

# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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## At All-Schools Mass, Students Learn that Sainthood is Attainable

BY SCOTT WARDEN

On the morning of Monday, October 16, hundreds of students, teachers, staff, administrators, volunteers, and diocesan officials streamed into the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum Expo Center for the annual All-Schools Mass, which is held annually in the days or weeks leading up to All Saints' Day.

As is tradition in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, fourth-grade students from Catholic Schools across the Fort Wayne area came to the All-Schools Mass dressed as their favorite holy men and women – the “capital ‘S’” saints Father Mark Gurtner, Vicar General of the diocese, mentioned in his homily at the Mass.

Father Gurtner stressed to the students in attendance that there are two types of saints: those who are living with God in heaven (the capital “S” saints, some of whose names we know, as they have been proclaimed as such by the Church) and all those who are baptized and living in God's grace (the lower-case “s” saints, who quietly strive to live out the Faith on a daily basis).



Scott Warden

Fourth-grade students from St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School in Fort Wayne pose in their saint costumes outside of the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum following the annual All-Schools Mass on Monday, October 16.

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Photos by Christopher Lushis

**Father Mark Gurtner, Vicar General of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, celebrates the annual White Mass at the St. Mother Théodore Guérin Chapel adjacent to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on Wednesday, October 18.**

## White Mass Offers Encouragement to Medical Professionals

CHRISTOPHER LUSHIS

The Gospel reading on the feast of St. Luke included Jesus' instructions to His disciples: "Cure the sick ... and say to them, 'the Kingdom of God is at hand for you.'" These are fitting words to describe St. Luke, who was not only an evangelist but also a notable physician. He serves as the official patron of the Catholic Medical Association, and his feast is the occasion for the annual "White Mass," named for the color traditionally worn by medical professionals.

Members of the Dr. Jerome Lejeune Catholic Medical Guild of Northeast Indiana and their families gathered to celebrate this special liturgy at the St. Mother Théodore Guérin Chapel adjacent to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on Wednesday, October 18.

Sharing insights about the life and legacy of their patron, Father Mark Gurtner, Vicar General of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, explained: "St. Luke was intelligent and very well-read. As you may know, the New Testament was written in Greek. St. Luke's Greek is highly complex and reflects someone who has had a lot of schooling; he was also highly knowledgeable of the Jewish Scriptures. The Gospel of Luke is the record of God's fidelity to and fulfillment of His promises in Jesus. The Book of Acts, which Luke also wrote, is the record of God's fidelity to and fulfillment of His promises in the Church. And this points to God continuing to be faithful to His promises still in us."

Father Gurtner continued: "The 20th century mystic,

*"It is important for us to gather on the feast of St. Luke to give thanks for the immense privilege it is to live out our vocations as Catholic physicians and health professionals."*

— Dr. Emily Krach



Adrienne Von Speyr, (known for having many miraculous visions that were only disclosed after her death) said of St. Luke, 'He is set apart from the other disciples of the Lord by his capacities. He is more educated, more differentiated from them, [yet] he is completely humble; he wills only what belongs to the Lord, and he seeks constantly to lose his knowledge and capacities in the Lord. He prays quite a bit.'

"For all of you engaged in the medical field, because of your education and abilities, you, too, may feel at times set apart from others," Father Gurtner said during the homily at the White Mass. "St. Luke is a perfect patron for you – highly educated, yet humble. A disciple who puts all his education, gifts, and talents at the service of the Lord. May St. Luke help you all to do the same, that God's love might shine forth through you and through the essential work that you do."

Dr. Emily Krach, who practices at Credo Family Medicine in Fort Wayne, shared with Today's Catholic her appreciation for the White Mass. "It is important for us to gather on the feast of St. Luke to give thanks for the immense privilege it is to live out our vocations as Catholic physicians and health professionals," Dr. Krach said. "Our diocese is incredibly supportive in our work to uphold the teachings of the Church in the practice of medicine."

Music for the Mass was provided by choir members from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Following Mass, a special dinner for all present was hosted in the lower level of the Cathedral.



# As Synod Winds Down, Members Urged to Sow Patience

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – As members of the assembly of the Synod of Bishops return home, share the results of their work, and prepare for the final synod assembly in 2024, they must be on guard against people who will want to make them take sides as if the synod were a political debate, said Dominican Father Timothy Radcliffe.

"The global culture of our time is often polarized, aggressive, and dismissive of other people's views," Father Radcliffe, Spiritual Adviser to the synod, told members on Monday, October 23. "When we go home, people will ask, 'Did you fight for our side? Did you oppose those unenlightened other people?'"

"We shall need to be profoundly prayerful to resist the temptation to succumb to this party-political way of thinking," he said. "That would be to fall back into the sterile, barren language of much of our society. It is not the synodal way," which is "organic and ecological rather than competitive."

Having discussed synodality, communion, mission, and participation throughout the previous three weeks, members of the synodal assembly, including Bishop Rhoades, began the final segment of their work with talks from Father Radcliffe, Benedictine Mother Maria Ignazia Angelini, the other spiritual guide for the synod, and by Father Ormond Rush, a theologian from Australia.

After a day off to give time to the committee writing the synthesis of the assembly's discussions, participants were scheduled to meet again on Wednesday, October 25, to examine, discuss, and amend the synthesis, and to propose "methods and steps" for continuing the synodal process in preparation for its next assembly in October of 2024.

"We have listened to hundreds of thousands of words during the last three weeks," Father Radcliffe said. "Most of these have been positive words, words of hope and aspiration. These are the seeds that are sown in the soil of the



CNS photo/Lola Gomez

**Pope Francis joins leaders of the assembly of the Synod of Bishops for a working session in the Vatican's Paul VI Audience Hall on Monday, October 23.**

Church. They will be at work in our lives, in our imagination, and our subconscious during these months. When the moment is right, they will bear fruit."

Father Rush told participants that as he listened to discussions throughout the previous three weeks, "I have had the impression that some of you are struggling with the notion of tradition, in the light of your love of truth."

During the Second Vatican Council, when different approaches to the question of tradition were hotly debated, then-Father Joseph Ratzinger – later Pope Benedict XVI – explained the two approaches as being "a 'static' understanding of tradition and a 'dynamic' understanding," Father Rush said.

The static version is "legalistic, propositional, and ahistorical – relevant for all times and places," he said, while "the latter is personalist, sacramental, and rooted in history, and therefore to be interpreted with an historical consciousness."

Father Ratzinger wrote that "not everything that exists in the Church must for that reason be also a legitimate tradition," but that a practice must be judged by whether it is "a true celebration and keeping present of the mystery of Christ," Father Rush said.

The Second Vatican Council "urged the Church to be ever

attentive to the movements of the revealing and saving God present and active in the flow of history, by attending to 'the signs of the times' in the light of the living Gospel," he said.

As synod members continue their discernment, he said, they are urged "to determine what God is urging us to see – with the eyes of Jesus – in new times," while also being "attentive to the traps – where we could be being drawn into ways of thinking that are not 'of God.'"

"These traps," Father Rush said, "could lie in being anchored exclusively in the past, or exclusively in the present, or not being open to the future fullness of divine truth to which the Spirit of Truth is leading the Church."

To open the assembly's final section of work, Father Radcliffe and Mother Angelini chose the parable of the sower and the parable of the mustard seed from the fourth chapter of the Gospel of Mark.

The synodal process, Father Radcliffe told members, "is more like planting a tree than winning a battle."

And the only way to ensure they continue the sowing rather than join the fighting is to "keep our minds and hearts open to the people whom we have met here" and treasure the hopes and fears they shared.

"Humanity's first vocation in paradise was to be gardeners," he said. "Adam tended creation, sharing in speaking God's creative words, naming the animals. In these 11 months, will we speak fertile, hope-filled words, or words that are destructive and cynical? Will our words nurture the crop or be poisonous? Shall we be gardeners of the future or trapped in old sterile conflicts? We each choose."



## Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Wednesday, November 1: 7 p.m. – Confirmation Mass, St. Charles Borromeo Church, Fort Wayne  
Thursday, November 2: Noon – All Souls Day Mass, Catholic Cemetery, Fort Wayne  
Friday, November 3: Noon – Meeting with Annual Bishop's Appeal Committee, Sacred Heart Church Rectory, Warsaw  
Friday, November 3: 5:15 p.m. – Mass with de Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture, Basilica of the Sacred Heart, University of Notre Dame  
Saturday, November 4: 10 a.m. – Confirmation Mass, St. Jude Church, South Bend  
Sunday, November 5: 3 p.m. – Confirmation Mass, St. Jude Church, Fort Wayne



## Forty Hours Devotion



## Parishes are Listed in Order by Date

### OCTOBER

St. Mary Mother of God, Fort Wayne: October 27-29

### NOVEMBER

St. Dominic, Bremen: November 5-7  
St. Aloysius, Yoder: November 5-7  
St. Stanislaus Kostka, New Carlisle: November 9-11  
St. Gaspar del Bufalo, Rome City: November 19-21  
St. Joseph, Bluffton: November 26-28  
Christ the King, South Bend: November 26-28

### DECEMBER

Most Precious Blood, Fort Wayne: December 3-5  
St. Augustine, South Bend: December 3-5  
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception: December 3-5  
St. Mary of the Annunciation, Bristol: December 3-5  
Immaculate Conception, Ege: December 7-8

### 2024

#### JANUARY

St. John Bosco, Churubusco: January 29-31

#### FEBRUARY

St. Joseph, Garrett: February 11-13  
Immaculate Conception, Auburn: February 18-20  
St. Charles Borromeo, Fort Wayne: February 25-27

#### MARCH

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Fort Wayne: March 3-5  
St. Casimir, South Bend: March 3-5  
St. Joseph, Garrett: March 3-5  
St. Joseph, Fort Wayne: March 10-12  
St. Joseph, South Bend: March 17-19  
St. Joseph, Mishawaka: March 17-19  
St. John the Evangelist, Goshen: March 17-19  
Queen of Angels, Fort Wayne: March 17-19

For the complete schedule, visit [diocesefwsb.org/eucharist](https://diocesefwsb.org/eucharist).

*"We shall need to be profoundly prayerful to resist the temptation to succumb to this party-political way of thinking."*

FATHER RADCLIFFE, SPIRITUAL ADVISOR TO THE SYNOD



# Former Laundromat in Richmond Is Now Catholic Outreach Center

BY NATALIE HOEFER

RICHMOND (OSV News) – An abandoned laundromat might seem an odd place to transform into a Society of St. Vincent de Paul facility for community outreach.

But then, the story of David's House in Richmond is all about transformation.

Yes, there is the changing of a building from decrepit to gleaming white and welcoming. But there is also the transformation of a site of despair – the unsolved mystery of a missing woman last seen at the laundromat in 2001 – to one of hope where those in poverty will find a helping hand.

And there is the story of David Marshall, who selected the site. His own transformation and tragic death at age 37 led to the naming of the new facility in his honor.

Then, there are the untold stories to come of those whose lives will be changed through David's House.

"It took a village to get to this point," said Tony Talbert, President of the TriCounty Good Samaritans conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul that launched the ministry. He spoke during a blessing ceremony at the facility in September.

"But now (this site is) going to allow us to help people that are marginalized, to help the impoverished find hope, to find joy in the works that we do here."

Those works will include providing healthy food in what is considered a "food desert" area, conducting cooking classes with an eye toward nutritional but budget-friendly items, and offering SVdP's Changing Lives Forever program to help individuals transform and pull themselves out of poverty.

The journey to David's House began in July of 2019 when the Tri-County Good Samaritan conference was founded. It is comprised of members from three parishes in three counties in east-central Indiana: St. Bridget of Ireland in Liberty (Union County); St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Richmond (Wayne County); and St. Gabriel in Connersville (Fayette County).

During the blessing ceremony, Talbert shared with the roughly 30 participants a saying he recently heard: "The great ones don't say, 'I accept what I can't change.' They say, 'I change what I can't accept.' What we as Tri-County Good Samaritans can't accept is poverty."

The conference first built on a furniture ministry already established at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

"We help families that are



OSV News photo/Natalie Hoefer, The Criterion

**Father Sengole Gnanaraj, Administrator of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Richmond, says a prayer before using holy water to bless David's House in Richmond on Sunday, September 10. Tony Talbert, looking on at right, is president of the Tri-County Good Samaritans conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, which opened the center as a new ministry.**

marginalized and impoverished get gently used furniture," Talbert explained. "When they come to our warehouse to pick up their furniture, we don't want to make that a transaction like, 'Here's your furniture, see you later.' We learn more about them and how else we can help them."

"So, that furniture program is now a way for us to build relationships to get them into our other programs" at David's House, he said.

One of the programs that will be offered is Changing Lives Forever. The 18-week course teaches qualified applicants how to lift themselves out of poverty, then offers graduates the help of a mentor for 18-24 months, Talbert explained. The second major program is using the facility's new kitchen to teach those in need how to cook healthy meals on a budget.

"If impoverished people eat better, they spend less on health care and more on other needs like housing and transportation," Talbert noted. Classes have not begun yet, but Talbert said the hope is to offer them monthly or even more often, depending on interest and the availability of instructors.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's administrator Father Sengole Gnanaraj called David's House a "huge blessing for the community."

Richmond has ministries for the poor led by other denominations, he told The Criterion, Indianapolis' archdiocesan newspaper. "But this is the first Catholic ministry that is going to directly impact people. These (volunteers) are the hands and feet of Christ."

During the ceremony, Father Gnanaraj called for God to bless "this building, all those who work here, and those who enter here. May they all be in peace and in God's providence."

That prayer was already being answered, according to two women deeply impacted by the presence of David's House. "My sister came up missing

here (at the laundromat) 22 years ago – July 22, 2001," recalled Tammie Hughes of her sibling, Marilyn Renee Nicole "Niqui" McCown. Hughes, who can see the facility from her porch, said "it's turned into a beautiful sight."

"It's positive because of the simple fact that (our family has) had so much negativity from what happened with my sister," she said. "We need some kind of positivity and hope. And that's what this place has given us."

Vicky Greer agreed. She is the mother of David Marshall, for whom David's House is named.

"David liked to help people – that's just who he was," she said. "This facility, having it named for him, it means a lot."

Talbert said he and his wife, Donna, worked to convince Marshall to become a spokesperson for SVdP and "communicate the message that mind-sets can be changed, and (doing so) will bring greater fulfillment to life," he said.

Talbert recalled the night last year when Marshall finally said yes.

"I was driving. He had just said to me, 'I'll do it. I'll be a spokesperson for St. Vincent de Paul.'"

"The next second we were hit by a drunk driver. David was killed. It was April 23, the same day (the) St. Vincent de Paul (Society) was founded in 1833."

Greer said her son "would absolutely love what's being done here" at David's House.

It will be a special place, too, for those in the Vaile neighborhood where it's located, said Acacia St. John, Program Director for Forward Wayne County and a member of the Wayne County Foundation. "It's a high poverty area, a lot of low-income residents," said St. John, who was at the blessing and opening of the center.

*Natalie Hoefer is a reporter for The Criterion, the newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis.*

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# Rosary Challenge Raises Funds for Ugandan Village

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

For the second consecutive year, leaders in the Mishawaka Catholic community – at St. Bavo Church, St. Monica Church, and St. Joseph Church – are connecting parishioners with students at Mishawaka Catholic School through a unique and faith-filled fundraiser: the October Rosary Challenge – Can You Beat It.

“In the month of October, the students and faculty at Mishawaka Catholic School are praying as many Rosaries as they can with the goal of growing closer to Mary and Jesus and loving others through prayer and sacrifice,” Jeanette Dripps, Faith Formation Director at Mishawaka Catholic School, shared with the three parishes in sponsorship packets for the program.

The Rosary Challenge is raising money for the Bugumiro Foundation in Uganda, whose mission is “to bring the hope and healing of Jesus to the marginalized families in Uganda.” Last year, the project raised more than \$9,000 to pay for a roof for their medical center and robes for their altar servers. This year, the money raised will help the village construct a new building that will house a library and, hopefully, a room for Catechesis of the Good Shephard, as well as to purchase textbooks for the school.

Sponsors are asked to pray for the participants’ growth in virtue using a shared checklist that notes which virtue to pray each day. Each sponsor is asked to donate \$31 – \$1 for every Rosary prayed. Sponsors are also asked to share a message of encouragement for the participant they sponsor.

“It kind of came to me all at once one day, this idea of trying to get our parishes more involved with the school as a way to connect with the school kids and a way for the kids to authentically do service instead of just asking mom and dad to give \$5,” Dripps said. “We came up with this idea of getting sponsors for the kids from the parishes, and then the kids are tasked with praying the Rosary every day, and a dollar a day goes to a really great charity. And then they are able to see the fruit of their prayer through videos and interactions with the Bugumiro Foundation.”

**Mishawaka Catholic School fourth-graders Nora Heath and Simon Bonadies pose for a picture in front of their classroom’s rosaries, which they’ve used during the community’s October Rosary Challenge.**



Photos provided by Jeanette Dripps

**A photo shows the inside of a pre-kindergarten classroom in the Ugandan village that is being helped by money raised from the October Rosary Challenge taking place in the Mishawaka Catholic community. Last year, more than \$9,000 was raised to pay for a roof for their medical center and robes for their altar servers.**



Lisa Kochanowski

Eddie Wamala, President and Co-founder of the Bugumiro Foundation, visited the students and shared videos of the work happening at the foundation. He also showed photos of how last year’s donation benefitted the organization.

“It was really a neat experience for the kids to see it come full circle and to learn about life in a different country and ways that they could serve and help,” Dripps said about the visit.

This year, 348 students are being sponsored, and 997 Rosaries were said just during the first week alone. Students

pray their Rosaries during Eucharistic adoration, at home with their families, and during free periods in the school day.

“It’s something they’re encouraged to do on their own,” Dripps said. “We do it at school sometimes, but you have to figure out how to do this, how to fit this into your life – trying to develop that habit of prayer for themselves.”

Last year, Dripps said she had the opportunity to witness a group of kindergarteners using their free time to make a circle and pray the Rosary out loud.

Fourth-grader Nora Heath said she thinks it’s a good project because she can help kids who are in Uganda. She prays a lot at home during her down time, she said.

“When we pray the Rosary, we know that we’re not just praying, we’re not just talking to God, we’re also helping other people who really need our help,” Heath said. “By praying the Rosary, that can really help them a lot.”

Fourth-grader Simon Bonadies said he prays most of his Rosaries during adoration. “I love it because we get to grow closer to Jesus while helping other kids in need,” he said, adding that he appreciates the opportunity to participate in the program to help others, and he feels it is bringing him closer to God.

This unique program has offered an opportunity for multiple generations to enhance their prayer life while helping others.

“I hope that they learn to develop that habit of prayer,” Dripps said. “I hope that they learn that their prayers are really a great service to other people, that the most important service they can give is to pray for others. And I hope they realize that, through their prayers, God does amazing things. I hope for the parishioners that they feel a connection to the school and to the students, and that they feel like they have a way that they’re contributing to the kids.”



**Children run and play outside of the school in the village in Uganda supported by money raised from the Mishawaka Catholic community’s October Rosary Challenge.**



## Synod to Issue 'Letter to the People of God'

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – According to Vatican officials, members of the Synod of Bishops will issue a "Letter to the People of God" at the close of the first session of the synod assembly, which is scheduled to end on Sunday, October 29. The drafting of the letter was to be discussed both during small group working sessions and among the entire assembly on Monday, October 23, after a Mass for synod participants in St. Peter's Basilica, officials with the synod's general secretariat announced on Thursday, October 19. Officials added that additional time will be made for synod participants to discuss the methodology and steps for the next phase of the synodal process to take place between the first session's close on October 29 and the second session scheduled to take place at the Vatican in October of 2024. The officials said the assembly's synthesis document will not be presented to and discussed by synod participants in two parts as originally indicated on the synod's schedule. Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich, Relator General of the assembly, was scheduled to present the outline for the synod's synthesis document to participants, including Bishop Rhoades, on Wednesday, October 25.

## Christians Appeal as Gaza Church Campus Destroyed in Attack

JERUSALEM (OSV News) – An explosion at the St. Porphyrios Greek Orthodox Church campus in Gaza has left the administration building in ruins, and at least 17 people dead. Several hundred people had been sheltering at the church complex, many of them sleeping, when the explosion went off on the night of Thursday, October 19. Built in approximately 1150, St. Porphyrios is one of the oldest churches in Gaza. The day after the blast, Latin Patriarchate CEO Sami El-Yousef wrote on his Facebook page that, at the time of his writing, 10 people had been reported dead and 20 missing, with many more injured. "Our prayers are with our people in Gaza," he wrote. "Please, God, end this madness now!" The Latin Patriarchate said on its Facebook page that it "declares solidarity and stands" with its sister Orthodox Church "in these difficult moments." An Associated Press report quoted Mohammed Abu Selmia, Director General of Shifa Hospital, that dozens had been injured in the blast but a precise death toll was not yet available because bodies were still under the rubble. In an October 19 statement, the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Jerusalem expressed its "strongest

## Biden, Pope Francis Discuss Peace in Holy Land



OSV News photo/Ibraheem Abu Mustafa, Reuters

Palestinians carry a wounded man following Israeli strikes on houses in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip on Tuesday, October 17. President Joe Biden and Pope Francis spoke by phone on Sunday, October 22, to discuss the conflict in Israel and Gaza and facilitating a path to "durable peace" in the region, according to officials in the press offices of both leaders.

gest condemnation" of what it said was an Israeli attack on the church property and emphasized that "targeting churches and their institutions, along with the shelters they provide to protect innocent citizens ... constitutes a war crime."

## Pope to Celebrate Memorial Mass for Pope Benedict XVI

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Pope Francis will celebrate a memorial Mass for Pope Benedict XVI and cardinals and bishops who have died in the past year on Friday, November 3, Vatican officials announced. The Mass will take place at the main altar in St. Peter's Basilica at 11 a.m. in Rome. Pope Benedict died December 31, 2022, at the age of 95. On Thursday, November

2, the feast of All Souls, the pope will celebrate Mass at the Rome War Cemetery, the burial place of members of the military forces of the Commonwealth who died during and immediately after World War II. Also on the pope's liturgical calendar for November is his celebration of Mass for the World Day of the Poor. He will preside over the liturgy on Sunday, November 19, at St. Peter's Basilica.

## At Synod Prayer Service, Pope Calls for Immigration Reform

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Taking to heart the lesson of the parable of the good Samaritan is the key to assisting the millions of migrants and refugees forced to travel far from their homelands and often exploited along

the way, Pope Francis said on Thursday, October 19, as he led members of the synod on synodality in praying for migrants and refugees. "The road leading from Jerusalem to Jericho was not a safe route, just as today the many migration routes that traverse deserts, forests, rivers, and seas are not safe," the pope said. "How many of our brothers and sisters find themselves today in the same condition as the traveler in the parable?" the pope asked. "How many are robbed, stripped and beaten along the way?" The evening prayer service took place around "Angels Unawares," a sculpture by Canadian artist Timothy Schmalz that has stood in St. Peter's Square since 2019. The bronze boat is filled with 140 figures depicting migrants from various historical periods and various nations.

## Justice Amy Coney Barrett Backs SCOTUS Ethics Code

MINNEAPOLIS (OSV News) – Supreme Court Justice Amy Coney Barrett indicated on Monday, October 16, that she would support adopting a formal code of ethics for jurists on the high court. Barrett's comments follow allegations of gifts received or other improper financial activities by some of her colleagues. All federal judges other than the justices on the high court must adhere to a formal ethics code, but the Supreme Court, which is the only federal court created by the Constitution, is not included in that code. Justices on the high court are subject to legislation requiring annual financial disclosures, limiting their income earned outside the court. Critics of the court have called for it to adopt a formal code of ethics. In remarks at a University of Minnesota Law School event that was briefly interrupted by protesters of the court's 2022 decision reversing *Roe v. Wade*, Barrett argued an ethics code would formalize the justice's efforts at transparency. "I think it would be a good idea for us to do it, particularly so that we can communicate to the public exactly what it is that we're doing – and in a clearer way than perhaps we have been able to do so far," said Barrett, a former law professor at the University of Notre Dame. "I will say this, there is no lack of consensus among the justices – there is unanimity among all nine justices – that we should, and do, hold ourselves to the ... highest ethical standards possible."

## Pope Calls for Release of Hostages in Gaza

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Pope Francis called for the release of Israeli hostages held in Gaza and spoke with U.S. President Joe Biden to discuss the humanitarian crisis and the need to de-escalate violence in the region. "I renew my appeal for spaces to be opened, for humanitarian aid to continue to arrive, and for the hostages to be freed," the pope said after praying the Angelus on Sunday, October 22, with 20,000 people in St. Peter's Square. Some 200 hostages were taken into Gaza by Hamas during its coordinated attack on Israel on Saturday, October 7, which killed more than 1,400 people. On Tuesday, October 17, a deadly blast at the Al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza, a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, killed at least 471 people, according to people representing the Hamas-run Ministry of Health in Gaza. The militant group blamed the Israeli Defense Forces for the strike, while a spokesperson for the National Security Council said the U.S. government assessed that Israel was not responsible for the explosion.



# AROUND THE DIOCESE

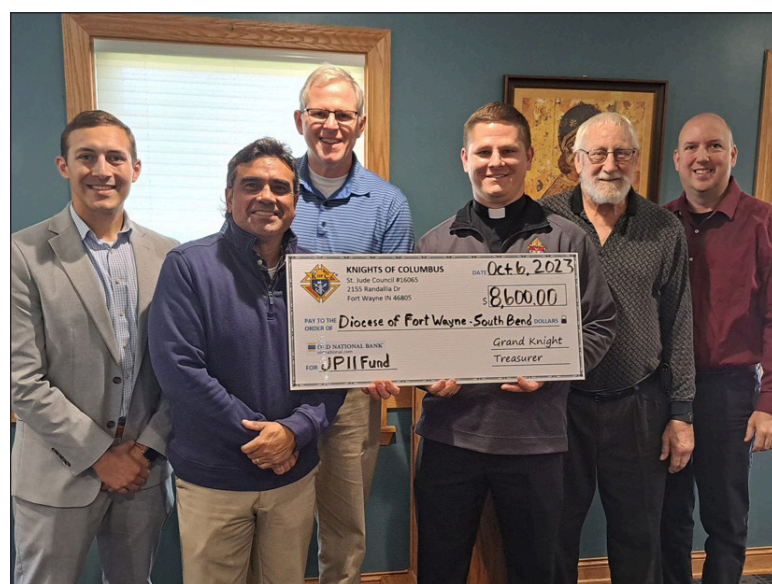
## Praying the Rosary for Peace in the Middle East



Provided by St. Louis Academy

Students at St. Louis Academy in New Haven gather in the church to pray the Rosary for peace in the Middle East on Wednesday, October 18, in participation with an annual global Rosary campaign sponsored by Aid to the Church in Need. On October 18, more than 500,000 kids around the world took part in the Rosary campaign, which was dedicated this year to “healing and protection of the suffering in the Holy Land,” according to Aid to the Church in Need, an organization under the guidance of the pope that provides pastoral and humanitarian assistance to persecuted Catholics.

## St. Jude Knights Help Seminarian Fund



Provided by Aaron Kennerk

Members of the Knights of Columbus Council 16065 at St. Jude Church in Fort Wayne present a check for \$8,600 to Father Jonathan Norton, Director of Seminarians for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, on Friday, October 6. The money, raised at St. Jude's annual golf outing, will be used to pay for the education of seminarians in the diocese. Through their golf outing, the Knights at St. Jude have raised more than \$22,000 for seminarian education.

## Record Crowd Gathers at Right to Life Banquet in Fort Wayne

BY ALLISON MALUCHNIK

On Monday, October 9, Right to Life of Northeast Indiana hosted its annual banquet at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne. The roughly 2,000 people in attendance made this year's banquet a record-setting event for the organization.

The night's keynote speaker,

Dr. Ben Carson, award-winning surgeon and author, addressed the crowd garnering applause and a standing ovation. Star 88.3's Melissa Montana, Master of Ceremonies for the event, read a long list of elected officials and candidates running for office who were present and willing to stand up for life in northeast Indiana. The banquet also saw a tremendous response for sponsors of

the event and large crowds from area churches in attendance.

The event celebrated dedicated people with two awards: The Daniel Award was given to State Representative Matt Lehman. The Daniel Award for Excellence in Pro-Life Public Policy is to recognize the extraordinary effort of a public servant in taking a stand for life regardless of the political, personal, or professional cost. The Telemachus Award

was presented to the Renner family, parishioners at St. John the Baptist in New Haven, who are “always going above and beyond for the pro-life cause,”

officials from Right to Life of Northeast Indiana stated on the organization's Facebook page. “We appreciate them more than we can express!”



A record crowd of nearly 2,000 people attended the annual banquet benefiting Right to Life of Northeast Indiana at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum Expo Center on Monday, October 9.



Photos provided by Right to Life of Northeast Indiana

The Renner family, along with presenter Melissa Montana, left, poses after being awarded the Telemachus Award at the annual banquet held by Right to Life of Northeast Indiana. The award is given in recognition of faithfully and courageously speaking for innocent human life.



# Masses Offered to Help Faithful Obtain a Plenary Indulgence

BY SCOTT WARDEN

As the Church prepares to celebrate the solemnity of All Souls' Day on Thursday, November 2, Catholics around the world understand that they have a responsibility to pray for the dead. What many of the faithful might not know, however, is why the Church calls us to pray for the departed souls in purgatory who are being purified of their past sins so as to one day be united with Christ in heaven.

## Bishop Rhoades offers an explanation

On "All Souls' Day, we remember in prayer all our brothers and sisters who live in this state of purification," Bishop Rhoades said in a past homily marking the solemnity. "The beautiful and profound

doctrine of the Communion of Saints reminds us of our ecclesial solidarity, not only with the saints in heaven, but also with the souls in purgatory. We are all part of the Mystical Body of Christ: the saints in heaven, the souls in purgatory, and we the pilgrim Church on earth. How does this solidarity work? Through prayer and love! We can offer up prayers and good works on behalf of our brothers and sisters in purgatory. Indeed, we have a holy obligation to pray for the dead who may need final purification in order to enter the joy of heaven. The Church has always recommended prayers for the dead."

During the first week of November, in conjunction with the celebration of the solemnity of All Souls' Day, the Church, through the mercy of God, offers the faithful an opportunity to obtain a plenary indulgence for the "remission of the temporal punishment due to



Joshua Schipper

Bishop Rhoades stated, "Indeed, we have a holy obligation to pray for the dead who may need final purification in order to enter the joy of heaven. The Church has always recommended prayers for the dead."

*St. Jude*  
**75**  
ANNIVERSARY

*Be a part of  
the celebration!*

A Mass will be celebrated on  
**Saturday, October 28, at 4:30 p.m.**

**St. Jude Parish**

19704 Johnson Rd., South Bend

*Dinner, dancing, and open bar will follow at  
St. Hedwig Memorial Center, 331 S. Scott St., South Bend*

*Tickets for the Dinner Dance are \$75/Adult and \$15/Child.*

*To attend, RSVP to St. Jude Parish Office  
at 574-291-0570 by October 9.*

sins whose guilt has already been forgiven," according to Indulgentiarum Doctrina, Pope St. Paul VI's 1967 apostolic constitution on indulgences that helped to renew the practice upon the suggestion of the Second Vatican Council.

A plenary indulgence is granted, under the normal conditions, for anyone who, in a spirit completely detached from sin, visits any cemetery and prays for the dead from November 1-8. One plenary indulgence can be gained on each of these days applicable to a soul in purgatory. It is important to note that being "completely detached from sin" does not mean being free from sin; rather, it means there is no sin the one seeking to obtain an indulgence is unwilling to give up.

Along with praying for the dead at a cemetery, one must also complete the following three conditions to gain a plenary Indulgence: One must give a sacramental confession within 20 days of All Souls' Day, partake in Eucharistic communion on the day of the visit to the cemetery, and, also on the day of the visit, offer prayers for the pope's intention (for example, an Our Father and a Hail Mary).

To help the faithful in obtaining this indulgence, four Masses are being offered at the Catholic Cemetery on Lake Avenue in Fort Wayne during the first week of November.

• **Thursday, November 2, at noon**, celebrated by Bishop Rhoades.

• **Friday, November 3, at 1:30 p.m.**, celebrated by Father Tom Shoemaker, Pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Church.

• **Monday, November 6, at 2 p.m.**, celebrated by Father Brian Isenbarger, Parochial Vicar at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Fort Wayne.

• **Wednesday, November 8, at 1:30 p.m.**, celebrated by Father Michael Ammer, Parochial Vicar at St. Jude Church in Fort Wayne, and Father Wimal Jayasuriya, Pastor of St. Mary Mother of God.

In a 2020 article in Today's Catholic, Father Mark Gurtner, Vicar General of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, offered an explanation of indulgences. He wrote: "When we are sorry for a sin, that sorrow means that we regret doing the sin, that we intend with God's help to do the best we can not to do the sin again, and that we have the intention to make up for the sin. The intention to make up for sin means that we have to be willing to right the wrong that we did. ... With every sin, we hurt someone. Indeed, we hurt the whole Body of Christ. So, our sorrow for sin must include an intention to make up for the wrong to the whole Body of Christ that we have done. Jesus forgives us freely. That is why He died on the cross for us, so that our sins could be forgiven, but, once forgiven, we are asked by God to make up for the wrong that we did. ... Our sins do great damage to individuals and to the body; more damage, maybe, than we could ever make up in this life. So, God in His great love and mercy has provided a way for the damage that we have done to be made up for. That is what an indulgence is. God 'indulges' us – that is, He wipes clean even the damage that our sins have caused. Through an indulgence, God uses the infinite good offered Him by Jesus, Mary, and the saints, and applies that good to us as a making up for our sins. What a beautiful sharing in the Mystical Body of Christ!"



# Financial Report 2023

Dear friends in Christ:

Once again, we are publishing an accounting of the financial operations of the diocese for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2023. As we have done in past years, we have also included a consolidated financial report of our high schools and parishes. This is done in the spirit of accountability and transparency.

For the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2023, our total gain was \$4,374,525 (from our audited financial statements), which you see on the attached with a comparison to 2022. This is only for the central operations of the diocese. It does not include the activity of the parishes, schools, or missions in the diocese. A detailed breakdown of our financial picture can be found inside.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joseph G. Ryan, Chief Financial Officer

#### DIOCESAN FINANCE COUNCIL

Most Rev. Kevin C. Rhoades

Very Rev. Mark Gurtner, JCD

Mr. Thomas Skiba, CPA

Mr. George Witwer, Business Owner

Mr. Michael Hammes, Retired Banker

Ms. Linda Teeters, CPA

Mr. Christopher Murphy, Bank Chairman/President/CEO

Mr. Timothy Dolezal, CFA

Ms. Meg Distler, Executive Director, Community Foundation

Mr. Bob Doelling, Attorney

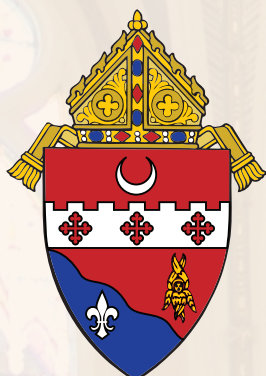
Mr. Tom Schuerman, Parish Business Manager

Mr. James Schindler II, Business Owner

Ms. Donna Lamberti, Christian Brothers

Mr. Jacob Benedict, CFA

Mr. Joseph Ryan, CFO, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend



DIOCESE OF  
FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND



# Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Financial Report

## SUPPORT AND REVENUE

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total Funds 6/30/23	Total Funds 6/30/22
Parish Quotas	2,590,047		2,590,047	2,494,074
Donations and Bequests	1,884,863	743,920	2,628,783	1,582,433
Government Grants				1,000,000
Net Investment Income (Loss)	12,310	(181)	12,129	(575,508)
Unrealized Investment Gain	7,197,241	50,185	7,247,426	(12,897,281)
Fundraising - Annual Bishop's Appeal	5,133,945		5,133,945	5,105,585
Insurance Premiums	20,433,430		20,433,430	20,198,316
Interest - Loans	315,606		315,606	416,551
Collections	250,599		250,599	215,496
Advertising	111,765		111,765	138,478
Sale of Merchandise	408,715		408,715	414,958
Fees, Rentals/Workshops	1,057,447		1,057,447	895,744
Subscriptions	75,573		75,573	70,045
Miscellaneous	210,684		210,684	126,971
Change in Value - Beneficial Trust Interest		864	864	35
Gain (loss) on Sale of Assets	18,837		18,837	(1,186)
Net Assets Released from Restriction	284,414	(284,414)		
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$39,985,476</b>	<b>\$510,374</b>	<b>\$40,495,850</b>	<b>\$19,184,711</b>

## EXPENSES

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total Funds 6/30/23	Total Funds 6/30/22
Ministry Services	3,492,211		3,492,211	3,186,603
Educational Services	4,797,313		4,797,313	4,850,725
Communications	654,291		654,291	723,364
Fundraising	309,224		309,224	422,007
Other Services	21,567,044		21,567,044	22,204,936
Administrative	5,301,242		5,301,242	5,592,570
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$36,121,325</b>		<b>\$36,121,325</b>	<b>\$36,980,205</b>
Change in Net Assets	3,864,151	510,374	4,374,525	(17,795,494)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	20,273,652	6,449,546	26,723,198	44,518,692
Net Assets at End of Year	\$24,137,803	6,959,920	31,097,723	\$26,723,198

### \*Note on insurance premiums and other services

The diocese is self-insured for medical benefits, unemployment compensation, automotive losses, and property and liability losses as described below. Various religious organizations, parishes, and schools participate with the diocese in the self-insurance plans. Premiums paid to the diocese by these organizations are included in the insurance revenue.

The diocese administers a self-insured pool to fund medical benefits on claims up to \$500,000 per covered employee. An independent administrator processes all claims. Claims amounted to \$16,500,718 and \$17,798,702 for the years ended on June 30, 2023 and 2022 respectively.

The diocese is self-insured with respect to unemployment compensation. Claims and benefits paid amounted to \$6,848 and \$13,288 for the years ended on June 30, 2023 and 2022.

The diocese's worker's compensation coverage is insured by Church Mutual Insurance Company with Catholic Mutual Group as the broker.

The diocese is self-insured for individual automotive losses of \$100,000 or less, and has purchased excess loss policies covering individual losses exceeding \$100,000 and aggregate losses exceeding \$400,000 per policy year. In connection with the automotive self-insurance, the diocese has issued a letter

of credit in the amount of \$1,000,000 to provide proof of financial responsibility in accordance with Indiana code.

The diocese is self-insured for individual property and liability losses of \$100,000 or less, and has purchased excess loss policies covering individual losses exceeding \$100,000 and aggregate losses exceeding \$750,000 per policy year. The diocese has excess liability in the amount of \$20,000,000 per occurrence and \$40,000,000 annual aggregate per location. Claims totalled \$4,441,268 and \$3,709,405 for the years ended on June 30, 2023 and 2022 respectively.



CENTRAL DEPARTMENTS

	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Salary-Religious	529,454	564,995
Salary-Lay	2,843,042	2,792,359
Commissions	16,765	20,772
FICA	206,944	203,633
Unemployment Claims	6,848	13,288
Health and Accident Insurance	841,275	923,832
Pension and Benefits	319,908	313,593
Education, Seminars and Conferences	184,322	179,511
Postage	54,417	50,259
Telephone	67,259	65,127
Office Supplies	35,742	22,591
Printing	124,119	146,568
Equipment and Furniture	2,449	6,008
Travel	145,088	119,188
Auto	61,837	52,220
Depreciation	447,262	449,820
Legal and Professional	202,135	268,056
Public Relations	13,454	8,989
Employee Ssearch	464	4,473
Donations and Ministry Support	1,050,386	970,463
Miscellaneous	60,570	74,575
Repairs, Maintenance and Utilities	620,457	600,665
Bank Charges	67,176	63,344
Property and Liability-Self Insurance	4,441,268	3,709,405
Student Insurance	370,613	348,994
Memberships and Subscriptions	126,939	123,568
Advertising and Promotion	9,592	10,937
Program Expense	1,790,026	1,545,534
Paper Distribution	172,150	163,693
Freelance and News Service	28,267	62,685
Assessments	161,982	138,917
Interest	1,247,825	1,091,346
Funding-Ministry and Education	198,481	156,224
High School Subsidy	1,132,000	1,132,000
Insurance Claims	16,500,718	17,798,702
High School Scholarships	150,000	150,000
Tuition and Allowances	799,775	996,016
Catholic Charities Subsidy	325,000	325,000
High School Endowment Fund Distribution	280,000	280,000
Rent	7,200	7,200
Provision for Uncollectible Accounts	453,116	1,025,655
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$36,121,325</b>	<b>\$36,980,205</b>

GROUPS RECEIVING GRANTS FROM THE ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL

St. Vincent de Paul Society,  
Fort Wayne and South Bend  
Vincent Village  
Women's Care Center  
Christ Child Society,  
Fort Wayne and South Bend  
St. Augustine Soup Kitchen  
Little Flower Food Panty  
Chiara Home  
Franciscan Center  
Sister Maura Brannick Health Center  
Catholic Charities  
Center for the Homeless  
Logan Center  
St. Martin's Health Clinic  
Hannah's House  
Life Athletes  
St. Mary's Soup Kitchen  
Dismas House of South Bend  
Matthew 25

PARISHES RECEIVING GRANTS FROM THE ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception  
Holy Cross, South Bend  
Queen of Angels, Fort Wayne  
St. Adalbert, South Bend  
St. Casimir  
St. Dominic  
St. Henry  
St. John the Baptist, South Bend  
St. Joseph, Fort Wayne  
St. Mary of the Assumption, Avilla  
St. Mary of the Presentation, Geneva



DIOCESE OF  
FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

Learn more about the work of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend  
Visit [diocesefwsb.org](http://diocesefwsb.org)



# Responsible stewardship serves Christ and His Church

## DIOCESAN AUDIT

The diocese is audited every year by Leonard J. Andorfer & Company, a certified public accounting firm, and, as in the past, no exceptions were noted. This means that the diocesan books, records, and accounting policies are conducted in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This audit, along with the management letter, is presented not only to the Audit Committee, but to the entire Diocesan Finance Council; and the council is given time alone with the auditor, without the presence of diocesan officials, to be sure that they were given full access to all appropriate financial records.

For the past several years, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has required that the Diocesan Finance Council sign a report indicating the following: 1) that the council has met quarterly; 2) that the audit and the management letter have been reviewed; 3) that the budget has been reviewed. This report and certification must then be sent to the Metropolitan Archbishop of the Province, which, in this case, is the Archbishop of Indianapolis. We require similar reporting from our parishes to the diocese.

## PARISHES

It is also important that there be accountability and transparency in parishes. According to canon law, every parish must have a Parish Finance Council. We have an internal auditor who does a financial review of every parish every two years; in addition, every parish is audited at the time of a pastoral change. During the past 16 years, we have sent this financial report, done by our auditor, to each member of the Parish Finance Council. This enables the review to be discussed at a regular meeting. As indicated above, controls have now been established similar to the accountability of each diocese.



It is important to understand how the Annual Bishop's Appeal has sustained the parishes. It was the hope of our lay leadership prior to the institution of the appeal that the parishes would benefit. This has become a reality. The appeal has increased the incentive of parishes to seek funds. During the 37 years since the appeal began, our parishes have engaged in major capital fund drives. Since the appeal began, fund drives for parishes have brought in more than \$179 million for new buildings and renovations approved by the Diocesan Finance Council. This includes parish initiatives linked to the Legacy of Faith. Also, more than \$271 million, which would have been paid to the diocese under the previous system, now remains in the parishes. In addition, \$7 million from the appeal has been given in grants to parishes in need throughout the 37 years of the appeal. The 36th Annual Bishop's Appeal attained \$6,467,675 for the diocesan central office, with an additional \$1,414,189 being returned to the parishes.

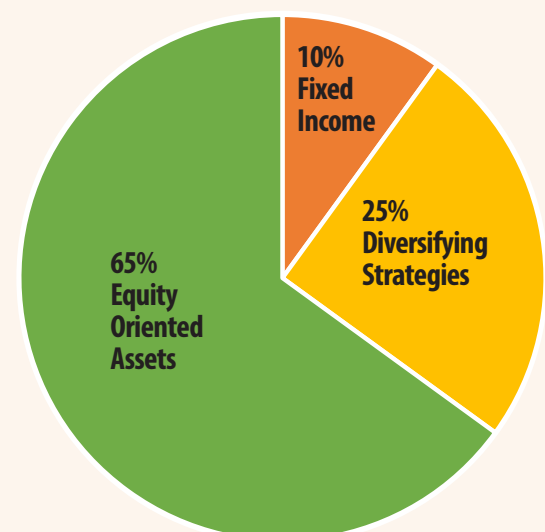
## HIGH SCHOOLS

More than \$93 million has been raised for building projects in our four high schools. The four high schools continue to flourish; but not without challenges. The Annual Bishop's Appeal gives \$1.6 million to the high schools every year, which has created a sense of stability. Next year, tuition will increase by \$500-700 in our high schools. Our high schools are audited every year by an independent CPA firm. Each high school has presented a balanced budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2024. One high school has a debt to the diocese and is paying on that debt.

## INVESTMENTS

Our investments are overseen by Catholic Investment Services. Investments are placed carefully so as to avoid excessive risk. We have a very diversified portfolio, fully in keeping with Catholic moral teaching. CIS meets with our Investment Committee on a quarterly basis. In the fiscal year ending on June 30, 2023, investments gained 11.9 percent. The current asset allocation is detailed in the pie chart below. We expect continued volatility through the coming year.

Current asset allocation



Learn more about the work of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend at [diocesefwsb.org](http://diocesefwsb.org)



# Luers Senior Hopes Learning Will Blossom at Teaching Garden

BY GEORGIA LIEB

Bishop Luers High School senior Tommy McComb understands the importance of gardening after growing up with a garden at his home. This inspired him to create the St. Francis Teaching Garden, a community garden located on the campus of Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne.

The project's purpose is to teach future generations about gardening, pollination, and food systems. McComb and those who helped him built the garden with the vision that students in science and health classes at Bishop Luers, as well as nearby Lutheran South Unity School students, could come learn about gardening, as well as plant and grow their own flowers and produce. Any food grown in the garden will be distributed to families in need through local churches and other community centers.

Planning for this project began almost a year ago, when McComb first had the idea. He discussed details with others and applied for grants online through the winter and spring of the 2022-23 school year. While McComb didn't end up receiving the grants he applied for, he said it was a learning experience for him. After speaking with the BLHS Office of Mission Advancement, he decided to do an online fundraiser for the garden project. BLHS helped promote the proj-



Photos by Georgia Lieb

**Bishop Luers senior Tommy McComb teaches students from nearby Lutheran South Unity School about gardening during their visit to the St. Francis Teaching Garden in Fort Wayne in September.**

ect on social media, and he was able to secure the \$3,000 needed for the garden to become a reality.

He worked together with his grandfather, Ted McComb, a member of the Carpenter's Sons group, to build the garden boxes and lay the stone foundation. They broke ground on the garden in July of 2023. The process included staking out the garden area in the grass behind BLHS, removing the grass, laying a crushed stone base, building the frames, and

filling them with dirt.

"It's been a learning opportunity for me," McComb said regarding the project. "You don't just build some garden boxes; it takes a lot more than you think."

In September, a first-grade class from Lutheran South Unity School visited the St. Francis Teaching Garden. McComb greeted them and taught them how to plant and care for seeds. The students planted produce that would grow well in cooler weather,

such as arugula, radishes, and spinach. During their first visit, the students had so many questions as they planted the seeds. When they returned for a follow-up visit, they saw that the seeds had sprouted, and it made them very happy. "I think the kids have really enjoyed it," McComb said.

A pollinator garden with various flowers was planted in one of the garden boxes in order to teach students the importance of pollinators and how they affect the ecosystem. A Girl Scout troop came to plant milkweed seeds and earned a patch in the process.

McComb also wants to conduct research to track the success of the garden. He administered a survey to the Lutheran South Unity students before the project to see their initial thoughts about gardens. He will send out a follow-up survey at the end of the year to see if the students learned something from the garden activities, and if the garden was a success.

With McComb being a senior at BLHS, he arranged for the school's Key Club to continue the upkeep of the St. Francis Teaching Garden after he graduates.



**Bishop Luers High School senior Tommy McComb poses at the St. Francis Teaching Garden. McComb hopes the school will use the garden to teach students about planting and growing flowers and produce.**

## Agape Meals Seek Christ in the Breaking of the Bread

BY MARILYN KARPINSKI

Christ's first appearance following the Resurrection was to His disciples on the road to Emmaus. However, they did not recognize Him until He sat with them at table and broke the bread.

As part of the ongoing National Eucharistic Revival, the people of St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Angola and St. Paul's Chapel in Clear Lake are sharing agape meals, breaking bread together, and recognizing Christ in one another. Following the meal on Thursday, October 5, participants watched a video presentation from the Catholic media outlet Formed on the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Small-group table discussions about the video concluded the evening.

"Truthfully," said John Peters of St. Anthony, "I didn't want to come. I didn't think I would like the meal of lamb, roasted vegetables, bread, and wine, the video, and especially the table discussions, but I am so glad I did. It is the best program I



Photos by Marilyn Karpinski

**From left, St. Anthony of Padua parishioners Mary Ann Wiegand, Jackie Washburne, and Rose Nelson prepare food for the agape meal celebrated by members of St. Anthony in Angola and St. Paul Chapel in Clear Lake on Thursday, October 5.**



**Children watch a video on the Real Presence of Christ following the agape meal celebrated by parishioners at St. Anthony of Padua in Angola and St. Paul Chapel in Clear Lake.**

have ever attended!"

Mark Harris, also of St. Anthony, agreed and stated that he appreciated the more formal atmosphere. Michele Swan of St. Paul's Chapel said that while she enjoyed the opportunity for more in-depth study of the Eucharist, she appreciated having children invited and the youth version of the video being shown in another room.

"Agape" is the Greek word for "love"; thus, an agape meal is a meal served with love – not filial love but a true self-sacrificing love like Christ shared with

His disciples and with all of us.

"Christ chose a meal to institute the Sacrament of the Eucharist," said Peter Walters, St. Anthony's parish point person for the Eucharistic Revival, "so what better way to emphasize the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist than at a meal?"

Members of both St. Anthony and St. Paul agree and are anticipating the third and final agape meal, which will take place on Thursday, November 2, with the appropriate title, "Food for the Journey."



# Local Artist Helps Bring the Saints to Life in New Book

BY PAULA LENT

A doe-eyed woman, the gentleness of whose beauty is reminiscent of a lamb's yet carries a quiet strength, looks wistfully downward, her thoughts elsewhere. Only once you've peeled your eyes away from her captivating face do you notice her suit of armor. She is St. Joan of Arc.

This striking image is on the cover of a new children's book, "Saints: A Family Story," written by the father-daughter team of Dr. John Cavadini and Dr. Catherine (Katie) Cavadini, both of whom are professors of theology at the University of Notre Dame.

When it came to finding artwork to accompany the stories in their book, John and Katie Cavadini collaborated with a longtime family friend and local artist, Anastassia (Tess) Cassady.

"One of our primary aims in writing these stories, especially the ones of 'well-known' saints, was to breathe new life into their stories, to allow their personalities to come to life ... to let them be real people who loved God once upon a time in our history," said Katie Cavadini. "Thus, what I appreciated most about working with

*"... to let them be real people who loved God once upon a time in our history."*

—Katie Cavadini

Tess was the tender care she took when transfiguring these stories into images. She was so careful time and again to paint a portrait of the person as a saint, to make what is invisible about their life visible: communion with God in love. I just really enjoyed, therefore, sending a story off to Tess and getting an image in return. It was like hearing our stories in lines and shapes and colors. Or, better maybe, to have our stories looking back at us."

Cassady, who is a Byzantine Catholic and is trained to write icons, likes to connect with God through activity, such as walking while praying the Rosary. She finds creating art to be a prayerful endeavor, and she enjoys the element-of-surprise inspiration from the Holy Spirit that infuses her work.

"The incredible thing about learning about a saint, or reading Katie and John's stories," she said, "is I would just have an image, based on their words

and based on the rich culture and Tradition of the Church. A lot of times with sacred art, there's this moment of 'this is what I need to do' and I'm not questioning, and I never usually redo anything, unless there's a drastic need to. There's just something beyond me."

"For some of the saints, I would get goosebumps sometimes, and I was like, 'I ... have an image,'" Cassady said, describing the feeling of realizing how to portray the person. "Joan was my favorite. I had left her for later. I was like, 'I just don't know who she is.' And I remember just starting to paint her, and knowing the light source — once you have a light source, if you've done portraiture enough, you know how light will affect certain crevices of faces. And I remember getting to a point where I'm like, 'Oh my gosh, I see her. This is who I saw! This is who I saw in my heart!' It was super late at night, and I was like, 'This is who I want.'"

Cassady noted how much she trusted the Cavadinis as theologians, and that she learned a lot through the book, even about saints she thought she knew well, such as Joan.

"I always thought she was the one that was just, like, a [totally tough lady], just going in with a sword, but she never wielded a sword ever. She held all the dying soldiers, no matter what side they were on, and was so fiercely feminine in this beautiful way, that I'm like, 'Wow, this is absolutely incredible,'" she said.

In the book, Joan's childhood as a shepherdess is highlighted, and this informed Cassady's portrait of her. "They wrote, in their story, that she was a shepherdess and she loved her sheep. She didn't want to go — like many saints: They didn't want to do it but were called. What would a woman look like who knows she has to do it but she just wants to be home? I really wanted to get that, of her just looking beyond — fierce, but kind of resigned, and maybe a little homesick."

Joan's portrait was also informed by research Cassady did in order to make her image decidedly French. This included studying the Olympic website to discern common French features, which are reflected in Joan's eyes, lips, and cheekbones.



Paula Lent

Artist Cassady writes an icon in her studio.

"Among the many things I like about Tess's illustrations is that they are based on a close and attentive reading to the individual stories she was illustrating, and also based on art historical research regarding images and symbols commonly associated with any given saint," John Cavadini said. "So they have both a particular significance, attuned to the emphases of the stories we wrote, but also a universal significance that connects our stories to the wider Catholic Church through the centuries. In addition, she has brought out the multicultural dimension of the saints whose lives are depicted, another way of making a connection to the Church that is truly universal."

This universality is reflected in Cassady's artwork throughout the book, including in the portrait of St. Augustine, who is depicted holding a pear and a book — symbols commonly associated with him — and who shares a story with his mother, St. Monica, who was Algerian.

While describing her portrait of Augustine, pointing to different details with her fingers, Cassady said: "That's the only one I redid, because I had him originally looking more central African than northern African. I researched and talked to the leading Augustine scholars or read their quotes on what he would have looked like."

In addition to the multicultural dimensions of the saints, the watercolor paintings also celebrate a variety of art influences. Although her preferred medium is oil painting, painting exclusively in watercolor for this

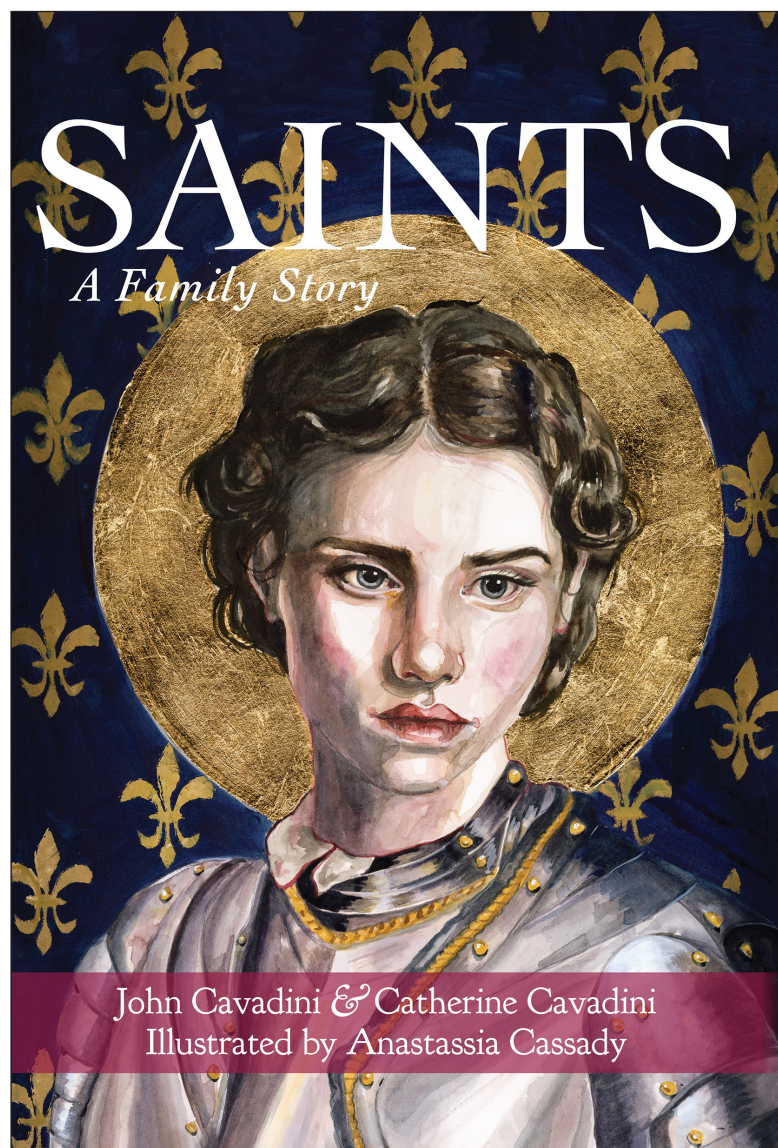
project provided a new opportunity for Cassady.

"I'd never thought about doing religious artwork that way," she said, "but it was fun to be able to do it quickly in that manner. We spent time figuring out what kind of illustrations we wanted for young kids and what we could do in the timeframe. We decided all the illustrations would be watercolor but each of a totally different design. So if the kid is like, 'Oh, I really like this, what is this?' the parent can be like, 'That's art nouveau; let's look at some really cool art nouveau.'"

The portrait of Blessed Franz Jagerstatter, depicted holding his wife, Franziska, with one of his letters to her filling the background, was inspired by a number of styles and includes a strong influence from Egon Schiele — a favorite Austrian artist of Cassady's who was a contemporary of Franz. The stripes on Franz's shirt are a deliberate nod to Schiele.

"People he really admired always seemed to have stripes. I just love his stripes," Cassady said, noting that the painting contains styles of artists that Hitler called degenerate, "so, Egon Schiele, and even modern impressionism — there are about five different types of artists [represented in it]."

As each piece of art draws you in through its own unique way, helping you to encounter the beauty of the saints' lives, so, too, do the stories. Their opening lines are immediately engaging, such as: "Augustine was restless" or "Dangling in mid-air, Thomas sees his



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Images provided by Paraclete Press

mother leaning out of the window, watching her son make his escape,” which opens the story of St. Thomas Aquinas. And each leaves the reader with much to contemplate about God’s love and how they may personally be called to share it.

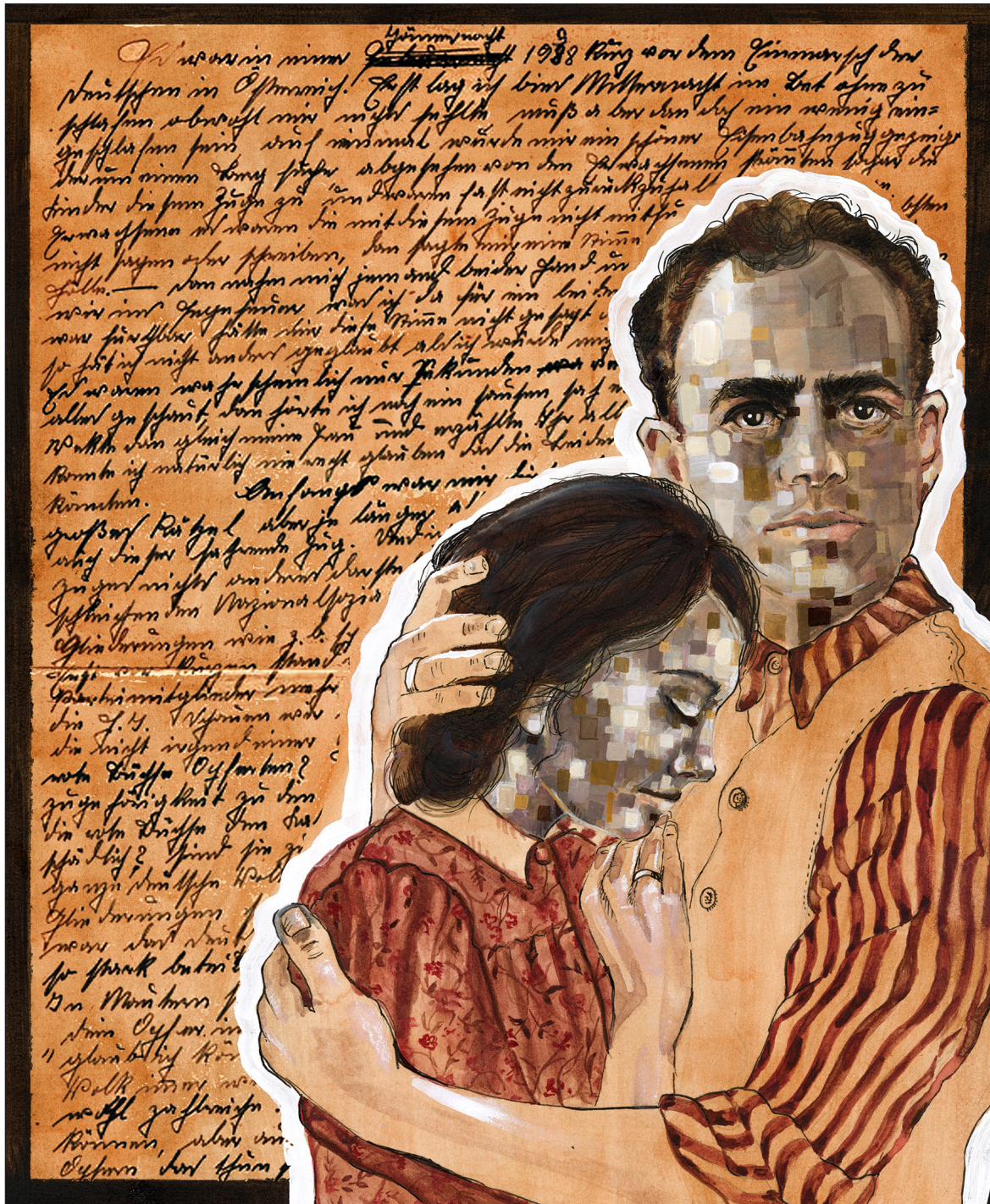
The stories are short and concise, making it easy for young readers to read one a day, and Cassidy has witnessed firsthand the power of the storytelling. She recalls a time she caught her oldest daughter unable to put the book down.

“I went in her room, it was after midnight, and I was like, ‘What are you doing?’ And she was like, ‘Maximillian Kolbe just got captured; I have to finish it!’ She has fallen in love with saints she never even knew because of their stories. It’s really cool to see little kids read these books. She’ll read Saint of the Day books, and they’re really beautiful, and they’re not harmful, but they

never really elicited the wonder that the stories here did.”

“And they only used primary sources [to write the book], which is incredible,” Cassidy said of the Cavadinis’ research. The back of the book contains a list of the books that were consulted to write the stories, offering adults a way to delve deeper into the lives of these saints.

Attentiveness to God’s voice, obedience, and a humble desire to share His love and give Him glory are hallmarks of the lives of the saints, and as an artist who gets to help to share their stories, Cassidy holds a humble posture. Reflecting on painting religious artwork, she said: “It’s beautiful to not get praised for something but just see it do what needs to be done. You are the person that brings it into the world, but you are not important. There’s something really beautiful about focusing on the image itself.”



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Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades presiding

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**Noon**

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# U.S. Politics Needs an Infusion of Aquinas' Decency and Idealism

One needn't be a big fan of U.S. Rep. Kevin McCarthy to see the California Republican's ouster as Speaker of the House of Representatives as a significant low point in recent American politics. Unfortunately, there's apparently more – much more – yet to come.

Consider the painful fact that a year before the election, the presidential race already shows signs of being the nastiest in living memory. Some Democrats talk seriously of using provisions of the 14th Amendment, originally aimed at office-holders of the Confederate States, to keep former president Donald Trump off the ballot. Not to be outdone, House Republicans have begun an impeachment probe with the goal of tarring President Joe Biden.

Do I hear someone saying, "At least it can't get any worse"? Maybe not, but I wouldn't bet on it. The bipartisan spirit of vengeance and extremism now animating our politics threatens to turn America into the super-power version of those unhappy places where seeking high office can land you in prison.

However you look at it, our politics stands badly in need of an infusion of decency and idealism. A help to that can be found in St. Thomas Aquinas and his treatise on kingship. Written in the 1260s at the request of the king of Cyprus, much that it says doesn't apply to our present situation, but

parts of it deserve thoughtful, even prayerful reflection.

As, for example, this: "It pertains to the king's office to promote the good life of the multitude in such a way as to make it suitable for the attainment of heavenly happiness. ... [A king] should command those things which lead to the happiness of heaven and, as far as possible, forbid the contrary." Can you imagine a candidate saying anything remotely like that in one of the presidential debates? Neither can I. And doesn't that shed light on our present problem?

How about a platform? Declaring that a king's "principal concern" should be "the means by which the multitude subject to him may live well," Aquinas says this has three elements: first, that people be "established in the unity of peace"; second, that they are "directed to acting well"; and third, that they have "a sufficient supply of the things required for proper living." In other words: peace at home and abroad, laws that serve the common good, and a stable, prosperous economy operating to the benefit of all.

What should a king get for doing a good job? St. Thomas notes that honor and glory are commonly considered suitable rewards for someone who does well in the top job. But not so fast, he adds: "The desire for human glory takes away the greatness of soul, which is



## GUEST COMMENTARY

RUSSELL SHAW

crucial to greatness in a king." True, a king should want glory rather than money or pleasure. But, granting that, "it is the mark of a virtuous and brave soul to despise glory as he despises life."

"Therefore," Aquinas writes, "since worldly honor and human glory are not sufficient reward for royal cares ... it is proper that a king look to God for his reward." This makes perfect sense, he points out, when you consider that, as Scripture says, "the king is the minister of God in governing the people."

I wouldn't expect to hear any of this on MSNBC and Fox. But I can't help hoping such thinking, appropriately updated, could somehow find its way into the political mainstream during an ugly election year. Would any of our present political leaders like to give it a try?

Russell Shaw is a veteran journalist and writer, and a columnist for OSV News.

# Access to Your Newborn's Blood?

Many parents and concerned citizens would probably be surprised to learn that their children's blood samples are being accessed by law enforcement agencies without their knowledge or consent.

In 2021, the State Police of New Jersey sought access to a blood sample from the Newborn Screening Laboratory, a sample belonging to a child who had been screened nine years earlier as a newborn. They wanted to perform DNA analysis so they could try to connect the child's father to a crime committed nearly 25 years earlier.

Filed away for a long time, these original paper medical forms, with spots of dried blood on them, contain the DNA of newborns. By obtaining the child's bloodspot sample without a warrant, the state police were able to maneuver around the requirement to establish probable cause before seeking a warrant for a mouth swab from the suspect. The DNA results obtained from the child's blood were used to submit an affidavit of probable cause, and a warrant was then issued for a mouth swab from the father. Following the analysis of his swabbed DNA, he was criminally charged.

Every baby born in New Jersey – and most other states, as well – is required by law to be tested for a number of diseases and disorders, often within 48 hours of birth, as part



## MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

of a newborn screening program. By pricking the heel of the baby, hospitals and medical facilities collect blood samples from virtually all newborns in the United States. Many states retain the dried blood samples after the initial testing has been completed. Upwards of 4 million newborns are tested annually.

The goal is to identify a range of conditions and diseases in newborn babies in the hope of reducing their severity through early treatment. One of the most notable success stories involves a condition called phenylketonuria (PKU). When babies with PKU eat foods containing phenylalanine – an essential amino acid found in many common foods – they can suffer permanent brain damage. Before standardized newborn blood screening, families discovered that their child had the condition only after the child developed brain damage. With the advent of newborn screening for PKU

PACHOLCZYK, page 17

# Christians Have Duty to Love Others – Even in Public Discourse



## THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MONSIGNOR OWEN F. CAMPION

## 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Book of Exodus provides this weekend with its first reading. In ancient Jewish tradition, Exodus came from Moses. Therefore, in a most special way, it is the very word of God, since Moses represented God and was the link between God and the Chosen People.

Through Moses, God gave to the Hebrews directions for every aspect of their lives. This weekend's reading from Exodus addresses very specific realities in life, such as the lending of money.

Primary in the Hebrew religion from the beginning was a respect for each person, but a

respect founded on the notion of God as Creator and final governor of human lives.

Every person has the right to be respected and treated justly. No one can be exploited or mistreated, not even strangers, and not even enemies.

Of course, the details are important, but even more important is total human obedience to God and to God's law.

For the second reading, the Church presents a reading from Paul's First Epistle to the Thessalonians. In this epistle, the Apostle Paul's advice is firm. He urges obedience to God, without exception, compromise, or qualification.

Paul offers his own devotion to the Lord as an example. Following Jesus brings joy, the apostle insists.

Bearing witness to Christ, evangelization, to use a theological term often appearing in modern times, is an opportunity for Christians. Paul urged the Christian Thessalonians to be a model for all the people of Macedonia and Achaia. He tells the Thessalonians that their faith,

their turning away from idols, was an inspiration to many.

St. Matthew's Gospel provides the last reading. It is a familiar and beloved text.

Often seen as an effort to trick Jesus, the question of the Pharisees in this story may have had a more pragmatic purpose. The Pharisees were teachers, constantly instructing others about the law of Moses, and constantly calling others to obey this law. Reducing any teaching to a summary is always a good educational technique. Even so, goodwill cannot be assumed without any other possibility. After all, many Pharisees disliked Jesus and would have liked to discredit the Lord's message if at all possible.

The Lord's reply is obvious. It certainly is no departure from, or repudiation of, Jewish religious tradition since it echoes ancient and fundamental Jewish belief.

More broadly, the Lord's lesson is directly to the point. God is supreme. The true disciple must reach every decision with the standard of love for God, uncompromised and absolute,

first in their minds.

Bluntly speaking, true discipleship means active respect for every other person, since every human being is God's treasured creation. God's law is supreme and a mandate to love others.

## Reflection

True Christianity is more than an intellectual assent to certain theological propositions. While the creed of the Church is vital, Christianity means a way of life and a state of mind, a heartfelt, personal choice to recognize God's supremacy. Christianity is more than lip service.

It means loving others as God loves them, caring for others, always resisting any effort to belittle or exploit others. So, First Thessalonians reminds us Christians of the need to bear witness forever to God's love and justice.

This does not necessarily mean that people agree with one another. People have various experiences. They have their minds that judge things. The opinions of one are rarely shared by all.

Anger, bitterness, and often even hatred fill public discourse. As far as politics is concerned, it is a tragic departure from what was once the case. People with differing viewpoints respected each other.

This descent into ugliness is affecting private thoughts and statements.

Christians have the duty to show, and ask for, God's love for all.

## READINGS

**Sunday:** Exodus 22:20-26; Psalms 18:2-4, 47, 51; 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10; Matthew 22:34-40

**Monday:** Romans 8:12-17; Psalms 68:2, 4, 6-7, 20-21; Luke 13:10-17

**Tuesday:** Romans 8:18-25; Psalms 126:1-6; Luke 13:18-21

**Wednesday:** Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14; Psalms 24:1b-4b, 5-6; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12a

**Thursday:** Wisdom 3:1-9; Psalms 23:1-6; Romans 5:5-11; John 6:37-40

**Friday:** Romans 9:1-5; Psalms 147:12-15, 19-20; Luke 14:1-6

**Saturday:** Romans 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29; Psalms 94:12-13a, 14-15, 17-18; Luke 14:1, 7-11



# Permitting Enemies Comes with Rules – for God’s Sake and Ours

Since Oct. 7 – the date on which Hamas launched its attack on Israel – I have been trying to understand something incomprehensible. There is a lot that has happened since that bloody date that is incomprehensible, but I don’t mean the planned slaughter of civilians and innocent children – hatred gone mad and become inhumane is not completely incomprehensible, for we see it daily: the sin is “ever before us,” as the psalmist says, though writ small.

History runs on rails of animosity gone murderous, and that’s usually thanks to politicians or polemicists peddling dubious ideologies or, God forgive us, religious mouthpieces hawking their spittle-laced bromides against whomever they decide is evil and/or profane, “for the sake of the sacred.”

All of us are, in our ways, familiar with unbridled hatred; we even understand how it moves and lives and grows.

Without realizing it, we have become comfortably numb with observing (and, thus, living amid) sneering hate, all around. It’s usually rendered with just a thin enough coating of civility, or plausible deniability, to pass through our awareness prompting just a twinge in the gut or a frown on the forehead. We read it in editorial pages, hear it on punditry panels, and, of course, observe it on social media (where any wannabe influencer with a following can feed his or her own dogs of prey a steady diet of barking hate with near impunity), and we know that the negative ranting is what drives the economics of communications.

The language of love may be consoling or uplifting, but it just doesn’t get those subscriptions, those ratings, or those “like” buttons popping like a dependable hit of hate, offered just when people really need it. A priest leads a Eucharistic procession in New York City? Just

run to Twitter and find the nag you know will mock it, if that’s how you roll, or click on anyone else whose take you believe will affirm your own feelings for you. Hamas launches a slaughter on Israeli civilians? Well, just turn to the cable news channel that will say whatever you need to hear about that so you can sleep with a clear conscience.

God help you, though, if you’re looking for a voice to tell you anything beyond “killing civilians and babies is wrong, full stop.” It’s always wrong, no matter the circumstances.

And yet, in our shattered world, someone will always argue that in “this” case or “that” case – always their case – it’s justified.

Perhaps this burns me a bit because, up until 2012, I had (to my ever-living shame) managed to write my share of the “them and they” pieces, usually about politics. I’m not proud of it, and I am profoundly grateful for the day I suddenly came to understand that I was participating in a sick game, ruinous to my soul, and for the sake of something as lunatic and illusory as ideology – a most powerful and disorienting Strange God, one that leads people of faith into breaking the First Commandment without ever realizing it, and encourages them to feel righteous about it, besides.

Theology and ideology rarely mix well. Often when blended ideology becomes an idolatry as poisonous to the spirit as hemlock, as destructively explosive to society as TNT. We are currently watching and worrying over the potency of this particularly lethal cocktail as it saturates Israel and Palestine and spills over to France and elsewhere.

None of that is incomprehensible, though. We’ve seen human horror, read human horror, watched and touched and smelled human horror in ways big and small. Human horror has touched each of us,



ELIZABETH SCALIA

to some degree, all our lives. What is incomprehensible is watching someone on social media say to someone else (I will paraphrase, here): “for the sake of my god, I will kill you. I will kill all of you, for the sake of my god. Even though my loving and merciful god created all things, including you and including me, I will kill you for his sake.”

It’s beyond my ken. Why would a loving and merciful god ever want one created creature to slay another created creature for his sake? Yes, I know the Old Testament lines about killing one’s enemies; I’m aware of the psalm verse about smashing the skulls of infants, that ill-phrased, metaphorical call for “justice,” written by broken and imperfect humans – (the psalter remains the perfect reflection of the human condition in its every euphoric or awful excess) – but I’m also aware that such lines are not meant to be isolated but consumed within the whole counsel of Scripture, where they are countered by the greater, weightier, and more consistent demand to love an enemy, to pray for the enemy’s good.

In a broken world, the Creator God recognizes that enemies will come, but that permitting oneself to have them means there are rules. It is good to have such rules; they’re there for the sake of the world, and our own souls. Anything else is, yes, incomprehensible.

Elizabeth Scalia is the Culture Editor for OSV News.

## PACHOLCZYK, from page 16

in the 1960s, families could be told whether their child had the condition right after birth. They could then use a special diet to prevent permanent brain damage from occurring.

The fact that our DNA and our genetic code contains important personal information about us means that our individual “bio-informatics” should not be used or brokered by others without our awareness and consent. Medical confidentiality should be reasonably safeguarded as part of initiatives like the Newborn Bloodspot Screening Program. Legislative mandates requiring such newborn screening should thus

allow parents to opt out, not only of the testing itself in the face of serious reasons but also of long-term storage and subsequent uses of their newborn’s biological samples, including by law enforcement.

Informed consent is also becoming important in the face of an ever-growing number of direct-to-consumer genetic testing options, such as 23andMe and Ancestry.com. Companies should assure that customers can retain real control over their data. Genetic privacy is a subset of medical privacy, and even those who upload their DNA data to genetic genealogy databases should have the opportunity to provide consent for retention of their data and for

disclosure of these data to any third parties.

Informed consent serves as an essential bioethical principle in biomedicine today by providing a concrete safeguard for the dignity of those receiving medical treatments, or otherwise involved in human medical experimentation or research. It should not be contravened without due process and substantial reason.

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

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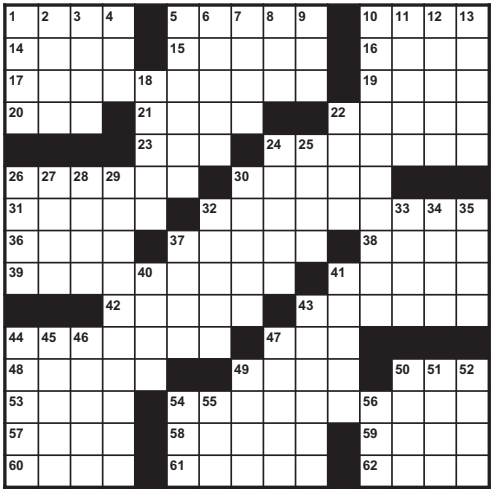
Gospel for October 29, 2023  
Matthew 22:34-40

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A: a teaching about God’s law. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

PHARISEES	HEARD	SILENCED
SADDUCEES	GATHERED	TOGETHER
TEACHER	WHICH	COMMANDMENTS
HE SAID	SHALL	LOVE
YOUR GOD	WITH ALL	HEART
SOUL	MIND	FIRST
SECOND	TWO	PROPHETS

## LOVE THESE

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



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## ACROSS

- 1 Celestial being, to Jacques
- 5 Commerce
- 10 Small pond
- 14 "... and female he created them" (Gen 1:27)
- 15 Division of the United Kingdom
- 16 Celestial topper
- 17 Matthew, for one
- 19 Egyptian goddess of fertility
- 20 Actor Beatty
- 21 Spanish pot
- 22 Existing
- 23 Climbing vine
- 24 Warship
- 26 Holy place
- 30 Liturgy of the \_\_\_\_
- 31 Fasting
- 32 Pugacious
- 36 Mil. mail centers
- 37 Worries
- 38 Notion
- 39 Confinement
- 41 Bay
- 42 One of the sons of Simon of Cyrene
- 43 Nods
- 44 Shelters
- 47 Hint
- 48 Tests
- 49 Brand with "Old World Style"
- 50 Gimlet liquor
- 53 Undothed
- 54 Diocese in California
- 57 First place
- 58 Willow
- 59 Genesis weather
- 60 Catholic Australian author of *The Shoes of the Fisherman*
- 61 Out of the sun
- 62 "Hey, don't look \_\_\_\_!"

## DOWN

- 1 "So be it!"
- 2 Church section
- 3 Showy bloomer, briefly
- 4 Even (poet.)
- 5 Apostle number
- 6 Inspire anew
- 7 Inter \_\_\_\_
- 8 \_\_\_\_ Plains
- 9 Superlative finish
- 10 What Goliath was
- 11 Abraham was probably glad

- to see this in the desert
- 12 A dove brought back this branch back to Noah
- 13 Not a winner
- 18 "\_\_\_\_ My Way," classic Catholic movie
- 22 Certain something
- 24 Celestial body
- 25 Applies friction to
- 26 Magi leader
- 27 Stimulate
- 28 Rivers in Spain
- 29 Agency
- 30 They blew these outside the walls of Jericho
- 32 Third century pope
- 33 These hands are the devil's workshop
- 34 Cheney or Gore, for example
- 35 "Whoever \_\_\_\_ this bread will live forever" (Jn 6:51)
- 37 Faith-sharing program used in the UK, Australia, and South Africa
- 40 Carpets
- 41 Lower portion of the small intestine
- 43 Sweet
- 44 Spiritual program
- 45 Ooze out
- 46 Loses color
- 47 Challenged
- 49 Religious instruction for converts (abbr.)
- 50 Exodus pest
- 51 NT epistle
- 52 3 PM prayer
- 54 Distress signal
- 55 \_\_\_\_ Wednesday
- 56 Gaslight, for one

Answer key can be found on page 19



# Fall Season Marks Beginning of Annual Craft Bazaars

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

Fall is squarely upon us, and that means we are firmly entrenched in the season of sweaters, chili, and football. But there's another autumn tradition that is eagerly anticipated by the faithful across the diocese: parish bazaars. Many churches around the area dedicate a Saturday or Sunday in the fall to bring local artists, bakers, craft-makers, and more together for a day of community building, gift buying, and great food.

St. Gaspar del Bufalo Catholic Church in Rome City is having their 39th annual Fancy Fair and Famous Cookie Bar bazaar on Saturday, October 28, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event raises money for charitable contributions for the community, the church, and parishioners in need. They support Helping Hands, a local pantry, Noble House Ministries, Sisters of St. Joseph, Life and Family Services, St. Martin Health Care in Garrett, and Sacred Heart Home in Avilla.

Luanne Shull, Cathy Putman, and Rita Curtis were trying to come up with ideas to raise money for the Rosary Sodality, according to Karen Edwards. Curtis belonged to a club that exchanged cookies every year. The ideas flooded in from there, which led to the beginning of the Fancy Fair – the name of which came from Francis Sextro, who was reading a book about a street fair called the Fancy Fair. The first year of the event had nine craft tables. Currently, there is a waiting list for a spot at the annual event.

Edwards said members of the church community donated food for the kitchen and cookie bar. Each parish family is asked to donate 12 dozen cookies. Soups and pies are also donated for the lunch that is served. Through this event, parishioners get

a chance to participate and show off their cooking skills and their creative cookie decorating.

St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Yoder is having their event on Saturday, November 4. The St. Aloysius Holiday Craft Show is happening at the school's gymnasium from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. It was an annual event for many years but took a brief hiatus. The event has since resumed, and this year marks the third fall event that brings the parish together for social time and holiday shopping.

"The event is to allow local artisans to share their hand-made items with the public and for people to get a jump start on their holiday shopping with a unique spread of items," organizer Amanda Freiburger told Today's Catholic. "With the craft show, we have a bake sale, coffee bar, and concessions. These are all areas where the school and parish volunteer to help make the event a success. Our wonderful parish community and school parents donate baked goods, and the school kids volunteer to sell them at the show. The bake sale is a great way that our parish community comes together to help raise money for our church and school, and St. Aloysius is known for its baked goods."

Last year, organizers started a new tradition with the addition of Al's Coffee Bar.

"Shoppers can get a coffee beverage on their way into the show or on their way out. This is something unique that you don't usually see at craft shows, and one that we received a lot of great comments about. We serve coffee beverages and hot cocoa," Freiburger said.

St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend annually hosts its holiday craft bazaar on the third weekend in November,

and this year it will happen on Saturday, November 18, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

When Mary Jordan took over as the event's primary organizer in 2017, the annual marketplace had 20 vendors; now, there are more than 80 vendors selling their products.

"We love to build our community," Jordan said. "St. Matthew puts emphasis on building a great community and doing things together. This is a great way to get people together and connect with many people throughout the Michiana area. This gives our parish an opportunity to support local vendors and get a little bit of shopping done at the same time."

The annual event also provides an opportunity to bring the church and school communities together.

"One of my favorite things, other than seeing many people in our community, is the involvement of our Student Council," Jordan said. "These great kids help vendors carry in their items and make sure our vendors are taken care of. We ask our vendors to donate an item from their table for a piggy raffle for our community to support our athletic department, as well. We have delicious concessions available for purchase, including Busia's famous sloppy joe made by a long time St. Matthew parishioner. Student Council members also take lunch orders from vendors and deliver them to their table, so they don't have the inconvenience of stepping away from their

table. This teaches our kids the importance of serving our community. We always receive great compliments about our Student Council's involvement in this. This makes us proud."

St. Stanislaus Kostka Church in New Carlisle is starting what the parish hopes will become a new tradition by hosting a bazaar at the church hall on Saturday, November 4, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. According to organizer Janice Rajske, they have asked vendors to refrain from resale items and will share original works with visitors. They hope to create some unique traditions and special memories in the coming years.

Whether it's an annual tradition or something new starting at a school or parish, fall bazaars are a great way to build community and the local economy.

"Our hope with the show is that people have a great

shopping experience and feel good that they are supporting local businesses in their own community," said Freiburger, from St. Aloysius.

Edwards, from St. Gaspar, hopes that by attending the Fancy Fair, people will see the beautiful church and start their holiday season with an uplifting feeling, knowing they are supporting members of the community.

"I always hope people walk away from our event feeling welcomed and thinking that they really enjoyed visiting our event and look forward to coming back next year," said Jordan, from St. Matthew. "Hopefully they have an added bonus of getting a little bit of their Christmas shopping done, as well."

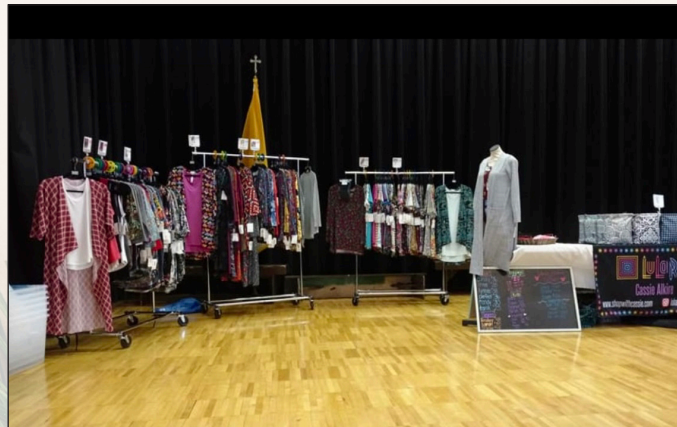


Photo provided by Mary Jordan

The St. Matthew craft bazaar, which will be held on Saturday, November 18, in South Bend, is set to have more than 80 vendors with a wide selection of goods.



Photo provided by Karen Edwards

The annual Fancy Fair at St. Gaspar del Bufalo Church in Rome City is famous for its homemade cookies. Patrons pay for a large or small box and get to pick which cookies they want from a large selection of delicious treats. The Fancy Fair will be held on Saturday, October 28.



Photo provided by Amanda Freiburger

St. Aloysius Church in Yoder is holding their annual Holiday Craft Show at the parish on Saturday, November 4. Pictured from left are volunteers Emma Freiburger, Parker Staton, and Avery Staton.



# WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

**Young Moms Retreat: Groaning in Labor, Growing in Hope**

GRANGER – Young moms are invited Saturday, November 4, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. to join Jessica Mannen Kimmert at the St. Pius X Parish Life Center, 52553 Fir Rd., for a morning of retreat inspired by her 2023 book, "Groaning in Labor, Growing in Hope: Scripture Reflections for the Hard Days of Early Motherhood." This prayerful morning includes Eucharistic exposition, a light breakfast, talks, fellowship, and an opportunity to reflect together on Scripture. Child care is available. Advance registration required. Sign up by Sunday, October 29, at [StPius.net/Retreats](http://StPius.net/Retreats). Contact Ashley Logsdon at 574-272-8462 or [aologsdon@stpius.net](mailto:aologsdon@stpius.net).

**St. Stanislaus Kostka Craft Show**

NEW CARLISLE – St. Stanislaus Kostka Church will have a craft show on Saturday, November 4, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the parish hall, 55756 Tulip Rd., to benefit hall renovations. Only vendors with handmade items will be offered. Free admission with cookies, chips, and drinks available for sale. A raffle of vendor merchandise will finish the show. Contact Janice Rajski at 574-298-0103 or [jrajskiak@gmail.com](mailto:jrajskiak@gmail.com).

**Women's Clothing and Accessories Sale Benefiting Hannah's House**

SOUTH BEND – The St. Anthony de Padua Be the

Light women's group is hosting "Garments with Grace," the first annual women's gently used clothing and accessories sale on Saturday, November 4, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the school gym, 2310 E. Jefferson Blvd. All proceeds will benefit Hannah's House. Contact Peggy Matthys at [women@stasb.org](mailto:women@stasb.org).

**St. Aloysius Craft Show**

YODER – St. Aloysius will host a craft show on Saturday, November 4, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church, 14623 Bluffton Road. Join others for a day of shopping, coffee, baked goods, and great food. A variety of craft vendors and some prize baskets will be on hand. Contact Amanda Freiburger at 812-325-8563 or [saintscraftshow@gmail.com](mailto:saintscraftshow@gmail.com)

**St. Mary Snowflake Bazaar and Luncheon**

HUNTINGTON – The St. Mary Annual Snowflake Bazaar and Luncheon will be held on Saturday, November 4, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the gymnasium, 903 N. Jefferson St. Bake Sale and 50/50 raffle will be offered. Organizers are currently taking orders for tables at \$20 per table. Call Diane at 260-519-5664 for a table. Contact Mary Till at 260-385-4571 or [mandmtill81@gmail.com](mailto:mandmtill81@gmail.com) for information.

**Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration Discernment Retreat**

MISHAWAKA – The Sisters of St. Francis will offer a dis-

cernment retreat the weekend of November 10-12 at the St. Francis Convent, 1515 W. Dragoon Trail. A discernment retreat is a beautiful opportunity to spend time away with the Lord and allow Him to speak to your heart. The retreat consists of three conferences preached by a visiting priest on the topics of how to discern and grow in prayer. The sacraments and Eucharistic adoration are available, as well as an opportunity to talk with the young sisters and other young women who are discerning the Lord's will in their lives. If you are a single Catholic woman between the ages of 17 and 30 and are interested in attending

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## REST IN PEACE

<b>Fort Wayne</b> Arthur Garringer, 96, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Josephine Ortega, 85, St. Pius X	Mary Hojara, 100, Holy Cross
<b>Granger</b> Alexander Janicijevic, 67, St. Pius X	<b>South Bend</b> Teresa Marino, 81, Cathedral of St. Matthew	<b>Wabash</b> Robert E. Lee, 87, St. Bernard

a discernment retreat, register at [ssfpa.org/retreat](http://ssfpa.org/retreat).

**Annulments: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know**

GRANGER – What exactly does the Catholic Church teach about marriage and divorce? What is a "declaration of nullity," and do I need one? How long do annulments take? Learn about the marriage nullity process. Father David Violi and Anne Therese Stephens of the Diocesan Tribunal will be at St. Pius X Church, Parish Life Center, 52553 Fir Road, from 7-8 p.m. to answer all of your questions about annulments.



## Visit A Cemetery

### PLENARY INDULGENCE

# PRAY FOR THE DEAD

Mass will be offered at Catholic Cemetery in Fort Wayne on All Souls' Day, November 2, at noon with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades on the outside altar. If the weather is inclement, the Mass will be held in the Resurrection Chapel. For additional Masses visit:

[diocesefwsb.org/pray-for-the-dead](http://diocesefwsb.org/pray-for-the-dead)

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**ALL-SCHOOLS, from page 1**

In his homily, Father Gurtner said the capital “S” saints – many of whom were represented in the fourth graders’ costumes at the Mass – help the lowercase “s” saints on our earthly journey to heaven. They do this in two ways, Father Gurtner said – first, by praying for us, and second, by inspiring us to live as they did.

Father Gurtner mentioned the example of several saints whose charisms we can emulate – many of whom fourth graders dressed up as for the Mass. St. Mother Teresa, for example, exemplified a love of the poor, Father Gurtner said. St. John the Baptist is a model of following the preaching of God’s word, no matter the personal cost. And on her October 16 feast day, Father Gurtner held up the example of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, through whom Jesus revealed the tremendous love and mercy He has for all of us.

Several parish priests from the area concelebrated the Mass with Father Gurtner, who told the students he was filling in for Bishop Rhoades, who was chosen to serve as a member of the Synod of Bishops in Rome throughout the month of October. Father Gurtner closed his homily by asking the students to think about the saint they had chosen to dress up as. He asked: “What aspect of their lives do you want to imitate so that you can love God and others better?”

Derek Boone, Principal of Huntington Catholic School, said his students always look forward to the All-Schools Mass “as a way to continue strengthening our Catholic Identity.” He continued: “Seeing students from neighboring schools within our diocese is important for Huntington Catholic School since our closest Diocesan School is roughly 20 minutes away. Hearing the stories of our saints is inspiring, educational, and also strengthens our bond with Our Savior,” he said.

Vanessa Diller, Principal of St. Louis Academy in New Haven, said the All-Schools Mass is one of her favorite events of the year.

“It’s a great reminder to those who attend and work in our schools that, although we all operate throughout the year as individual entities within the diocese, we see that we are all one body in Christ’s Church during the All-Schools Mass. It’s a tradition for our fourth graders to learn and represent a saint at this Mass and share what they’ve learned about that saint with others. In our Catholic schools, it is the first step in their personal responsibility to continue to grow in our faith as they ask for the guidance and intervention of



Photos by Scott Warden

**Fourth-grade students dressed as saints bring to the altar food donations for the poor during the All-Schools Mass at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum Expo Center on Monday, October 18.**



**Father Mark Gurtner, Vicar General of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, talks to students at the All-Schools Mass about how each of them can look to the saints as a model for their lives.**

the saints who have walked before us.”

Rob Sordelet, Principal of St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School in Fort Wayne, agreed, telling Today’s Catholic that

“the energy and excitement of the fourth-grade students dressed in their saint costumes and being able to join with all the other fourth-grade saints from their neighboring schools



**Students from Queen of Angels Catholic School depict St. Lucy, left, and St. Mother Teresa following the All-Schools Mass on Monday, October 16.**

is very unifying.” Sordelet added: “For many, it is the first time that students can visually understand that they are part of a larger whole – a culture of Catholicism, a diocese. ... Add the always beautiful high school choirs and musi-

cians, the celebration of the holy Mass, the sharing of the Eucharist, and seeing all the priests concelebrating upon the stage – ‘hey, there’s our priest!’ It’s a good day to be a Catholic school student!”