

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Volume 98 No. 17

TODAYSCATHOLIC.org

The Eucharist Is Our Participation ... in the Glory That Awaits Us'



Marisol Sanchez

Bishop Rhoades incenses the altar during the closing Mass of the 40 Hours Devotion at St. Vincent de Paul Church on Tuesday, April 16.

Bishop Rhoades Reflects on Christ's Eucharistic Sacrifice at Close of 40 Hours Devotion

BY MARISOL SANCHEZ

On Tuesday, April 16, Bishop Rhoades celebrated a special Mass to close the period of 40 Hours Devotion at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Fort Wayne. In his homily, he preached on the eschatological dimension of the Eucharist – eschatology being the study of what the Church calls “the last things” – death, judgement, heaven, and hell.

The 40 Hours Devotion at St. Vincent began on Sunday, April 14, with adoration, worship, and a reflection by Father Jay Horning, Pastor of St. Bernard Church in Wabash. On Monday, April 15, solemn

40 HOURS, page 3

Why Formation of Conscience Is Paramount in Catholic Political Responsibility

BY ALEXANDER MINGUS

When participating in public life, what does Christ and His Church ask of me?

In the first article of this series, I asked readers to reflect on the question above as we explore the U.S. Bishops' letter on political responsibility: *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*.

This reflection is ultimately an invitation to grow in our relationship with Christ, for it is Christ who has dominion over all things, including our hearts, our consciences, and the manner with which we judge our neighbors, friends, and

political rivals.

But whether Christ – and, therefore, His Church – has the authority to speak on social and economic matters is a hotly debated question. Today, Catholics who express opinions informed by moral sentiment are quickly reminded of the “separation of church and state” and asked to keep religion out of politics. The Democratic presidential candidate of 1960, John F. Kennedy, gave a speech to Protestant ministers in September of that year. In his speech, he sought to assuage any concerns that his Roman Catholic faith would interfere with the duties of the presidency.

“I believe in an America

where the separation of church and state is absolute – where no Catholic prelate would tell the president (should he be Catholic) how to act, and no Protestant minister would tell his parishioners for whom to vote,” Kennedy said. “... Whatever issue may come before me as president – on birth control, divorce, censorship, gambling, or any other subject – I will make my decision in accordance with these views, in accordance with what my conscience tells me to be the national interest, and without regard to outside religious pressures or dictates. And no power or threat of punishment could

POLITICS, page 2

*In the leadup to Indiana's primary elections on Tuesday, May 7, and the general elections in November, the bishops of the United States, including Bishop Rhoades, are urging the faithful to examine and carefully consider their recently updated document on how Catholics are called to participate in political life, *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*. This is the second of three articles that will outline key issues and information for the faithful to consider.*

Notre Dame Program Trains Catholic School Leaders

Page 7

Bishop Rhoades Issues Statement on Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

Page 4

Bishop Rhoades Makes Pastoral Visit to Bishop Luers High School

Pages 8-9

Holy Cross Brothers Celebrate Milestone Jubilees

Pages 10-11



TODAY'S CATHOLIC

(ISSN 0891-1533)
(USPS 403630)

Official newspaper of the
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
P.O. Box 11169
Fort Wayne, IN 46856

PUBLISHER: Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

PUBLICATION DIRECTOR: Nicole Hahn

Editorial Department

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Scott Warden

PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

VIDEO/SOCIAL MEDIA: Joshua Schipper

Business Department

BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION:

circulation@diocesefwsb.org

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE:

Erika Barron: ebarron@diocesefwsb.org

Website: todayscatholic.org

260-456-2824

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

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

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

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

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

Today's Catholic may be reached at :

Today's Catholic,
P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN
46856-1169; or email:

editor@diocesefwsb.org



Find us on Facebook

[facebook.com/todayscatholicFWSB](https://www.facebook.com/todayscatholicFWSB)

Follow us on Twitter

@diocesefwsb

Follow us on Instagram

@diocesefwsb

**POLITICS, from page 1**

cause me to decide otherwise.”

Kennedy's speech solidified in the American mind that a Catholic politician can definitively relegate moral teaching to a private sphere, and that this teaching would have little effect on informing the actions of an elected official. Undoubtedly, this was a smart political move for Kennedy, who went on to become the first Catholic president of the United States.

In *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, the bishops present an alternate view, one that marries the vocation of a politician to the proper formation of conscience according to the Church's moral teaching: "Catholic politicians and legislators must recognize their grave responsibility in society to support laws shaped by these fundamental human values and oppose laws and policies that violate life and dignity at any stage from conception to natural death. This is not to bring a 'Catholic interest' to the political sphere, it is to insist that the truth of the dignity of the human person, as discovered by reason and confirmed by revelation, be at the forefront of all political considerations" (No. 39).

The bishops also call on the laity to resist the moral privatization proposed by Kennedy.

"As citizens, we should be guided more by our moral convictions than by our attachment to a political party or interest group. When necessary, our participation should help transform the party to which we belong; we should not let the party transform us in such a way that we neglect or deny fundamental moral truths or approve intrinsically evil acts" (No. 14).

These fundamental moral truths are articulated in the teaching of the Church since Pope Leo XIII in 1891. In the first social teaching letter, *Rerum Novarum* (On the Condition of Labor), Pope Leo begins laying out the moral principles found in the Gospels, taught by the Church Fathers, and lived in the lives of saintly men and women. He then articulates them in response to the troubling social conditions of the time.

Many more teaching letters followed, and the totality of these letters would form the *corpus*, or body, of the social doctrine of the Church. In *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, the bishops are applying the principles in this corpus of teaching to American political life. The bishops remind us that "the Catholic approach to faithful citizenship rests on moral principles found in sacred Scripture and Catholic moral and social teaching as well as in the hearts of all people of goodwill" (No. 43).

These principles are the dig-

nity of the human person, solidarity, subsidiarity, and the common good. The bishops again remind us that these principles do not neatly fit into the secular ideologies of "right" or "left," "liberal" or "conservative." If we cannot rely on secular media and our popular political parties to remind us of these principles in their fullness, we must recognize that our moral formation as Catholics depends upon our willingness to pray, open our hearts, study, and discuss these principles and how we as laity might bring them into the world.

This is precisely why the bishops strongly emphasize the formation of conscience. They remind us that "Catholics have a serious and lifelong obligation to form their consciences in accord with human reason and the teaching of the Church. Conscience is not something that allows us to justify doing

whatever we want, nor is it a mere 'feeling' about what we should or should not do. Rather, conscience is the voice of God resounding in the human heart, revealing the truth to us and calling us to do what is good while shunning what is evil" (No. 17).

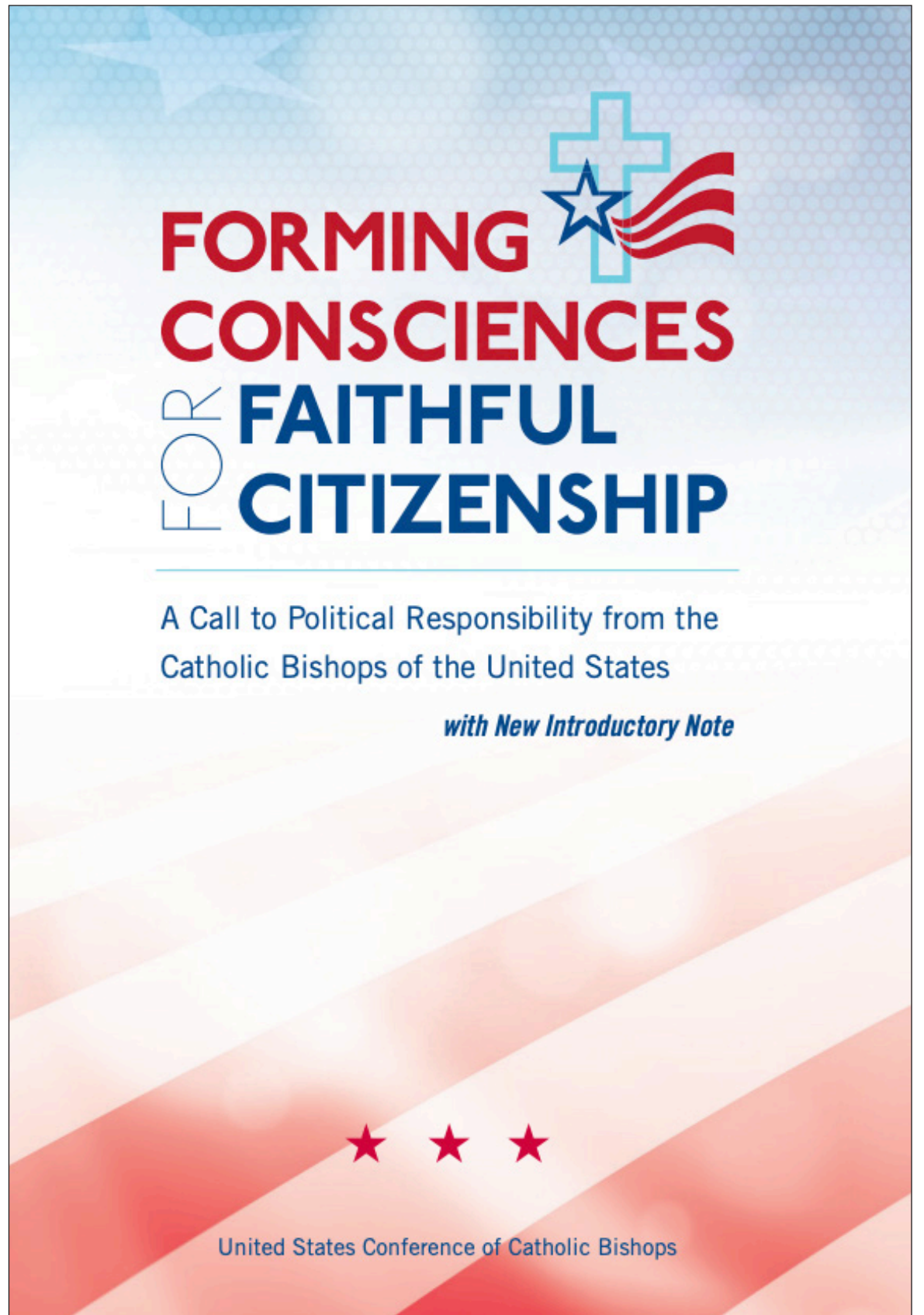
This teaching is undoubtedly the opposite of the prevailing narrative in our culture that we are free to form our consciences as we choose, to make our own truth. This relativism is precisely what makes being a Catholic in public life difficult. We profess a Truth that is not our own. We believe that the God of the universe created us to live in accord with His law of love and not our own.

An unwavering commitment to our faith in private and in public may be incredibly difficult, but it is amid the difficulties of the present age that we remember God gives us the virtue of hope should we but

humbly ask for it. The bishops remind us that we should "take up the task of serving the common good with joy and hope, confident that God, who 'so loved the world that He gave His only Son,' walks with us and strengthens us on the way (Jn 3:16)" (No. 1).

As we continue to reflect on this document, I invite you to pray for that virtue of hope, that it will indeed strengthen us along the way. In the third and final article of this series, we will cover the specific policy positions of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops as well as challenges for citizens, candidates, and public officials outlined in parts 2 and 3 of *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*.

Alexander Mingus is the Associate Director of the Indiana Catholic Conference, which is the public policy arm of the Catholic bishops of Indiana.



40 HOURS, from page 1

vespers were chanted, and Father Mark Hellinger, Parochial Vicar at St. John the Baptist Church in Fort Wayne, preached a homily.

At Mass to close the 40 Hours, Bishop Rhoades spoke of the past, present, and future dimensions of the Eucharistic mystery. In the past, the memory of Christ's passion is revitalized. "At every Mass, the sacrifice of Jesus is re-presented and renewed upon the altar," Bishop Rhoades said. "That's why we call it the 'Eucharistic sacrifice.'" In the present, Christ is received as food, and the soul is filled with grace. "This happens now, in the present, when we receive holy Communion," Bishop Rhoades added. In the future, a pledge of glory is given to us. "It is an anticipation of the liturgy of heaven," Bishop Rhoades said.

The past, present, and future all come together in the Eucharist. "The Paschal Mystery of Jesus is a real event that occurred in history – His passion, death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven," Bishop Rhoades said. "But it doesn't remain only in the past, because all that Christ did participates in God's eternity."

Although each dimension of the Eucharist is important, Bishop Rhoades' main focus was on the eschatological aspect – the Eucharist as a "pledge of future glory."

During his homily, Bishop Rhoades discussed the story of the Last Supper and how Jesus points to the future by assuring the disciples that He will live anew in God's Kingdom. "He will rise from the dead and ascend into heaven where He will prepare a place for His disciples at this banquet," Bishop Rhoades said. "In instituting the holy Eucharist, Jesus gave us His body and blood to nourish us on our way to the eternal banquet of the Kingdom of God."

Bishop Rhoades also reflected upon the other two readings during Mass and their vivid focus on the eschatological aspect of the Eucharist. He discussed how St. Paul, the author of the Letter to the Hebrews, "tells the early Christians that they have approached a mountain different from Mount Sinai, the mountain of the Old Covenant. He tells them that they have approached Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. He describes a festal gathering with countless angels and the assembly of the firstborn enrolled in heaven. He tells the people, 'You have approached God the judge of all, and the spirits of the just made perfect.'" Bishop Rhoades explained that "the just made perfect" are those who have been redeemed by Christ, the saints."



Marisol Sanchez

Father Nathan Maskal, left, and Bishop Rhoades genuflect before the altar during Mass at St. Vincent de Paul Church on Tuesday, April 16.

Bishop Rhoades then recalled John's vision in the Book of Revelation and how he envisioned a great multitude of people standing before God's throne wearing white robes and holding palm branches. "White is the color of resurrection," Bishop Rhoades said. "Palm branches are symbols of victory. The multitude is worshipping God, crying out, 'Salvation comes from our God, who is seated on the throne, and from the Lamb.' They are praising God and the Lamb for salvation and victory."

Bishop Rhoades told those in attendance how one of the elders told John that the people wearing white robes are the ones who had survived the time of great distress because they washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Bishop Rhoades explained that those were the martyrs and the faithful Christians. "Jesus' blood, the blood of the Lamb, has purified them, has cleansed them from all sin," said Bishop Rhoades, who reiterated that the blood of Jesus "cries out for mercy and forgiveness. ... It brings not a curse but a blessing, the blessing of eternal redemption, reconciliation, and the forgiveness of sins," said Bishop Rhoades.

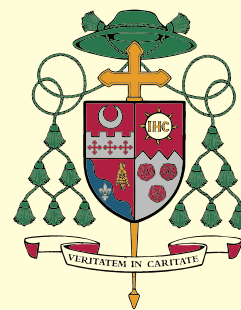
"The blood of the Old Testament sacrifices of sheep and other animals did not have that power or effect of the blood of Jesus, the Lamb of God," Bishop Rhoades said. "Salvation comes from Him, but we must wash our robes in His blood by believing in Him, accepting His Gospel, repenting of our sins, being washed in baptism, and living in the grace of our baptism. If we've soiled our white robes, we can go to the cleaners – go to confession – and be restored to our baptismal grace. And then we can participate in the Eucharist and

be nourished by the body and blood of the Lamb and receive His sanctifying grace."

Both the Letter to the Hebrews and the Book of Revelation indicate that Christian liturgy, particularly the observance of the Eucharist, aligns us with the worship conducted by angels and saints. "This is what we celebrate and what becomes present on the altar at every Mass," Bishop Rhoades said. "The Eucharist is our participation now in the glory that awaits us, though now it is through sacramental signs."

Bishop Rhoades concluded his homily by encouraging the members of St. Vincent to recognize the significant role of the Eucharist as "an anticipation of heaven and a promise of future glory." He added: "The Eucharist commits us to live the Gospel of Jesus, to love and serve others, to say 'yes' to the salvation offered us by God by living our lives on earth like that multitude of saints in heaven who washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. How blessed we are at every Mass to behold the Lamb of God and to participate in the Supper of the Lamb!"

Bishop Rhoades was accompanied by several visiting priests who joined members of the parish for refreshments after Mass in celebration of the 40 Hours Devotion. Father Nathan Maskal, Pastor of St. John the Baptist in New Haven, who assisted Bishop Rhoades at Mass, said he believed the eschatological dimension of the Eucharist is the key point the faithful should take away from the Mass, and that the grace Christ has given us in the Blessed Sacrament "fills us with strength for the road ahead."



Public schedule of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

- Wednesday, May 1: 9:45 a.m. – Mass and Pastoral Visit, Saint Joseph High School, South Bend
- Thursday, May 2: 6:30 p.m. – University of Notre Dame Club of Fort Wayne Celebration, Sycamore Hills Golf Club, Fort Wayne
- Friday, May 3: 7 p.m. – Confirmation Mass, St. Therese Church, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, May 4: 9:30 a.m. – University of Saint Francis Baccalaureate Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne
- Saturday, May 4: 6 p.m. – Confirmation Mass, St. Henry Church, Fort Wayne
- Sunday, May 5: 11 a.m. – Mass Celebrating 100th Anniversary of Catholic Education in Decatur, St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Decatur



APRIL

Sacred Heart, Notre Dame: April 28-30

MAY

St. Joseph, LaGrange: May 12-14

JUNE

St. Anthony of Padua, Angola: June 2-4

St. John the Baptist, South Bend: June 23-25

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



Including Abortion in Pregnant Workers Act is 'Indefensible,' Bishop Rhoades Says

BY KATE SCANLON

(OSV News) – Following the publication of final regulations for the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, Bishop Rhoades stressed the importance of safeguarding workplace conscience protections while also expressing concerns with aspects of the legislation aimed at protecting time off and other job accommodations for pregnancy-related medical conditions such as miscarriage, stillbirth, and lactation – but also for abortion.

In his role as Chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee for Religious Liberty, Bishop Rhoades argued in a statement released on Friday, April 19, that in implementing the regulations to include abortion, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission defied congressional intent to protect pregnant workers by adding abortion to the list of related medical conditions covered by the otherwise pro-life law.

"The bipartisan Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, as written, is a pro-life law that protects the security and physical health of pregnant mothers and their preborn children," Bishop Rhoades said. "It is indefensible for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to

PREGNANT WORKERS FAIRNESS ACT
NEW RESOURCES

WWW.EEOC.GOV/PREGNANCY-DISCRIMINATION

WHAT IS PWFA?
The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA) is a federal law that, starting June 27, 2023, requires covered employers to provide reasonable accommodations to a qualified worker's known limitations related to pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, unless the accommodation would cause the employer an "undue hardship." An undue hardship is defined as causing significant difficulty or expense.

WHAT ARE SOME POSSIBLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PREGNANT WORKERS?

- Being able to sit or drink water
- Receiving closer parking
- Having flexible hours
- Receiving appropriately sized uniforms and safety apparel
- Receiving additional break time to use the bathroom, eat, and rest
- Modifying the work environment, workspace closer to a bathroom or providing a fan to regulate temperature
- Taking leave or time off to recover from childbirth exposure to strenuous activities and/or chemicals not safe for pregnancy
- Acquiring or modifying equipment, uniforms, or devices, like providing devices to assist with bending
- Adjusting or modifying examinations or policies, such as allowing employees with a known limitation to postpone an examination due to their limitation
- Change to job duties

WHAT OTHER FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT LAWS MAY APPLY TO PREGNANT WORKERS?
Other laws that apply to workers affected by pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, include:

- Title VII which prohibits employment discrimination based on sex, pregnancy, or other protected categories (enforced by the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC))
- The ADA which prohibits employment discrimination based on disability (enforced by the EEOC)
- The Family and Medical Leave Act which provides workers for pregnancy and

A "reasonable accommodation" means a change in the work environment or how things are usually done in order to remove work-related barriers.

twist the law in a way that violates the consciences of pro-life employers by making them facilitate abortions. No employer should be forced to participate in an employee's decision to end the life of their child."

The regulations govern the implementation of the bipartisan legislation passed by Congress and signed into law by President Joe Biden in December of 2022 and went into effect in June of 2023. The law prohibits employment practices that discriminate against

making reasonable accommodations for qualified employees due to their pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions.

But a rule proposed by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in August of 2023 governing the implementation of that law contained broad language including abortion among "related medical conditions," and the potential circumstances for which employers may have to grant workplace accommodations, such as time off for medical appointments or additional rest breaks.

In an April 15 statement, EEOC Chair Charlotte A. Burrows said, "The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act is a win for workers, families, and our economy." She added, "It gives pregnant workers clear access to reasonable accommodations that will allow them to keep doing their jobs safely and effectively, free from dis-

"It is indefensible for the Equal Employment Opportunity

Commission to twist the law in a

way that violates the consciences

of pro-life employers by making

them facilitate abortions.

No employer should be forced to

participate in an employee's

decision to end the life of their child."

BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

crimination and retaliation," Burrows said.

Dr. Verda J. Hicks, President of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, said in a statement that the legislation "plays a critical role in protecting the health and improving the lives and well-being of people during and after pregnancy and in ensuring that people are able to continue working without jeopardizing their health."

Hicks said the "broad, compassionate application of the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act will ensure that fewer workers are subject to unfair treatment, recrimination, or retaliation as a result of or after a pregnancy."

But in a statement, U.S. Representative Virginia Foxx of North Carolina, Chairwoman of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, said the rule "goes well beyond EEOC's authority."

"The PWFA was intended to ensure employers provide reasonable accommodations to pregnant employees," Foxx said. "The PWFA does not apply to abortions. The term 'abortion' is not once mentioned in the law. Instead of following congressional intent, the Biden administration is using the regulatory process to advance radical policy goals."

Many pro-life organizations, as well as the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, backed the passage of the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, but have criticized the Biden administration's inclusion of abortion in regulations implementing the law.

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Arlington, Virginia, Chair of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities, said in August of 2023 the bishops supported the bipartisan Pregnant Workers Fairness Act because it was "pro-worker, pro-family, and pro-life." He called it "a total distortion to use this law as a means for advancing abortion, and the complete opposite of needed assistance for pregnant mothers."

Wygant
FLORAL

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

Mary Green
Owner

574.232.3354
800.994.2687
www.wygants.com

TRAHIN
Insurance Services, LLC

Parishioners:
St. Patrick Parish, Arcola
St. Paul of the Cross, Columbia City

Free Consultation
Medicare Supplements Plans
Medicare Advantage Plans
Prescription Drug Plans
Life Insurance
Long-Term Care Insurance
Dental, Vision & Hearing Plans

Cindy K. Trahin
trahininsurancellc@gmail.com

Lisa Petrovas
agentlpetrovas@gmail.com

Carly Mannes
cmmannes260@gmail.com

Office
260-459-9004

www.TrahinInsuranceServices.com

Bishop Dwenger
Saints Open
Golf Outing

Scan here to register!

All alumni, parents and friends of the Dwenger family are invited to join us for the

Annual Saints Open Golf Outing!

Thursday, June 6, 2024
Coyote Creek Golf Course
Registration & Lunch 11 a.m.
Shotgun Start 12 p.m.

Hope to see you on the links!

Visit bishopdwenger.com/saintsopen for more details and to register for this event.
Sponsorship opportunities available.

BISHOP DWENGER HIGH SCHOOL
CITIZENS OF TWO WORLDS

Bishop Dwenger High School | bishopdwenger.com | 260-496-4700

EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL
2022-2025

For information about Eucharistic Revival events and resources, visit diocesefwsb.org/eucharist or diocesefwsb.org/eucaristia.

Pope: Jesus Gave His Life Out of Love for All

BY CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

VATICAN CITY – When Jesus called Himself the “good shepherd,” He was telling people not only that He was their guide but that they were important to Him and “that He thinks of each of us as the love of His life,” Pope Francis said.

“Consider this: For Christ, I am important. He thinks of me; I am irreplaceable, worth the infinite price of His life,” which He laid down for the salvation of all, the pope said on Sunday, April 21, before reciting the *Regina Coeli* prayer with visitors in St. Peter’s Square.

Jesus was not just saying something nice, the pope said. Each believer should recognize that “He truly gave His life for me; He died and rose again for me. Why? Because He loves me, and He finds in me a beauty that I often do not see myself.”

Many people think of themselves as inadequate or undeserving of love, Pope Francis said. Or they believe their value comes from what they have or are able to do. In the day’s Gospel reading, John 10:11-18, “Jesus tells us that we are always infinitely worthy in His eyes,” the pope said.

To understand and experience the truth of that statement, Pope Francis said, “the first thing to do is to place ourselves in His presence, allowing ourselves to be welcomed and lifted up by the loving arms of our good shepherd.”

The pope asked people in the square to consider if they find or make the time each day “to embrace this assurance that gives value to my life” and “for a moment of prayer, of adoration, of praise, to be in the presence of Christ and to let myself be caressed by Him.”

That time in prayer, he said, will remind a person that “He gave His life for you, for me, for all of us. And that, for Him, we are all important, each and every one of us.”

After praying the *Regina Coeli*, Pope Francis told the crowd that he continues to follow the tensions in Israel, Palestine, and throughout the Middle East “with concern and also with grief.”

“I renew my appeal not to give in to the logic of vengeance and war. May the paths of dialogue and diplomacy, which can do so much, prevail,” he said. “I pray every day for peace in Palestine and Israel, and I hope that these two peoples may stop suffering soon.”

He also asked Catholics to continue to pray for peace in Ukraine and for the people who are suffering because of the war.



CNS photo/Vatican Media

A teacher blows a kiss to Pope Francis at an audience with about 6,000 Italian schoolchildren involved in the National Network of Schools of Peace, a civic education program, in the Paul VI Audience Hall at the Vatican on Friday, April 19.

Pope Tells Seminarians to Integrate Spiritual, Intellectual Lives

Candidates to the priesthood must integrate their spiritual, intellectual, and community lives so they become pastors who can respond to the needs of their communities, Pope Francis told a group of seminarians from the Archdiocese of Seville, Spain, during a meeting at the Vatican on Saturday, April 20.

“This path of configuring (oneself) to Jesus the good shepherd must be done by taking care of four aspects: spiritual life, study, community life, and apostolic activity,” Pope Francis told the 36 visiting seminarians.

The pope told them that integrating those four areas “is necessary, I would say urgent, to become priests capable of responding to the vocation (you have) received in total self-giving to God and to your brothers and sisters, especially those who most suffer.”

COPE, the radio station owned by the Spanish bishops’ conference, reported that the pope spent time directly responding to questions posed by the seminarians during their audience.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Archbishop José Ángel Saiz Meneses of Seville said the pope encouraged the seminarians to hold onto “the joy that should reign in our priestly lives” and to “avoid the danger of spiritual worldliness, which is introduced through very correct ways but the base of which is sterile.”

Pope Tells Children a Better World Can’t Be Built ‘Lying on the Couch’

Peace can spread and grow from “small seeds” like including someone who is left out of an activity, showing concern for someone who is struggling, picking up some litter, and praying for God’s help, Pope Francis told Italian schoolchildren on Friday, April 19, at the Vatican’s Paul VI Audience Hall.

“At a time still marked by war, I ask you to be artisans of peace,” the pope told some 6,000 Italian schoolchildren involved in the National Network of Schools of Peace, a civic education program designed to teach the children to care for themselves, their friends, their communities, the world, and the environment.

During the gathering, Pope Francis led the children in a moment of silent prayer for their peers in Ukraine and in Gaza.

“In a society still prisoner of a throwaway culture,” he told them, “I ask you to be protagonists of inclusion; in a world torn by global crises, I ask you to be builders of the future, so that our common home may become a place of fraternity.”

The pope drew the children’s attention to the U.N. Summit of the Future, which is scheduled for September 22-23 in New York to draft a “Pact for the Future,” focused on promoting international cooperation and partnerships to ensure “a world that is safer, more peaceful, more just, more equal, more inclusive, more sustainable, and more

prosperous.”

While government leaders and experts in a variety of fields obviously must get involved to make that hope a reality, the pope said, the pact will remain “just words on a page” without a commitment by all people of goodwill to take concrete steps aimed at changing harmful behavior and building communities and societies where everyone feels they are cared for and belong.

“This is a dream that requires being awake and not asleep,” he told the young people. The world can change for the better only when people are out in the world, “not lying on the couch,”

using media to create connections and not just waste time, “and then – listen carefully – this kind of dream is realized by praying, that is, together with God, not by our strength alone.”

“Peace, in fact, is not only a silence of weapons and absence of war,” Pope Francis said. “It is a climate of benevolence, trust, and love that can mature in a society based on caring relationships, in which individualism, distraction, and indifference give way to the ability to pay attention to others, to listen to their needs, to heal their wounds, to be instruments of compassion and healing.”

As his body weakened, Marc Davidson's faith only strengthened. His time on earth may be over but his story continues in those he inspired.

Thousands have inspired noise in Indiana High School basketball gyms, but no one created stone silence like Marc Davidson.

Available at Hyde Brothers Books on Wells, and This & That on N. Anthony in Fort Wayne and on Amazon.

U.S. House Passes Aid to Ukraine Bill

PHILADELPHIA (OSV News) – Ukrainian Catholics in the United States are breathing a sigh of relief and prayers of gratitude after a bill for aid to Ukraine cleared the House of Representatives following months of delay and political infighting. On Saturday, April 20, the House approved \$61 billion in aid for Ukraine, part of a \$95 billion foreign aid package that includes Israel, Gaza, Taiwan, and other U.S. allies in the Indo-Pacific region. “Ukrainians are very grateful to people of goodwill in the global community, and in a special way to Americans who are in solidarity with (Ukrainians’) valiant struggle for God-given dignity,” Metropolitan Archbishop Borys A. Gudziak of the Archeparchy of Philadelphia, head of Ukrainian Catholics in the United States, told OSV News. “They’re also very grateful to American Catholics, most of whom not only understand, but pray and help.” Archbishop Gudziak said “anything that keeps Russia from advancing in Ukraine is to be welcomed,” since such support represents “a defense of life, liberty, and our freedom of conscience.” The passage of the bill represents “our prayers being answered,” said Eugene Luciw, President of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America’s Philadelphia chapter. “It started off with a very stark scenario. ... How can we account for this without the power of prayer?”

Probe Finds ‘No Evidence’ of FBI Religious Bias

WASHINGTON, D.C. (OSV News) – A review by the Department of Justice’s watchdog found “no evidence” of religious bias in the creation of a leaked and since-retracted FBI memo that suggested some “radical traditionalist” Catholics pose threats of racially or ethnically motivated violence. Members of Congress requested information about the document, ordering the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General to conduct a 120-day review. In an April 18 report detailing its investigation, the officials with the OIG said although “there was no evidence of malicious intent or an improper purpose,” the document “failed to adhere to analytic tradecraft standards and evinced errors in professional judgment,” creating “the appearance that the FBI had inappropriately considered religious beliefs and affiliation as a basis for conducting investigative activity,” and “reflected a lack of training and awareness concerning proper domestic terrorism terminology.” The employees involved in draft-

Thousands Gather in New York for Eucharistic Revival



OSV News photo/Gregory A. Shemitz, The Tablet

Bishop Robert J. Brennan of Brooklyn, New York, holds a monstrance during the Diocese of Brooklyn’s Eucharistic Revival at Louis Armstrong Stadium at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center in Flushing, New York, on Saturday, April 20. More than 6,000 pilgrims from diocesan parishes attended the event.

ing, editing, and reviewing the document “failed to adhere to FBI standards,” the report said. A spokesperson for the FBI said on Friday, April 19, “there was no intent or actions taken to investigate Catholics or anyone based on religion,” and that “this was confirmed by the findings of the OIG.”

D.C. Knights Call to Remove Rupnik Art from JP II Shrine

WASHINGTON, D.C. (OSV News) – Officials with the Knights of Columbus Patrick Cardinal O’Boyle Council 11302, based in Washington, D.C., reportedly have called for the removal of artwork by Father Marko Rupnik at the St. John Paul II National Shrine in that city, following the disgraced priest’s decadeslong legacy of sexual and spiritual abuse claims by multiple victims. The council reportedly adopted an April 9 resolution urging the fraternal organization’s executive leadership to remove and replace mosaics created by Father Rupnik for the shrine, according to an April 17 article by The Pillar, an online Catholic

media outlet that stated it had obtained a copy of the document. Members of the council also requested that the Knights’ state and supreme councils “immediately make a public apology to survivors of Father Rupnik’s abuse for the Order’s continued inaction in addressing the matter of the mosaics in the Shrine.”

Virginia Bishop: ‘Christian Nationalism’ is Opposed to Catholic Teaching

ARLINGTON, Virginia (OSV News) – The concept of Christian nationalism is not compatible with Catholic teaching, Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Arlington, Virginia, said in an April 15 episode of his ‘Walk Humbly’ podcast. The term “Christian nationalism” has been the subject of recent controversy, as some understand the term to mean an ideology that the United States should be a specifically Christian nation, enforced by the power of the federal government, while others contend the term is used loosely by some

to exclude Christians from the public square. Bishop Burbidge explained Catholic teaching distinguishes “between patriotism and nationalism.” He explained patriotism involves “a proper, healthy love for our nation” but nationalism is “a view of one’s nation only in competition with others.” He explained Christian nationalism “can confuse two things that should be distinct: devotion to the nation and devotion to the Church.” He explained that a Catholic is a “follower of Christ,” and as a Christian, “never identifies oneself entirely with a particular nation.” He added, “A Christian loves his nation, but within the broader and larger love for God and neighbor.”

Sacramento Priest Appointed as Auxiliary Bishop

WASHINGTON, D.C. (OSV News) – Pope Francis has appointed Father Reynaldo Bersabal, a priest of the Diocese of Sacramento, California, as Auxiliary Bishop of Sacramento. Born in the Philippines, Bishop-designate Bersabal, 59, was ordained to the priesthood on

April 29, 1991. He was incardinated into the Diocese of Sacramento in 2004. He currently serves as pastor of St. Francis of Assisi parish in Sacramento. The appointment was publicized in Washington, D.C., on Saturday, April 20, by Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States. Sacramento Bishop Jaime Soto said in a statement that he was grateful to the Holy Father for appointing “a faithful disciple of the Lord Jesus as an able co-worker in this favored part of His vineyard,” and he described Bishop-designate Bersabal as “a joyful pastor” whose cheerful manner brings others to communion with Christ. “I am humbled to be chosen to serve God’s people in this capacity. I vow to uphold the responsibility to demonstrate Christ’s holiness to the people of the Diocese of Sacramento,” said Bishop-designate Bersabal in an April 20 statement.

New York Court Hears Challenge to Abortion Mandate

ALBANY, New York (OSV News) – Religious groups in New York challenged the state’s abortion mandate in arguments before its highest court on Tuesday, April 16, arguing against the qualifying criteria for exemptions based on religious beliefs. The case, *Diocese of Albany v. Vulo*, involves women religious, Catholic dioceses, and faith-based organizations protesting the mandate to cover abortion in their health insurance plans contrary to their religious convictions. New York’s Department of Financial Services introduced the mandate in 2017, eventually narrowing exemptions to religious groups primarily focused on teaching religious values and serving and hiring those who share their faith. However, that criteria excludes Catholic organizations such as Catholic Charities, which serve all, regardless of faith. The case, now before the New York Court of Appeals, was brought by public-interest law firms, Becket and Jones Day, representing various Catholic, Anglican/Episcopal, Lutheran, and Baptist groups, after the U.S. Supreme Court vacated prior New York state court rulings and ordered the mandate reconsidered in light of its recent jurisprudence on the First Amendment’s free exercise clause. Noel Francisco, a former U.S. Solicitor General who argued the case for Jones Day, said the mandate put the state in the position of deciding who is authentically religious, which is “not a question this court should answer.” A decision from the Court of Appeals is anticipated in the coming weeks.

Notre Dame's Remick Program Trains Catholic School Leaders

BY KASIA BALSBAUGH

Kevin Baxter, Director of the Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program at the University of Notre Dame, calls the initiative a “practical principal preparation program.” What makes the program unique, he said, is its exclusive focus on Catholic leadership. “What we are trying to do is form people to be great Catholic school principals,” Baxter said succinctly.

The Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program is a 25-month graduate program that combines online and in-person classes and grants students a master's degree in educational leadership upon completion. Named after its endowment donor, the program has been running since 2002, with more than 500 graduates across the nation and even the world. About a dozen graduates work locally in schools in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

The Remick program is a work of Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE). Before the Remick program's formation, ACE's core work was training Catholic teachers. “There was a need that surfaced for a leadership program,” Rachel Frey, Assistant Director of the program, told Today's Catholic.

Many applicants to the Remick program come from previous graduates' nominations, Frey said. “That tap on the shoulder of someone saying, ‘I think that you could be a great Catholic school leader,’ [is] so powerful for someone,” Frey said. She added that even if that person doesn't apply right away, often that initial encouragement will linger until years later when the person discerns to apply.

The focus on spiritual growth is one that Baxter called “first and foremost” in the program. As Frey said, the program includes retreats and talks about spiritual formation, such as discussions about different types of prayer and how to lead spontaneous prayer as a Catholic principal.

Baxter has had a lengthy career in leadership and education, including as a teacher, principal, and superintendent. He currently teaches some leadership courses in the Remick program and said much of what he teaches comes from his own personal, practical experience as a school leader.

He does not underestimate the work of a teacher. When Baxter was a first-year principal, his mentor at the time asked him, “Kevin, when are you going to be a superintendent?”

“I was kind of shocked. I was like, are you kidding

me?” Baxter remembered. “And I said to him at the time, ‘I never really want to come out of the classroom. ... I'm a principal now, and that's fine, but I really love teaching.’ And he said, ‘Every good superintendent never wanted to come out of the classroom.’”

“Really great principals are also really great teachers,” Baxter said. “It's why we get into this field in the first place.”

One of the main qualities Remick program officials look for in an applicant is commitment to Catholic schools. “People who are committed, they see this as their vocation,” Frey said. In fact, the program requires that every applicant be already currently employed at a Catholic school, whether as a teacher, assistant, or principal.

Frey added that another quality applicants should have is “openness to growth,” both in their work and in their faith life. “We want these individuals to be lifelong learners ... because if they are a lifelong learner, they're likely going to lead a faculty that can also be a group of learners together,” Frey said.

Rachel Schroeder is in her first year of the Remick program as a member of the 22nd cohort. She is Assistant Principal at St. Joseph Grade School in South Bend, which is no stranger to the Remick program, as its Principal, Melissa Green, is a graduate of the program's very first cohort.

Schroeder spent 17 years as a first-grade teacher before transitioning to assistant principal in 2021. While she said she was excited for the opportunity to serve the whole school, she felt she could do more with formal training. “I knew that it could help me to better serve our community,” Schroeder said. “Having the coursework, the true formation that the Remick program could provide, was something that I very much wanted.”

Schroeder said she is impressed with the Remick program's focus on community among the cohorts and faculty.

“The Remick program does such a beautiful job gifting us opportunities to work with one another,” Schroeder said. Participants have small groups and partner work, and during in-person summer classes, they are encouraged to dine together and get to know one another. While the summer coursework was “intense,” Schroeder said, the evenings left free time for the participants to relax. Schroeder said a favorite evening activity with her cohort was karaoke nights. “Karaoke is a fun way to let loose and let our hair down, for sure,” she said with a laugh.

Schroeder said she has continued to be impressed



Photos provided by the Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program

Faculty of the Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program teach participants in training to be Catholic school principals.



Kasia Balsbaugh

Rachel Schroeder, Assistant Principal at St. Joseph Grade School in South Bend, is in the current cohort of the Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program.

with the availability of the program directors and faculty, including the ways they facilitate community and connection from a distance. The school year coursework is asynchronous and online, built for busy schedules. The workload is “definitely manageable,” Schroeder said, adding an average of perhaps a few hours a week. She completes a variety of assignments from papers to role plays with partners, research, and personal reflection.

Schroeder also felt she has grown as a leader while in the program.

“While I feel like a lot of what I've experienced has been working alongside teachers, I recently completed an assignment that forced me out of that comfort zone and more as a lead-learner where I led a small group of teachers through some data analysis,” she said.

Frey agreed that the



Betsy Okello, right, is a faculty member for the Mary Ann Remick Leadership Program at the University of Notre Dame.

coursework during the school year is meant to be implemented in participants' real school settings.

Baxter said strong Catholic schools and leaders are crucial for dealing with the crisis of Catholicism in the United States, where fewer and fewer Catholics are attending Mass.

“The number one challenge for Catholic schools today, and this is nationwide, is the challenge with enrollment and continued disaffiliation ... with people not practicing their faith as much,” Baxter said. “Nationwide you see Catholic marriages dropping, you see the number of baptisms dropping. ... One of the best solutions we have is Catholic schools,” Baxter said, adding that strong and faithful Catholic education can inform Catholics about their faith.

Those who spoke to Today's Catholic said dioceses are in dire need of people for this work. Frey said the Remick program receives emails every day from schools around the nation looking desperately for people to lead their schools in some capacity.

“I don't have enough people

to fill that need,” Frey said, adding, “there is such a need out there for quality, committed Catholic school leaders.”

Of course, the job isn't for everyone. Baxter said that if there was something he wanted every Remick graduate to know it is that “leadership is complex” and often romanticized. But Baxter encourages school leaders to find the joy in their work – those “Resurrection moments,” he called them – such as the joy of walking through a kindergarten classroom or playing with students at recess.

“There are going to be plenty of struggles and plenty of things you've got to deal with that aren't great, but find those joyful moments and really connect to those,” Baxter advised.

As Schroeder put it from her experience in the program, “We talk a lot about the zeal, and that energy, that love, and that passion – again, for not only the work that we do but the people that we do the work for. And that really stands out to me.”

To learn more, visit ace.nd.edu/programs/leadership.

Bishop Challenges Students at Bishop Luers

BY GEORGIA LIEB

It was a celebratory day at Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne on Monday, April 15, as Bishop Rhoades made his annual pastoral visit. The day began with an all-school Mass in the gymnasium, celebrated by Bishop Rhoades. Bishop Luers chaplains Father Patrick Hake and Father Paolo Degasperi assisted with Mass, and Father Mark Hellinger served as Master of Ceremonies. The Knights of Columbus provided an honor guard for Bishop Rhoades. Bishop Luers students Adrian Brzozwski, Eduardo De Lira, Henry Perez-Monterroso, Isla Woodson, McKale Woodson, and Esperanza Zamudio received the Sacrament of Confirmation during Mass.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades explained the Gospel passage about the miracle of the talents. "What is the message that Jesus is trying to give us in this parable?" Bishop Rhoades asked. "The first thing that we usually hear, when this parable is discussed, is the interpretation as to how God has given us all our talents and we should use them. Now, we think about those physical talents. Everybody in this gym, all of you, have natural gifts. You may have not even discovered some of your gifts yet. But I think there's something deeper here."

"Back in those ancient times, when Jesus lived on earth, one talent was worth 15 to 20 years of wages. It was a huge amount of money," Bishop Rhoades continued. "So, I was thinking, Jesus might be talking about something more than our natural gifts. I think he's talking about these greater gifts that God gives us – spiritual and supernatural gifts. Think about those gifts that we've received from God. We've received His word. We've received His new life; He's adopted us as His children. That happened at baptism. Those to be confirmed, you already are beloved sons and daughters of God. That's an amazing gift! The gift of eternal life, the gift of God's life within us. You will receive today the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Think of all the spiritual gifts we receive, the grace in the sacraments, and the greatest sacrament of all, the Holy Eucharist, the gift of Christ's very body and blood as nourishment of our souls, [and] the gift of God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Confession. These, I think, are principally what Jesus is talking about in the parable of the talents."

"So, the question is, what



Photos by Georgia Lieb

Bishop Rhoades poses with the six newly confirmed Bishop Luers students and their sponsors during his pastoral visit to Bishop Luers on Monday, April 15. Those who were confirmed are Adrian Brzozwski, Eduardo De Lira, Henry Perez-Monterroso, Isla Woodson, McKale Woodson, and Esperanza Zamudio.

will we do with them? Do we use them, and make a profit? In other words, do we use them for the good of others and for the glory of God? Or do we bury them? We can receive the sacraments and not do anything with them, bury them. No, God is calling us to use these gifts."

Bishop Rhoades continued by sharing an example, talking about the life of national basketball standout Caitlin Clark. He mentioned how he watched her during the Final Four and that she is an incredible player, using the natural gifts God has given her. Bishop mentioned that he read in the news that Clark attended Catholic grade school and high school. He noted that she is living out her faith by using the spiritual gifts that God has given her to help others.

"St. Paul said to the early Christians, 'You are to be the fragrance of Christ in the world,' to spread the fragrance of Christ, the goodness of Christ, the love of Christ in the world," Bishop Rhoades said. "That's our mission! That's the mission of the Church. And it's the mission that you're being prepared to undertake in your education here at Bishop Luers. May you be the fragrance of Christ in the world. That's my prayer for all of you, and especially for our six young men and women, who will now receive the Sacrament of Confirmation."

Siblings McKale and Isla Woodson were two of these six students. Thinking back on the day, McKale said: "It was cool because everybody was there. (Bishop Rhoades) was funny;

he didn't make me nervous at all."

Near the end of Mass, sophomore Sabrina Donis was surprised with an award from the College Board BigFuture program – a \$40,000 college scholarship. This award is given out once a month to just two students in the nation.

Bishop Rhoades enjoyed lunch with a select group of students who represented the different academic programs, sports, and clubs offered at Bishop Luers. They each told him what they were involved in and engaged in friendly conversation. Bishop Rhoades recognized the many activities outside of athletics that students are engaged in.

Of Bishop Rhoades' visit, Father Patrick Hake told Today's Catholic: "I think it is nice for the kids to see the hierarchy of the Church living. Bishop Rhoades is a descendent of the apostles; he's a chain back to Jesus Christ that's living. I think he's a great leader and engages with the kids really well. I really appreciate his leadership and him taking time to come down to Luers."

Bishop Rhoades visited theology classes during the afternoon hours of his visit, giving the students the opportunity to ask him questions. Topics included explanations about Bishop Rhoades' clothing, his vocation story, his favorite holy sites, exorcisms, and more.

One student asked Bishop Rhoades, "If you could say one thing to your 15-year-old self, what would it be?" He responded: "Don't value

yourself according to your accomplishments. I was very driven to excel in everything; I was an overachiever, and I valued myself too much on my accomplishments, so if I wasn't first in the class, or if I wasn't perfect, I would kind of feel bad about myself. Well, why should we value ourselves according to our performance? You know, we should value ourselves because we're beloved sons and daughters of God who mess up sometimes. So I would say to teenagers who may go through that experience where you may have a bad image of yourself sometimes for whatever reason, don't value yourself on those things or what other people may say or think, don't worry so much about that. We have an innate dignity; we have to learn to love ourselves."

This year is theology teacher Mercylynn Mbuguah's first at Bishop Luers. She told Today's Catholic: "In class, we talk about the apostles, we talk about the pope, we talk about the bishops and leaders of the Church, but to have him (Bishop Rhoades) right up front of that class, standing where I usually stand, it creates that personal touch, that personal connection – that the Church, even though it's universal, it's also very personal."

Bishop Luers Principal Scott Kreiger said Bishop Rhoades' homily impacted him by "the way that he was able to weave in Scripture, history, discussing talents." He concluded, "The Bishop's Mass is the biggest day of the school year. It was a really good day."

BISHOP LUERS HIGH SCHOOL
333 East Paulding Road,
Fort Wayne

Phone: 260-456-1261

Year founded: 1958

Principal: Scott Kreiger

Number of Students: 528

Website: bishoplurers.org



Luers to Use Their God-Given Talents



Bishop Rhoades speaks to freshman in Ann Isch's theology class during his pastoral visit to Bishop Luers High School on Monday, April 15.



Sophomore Sabrina Donis receives a surprise award near the end of Mass – a \$40,000 college scholarship from the College Board's BigFuture Program.



Bishop Rhoades meets with students for a luncheon after Mass.



Bishop Rhoades speaks to students in Mercylynn Mbuguah's theology class.



The Bishop Luers High School choir sings during the all-school Mass.

Nine Brothers of Holy Cross to Celebrate Jubilees at Mass of Thanksgiving

BY MARY ANNE DECENZO
AND NICOLE HAHN

The Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross will honor nine Brothers celebrating their 75th, 70th, 60th, and 40th jubilees of religious profession on Saturday, April 27, at 10:30 a.m. with a Mass of Thanksgiving at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at the University of Notre Dame. Six of the brothers live in the South Bend area, one lives in Venice, Florida, another in Bangladesh, and one in Ghana, West Africa.

Brother Ken Haders, Provincial of the Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross, will accept the renewal of vows of the brothers, while Father Thomas Zurcher, CSC, will be the celebrant.

The nine Brothers celebrating jubilees are listed here with their bios.

75-Year Jubilarian

Brother Robert Mosher, CSC

Robert Mosher had been considering a vocation in the Church when a tall distinguished looking man dressed in a black suit and Roman collar gave a vocation talk to his eighth-grade class in Chicago. The talk given by Brother Theophane Schmitt of the Brothers of Holy Cross on that spring day proved to be extraordinarily providential to young Mosher.

"I was no longer considering a vocation. I had one to the Brothers of the Congregation of Holy Cross," Brother Mosher said recently. "I contacted Brother Theophane almost immediately afterwards and the necessary steps for applying were completed."

As an aspirant, Brother Mosher was accepted and completed his high school requirements at Sacred Heart in Watertown, Wisconsin. After finishing a year as a novice, he made his first temporary profession of vows and was assigned to pursue a degree at the University of Notre Dame. At the conclusion of his freshman year, he was sent to what was then St. Charles Boys Home in Milwaukee where he taught and supervised the students. Following his year at St. Charles, Mosher completed his college degree at St.



**BROTHER
ROBERT
MOSHER**

Edward's University in Austin, Texas.

He was then assigned to teach in a diocesan school in Brooklyn, New York. Eight years later, he returned to the Midwest where he spent a year teaching at Sacred Heart Military Academy in Watertown, Wisconsin. Subsequent teaching assignments included one year at Central Catholic in Monroe, Michigan, 20 years at Holy Trinity High School in Chicago, and 31 years at Good Shepherd Catholic School in Garland, Texas, after which he retired at the age of 88.

"Since my retirement I have been living at Columba Hall on the campus of the University of Notre Dame where I spend significant time in research study, in educational and leisure reading, and in composing spiritual reflections and scriptural articles," Brother Mosher said. "My vocation to the Congregation of Holy Cross has been an unmistakable call from God, particularly by arranging Brother Theophane to give a vocation talk on that spring day in my eighth-grade class," Brother Mosher said. "Even more humbling is the likelihood of God's responsibility in my responding, teaching, and persevering all these 75 years."

70-Year Jubilarians

Brother Douglas Roach, CSC

At 92-years-old and 70 years as a member of the Congregation of Holy Cross, Brother Douglas Roach wonders why God wants him on this planet this long. In his self-deprecating humor, he thinks it may be because he is a slow learner and hasn't yet grasped all God has been trying to tell him.

"Whatever the case might be, the journey has had its highs and lows, its ups and downs, all in the context of learning who I am and what impact society, church, and Holy Cross has had on me," Brother Roach said. "I have lived through 16 presidents, have witnessed the involvement of the United States in 22 wars, and have watched eight Superiors General and their councils guide the Congregation of Holy Cross in its ongoing evolution. All of these events have afforded me personal growth and left me absolutely



**BROTHER
DOUGLAS
ROACH**

convinced that life is truly a mystery."

Brother Roach believes his formative years with his family, school, church, and society gave him the foundation that he needed to be grounded in the values and principles of life that ended up steering him in a direction to eventually join the Congregation.

Entering Holy Cross prior to Vatican II, and in a single province of Brothers that covered the United States, Brother Roach began teaching in 1956 at the high school level. He spent his summers continuing his education. Going where the community assigned him, Brother Roach served in various positions as a teacher and administrator in the schools and in the province. He also served in parish ministry as well as caring for the elderly and homeless in Venice, Florida, and prison ministry in Tennessee.

"Through these various ministries, I have learned much about myself," Brother Roach said. "Working with God's people of all ages and in various circumstances has brought me great growth and inspiration. I would not trade in a million years what I have learned and appreciated from others. After 70 years in the Congregation, I want to express my gratitude to the many Holy Cross Brothers, Priests, and Sisters for their friendship, support, kindness, and tolerance. We are truly a very unique Congregation."

Brother Thomas Rock, CSC

Thomas Rock was born the second of seven children of very hard-working parents. He entered the fourth grade in the Catholic school system and stayed through high school. He believes this early training in the faith fostered his vocation and longing to serve God as a Brother.

Brother Rock took his first vows in 1954 and was sent to the Brothers of Holy Cross novitiate in Watertown, Wisconsin, as an assistant cook. Within three months, he was left on his own cooking for 35 brothers and postulants. The number grew to 135 as this also became the military academy.

His next assignments took Brother Rock and his culinary skills to Notre Dame,

Indiana, Lakewood, Ohio, and Terre Haute, Indiana. During these 60 years as a Brother, he cooked and supervised kitchens in restaurants, schools, and religious houses. "My great joy is knowing that I was serving God and doing work for Him in His name," Brother Rock said. "My great happiness comes from having so many friends from every walk of life."

These days find Brother Rock doing a variety of volunteer work and helping out wherever he can. "None of this could ever have been possible without the help of God, Mary, and St. Joseph. I am sincerely grateful to each of them."

60-Year Jubilarians

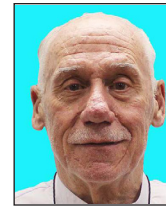
Brother Francis Boylan, CSC

As Brother Francis Boylan reflects on his 60 years of religious life, he is grateful to his family, the Brothers of Holy Cross, co-workers, and students who have accompanied him on his life's journey. "Today I pause to thank you for your friendship over the last 60 years," Brother Boylan said. "It has been a special gift, and it's one you all have generously shared with me. The joy of this world I believe is found in the making of friends."

Brother Boylan earned a Bachelor of Science degree from St. Edward's University and a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Michigan. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus, Legatus International, and the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher.

Brother Boylan has been a champion for the marginalized child. In July of 2017, he celebrated 50 years of advocating for some of Michigan's most forgotten children and their families as Executive Director of Holy Cross Children Services. "In January of 2020, I accepted the invitation of the bishop to join with the Bangladeshi Brothers to construct the first Catholic school, Hostel, and Juniorate in the Rajshahi diocese for the duo-marginalized children who are both Catholic and extremely poor. Bangladesh is only 0.3% Christian. Yet today, Holy Cross School and College has more than 400 students!"

Brother Boylan has received many awards throughout the years that acknowledge the



**BROTHER
FRANCIS
BOYLAN**

efforts of the Brothers of Holy Cross on behalf of children and families in need. In 2010, he was selected by the Detroit News as the Michiganian of the Year for helping to nurture Michigan's most forgotten children and their families. Citing the ministry of the Brothers of Holy Cross and their co-workers for their "tireless efforts to give youth and their families across the state of Michigan a second chance."

"I am most grateful to the Brothers of Holy Cross and my friends for providing this unique opportunity for me to bring hope to today's 'widows and orphans,' and for their ongoing support of me personally."

Brother David Martin, CSC

David Martin

was born in 1944 in Canton, Ohio, the fourth of five children. The family moved to Akron, Ohio, where the children grew up. At the age of 12, he thought about looking into the diocesan priesthood. His mom advised him to go to high school first, and if God was still calling him, the vocation would still be there. At Archbishop Hoban High School, Martin came to know the Brothers well and was attracted to their lifestyle.

In 1962, he entered the formation program in Watertown, Wisconsin, making his novitiate year in Rolling Prairie, Indiana, the following year. He made his first profession in January of 1964. He continued formation at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry.

He was assigned to Holy Cross High School in River Grove, Illinois, to teach chemistry, biology, and physical science in 1967.

"While living with the community, I knew my life in Holy Cross was the path I wished to follow, making my final profession in 1970," Brother Martin said.

While at Holy Cross, Brother Martin earned a Master of Science degree in chemistry along with 40 hours of graduate work in physics from Roosevelt University in Chicago.

In the Fall of 1974, Brother Martin was assigned to St. Edward High School in Lakewood, Ohio. He taught physics, chemistry, and other sciences. "Little did I realize in



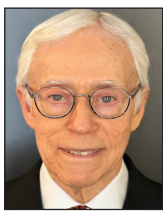
**BROTHER
DAVID MARTIN**

2018, at the age of 75, after 50 plus years in the classroom, with the last 43 years at St. Edward it was time to enter the next phase of my life."

Brother Martin retired from the classroom at the end of that school year and began living with the Brothers in community at Columba Hall on the campus of the University of Notre Dame. "I enjoy living in a joyous, peaceful, and prayerful community, doing what we each are able to do in helping each other. Having responded to His call many years ago, 'Come follow me,' it was the Lord calling me and my response was, 'Here I am Lord, I come to do your will.' This calling has led to a life of blessings and joyous fulfillment."

Brother Donald Morrison, CSC

Donald Morrison entered the Brothers of Holy Cross postulancy program in Watertown, Wisconsin, in June of 1963 after prayerful discernment. He was one of 40 novices in the Midwest Province. He made his first profession of vows in August of 1964 in Rolling Prairie, Indiana.



BROTHER DONALD MORRISON

Brother Morrison's first assignment was in the business office at the University of Notre Dame before moving to Father Gibault School for Boys in Terre Haute, Indiana, in 1968. He also served as secretary at several Holy Cross high schools for a number of years before returning to Notre Dame and St. Mary's College to handle payroll duties.

"In retrospect, I found the most satisfying and meaningful ministry at Boysville in Michigan," Brother Morrison said. "For 14 years, my responsibilities were at the Detroit campus and involved the supervision of 10 buildings."

Brother Morrison returned to Notre Dame 23 years ago to serve the province in its administrative business office. He then transferred to Columba Hall to assist the Superior with administrative duties which included supervising students from Notre Dame earning living expenses. He also maintained the cars driven by the Brothers and provided expert advice to update the fleet of cars as needed. Brother Morrison retired at the age of 81.

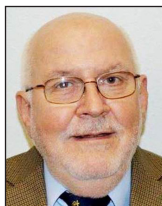
"Looking back with gratitude over 61 years, I rejoice that I listened to the voice of the Spirit. God was calling me to life as a Holy Cross Brother. Today, would I do it over? Without denying the human trials that God allows, I would not hesitate. To

give a biblical answer: 'Here I am Lord, I come to do your will.'"

"Community life, ministries, and the changes in the Church and world test us and call for endurance. A friend and I often discuss the challenges of how we can regulate what Notre Dame teachers might call the erosion, drift, and assimilation of the Church into the secular world. I interpret that to mean: 'How do I pass on the gift of the Holy Cross tradition?' My answer would be that I keep eternal life ever before me. Every day I grow in understanding why I could never have reached this diamond jubilee without daily prayer."

Brother Peter Nault, CSC

Living in Ishpeming, Michigan, and attending St. Paul High School is where Peter Nault "heard my first call to the Brothers of Holy Cross."



BROTHER PETER NAULT

Since there weren't any religious brothers in Upper Peninsula Michigan, his first introduction to the Brothers of Holy Cross was in a small vocations advertisement in Our Sunday Visitor.

"What initially attracted me the most was the work of the Brothers in education," Brother Nault said.

Fulfilling his desire to walk in the footsteps of these teaching Brothers, Brother Nault's first 20 years were spent in education at Holy Cross High School in River Grove, Illinois, and St. Edward High School in Lakewood, Ohio. Both assignments were in the classroom and in administrative duties. "I have always treasured those years, but they were but a preparation for part two of my Holy Cross ministry and journey," Brother Nault said.

For the next 35 years, he worked for the Diocese of Venice, Florida, as a Director of Stewardship, and also as the parish manager at the Cathedral in Venice. This allowed him to work with seniors in what is now a retirement area.

"I am grateful to Holy Cross for providing me with the opportunity, over the past 60 years, to work with the young and later with the young at heart," Brother Nault said. "I am grateful, in particular, to Brother James Bagans for the support and encouragement he has given to me through the past several years."

"There have been many peaks and valleys, but no one said along the way it would be easy. So, there has been joy and laughter and tears and regret. We have a great but

different future ahead of us."

"It is not the province I joined 60 years ago, and that is good. We have an interesting future ahead with candidates from different cultures, backgrounds, and traditions. I am excited to continue this journey with them, and I hope my journey will continue for a good number of years into the future."

Brother Carlos Parrilla, CSC

Carlos Parrilla was born in Rio Grande, Puerto Rico. He is the oldest of four children. His father, Timoteo, was a hardworking, adventurous person who traveled to many places for a better life. His mother, Mercedes, was dedicated to running the home. In 1950, the family moved to Lorain, Ohio, where he attended Catholic schools.



BROTHER CARLOS PARRILLA

"My calling to religious life as a Brother of Holy Cross is best explained by my family's dedication to service in our parish, where we were charter members and especially involved in the music and catechetical ministries," Brother Parrilla said. "After my high school graduation and with the encouragement from my pastor, a religious sister, and Brother Eymard Salzman, I applied to the Brothers of Holy Cross Midwest Province. By God's grace, I am now happily celebrating 60 years."

Brother Parrilla served in many different capacities in Ohio, Indiana, and South Carolina. In Ohio, he served at St. Edward High School, Archbishop Hoban High School, the Cleveland Diocesan Resource Center, Erieview Catholic High School for Girls, and at St. Mary Catholic Church in Lorain.

"The latter two places of ministry were especially fulfilling for me, with Erieview for its dedication to serving the poor, and St. Mary Church for the very direct contact with parishioners of all ages."

Brother Parrilla taught at St. Joseph High School and at Holy Cross College in Indiana. He also served as vocations director for the Congregation of Holy Cross Midwest Province. In recent years he has been the religious superior for Schubert Villa and Dujarié House. "Serving the elderly Brothers at Dujarié House was special because of their vulnerability and their need for comfort," Brother Parrilla said.

South Carolina was home for many years for Brother Parrilla while he served as director of Hispanic Ministry for the Diocese of Charleston, South Carolina. "I am grateful for the sense of fulfillment in the many facets of that

ministry," he said. "Advocating for the vulnerable and often undocumented and serving at the South Carolina State Prison was a spiritually fulfilling ministry for me."

"My many ministries in Holy Cross have been the source of ongoing rejuvenation and commitment to the ideals that first attracted me to religious life as a Brother in the Congregation of Holy Cross. I pray that this 'ongoing rejuvenation' will continue to nurture me."

40-Year Jubilarian

Brother Michael Amakyi, CSC

Michael Amakyi remembers participating in most church-related programs as a young boy growing up in Takoradi, Ghana, and thoughts of being of service to the Church brought satisfaction. "What I wanted to do with my life started to take shape when in high school I encountered the Holy Cross Brothers," Brother Amakyi said.



BROTHER MICHAEL AMAKYI

"My desire to inquire more about the Brothers heightened after the Brothers organized a Youth Leadership Workshop in my parish at Takoradi. I was impressed not only with their delivery of the content, but also with how they worked together as a team, supporting one another and taking turns to be the lead facilitator for different

sessions.

"I was convinced a lot of effort must have gone into the preparation for the workshop and I asked myself, 'Who are these men who are filled with passion and show commitment and dedication to form young minds?' I approached one of the Brothers and expressed my admiration for the work they do."

Brother Amakyi pursued his admiration for the Brothers and joined the initial formation program, being admitted into the novitiate on July 26, 1983, and making first vows on July 28, 1984, with the late Brother Daniel Dardoe.

"Over the years I shared brotherhood with different Brothers who mentored me and supported me to appreciate what it means to be a Holy Cross Brother, and that is serving God's people as an educator in the faith and a man with hope to bring."

Brother Amakyi has served through different ministries. He has served in the leadership of the District of West Africa (now Province of West Africa), as the vocation director, as a workshop facilitator, and as an academic counselor. He continues to serve as a teacher. "In all of these ministries, I discovered that my mission as a Holy Cross Brother is to give people a reason to be hopeful in life and have faith in God. I am indeed grateful to God for these years of service and look forward to more years of grace to continue the legacy of our Holy Cross missionaries."

Beauty will Save the


SUMMER CAMP
JULY 28 - AUGUST 1

Encounter Christ with other high school students during a five-day University of Saint Francis theology camp!

Learn more and register at go.sf.edu/beauty.




JOIN THE MISSION
www.todayscatholic.org/subscribe

We Should See the Dignity of Others with Infinite Eyes

The highly anticipated declaration from the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith (DDF), *Dignitatis Infinita* ("Infinite Dignity"), is a strong, clear statement about various implications of the Catholic doctrine of human dignity. There is much to praise in *Dignitatis Infinita* and little to criticize in any strongly substantive way.

Of course, a significant number of Catholic cognoscenti stand ready to condemn everything that proceeds from the DDF or the pen of Pope Francis. To be sure, I have been critical of certain statements, letters, and declarations. And, unfortunately, both the pope and DDF have given us good reason to have heartburn over some documents. But the prevailing hermeneutic of suspicion for everything Pope Francis says or endorses evinces a lack of charity that we must resist.

We should read with a presumption that any magisterial teaching is instructive and edifying; and ambiguous teaching should be read in the most positive light and with the most generous heart.

Dignitatis Infinita is the latest example, beginning with the very title, of the hermeneutic of suspicion by which everything from Rome is read by some people. The anti-Francis Twitterati have dismissed the idea of humans having "infinite dignity" as sloppy reasoning at best and theological error

at worst. Even if one attains everlasting life, it is not infinite, because it had a beginning. So how can the human person, created at a place in time, be infinite?

I don't disagree that the phrase "infinite dignity" is a bit startling. We don't usually think of any list of human attributes as including "infinite" as an adjective. But in the light of *Dignitatis Infinita's* excellent discussion of "ontological" dignity, the appellation of "infinite" dignity to the human person is on point.

The heart of the declaration is a discussion of the inalienable ontological dignity of the human person as an attribute of being created in the image and likeness of God. This is dignity that cannot be alienated, lost, or compromised. It is not measured by any external attributes or lack thereof. It "belongs to the person as such simply because he or she exists and is willed, created, and loved by God," the DDF explains. "Ontological dignity is indelible and remains valid beyond any circumstances."

Here is where I think we can appreciate why the DDF refers to human dignity as infinite. Every attribute of human being is a participation in the infinite life and mind of God – a sharing in God's own being. Dignity – the heart of what makes humans human – participates in God's infinite love and goodness in creating and redeeming



GUEST
COMMENTARY

KENNETH CRAYCRAFT

man. In other words, human dignity is a participation in the infinite dignity of God.

We can also think about infinite dignity not as a literal description but rather as an interpretive tool to emphasize and protect human dignity in all circumstances. Even if human dignity is not "infinite" by strict philosophical analysis, it is an indication that our respect for human dignity should never faint or fail.

Christians are called to treat the human person as though his or her dignity is infinite. Put another way, we should see the dignity of the human person with infinite eyes. Because of dignity, our concern for the good of the person should be borderless and endless. The dignity of the human person summons us to infinite sympathy, compassion, hospitality, and care. Whether "dignity" is technically infinite or not, we should treat one another as though it is.

Kenneth Craycraft is a professor of moral theology at Mount St. Mary's Seminary and School of Theology in Cincinnati.

Finding God in Our Mundane, Majestic Daily Lives

As we take a turn at the end of April and beginning of May, for many of us who are attached to the flow of the school year (students, teachers, administrators, and parents alike), the energy and excitement of the beginning begins to wear out. In the midst of this experience tied to the context of the Easter season, Jesus' promise of not just life, but abundant life, can maybe ring a little hollow in our ears.

So, it is worth stopping and considering: What is this abundant life Jesus promises us? And why does He promise abundant life in the Gospel within the image of the sheep and shepherd (cf. John 10)? To the first question, when I hear the promise of abundant life, I think of my nieces and nephews – and of the wise words of G.K. Chesterton in his "Orthodoxy":

"The sun rises every morning. I do not rise every morning; but the variation is due not to my activity, but to my inaction. Now, to put the matter in a popular phrase, it might be true that the sun rises regularly because he never gets tired of rising. His routine might be due, not to a lifelessness, but to a rush of life. The thing I mean can be seen, for instance, in children, when they find some game or joke that they



INTO
THE
TRUTH

FATHER MARK HELLINGER

specially enjoy. A child kicks his legs rhythmically through excess, not absence, of life. Because children have abundant vitality, because they are in spirit fierce and free, therefore they want things repeated and unchanged. They always say, 'Do it again'; and the grown-up person does it again until he is nearly dead. For grown-up people are not strong enough to exult in monotony. But perhaps God is strong enough to exult in monotony. It is possible that God says every morning, 'Do it again' to the sun; and every evening, 'Do it again' to the moon. It may not be automatic necessity that makes all daisies alike; it may be that God makes every daisy separately, but has never got tired of making them."

The point is this: I propose that the abundant life Christ offers us is rooted in a child-like delight – which is really the expression of an authentic and limitless gratitude. This gratitude

HELLINGER, page 13

Christ Is the Vine, and We Are the Branches



THE
SUNDAY
GOSPEL

MONSIGNOR OWEN F. CAMPION

Fifth Sunday of Easter

The Acts of the Apostles again this Easter season is the source of the first reading for Sunday. It highlights Paul. In an earlier passage, not read in this liturgy, the intensely devoted Jew, Paul, after having persecuted Christians, miraculously experiences the presence of Jesus on the way to Damascus.

Paul instantly converts to Christianity. Eventually, the Christian community accepts him, although understandably some Christians were nervous, considering his record of persecuting them. He had been quite hostile to followers of Jesus.

At last accepted, in this weekend's reading, he returns

to Jerusalem. With his choleric personality and religious fervor, now bursting with belief in Christ, he openly debated with Greek-speaking Jews. (Paul himself was well educated. From Tarsus, he was not a product of the Holy Land, although he was an ethnic and religiously observant Jew. He spoke Greek, the language of the empire and of scholarship.)

Paul's intensity made enemies for him. For his own safety, the Christians took him to Caesarea, the Roman capital of Palestine, a place now in ruins on the outskirts of modern Tel Aviv. From Caesarea, a seaport, the Christians sent him home to Tarsus for his personal security.

An important statement in this reading is in its final verse. It says that throughout the entire area the Church was at peace and making progress. Notice that the term "Church" is used.

For the second reading this weekend, the Church offers a selection from the First Epistle of John. It refers to its readers

as "little children." Obviously, adults composed the epistle's audience, or most of the audience. Still, the epistle employs this term of endearment. Those who follow Jesus indeed are God's "little children" – little in their vulnerability and need for God.

St. John's Gospel supplies the last reading, part of the long discourse by Jesus given to the apostles at the Last Supper.

This reading has a deeply Eucharistic undertone. At the Last Supper, Jesus gave the Twelve the wine that became, through the Lord's power, the blood of Christ.

Wine, of course, is the product of grapes. Grapes grow on vines. In this reading, Jesus says, "I am the true vine." All who love the Lord are the branches.

God protects the vine, even by cutting away branches because of sin.

Thus, Jesus warns that no vine can bear fruit if it separates itself from the true vine of God.

Reflection

In Acts, First John, and the Gospel, the Church calls us to absolute faith in, and deep love for, God, in Jesus, risen to life after dying on the cross. Jesus is the cornerstone of our faith and of our lives.

Part of the Lord's legacy is the Church. The Church does not, or should not, merely mean an earthly, visible, and coincidental entity that we can take or leave. If we truly are with Christ, then we are part of the Church, and vice versa.

The Church is the mystical Body of Christ, a phrase rich in its references to Paul's own thoughts. It then also is the vine. Members of the Church are its branches.

Vines and branches involve a living relationship. The vine nourishes and holds the branches. Cut away from the vine, the branches die. This Church offers us divine nourishment, the Eucharistic blood of Christ, and it unites us to the Lord.

On this weekend, the Church

again invites us to celebrate the victory of Jesus over death. If faithful, if in the Church, the mystical Body, we are with Jesus. He is the vine. We are the branches. In union with Christ, we live and are strong, nourished by the Eucharist.

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31; Psalms 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8

Monday: Acts 14:5-18; Psalms 115:1-4, 15-16; John 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Psalms 145:10-13ab, 21; John 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Psalms 122:1-5; John 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21; Psalms 96:1-3, 10; John 15:9-11

Friday: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8; Psalms 19:2-5; John 14:6-14

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Psalms 100:1b-2, 3, 5; John 15:18-21

The Gift of Priests and Parents

Recently, I attended the joyful first Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated by a newly ordained priest of the Congregation of Holy Cross, Father Nik Guiney. A priest's first Mass is an occasion of great grace both for him and for the Church. This particular Mass represents the culmination of years of discernment, study, and formation. At the same time, it is the beginning of what will be, God willing, many years of joyful service to the People of God.

A wonderful set of traditions accompany a priest's first Mass and the days and weeks that follow. Newly ordained men will offer individual blessings to the faithful who ask for them, and these blessings come with special graces in the form of a plenary indulgence (under the usual conditions of sacramental confession, reception of the Eucharist, detachment from sin, and prayer for the pope's intentions). A plenary indulgence is also extended to those who participate in a priest's Mass of Thanksgiving – and a priest can celebrate several of these Masses, usually in parishes and chapels to which he has a special connection, such as his home parish or the seminary where he did his formation.

At the end of his first Mass, Father Nik invited his parents to come forward and extend to him their own special blessing. Watching his parents stand before the altar and extend their hands over their son brought to my mind two of the joyful mysteries of the Rosary. The first was the presentation of Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:22-40), when Mary and Joseph took the infant Jesus to Jerusalem to fulfill the Jewish law that required every firstborn son to be consecrated to the Lord. This occasion in the life of Our Lord was marked by the encounter with the prophet Simeon, who had been promised by God that he would not die before he saw the long-awaited Messiah. I was reminded of this as I watched

Father Nik, who as a priest is configured to Jesus Christ in a very special way, standing before the altar at which he had just offered the Eucharistic sacrifice that redeems the world.

The other joyful mystery I was reminded of at Father Nik's first Mass was the finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:41-52), when the 12-year old Jesus accompanied His parents to Jerusalem and then stayed behind to discuss the sacred Scriptures with the teachers of the Law. Watching Father Nik standing with his parents before the sanctuary called to my mind the Gospel moment when the Holy Family was reunited in the Temple. Luke tells us that Mary and Joseph were beside themselves, yet Jesus explained it as the most natural thing in the world that He should "be in my Father's house." I imagine that most parents watching their son fulfill his vocation, whatever it may be, also experience a range of emotions. Ordinations, religious professions, and weddings are occasions filled with joy and tears for nearly everyone involved.

For the parents of a newly ordained priest, the Church offers some very special gifts. At his ordination, a priest's hands are consecrated with the sacred Chrism, the specially-scented oil the bishop consecrates in Holy Week to be used to seal candidates for confirmation and to consecrate people and things for service to the Lord, including new churches and altars. After the ordination rite concludes, the newly ordained priest wipes his hands with a white linen cloth called a *maniturgium*. This cloth is then given to the priest's mother, who will be buried with it in her hands as a sign of the gift that she made to God in giving her son for service as a priest. Pious tradition says that when she is conducted to heaven, she will present the *maniturgium* to Christ the High Priest, who will welcome her into the realm of the blessed as the mother of



HUMOR IN THE MIX

KEN HALLENIUS

one of His own special servants.

The newly ordained priest's father is also given a unique gift. The purple stole the priest wears as he hears his first confession is presented to his father as a sign of thanksgiving for forming him in the ways of justice, wisdom, and gentleness. These virtues, gifts, and fruits of the Holy Spirit are essential to the Sacrament of Confession, and young priests especially need them as they begin their ministry of reconciliation.

The ordination of a priest is a great blessing for the entire Church, and we are entering the "new priest season." In our diocese, Bishop Rhoades will ordain new priests at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Saturday, June 1. Many parents and family members will be present to pray with their sons and brothers that day, and we should thank them for the encouragement and sacrifices that they have made along the way to bring these men to that joyous occasion.

One other thought: Much like we should know and celebrate the anniversary of our own baptism, the anniversary of a priest's ordination is a special occasion to be remembered. Ask your priests when they were ordained, and then please pray for them, especially on their anniversaries. Let us also constantly pray for many more faithful men to respond joyfully to the Lord's call to serve Him and the Church!

Ken Hallenius is a syndicated radio host and podcaster living in South Bend.

close friend and beloved, "Do it again!" Please, God, give us that kind of life.

So as change begins to interrupt the monotony of our daily existence with the improving weather, vacations, and break from the daily repetition that something like a school brings to our lives, we can stop and consider where the Lord has increased our delight in Him and where He has expressed His delight in us, precisely through the daily existence that we have been blessed to live.

Father Mark Hellinger is the Parochial Vicar at St. John the Baptist Church in Fort Wayne.

HELLINGER, from page 12

finds joy in the monotony precisely because it is a sign of the gift of life and of being deeply cared for. Death causes sudden change; life grows and develops but is not jarring.

And that gets to the second point. The image of the sheep and shepherd is an image of a most banal and monotonous existence. And that is how it communicates the depth of God's love for us.

The daily grind of the shepherd and sheep that is needed to maintain life is the mode by which the deep delight of the reciprocal relationship develops between sheep and shepherd. It is because of the closeness and apparent stability of the day

that the sheep can recognize the voice of the shepherd, and that the shepherd can know his sheep. The image is perfect to emphasize the depth of delight and interest God takes in us – and the abundance of life that comes through gratitude to and delight in God. Jesus came so that He could know us like a shepherd knows his sheep – through the intimate sharing of life in daily existence.

The greatest example is, of course, the Eucharist – there it is, always the same, every time we gather around the altar. Do we approach the Lord with the entitled attitude of the grown-up? Or do we approach our Shepherd and Lord with child-like wonder and delight, which comes to the altar asking a

SCRIPTURE SEARCH®

Gospel for April 28, 2024

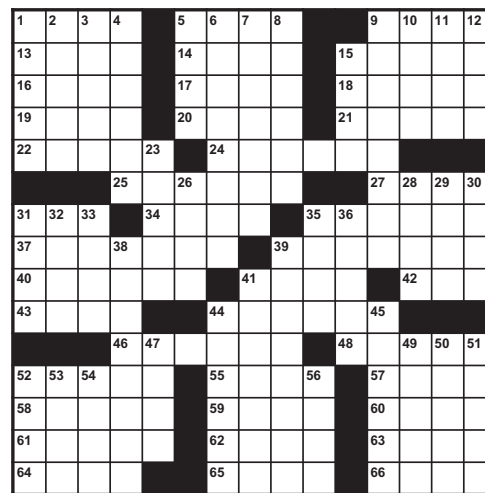
1 John 3:18-24 / John 15:1-8

Following is a word search based on the Second and Gospel readings for the Fifth Sunday of Easter, Cycle B: about love and vines. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

CHILDREN	SPEECH	DEED
TRUTH	RECEIVE	PLEASES HIM
IN THE NAME	LOVE	ONE ANOTHER
GIVEN	TRUE VINE	BRANCH
PRUNES	DO NOTHING	THROWN
WITHER	FIRE	BURNED
WORDS	GLORIFIED	DISCIPLES

GROW IN FAITH

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



www.wordgamesforcatholics.com

ACROSS

- 1 Saint of Lima
- 5 Radar screen warning
- 9 Author of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*
- 13 Black
- 14 Nevada diocese
- 15 Not clearly stated
- 16 Refrain syllables
- 17 Last word
- 18 Alpha and ____
- 19 Officiating priest of a mosque
- 20 Artist Chagall
- 21 Got one's feet wet
- 22 Was concerned
- 24 NT epistle
- 25 ____ Divina
- 27 Catholic family conference
- 31 "Without further ____..." (2 Macc 6:17)
- 34 Certain something
- 35 The act of administering or receiving the Eucharist
- 37 Member of the Girl Scouts
- 39 Member of the band
- 40 Woman's close-fitting hat
- 41 Gift bearers
- 42 Father of Jehoshaphat

- 43 Something you shouldn't put on
- 44 Sequence
- 46 Teeth deposit
- 48 "... the Spirit of glory and of God ____ upon you." (1 Pet 4:14)
- 52 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and ____ destroy" (Mt 6:19)
- 55 On the double, initially
- 57 Ancient Egyptian life-giving force (var.)
- 58 Query found in Matthew
- 59 Sled
- 60 A way to fly
- 61 Tide target
- 62 Word after Bay or gray
- 63 Margarine
- 64 Ice cream flavor (abbr.)
- 65 Exploit
- 66 Immediately following

DOWN

- 1 Article of clothing or bone of a saint
- 2 *The Audacity of Hope*

- author
- 3 Like some panels
- 4 Tooth covering
- 5 Dracula author Stoker
- 6 Jesuit who proposed the "Big Bang Theory"
- 7 Sluggishness
- 8 Blanket-like cloak
- 9 City to which Paul was traveling when he was blinded
- 10 Like good cheese
- 11 Enormous
- 12 "... and ____ us not into temptation..."
- 15 Members of orders take these
- 23 Wages of sin, according to Paul in Romans
- 26 Pleasingly pretty
- 28 Paul preached in ____ Minor
- 29 Promontory
- 30 The Archdiocese of Edmonton province (abbr.)
- 31 Bishop saint whose feast day is October 20
- 32 Catholic Surrealist painter
- 33 Scent
- 35 Ology that is the study of the lives of the saints
- 36 Willow
- 38 Deliriously happy
- 39 Barriers
- 41 Ascertain dimensions
- 44 German military camp
- 45 Liturgical ____
- 47 16th letter of the Hebrew alphabet
- 49 Vestment made of a narrow strip of cloth
- 50 Two-way teletypewriter service
- 51 Snob
- 52 Flat circular plate
- 53 OT historical book
- 54 Goodbye in Roma
- 56 Heating fuel

Answer key can be found on page 15

Last Survivor of Pearl Harbor Attack Remembered for Love of God, Country

BY KURT JENSEN

(OSV News) – By any measure, Louis Anthony “Lou” Conter, a Catholic hero of World War II who died at age 102 on Monday, April 1, at his home in Grass Valley, California, led a celebrated life.

Conter’s funeral Mass was scheduled to be celebrated on Tuesday, April 23, at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Grass Valley, followed by burial with full military honors.

Born in Ojibwa, Wisconsin, on September 13, 1921, Conter graduated from high school in Colorado. He escaped a hardscrabble life – at age 7, he hunted rabbits in Kansas, where his family was living, in order to provide dinner – and a job in a Hormel meatpacking plant by enlisting in the Navy in 1939.

He served for 28 years, retiring at the rank of lieutenant commander, the highest rank possible for someone with a high school diploma.

As a quartermaster on the battleship USS Arizona in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Conter was one of only 335 crewmen and officers aboard to survive the assault by Japanese fighter pilots, bombers, and torpedo planes that sank it on December 7, 1941, launching the United States into World War II.

The sailors and Marines killed aboard numbered 1,177. The Arizona casualties amounted to nearly half of the 2,403 U.S. personnel, including 68 civilians, who died that day.

Conter was at his station at the stern when he first heard the Japanese fighter planes around 8 a.m.

In 2023, he became the Arizona’s last survivor. For



OSV News photo/Hugh Gentry, Reuters

USS Arizona survivor Lou Conter smiles during the wreath laying presentation for the 70th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor at the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument in Honolulu on December 6, 2011. Conter, 102, a Catholic member of the Knights of Columbus and the last survivor of the USS Arizona, which was destroyed in the December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor, passed away on Monday, April 1.

many years, he was a welcome figure at military ceremonies commemorating the attack.

“When I walk aboard the USS Arizona Memorial and see those 1,177 names up there, I have to make the sign of the cross and say a prayer for them,” he told a Knights of Columbus interviewer in 2022. “And I thank God my name is on the plaque outside with the survivors.”

He sometimes credited his survival that day to the prayers of his older sister, Mary Margaret, who as Sister Mary Esther joined the Sisters of Loretto in 1940 and made her final vows in 1946.

punch it in the nose.” Conter and his crew were rescued after another plane dropped a life raft.

He was an intelligence officer during the Korean War, served in special operations and notably helped establish the Navy’s SERE (Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape) program, training Navy pilots and crew how to survive if they were shot down in the jungle and captured as prisoners of war.

After leaving the Navy in 1967, he settled in California and became a successful real estate developer, and some of his happiest memories involved playing golf as an amateur in the Bob Hope Desert Classic in Indian Wells, where he played seven times.

The stress of his military career, Conter conceded, took a toll on his first two marriages, which ended in divorce, but he found stability with his third wife, Valerie. She died in 2016 after 47 years of marriage. He was the father of six children.

Despite his reputation for unrelenting self-discipline and toughness considered typical by men of his generation, parishioners of St. Patrick in Grass Valley remember a gentle man.

Before the COVID pandemic disrupted communal worship for a time, he was a familiar figure at the 9 a.m. Mass, always in the same pew, always sitting on the right side,

wearing a Hawaiian shirt when it was warm, a flannel one when it was cold.

His family recalled him praying the Rosary at his bedside each night.

Conter’s faith, like Conter himself, was humble, said Ray Saturnino, the past Grand Knight of Father Nicholas Phelan Council 1875 of the Knights of Columbus.

“He had genuine respect for his country and the general commitment he gave to his country,” Saturnino told OSV News.

And Conter’s advice for his fellow Knights was, “You don’t have to show up for all the council meetings. Can you commit to doing one thing?”

Conter usually kept his war stories, which he was inevitably asked for, on the light side.

Saturnino said one memory was “he couldn’t get bourbon in the South Pacific, so he switched to Scotch.”

But he also was unafraid to get salty when asked about his classified military activities. Saturnino said he once snapped at an admiral who asked about a classified Cold War mission, “I am not telling you! I made a commitment to my oath!”

Surviving are sons Tony Conter, Jim Conter, and Jeff Conter, daughter Louann Conter Daley, and a stepson, Ron Fudge. Sons Michael and John preceded him in death.

Selected for flight training, Conter flew some 200 combat missions as a dive bomber in the Pacific during the war and was shot down twice. The first time, in 1943, when he and his crew were treading water seven miles off the coast of New Guinea, he advised them that if a shark approached, “just

Staying Connected to the Faith

“I encourage our people to be informed by reading Today’s Catholic. I hope that Today’s Catholic truly helps our people to grow in their faith.”

The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades,
Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend

I WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE A PRINT SUBSCRIPTION

Visit: www.todayscatholic.org/subscribe

or enter details and mail:

Subscription duration and amount

1 Year | \$25 2 Years | \$43 3 Years | \$61

Name: _____ Parish: _____ Phone: _____

Billing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Payment method:

Visa MasterCard Amex Discover

Credit Card (provide information to the right)

Check (payable to Today’s Catholic)

Cash (please enclose)

CARD NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE

CVV

SIGNATURE

Mail to: Today’s Catholic,
P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46856-1169



ST. THOMAS MORE
ACADEMY

CONTACT

574-222-9195

Lower School

308 S. Scott St.
South Bend, IN

Upper School

312 W. Colfax St.
South Bend, IN

admissions@stmasb.org



WWW.STMASB.ORG

DAILY MASS AND PRAYER

CHRIST-CENTERED COMMUNITY
friendship, joy, and authentic freedom

CLASSICAL LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION
the Trivium and Quadrivium strengthen the
light of reason to see reality more clearly

MORAL AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
high ideals for lives of virtue and service

OBSERVATIONAL SCIENCE CURRICULUM
deep roots in the reality of the natural world

INTEGRATED HUMANITIES CURRICULUM
reverence for God’s action in human history

MUSIC, ART, DRAMA and SPEECH
the love of beauty

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE OF 16 STUDENTS

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. For additional listings of that event, please call the advertising sales staff at 260-399-1449 to purchase space.

The Knights of Columbus Silver Rose Mass and Prayer Service

SOUTH BEND – The Knights of Columbus Silver Rose, on a nine-month pilgrimage, will be the centerpiece of a special Mass and prayer service at St. Thérèse, Little Flower Catholic

Church, 54191 Ironwood Rd., on Saturday, May 4, at 8 a.m. The message of Our Lady of Guadalupe and the promotion of respect for life during this pilgrimage demonstrates the unity between Knights of Columbus in Canada, the United States,

and Mexico. Both the Silver Rose and a statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be on display all weekend for veneration.

Savior of the World: A Concert of Sacred Music

FORT WAYNE – The Ecce Young Adult Choir presents "Savior of the World: A Concert of Sacred Music" at St. Jude Church, 2130 Pemberton Dr., on Saturday, May 4, at 2 p.m. This concert is free and open to the public; no tickets or reservations required.

Diaconate Ordination

SOUTH BEND – With Praise and Thanksgiving to



School Principal, PreK - 8 St. Joseph School, Fort Wayne

Start date – July 1, 2024

The St. Joseph School Principal serves as the spiritual and educational leader and responsibilities encompass spiritual development, curriculum, co-curricular activities, discipline, personnel practices, school facilities, marketing, financial stewardship, and community relations.

For more information, visit diocesefwsb.org/school-careers

Full-Time Maintenance Custodial Year Round Position

AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, FORT WAYNE

Hours: Monday through Friday
6 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Includes diocesan benefits package.

Visit diocesefwsb.org/careers to apply.
saintjohnfortwayne.com

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

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

REST IN PEACE

Bristol

Dan Cavanaugh, 81, St. Mary of the Annunciation

Fort Wayne

Rose Mary Lehman, 95, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Marcelline Lothamer, 94, St. Jude

Yewubdar Barfield, 47, St. Vincent de Paul

Granger

Anna Fearing, 95, St. Pius X

Frederick Roble, 98, St. Pius X

Mishawaka

Pete Hanigosky, 72, St. Bavo

New Haven

Lois Kohlhepp, 62, St. John the Baptist

James Till, 78, St. John the Baptist

South Bend

Geraldine Bukowski, 89, St. Adalbert

Margaret Szalay, 90, St. Adalbert

Send obituaries to obituaries@diocesefwsb.org.

Almighty God, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend announces the Ordination of Andrew Daniel Barnes to the Sacred Order of Deacon on Saturday, May 18, at 11 a.m. at St. Matthew Cathedral, 1701 Miami St., South Bend.

SUBMIT EVENTS at
TodaysCatholic.org/event

Liturgical Music Director

St. Joseph - Hessen Cassel Parish

Qualifications and Education Requirements

Candidate should be a practicing Catholic in good standing with prior experience leading a music ministry. Candidate should have a Bachelor's Degree in music or related field with a working knowledge in Catholic liturgy. Candidate should have competency in both organ and piano.

Role and Responsibilities

- Provide music for all Masses.
- Provide music for school Masses, funerals, and other special Masses as may occur.
- Recruit and train cantors, choir members, and other musicians as needed.
- Have first right to funerals, weddings, and other special Masses and Liturgies.
- Prepare "Liturgy Guides" when needed, keeping copyright requirements.
- Facilitate purchase and maintenance of missalettes, hymnals, and other worship aids.
- Meet regularly with pastor and other ministers as needed to coordinate liturgies.
- Maintain Liturgical Calendar in accordance with all church directives.
- Support the school in planning and implementing liturgical music practices.
- Facilitate the maintenance and repair of all musical equipment and sound system(s).
- Provide input for annual budget.
- As a member of the pastoral staff, attend meetings as member and colleague.

To apply, visit diocesefwsb.org/careers.



St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE of FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

St. Martin De Porres Catholic Church Seeking Pastoral Associate

St. Martin De Porres Catholic Church in Syracuse, Indiana, is seeking a Pastoral Associate to help grow the parish through various programs.

Responsibilities include but not limited to leading children's vacation bible school (VBS), youth ministry, and Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) programs. In addition, this person will assist with parish communications, including managing the Church's website and social media account.

The qualified individual must be a member of the Roman Catholic faith. Experience in a similar position in education or non-profit administration is preferred.

This is a part-time position and some of the work can be done remotely. Salary will be commensurate with experience.

Applications and resumes may be directed to:
St. Martin De Porres Catholic Church
6941 E. Waco Dr., Syracuse, IN 46567
574-457-8176 or 260-820-2691
Email St. Martin Church: stmartinchurch@yahoo.com

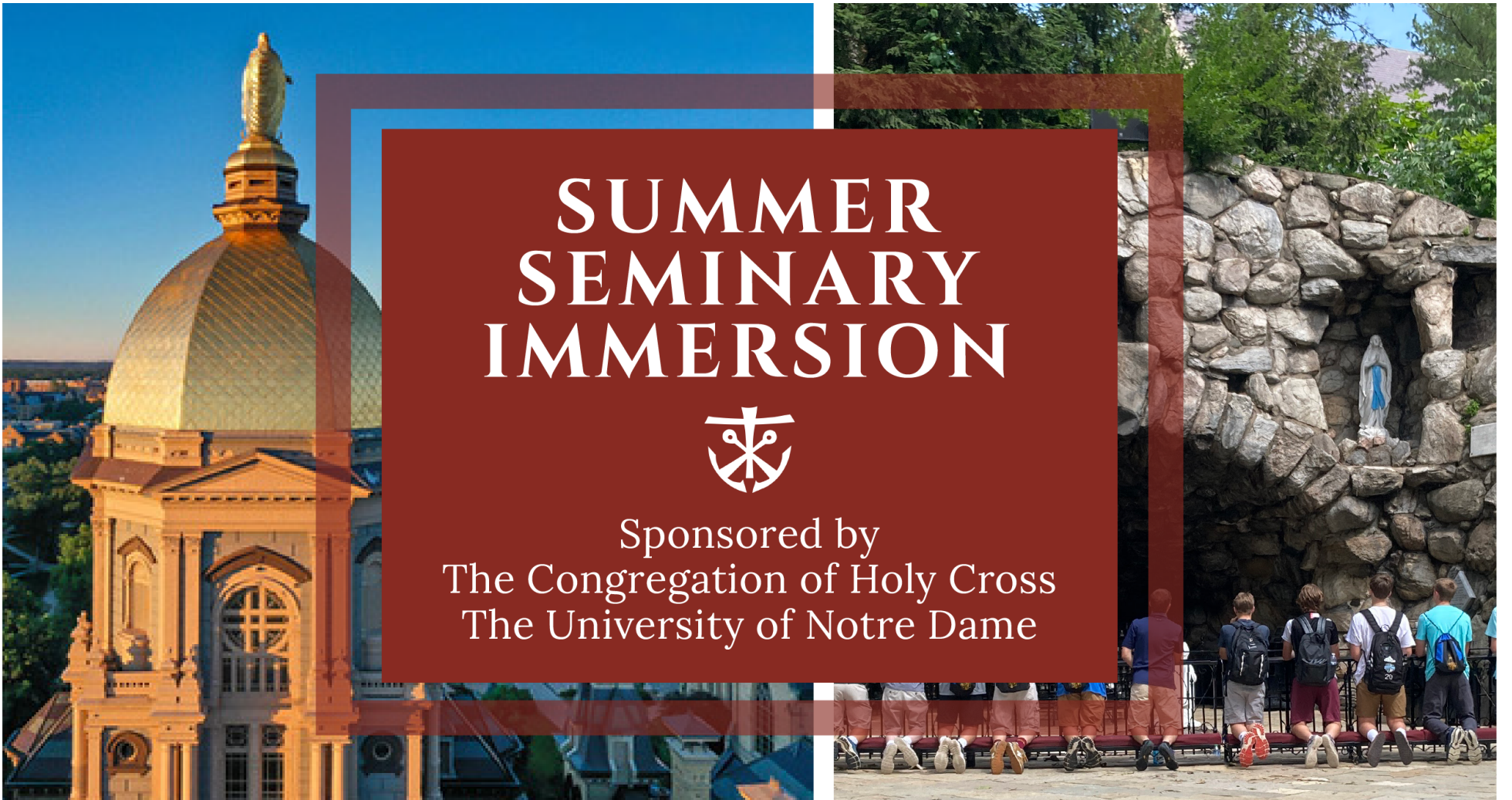
Deadline for Applications is Friday, May 3, 2024.



St. Adalbert Middle School Math Teacher /Math Interventionist

St. Adalbert School in South Bend is looking for a full-time Middle School Math and Math Interventionist for the 2024-2025 school year. Ideal applicants should possess or be able to apply for an Indiana Educator License in Mathematics. Experience working with second language students is preferred but not required. For more information, call the school office at 574-288-6645.

Visit diocesefwsb.org/careers to apply.



SUMMER SEMINARY IMMERSION



Sponsored by
The Congregation of Holy Cross
The University of Notre Dame

**TWO WEEKS OF
THEOLOGICAL STUDY,
PRAYER,
AND COMMUNITY LIFE
AT NOTRE DAME.**

**FOR CATHOLIC MEN
SEEKING TO BETTER
UNDERSTAND
GOD'S CALL.**



June 15-29, 2024

APPLY: precollege.nd.edu/seminaryimmersion

**Rising high school juniors & seniors
Applicable for college credit**

**For more information,
call 574-631-6385 or
email vocations@holycrossusa.org.**



cscvocations.org



[@cscvocations](https://www.instagram.com/cscvocations)