop Rhoades then addressed the candidates by the name of the saint they had chosen. "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit," he said as he anointed their foreheads with the Sacred Chrism Oil.

After Mass, Bishop Rhoades thanked the newly confirmed Catholics and their sponsors, at which time those in attendance joined in a round of applause, welcoming their new brothers and sisters into the fullness of the Catholic faith.

Bishop Rhoades Celebrates Adult Confirmation Masses

Bishop Rhoades delivered the following homily at Mass in which he administered the sacrament of Confirmation to adults on the Solemnity of Pentecost on Sunday, May 28, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne:

Today, Pentecost Sunday, the feast in which we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples at the very beginning of the Church, is the perfect day to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation. At this Mass, 30 adults will be confirmed. Last evening, I confirmed 62 adults at Saint Matthew Cathedral in South Bend. The readings for the Vigil of Pentecost and for today, Pentecost Sunday, are different. That's unusual because normally the Saturday vigil Mass readings and the Sunday readings are the same. Last evening, the account of the first Pentecost that we heard this morning from the Acts of the Apostles was not read, the account of the Holy Spirit descending as tongues of fire upon the disciples. So, the image of the Holy Spirit as fire was not presented in the readings. Instead, the Gospel last evening presented another image or symbol of the Holy Spirit — water. On this great feast of the Holy Spirit, it is good to think of both images — fire and water — because both help us to understand the mission and work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

In the Gospel last evening, Jesus spoke of the Holy Spirit as life-giving water. It was on the last day of the 7-day Jewish feast of Tabernacles. This joyful feast took place during the time of the harvest and the people would pray to God to send abun-

dant rain upon their fields for the next season. On the last of the seven days of the feast, the priests and people would bring water from a spring south of the temple and pour the water on the altar, a sign of their awaiting the abundant rains that they prayed God would send on their fields. At that dramatic moment, Jesus stood up and cried out: "Let anyone who thirsts come to me and drink. As Scripture says: *Rivers of living water will flow from within him* who believes in me." Saint John tells us that Jesus "said this is reference to the Spirit that those who came to believe in Him were to receive."

My brothers and sisters, Jesus came to bring us eternal life through the gift of the Holy Spirit. After He died on the cross, when the soldier pierced His side with a lance, blood and water flowed forth — the blood of Jesus (which we receive in the Holy Eucharist) and the life-giving water of the Holy Spirit (which is bestowed on us in Baptism and increased at Confirmation). The rivers of living water bring forth various fruits in our daily lives when we drink from this water, when we live by the Holy Spirit, when we follow His inspirations, when we live the graces we receive at Baptism and Confirmation. It is good to remember these fruits of the Holy Spirit listed by Saint Paul in his letter to the Galatians: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Dear candidates for Confirmation, you were already born into the divine life when you were baptized. You received the new life of Christ. The Holy Spirit, the living water, was poured forth into your souls. You became temples of the Holy



Bishop Rhoades poses for a photo with a newly Confirmed Catholic on the steps of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday, May 28.

Spirit. God's life is within you. You already have this living water that wells up to eternal life. So why do you need to be confirmed? I would say because we need not only the water of the Holy Spirit, but also the fire of the Holy Spirit! The sacrament of Confirmation is the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the apostles on the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended upon them as tongues of fire. Confirmation brings an increase and a deepening of the graces we received at Baptism. We receive a special strength from the Holy Spirit at Confirmation to spread and defend the faith by our words and actions as true witnesses of Christ. Confirmation completes Baptism. It makes us "complete" Christians. Confirmation gives us special strength to witness to and glorify God with our whole lives. It helps us to allow God's love to burn within us so that we spread it. We need

this special outpouring of the Holy Spirit to set our hearts on fire for our mission as disciples of Jesus. Think about how the apostles, after the Holy Spirit descended upon them at Pentecost, were filled with the courage and strength for their mission to evangelize the world. That's when the Church's mission began and it's why we call Pentecost the birthday of the Church.

Candidates, you will renew your baptismal promises before you are confirmed. You will renounce Satan and profess your faith in God, the same renunciations and profession that your parents and godparents made for you when you were baptized, if you were baptized before the age of reason. But now you will make these promises for yourselves. Then, I will anoint you with the sacred chrism with the sign of the cross. The Holy Spirit gives us the fortitude we need to

carry the cross as Jesus calls us to do, to endure the difficulties and sufferings of our earthly life, and to love one another as He has loved us.

I've spoken about the Holy Spirit, the images of water and fire, and the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. I would like to end with a word about the third sacrament of initiation, the Holy Eucharist. These three sacraments are complementary and really inseparable. In order to grow in our Christian life, we need to be nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ. In fact, we are baptized and confirmed with a view to the Eucharist, the source and summit of the Christian life. Our celebration today would not be complete if we just ended with the celebration of Confirmation, without the offering of the Eucharistic sacrifice. The Holy Spirit who comes to dwell in our souls at Baptism and who strengthens us at Confirmation will descend on the elements of bread and wine on the altar, making them the body and blood of Jesus Christ, food for our souls. The saints whom you have chosen as your Confirmation names were all men and women who lived by the Spirit, who opened themselves to the graces of their Baptism and Confirmation, and who also were nourished by Christ's Body and Blood in the Holy Eucharist. That's how they became saints. And that's my prayer for all of you will be confirmed today, that, strengthened by the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of Confirmation today, and nourished by the great gift of the Holy Eucharist throughout your lives, you too will become saints!