FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger High School recently announced approval of plans to move forward with a $7.75 million expansion of the school facilities in order to meet the growing demands for Catholic secondary education in northern Allen County. Over the past 15 years, Dwenger has seen its enrollment increase from just over 700 students to a present enrollment of 1,055.

Two years ago, the Bishop Dwenger School Board began work on a strategic plan designed to carry the school through the next several years. “The steady increase in enrollment along with an increased demand for fine arts courses makes this expansion the next logical step in Dwenger’s future,” said Bishop Dwenger Principal J. Fred Tone. Nearly 43 percent of Dwenger students are currently enrolled in either a visual or performing arts class. Some 65 percent of Dwenger graduates are expected to earn the Indiana Academic Honors Diploma.

The initial phase of the expansion project includes a 37,000-square-foot fine arts addition to the west of the existing music room. The new space will house separate band and choir rooms as well as individual and ensemble practice areas. It will also add much needed storage space for instruments, uniforms and a music library.

The existing music room will be converted into three art classrooms and will also provide space for photography and graphic arts. Construction costs for the fine arts wing are expected to run $4.7 million and include all site development and infrastructure costs. Plans also call for 20,000-square-foot classroom addition that will house 13 new classrooms and a new faculty workroom. Cost of the classrooms will be an additional $3 million.

School officials expect to begin work on the fine arts wing sometime in late May or early June. It will take approximately 15 months to construct. Classroom construction, while dependent on the school’s continuing effort to raise funds from alumni, parents, friends, as well as the local community, will commence as soon as possible after that and is expected to take 10 months. The goal is to bring both the fine arts wing and the academic wing online by the beginning of the 2007-08 school year. We anticipate breaking ground on the expansion by May of 2006.

The school has already generated nearly $4 million in pledges as part of its “One Family Committed to the Future — The Campaign to Advance Our Mission.” Campaign co-chairs, Jack and Cathy Krouse.

St. Jude mission group wraps up trip to Gulf Coast

BY CRAIG BOBAY

FORT WAYNE — The mission crew from St. Jude Parish spent a week in February working on cleanup projects in Biloxi, Miss. This is the third and final installment, with excerpts from a log written by Craig Bobay, St. Jude parishioner, during the trip.

Thursday, Feb. 9.

“Many members of the Catholic relief staff in the Biloxi area lost everything to Katrina, including our cook, Connie. Her home was completely destroyed; all of her possessions are completely gone. Connie’s job as a caterer was also lost to the storm. She just got the job as the center’s cook to help support her family of five, who now live in a small FEMA trailer.”

“Another LTDR (Diocese of Biloxi’s Long Term Disaster Recovery Office) supervisor, Wayne, lost his home, and for the last several months has had the task of working with a new group of volunteers most every week, having no advanced information regarding the job skills of the volunteers, he must coordinate their activities with a never ending list of work to be done. His home has not yet been repaired. “Yvonne, a LTDR employee told us of the extreme gratitude of all of the people of the Biloxi Diocese, and of all of the people of the Gulf Coast for the generosity of all who are donating their time and money to help. ...”

At the home of Eula Mae Brubridge, the St. Jude crew “spent much of the day putting up new drywall ceilings.” They also installed a new front porch security light, and secured the front steps handrail back in place.

“Walt (Schroder) began the work of measuring and cutting drywall to provide Eula with a new ceiling in her living room and front bedroom. All four of us were needed to put up the drywall ceiling...”

“We were nearly finished with that task...”
Not a desk job

The presence of the bishop in parishes and other institutions is essential for pastoral care of the diocese. Priests sense this, and so do the laity. It is this presence that enables the bishop to understand the diocese and to care for it and to make the decisions that are required. The 10th chapter of the Gospel of John shows clearly the Good Shepherd: “I know mine, and mine know me.” Visibility, though important, is not enough. The bishop should be present in the celebration of the Eucharist and as the preacher of the word of God. One of the instruments that makes this possible for me is the parish mission, as carried out through the instrumentality of the Office of Spiritual Development. Recently, I have preached at such missions at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception; St. Joseph, Roanoke; and soon at St. Mary, Fort Wayne and St. Bernard, Wabash. The Office of Spiritual Development has been involved in 13 such parish missions, and I have preached in six of them since last fall, with two coming up.

New evangelization

This is a term, I believe, coined by Pope Paul VI, but not new in context, but now an adverb, method and expression.” One of the great strengths of this diocesan effort is the preparation done by the parishioners along with three dedicated evangelists: Sister Jolene Heiden, SSND; Sister Mary Brooks, CSC; and Ginny Kohrman. They work with the parishes on such things as publicity and outreach. They also conduct sessions in the morning with smaller groups, where there is a chance for exchanges and discussion. There is strong preparation for four or five nights of prayer by the parish. Pope John Paul II has said that the parish should be “a school of prayer.” It certainly is during these missions, and many people return to the practice of their faith through the sacrament of penance.

Also the schools

This week I will be spending a day at two of our high schools. Saint Joseph’s in South Bend and Bishop Dwenger in Fort Wayne. These visits take an entire day and are an opportunity to meet with students and faculty members and with the religion department and to offer Mass. At Dwenger, we will be holding a penance service, and I will hear confessions. I really do come to know the students in our high schools in a spiritual way and as their pastor. They are an important part of the effort for our jubilee, now so quickly approaching.

I will be working with Steve Weigand and Chris Culver of our Office of Youth Ministry to strengthen our outreach to public school students who, after all, constitute the largest number of our teenagers.

More later on a very special day at Saint Joseph’s High.

It was also a joy recently to offer Mass at the Holy Cross College with Brother Richard Gilman, CSC, and many of the students to have lunch with them and to hear, again, about the excellent apostolic work being done there under the guidance of Robert Kloska, a member of the exemplary Kloska family of Elkhart. I heard about students going to Africa and Latin America on apostolic journeys.

In the near future, I will be offering Mass at the University of Saint Francis and a late night Sunday Mass at one of the Notre Dame residence halls, as well as making a noontime presentation to students of the Notre Dame Law School. All in a day’s work.

Speaking of the upcoming jubilee

I met this past week with Linda Purge to go over the approach for our 150th anniversary, which will be observed in 2007. It was an encouraging visit. The centerpiece will be the Eucharistic Congress to be held at the University of Notre Dame on Aug. 18, 2007. I asked Linda, “Can we fill the Joyce Center again?” Linda gave great credit to the priests for the success of our Eucharistic Congress in the Year 2000, where there was a major effort to bring Catholics back to the practice of their faith. It is especially encouraging to see the Jubilee Cross being carried from parish to parish throughout the diocese. This last week it was in Fort Wayne; and as we gathered at the cathedral for the rite of election, this great cross was carried down the aisle at the beginning of the service. Etched in the cross are these words: “His Steadfast Love Endures Forever.” This is from Psalm 117. When you are made a bishop, you are asked to have a certain motto or saying, which is hoped will typify your episcopal ministry. At the time of my ordination as a bishop, I had a great sense of God’s love — how strong it was and how personal — and so I took this brief psalm as my motto. It will be part of the logo/image in preparation for this great year of intense spiritual growth and evangelization. There are many other plans underway, and I am beginning to create a pastoral letter to set this jubilee in context.

And our priests

Nothing is more important than the sanctification of our priests, and as I write this I am looking forward to a day of prayer at Sacred Heart Parish in Warsaw. Father James Steffes is the rector of Immaculate Heart Seminary in Winona, Minn., where three of our young men are studying for the priesthood. They are Chris Lapp, Terry “Tank” Coonan and Tim Chupp. I look forward to hearing from Father Steffes about these three candidates who are in the college division and are preparing for the priesthood for our diocese.

Spiritual reading

Every year at Christmas and also as Holy Week approaches, I send to our priests a book for spiritual reading. I find such reading to be very important. This year I am sending to our priests the following books: “God is Near Us: The Eucharist, the Heart of Life,” by then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, who is now Pope Benedict XVI. It contains beautiful chapters on the holy Eucharist. I also included a book entitled, “The Joy of Priesthood,” by Father Stephen Rosssetti. Father Rosssetti is a psychologist who saw the crisis of 2002 firsthand and assisted other priests during that time. Also included is a small booklet on Bishop Simon Bruté. Bishop Bruté, a native of France, who can light-ly be called a predecessor of mine and of all of us. He was the first bishop of Vincennes, the first diocese in Indiana, which included the entire state. A scholar and a man of prayer. This booklet contains a series of essays written by Archbishop Buechlein, OSB, of Indianapolis. The cause for canonization of Bishop Bruté has been introduced by the archbishop, and this will be a great blessing for us all. We need to hear about holy and apostolic bishops, and this is certainly one. I also have included the beautiful encyclical by the Holy Father: “God is Love.”

Sports report

Baseball season is nigh, I am not confident about the Red Sox this year. The Yankees look powerful. Our vaunted closer is getting injections in his knee every week, and the trades over the winter seem less helpful. Ah, but there will soon be box scores in the morning paper and the crack of the bat will be heard in the land; and I shall have a nice July night, maybe two, at Fenway Park. See you all next week.
Pope, celebrating Mass with workers, prays for jobless, exploited

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Offering special prayers for the unemployed and for those exploited in their work, Pope Benedict XVI celebrated Mass March 19 with members of Italian labor unions and Catholic organizations for workers.

Anticipating the liturgical feast of St. Joseph, transferred to March 19 this year because it fell on a Sunday in Lent, the pope said work enables people to realize their potential and contribute to the good of society as long as their work is “undertaken in full respect for human dignity and the common good.”

The pope asked St. Joseph, patron of workers, to take special care of “young people who have difficulty entering the world of work, the unemployed and those who suffer from difficulties related to the widespread employment crisis.”

In his homily, the pope said that in the world of work, “an important aspect of human existence,” the rapid changes brought by technology and the globalization of the economy are experienced each day.

While people express themselves and support their families through their work, the pope said it is important that they not let their jobs take over their lives and become idols.

Obeying the commandment to keep the Lord’s day holy helps people keep God first in their lives, understanding that they were created by God and are called to cooperate with God in all they do, the pope said.

In order for work to serve the good of the community, professional and technical preparation and a just social order are not enough, Pope Benedict said.

“Today, and people also need ‘a spirituality that helps believers sanctify themselves through their work, imitating St. Joseph, who had to provide with his own hands each day for the needs of the Holy Family.’”

During the Mass, special prayers were offered that God would help all men and women work with respect for creation and for justice. Other prayers were offered for those who are abused or exploited in work and for those who have died because of work-related accidents and illnesses.

In addition to the Sistine Chapel choir, the choir from St. James Cathedral in Seattle provided music for the Mass. Reciting the Angelus at noon with visitors in St. Peter’s Square, the pope continued his reflections on St. Joseph. Using the saint as an example, the pope said every Catholic is called to “undertake with fidelity, simplicity and modesty the task which providence has assigned to us.”

“I am thinking particularly of fathers and mothers of families, and I pray that they always will appreciate the beauty of a simple and industrious life, cultivate their conjugal relationship with care and fulfill with enthusiasm their great and not always easy mission to educate” their children, he said.

March 19 also was the “name day” of the pope, the former Joseph Ratzinger, a fact remembered at the beginning of the Mass by Bishop Arrigo Miglio of Ivrea, Italy, and during the Angelus by workers holding banners wishing the pope well.

Compendium of catechism goes on sale in paperback

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A spokeswoman for the U.S. bishops’ pro-life secretariat, responding to a report that two more women have died after taking RU-486, called on Congress to pass legislation that aims to suspend the Food and Drug Administration’s approval of the drug used for chemical abortions.

“We are deeply saddened by yet another advisory from the Food and Drug Administration that two more women have died from RU-486 abortions,” said Deirdre A. McQuade, director of planning and information for the U.S. bishops’ Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities.

However, in its March 17 public health advisory, the FDA said it was not yet “able to confirm the causes of death” of the two women in the United States but was “investigating various circumstances associated with these cases.”

The agency said it had received “verbal notifications” of the deaths by the manufacturer of RU-486, Danco Laboratories. McQuade said 10 women have died after using the regimen.

“We again call on Congress to pass the RU-486 Suspension and Review Act (‘Holly’s Law’) which will protect women’s lives while the flawed FDA approval process of this dangerous drug is scrutinized,” McQuade said.

The measure calls for temporary suspension of the FDA’s approval of RU-486 so the U.S. comptroller general can review the agency’s adherence to statutory procedures and rules surrounding the approval of the drug.

“By the end of this year, lives of women and children have been lost. Congress must act,” said McQuade.

Holly’s Law is named in memory of Holly Patterson, an 18-year-old from California who died from toxic shock in 2003 after being given RU-486.

Pro-life official urges Congress to suspend FDA approval of RU-486

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Later phases of the school’s master plan call for expansion and renovation of the administrative offices and student support services. It also includes enhancements to the school’s main entrance. In addition, the school plans to increase its endowment fund by $1 million which will ensure additional funding for the school’s tuition assistance program. The cost for this phase will be $2.9 million.

“This additional priority is solely dependent upon the result of our capital campaign. If we can inspire our stakeholders to stretch even further in their financial support, we will be able to fund more of these priorities,” Fred Tone said.

“RU-486 abortions are 10 times more likely to kill a woman, from infection alone, than are surgical abortions in early pregnancy.”

NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

Pro-life official urges Congress to suspend FDA approval of RU-486
Baltimore’s basilica, nation’s first cathedral, to reopen in November

BY JOSEPH RYAN

BALTIMORE (CNS) — It will take nine days of events to celebrate the completion of the two-year restoration of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, America’s first cathedral.

The renovation will be completed in time for the scheduled reopening of the basilica Nov. 4. Special events are scheduled through Nov. 12.

This year marks the bicentennial of the start of construction on the basilica in 1806 on top of a hill overlooking Baltimore. The basilica was designed by Benjamin Latrobe, chief architect of the original U.S. Capitol in Washington.

When ground was broken for the cathedral, Bishop John Carroll of Baltimore was the only Catholic bishop for the entire country.

Michael Ruck, chairman of the board of the Basilica Historic Trust, announced plans for the reopening of the historic church at a press conference March 15, which will officially reopen Nov. 4. The following day the altar will be rededicated and an archdiocesan Mass will be celebrated.

Potter also noted that the building’s historic significance is particularly important today when sacred mosques and basilicas in distant lands are being attacked.

“This cathedral deserves to be preserved, protected and ... showcased for Americans of today and Americans of tomorrow,” he said, “as a symbol of our right to worship without fear or persecution or attack.”

Mark J. Potter, executive director of the Basilica of the Assumption Historic Trust Inc., gives the media a tour of the renovations of the Baltimore basilica, after a Feb. 15 press conference announcing the grand reopening celebrations set for Nov. 4-12.

America will converge on Baltimore for a procession into the basilica, a moment that will echo a similar procession when the church was first opened.”

Potter thanked the trust’s board members, the contractor, John G. Waite Associates. In thanking all the carpenters, electricians, roofers and painters who are working to restore the basilica, Potter mentioned the signature of a mid-19th-century craftsman in the undercroft of the basilica.

Francis Gildea, who signed his name in wet cement soon after the Civil War battle of Gettysburg, Pa., in 1863, is a tangible link “to all the many expert craftsmen whose beautiful work on this restoration will inspire and be admired for centuries to come,” Potter said.

“Now that the scaffolding is down,” Potter added, “it’s easy to imagine how wonderful the basilica will be when the new marble floor is in place and our pews, pulpit, altar and bishop’s chair are gloriously restored.”

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422-4611
Church officials: People must be aware of potential abuse of religion

BY CAROL GLATZ

ROCCA DI PAPA, ITALY (CNS) — Christian churches should help people to the potential abuse of religion as a way to reach certain political goals, said a European Catholic official.

In some countries where people are living in poverty or have little or no voice in government, people “want a way out,” said Msgr. Peter Fleetwood, deputy general secretary of the Council of European Bishops’ Conferences and organizer of a mid-March conference dedicated to religion and violence.

“Why should people be able to pirate the name of religion and get away with it?” he asked.

“World leaders say God told them to do things” like wage a violent campaign against others, which represents “an abuse of religion,” he said.

In an effort to inform European church leaders about what Islam and Christianity teach about licit or moral forms of violence, the Council of European Bishops’ Conferences and the Conference of European Churches’ joint committee for relations with Muslims met in mid-March at the English College retreat and conference center in Rocca di Papa.

Msgr. Fleetwood told journalists March 17 that the committee had declared that church leaders and the Catholic bishops in Europe to provide directives on how the churches could respond to “a very complex situation.”

In places where there are repeated injustices or limited economic possibilities, “sometimes the only way to get people together is to call on one of the pillars of their culture, which will be their religion,” he said.

Some leaders might say, “Look, this whole situation is immoral. God doesn’t want this,” he said. “But whether God wants killing and bombing as a way out of a bad situation is the question.”

Msgr. Fleetwood said he was in charge of explaining the Catholic Church’s just-war tradition and its limitations and relating it to other statements on the religious justification of violence from committee members who represented other Christian church bodies.

Martin Affolderbach, secretary of Christian-Muslim and interreligious affairs for Germany’s Lutheran church, said the main difficulty was determining Islamic teaching about the use of violence. When surveying Islamic publications, “it’s difficult to get the right picture of what is Islam,” he said.

Is a religious leader or intellectual’s particular statement on the question of violence or nonviolence an accurate interpretation of the Quran or is it a manipulation of religious convictions used in a political situation of conflict? he asked.

Affolderbach said the Lutheran church in Germany does not focus only on dialogue with individual leaders of Islamic communities, but also with Muslim doctors, lawyers and other professionals who are familiar with their own religion and German culture.

He said he keeps the channels of dialogue open to all groups and individuals, even ones that may have been labeled as extreme by German authorities.

“Sometimes internal intelligence will label a group as extreme,” but there is no evidence, he said. A person may attend a mosque simply because it is the closest one to his home, not because he agrees with any inflammatory statements its imam might have made in his sermons, he said.

“Better to keep them at the table than label them and exclude them” from dialogue, he said.

Msgr. Fleetwood said he believes the committee’s final statement on religion and violence would be made public at the end of the year. He said church leaders do not see Muslim-Christian dialogue as an ideological battle to win. Muslim-Christian exchanges are aimed at understanding each other better and creating a more healthy continent where different peoples coexist in peace.

“Rather than winning a battle, it’s making the most of life here; what’s the most human Europe we can contribute to?” he said.

Sainthood cause for missionary in Soviet Union takes next step

BY TARA J. CONNOLLY

ALLENTOWN, Pa. (CNS) — More than 20 years after the death of Jesuit Father Paolo Molinari, a Pennsylvania-born priest who was a missionary in the Soviet Union, officials in the Diocese of Allentown have completed the preliminary phase of their quest to see him declared a saint.

Materials and documentation supporting the canonization cause for Father Ciszek were sent to Jesuit Father Paolo Molinari, postulator general for the Society of Jesus, in Rome Feb. 27. This officially closes the first phase of the process of canonization — the diocesan inquiry into the priest’s reputation for sanctity.

Allentown Bishop Edward P. Muntone, a co-postulator of the canonization cause, sealed the file at the diocesan chancery office before they were sent.

The diocesan phase included a series of investigations that began in 1990 under the direction of now-retired Bishop Michael J. Disdial of the Byzantine Diocese of Passaic, N.J.

The work continued under Bishop Thomas J. Walsh of Allentown, until he retired in December 1997 and his successor, Bishop Cullen, installed in 1998, took over responsibility for it.

The task of preparing the documentation sent to Rome included recording the testimony of 45 witnesses, gathering Father Ciszek’s handwritten documents.

“This phase of the process was very demanding,” Msgr. Muntone told The A.D. Times, Allentown’s diocesan newspaper. “It involved many steps and took a great deal of time, but at the same time it was very rewarding as it afforded the opportunity to see firsthand what a truly exceptional person Father Ciszek was.”

Father Ciszek, who was of Polish descent, was born in 1904, and entered the Jesuits in 1928. In response to an appeal from Pope Pius XI to the Jesuit order, he volunteered to work in the Soviet Union and was ordained in 1937; he was the first American Jesuit to be ordained in the Russian Byzantine rite.

In 1940, he entered the Soviet Union. He was arrested by secret police the following year and sentenced to 15 years hard labor. In 1947 he was declared “legally dead” in the United States. Eight years later Father Ciszek was released from prison and given limited freedom in the Soviet Union, where he then functioned as a priest while working in factories and as an auto mechanic.

In 1963, Father Ciszek, with another American, was returned to the United States as part of a prisoner exchange for two Soviets held for espionage in the U.S. He worked at the John XXIII Center for Eastern Christian Studies, which at that time was at Fordham College. He gave retreats and talks there and counseled people until his death in 1984.

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Bishop Luers hosts Japanese visitors

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School will be hosting 19 students and two teachers from their sister high school, Fushiki Senior High School in Takaoka, Japan.

They visited Fort Wayne March 18-25 and were welcomed to Bishop Luers at an all-school assembly on March 22. The Japanese students were given a chance to share their culture with Bishop Luers World Culture Club, they explained calligraphy, origami, use of chopsticks and Japanese pop music.

Sister Cities International hosted a luncheon in honor of the group at Hall’s Gas House in Fort Wayne on March 23. After their luncheon they visited the City-County Building and were welcomed by Mayor Graham Richard.

Redeemer Radio will begin spring share-a-thon

SOUTH BEND — Redeemer Radio, Catholic Radio 1450 AM, has completed its first two months of operation, broadcasting the Catholic message throughout Fort Wayne and the surrounding area.

Redeemer Radio is a 501(c)3 nonprofit group of lay Catholics, financially separate from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and totally dependent on the generosity of listeners.

The first of two annual on-air pledge drives will take place March 29-31, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. each day. Known as “Spring Share-a-thon 2006,” the event will be hosted by Jerry Usher at the studios of Redeemer Radio. Usher is the national host of Catholic radio’s Redeemer Radio. Usher is the national host of Catholic radio’s Redeemer Radio.

A number of listeners have told Redeemer Radio that the station is changing their lives. A non-Catholic noted that she used to listen to the station when it used to be Protestant, “but then it switched to Catholic, but I really like it.”

The station clearly sees its apostolate as fulfilling the call of Pope John Paul II for a New Evangelization.

Luers students compete in FBLA competition, qualify for nationals

FORT WAYNE — Members of the Bishop Luers High School chapter of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) competed at the annual state conference in Indianapolis March 10-12.

The following members placed in the top ten in their events and may be qualified for national competition this summer in Nashville, Tenn.

- Zach Burrell, third in business calculations and fourth in international business
- Andrew Stein, third in C++ programming
- Aaron Ware, sixth in economics
- Mandi Lazzaro, fifth in FBLA principles and procedures
- Jacob Ware, sixth in introduction to parliamentary procedures and seventh in marketing
- Kyle Canadas, fifth in job interview and fourth in public speaking II
- Bill Craighead, seventh in public speaking, fourth in visual basic and fourth in Web site development
- Joe Spatt, fourth in technology concepts
- Adrian Rivera, fifth in visual basic and third in word processing I
- Isaac Larson, fourth in Web site development
- Vincent Rivera, fourth in Web site development and fourth in word processing II

The following people have place second and have automatically qualified for national competition.

- Zach Burrell, second in banking and financial systems
- Brian Gannon, second in business law
- Andrew Stein, second in computer concepts
- Mandi Lazzaro, second in introduction to parliamentary procedures

- Isaac Larson, second in network concepts

Finally, the following people have qualified for nationals by taking first place:

- Isaac Larson, first place in computer concepts
- Mandi Lazzaro, first place in introduction to business communications

The response from listeners to the station clearly sees its message. A number of listeners have told Redeemer Radio that the station is changing their lives.

The response from listeners to the station clearly sees its message. A number of listeners have told Redeemer Radio that the station is changing their lives.

Goshen Police Officer Mark Huser was kept pretty busy fingerprinting the youngsters. He said, “As a police officer and a parent, we hope this will never be needed for anything. But in an emergency, it will provide important information. In the past, if children have been taken, their appearance is often altered right away.”

Huser said, “And sometimes children are brainwashed to believe they are someone they are not. This helps prove the truth to them.”

Officer Huser said he was merely doing the fingerprinting that evening, but the kit also explains to parents how to record other important data and how to collect DNA.

New Haven students place in poster contest

NEW HAVEN — Clarion Health Partners and the Indiana Poison Center hosted an award ceremony for a statewide poster contest where 667 third through sixth grade students were asked to create attention-getting artwork that promoted National Poison Prevention Week.

Mirie Behm of Keystone School, Fort Wayne, and Connor Leslie and Kori Current, both of St. John the Baptist School, New Haven, each placed in the Indiana Poison Center’s statewide poster contest to promote National Poison Prevention Week, March 19-25. Leslie took second place in the fifth and sixth grade division. Current took third place in the fifth and sixth grade division.

The Indianapolis Colts’ Bill Brooks was on hand to award the students. The award ceremony took place at Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. National Poison Prevention Week is intended to be a time for local communities to raise awareness about the danger of unintentional poisoning.

Knights present check for Guardian Angels

GOSHEN — The Knights of Columbus, Council 7541 of St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen is once again offering Lenten fish fries each Friday. The Knights sponsored a child-fingerprinting program as a public service to parishioners and the community at the March 17 fish fry.

Grand Knight Mark Weaver said, “The Knights of Columbus are involved in many things and one of our main focus is serving the youth. We want to make sure our children are kept safe.”

He said the Knights thought the fish fry was “a wonderful opportunity to have the people participate in the child fingerprinting. It’s a good opportunity to do service work, not only for St. John’s, but also the community. We may do this sort of thing on a more regular basis.”

Around the Diocese

A number of students have told Redeemer Radio that the station is changing their lives. A non-Catholic noted that she used to listen to the station when it used to be Protestant, “but then it switched to Catholic, but I really like it.”

The station clearly sees its apostolate as fulfilling the call of Pope John Paul II for a New Evangelization.

Knights honor Vaszar

SOUTH BEND — Michael Vaszar, who has directed special music for the annual Lourdes Charity Ball, sponsored by the Santa Maria Council 553, Knights of Columbus, was honored with a special citation for his 20 consecutive years of service to the organization at an awards ceremony.

“This remarkable dedication of service to such a humane cause is genuinely appreciated,” said Kevin Large, grand knight of the council. "ED"
Companions in Prayer teach students, adults to ‘talk to God’

BY KAY COZAD

Grant me, O Lord my God, a mind to know you, a heart to seek you, wisdom to find you, conduct pleasing to you, faithful perseverance in waiting for you, and a hope of finally embracing you.—St. Thomas Aquinas

FORT WAYNE — Thomas Aquinas and his writings on prayer have been an inspiration to New York native, Sister Marlene Haplin, O.P., Ph.D., for many years. A member of the Dominican Sisters of Amityville, N.Y., and doctor of philosophy, Haplin began her teaching career in 1947 and has taught all grade levels including postgraduate studies. This popular speaker, author and lifelong teacher has been teaching children and adults how to pray for entire life. It is her passion.

Over two decades ago, while teaching in Kalamazoo, Mich., Haplin was challenged by the rector of the cathedral there to teach the children how to pray. “He said, ‘Our young people need to know the church because of lack of knowledge of the doctrine but because they don’t know how to start a relationship with God.’ says Haplin.

So for the next 16 years she taught children from kindergarten to eighth grades a program of a prayer model based on contemplative prayer.

The program, aptly dubbed “Companions in Prayer,” requires a quiet, prayerful space where the children are taught to “talk to God” — to rest, quietly in his presence. “They said it should be taught in all our schools,” says Haplin.

With wholehearted agreement, Haplin designed and launched her first session of a two-year program in Companions in Prayer in 2001. The program, funded by Loyola Press, brought a group of 16 well-educated participants together from all over the country for five, three-day seminars the first year. Haplin is recommended by their own diocese, most holding graduate degrees and diocese of religious education.

Four candidates were chosen from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend for the initial session. Lori Neumann and Theresa Driscoll from the Fort Wayne area began the program in 2002, with numerous high religious teacher at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Catholic School and a catechist for the religious education program there. Driscoll was the director of religious education for St. Therese Church in Fort Wayne.

Both agree the program has changed their lives. “It’s so powerful. It resonates with almost everyone at some level,” says Neumann.

Each program session they attended allowed for time to get acquainted as well as information sharing. After six to eight structured sessions, each participant “reported” on their own previous use of the prayer style and its successes and failures. A spiritual director was available during the sessions, as well. Upon program completion, each participant possessed four binders of notes, Scripture and handouts, including experiential stories and stories written by the others in the group.

“We shared our materials freely,” says Driscoll. “It was mentoring with hands on things, home-work and evaluations.”

The group was encouraged to use the prayer style in their churches immediately and that they did. Neumann first brought it into the junior high religion classes where, she says, it was “relished.”

Driscoll began the prayer sessions in first, third and sixth grades at St. Therese and says, “The students like it because it gives them quiet space, personal time with Jesus and a chance to share with no tests. It teaches them not to talk about God but to talk to God.”

Driscoll, who along with Neumann, is a parish representa-tive for the books marketing department at Our Sunday Visitor, says, “We are extremely blessed by this and take any opportunity to pass it on. We work together well.” Both women are dedicated to have undertaken this program and feel it has changed their lives.

Another participant, Gigi Kohrman, of the diocesan Office of Spiritual Development, is now in the first year of the program.

One of 14 in the new group, she has begun to teach contemplative prayer to first and fifth grade students at St. Joseph, Hesen, Cassel in Fort Wayne.

“It’s a great program. You are always turning it (the issue or story) back to Jesus and taking it to prayer. It’s teaching them to grow in spirit and to listen,” says Kohrman.

Sister Marlene says she is grateful to work with such spirited filled people. “They are a wonderful community of learners and learn from each other. There is no imitation anywhere. They work from their own faith. I just love them.” Her thoughts for the future of the program? “I want it to increase and multiply, because as Thomas Aquinas said, ‘the heart of morality is found in your prayer.’

President of Ireland to offer commencement address at Notre Dame

BY DENNIS BROWN

NOTRE DAME — President of Ireland, Mary McAleese, will be the principal speaker and the recipi-ent of an honorary doctor of laws degree at the University of Notre Dame’s 167th commencement exer-cises on Sunday, May 21. The cere-mony will begin at 2 p.m. in the Joyce Center arena on campus.

“As an attorney, journalist, scholar and now president, Mary McAleese is an inspiring role model for women, a fierce champion for peace and a passionate voice within the Catholic Church,” said Father John L. Jenkins, CSC, Notre Dame’s president. “The theme of her presidency is ‘building bridges,’ and she has done just that, while also staying true to herself. We are honored that she has accepted our invitation to speak to the class of 2006 and receive an honorary degree from Notre Dame.”

McAleese was elected president in 1997 and stood unopposed for election to a second term in 2004. A native of Belfast, she is the country’s eighth president and the first from Northern Ireland.

As part of her “building bridges” theme, President McAleese is a regular visitor to Northern Ireland. “President McAleese has been warmly welcomed by both the Catholic and Protestant com-munities, confounding critics who believed her election would lead to greater division. Among many conciliatory gestures, she officially recognizes both St. Patrick’s Day and the Twelfth of July, the anniversary of the Protestant victo-ry in the 1690 Battle of the Boyne. The eldest of nine children, President McAleese was raised in a Catholic family in a mainly Protestant area of Northern Ireland. During “The Troubles,” her family was forced to leave its home, settling in County Down. She studied law at Queen’s University in Belfast and was graduated with honors in 1973. After practicing law for a year, President McAleese accepted a position at Dublin’s Trinity College as the Real Professor of Criminal Law, Criminology and Penology, succeeding Mary Robinson, whom she later succeeded as Ireland’s president. She left the university to work, for two years as a journalist for the “Frontline” and “Today Tonight” programs on RTÉ, the national television network of Ireland.

She continued to work part time with RTÉ after returning to Trinity in 1981.

President McAleese returned to Northern Ireland in 1987 to become director of the Institute of Professional Legal Studies at her alma mater. Seven years later, she was appointed a pro-vice-chancellor at Queen’s, her giving management responsibilities for the entire university.

President McAleese served as a member of the Catholic Church Episcopal Delegation to the New Ireland Forum in 1984 and the church’s delegation to the North Commission in 1986. She also was a delegate to the 1995 White House Conference on Controversies in Parades in 1996. She was also a delegate for women at the 1995 White House Conference on Controversies in Investment in Ireland and to a fol-low-up conference a year later in Pittsburg.

INDIANAPOLIS — While Major Moves, property tax reform and deregulating the telecommunications industry captured the headlines, the Indiana Catholic Conference covered a lot of moral ground at Statehouse this year.

The priority issues the Indiana Catholic Conference addressed during the 2006 Indiana General Assembly included legislation (1) to limit the death penalty; (2) to curtail abortion by improving Indiana’s informed consent; (3) to ensure fair treatment for immigrants; and (4) to assist low income families with heating costs.

“Upholding the dignity of the human person especially the least among us is a work all Christians share,” said Indiana Catholic Conference, Executive Director Glenn Tebbe. “Two measures aimed at limiting Indiana’s death penalty were introduced but did not receive a hearing and died. Another death penalty related measure, SB 160, introduced but did not receive a committee hearing. The one-year state sales tax extension for persons receiving heating assistance will become law without a signature of the governor.”

The measure also would have had negative consequences for employers and Indiana’s economy.”

House Bill 1383 was defeated in the House, 19-74.

Rep. Mike Murphy (R-Indianapolis) spoke about Matthew’s Gospel about “when I was hungry you gave me food, when I was thirsty you gave me drink, and when I was a stranger you welcomed me,” it truly summed up the debate.”

A bill to improve Indiana’s informed consent law died when the conference committee report for HB 1172, was not voted on by the Senate. The final version of the bill only dealt with informed consent. The effort to add abortion clinic regulations was dropped.

“The bill was significant, and the effort to defeat it was well orchestrated,” said Tebbe. “The two provisions that caused the opposition were, ‘the fetus might feel pain’ and ‘human physical life begins when an egg is fertilized by a human sperm.”

Although the report was approved by the Senate Rules Committee late March 14, the bill was not called before time expired at midnight. Even though the House had enough votes to pass the bill, all of the money set aside for the program will be used to provide heat assistance rather than 6 percent being used for social services.

“The Indiana Catholic Conference and the Indiana Catholic Action Network (I-CAN) has had an impact on lawmakers by taking part in the political process,” said Tebbe. “Even though some of the legislation we supported or opposed did not go our way, by taking part in the debate, we were able to educate the decision makers and raise awareness on important moral issues.”

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Invitation appreciated in welcoming Catholics home to the church

BY DENISE FEDOROW

St. John the Evangelist’s Welcoming Catholics Home participants meet to discuss reasons why Catholics become inactive and how to return to the church. Pictured from left are Teri Germane, participant, Max Blue, participant, Marsha Meyer, program coordinator and Maria Pirrie, young adult minister with the Catholic Education Center office in Mishawaka.

“I want to familiarize myself with the program and see if it’s something that would be worthwhile for young adults who’ve fallen away.”

Pirrie thinks the program could be “a wonderful invitation to come back and an opportunity to support their needs and have questions answered in a community development setting.”

Pirrie also remarked she hoped programs such as this would be available in many more parishes in the diocese.

Past participants have found the program helpful. Tim Miller, who shared he was inspired by his son Joseph to start attending Mass again, said he thought the program was great. “It was very comfortable,” he said.

Tim’s sister, Shelly, also participated in the program with him. Mary Delaney, who is friends with the Millers, participated in the first session as well. She too thought the program was very worthwhile and should continue. She said she thought the sessions with Father Delaney might be uncomfortable for her but surprisingly they weren’t and she felt she learned a lot.

One common feeling among returning Catholics is that the longer they’ve been away, the more they feel unworthy to get involved in the parish and feel they’ll be judged for their lapses.

“This program is a way to let them know there is a place just waiting for them. ‘It’s very helpful for people to know they are wanted and welcome to come back,’ Marsha said.
Living Christ today: Why be Catholic?

BY LINDA FURGE

Opening prayer

Loving God, we so often take for granted the many gifts you give out of unconditional love for us. We sometimes forget to thank you for the daily blessings that come our way and for the gift of faith that gives purpose and meaning to our lives. We neglect to pray for our fellow travelers on the path to eternal life with you in heaven. Renew in us a passion, energy and gratitude for life, for community, for justice and for peace. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Scripture: Acts 10: 34-43

Commentary

Those of us who grew up in the church before the Second Vatican Council rarely had a chance to talk about being Catholic — we just were. Period. Back then “what made us Catholic” was out there for all to see: statues of Mary and the saints, Stations of the Cross; rosaries, missals and holy cards for Sunday Mass; statues of Jesus, Sacred Heart or the Immaculate Conception in homes; etc.

Everyone knew who was Catholic by the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches in the lunch boxes or the local fish fries on Fridays in Lent. That’s because each member in Christ’s body has received the great commission to go and proclaim to the whole world the good news of salvation.

Food and drink (even alcohol), sex and children are all good. All of life is gift from God, intended for our benefit and enjoyment. Thus, Catholics have a fundamentally sacramental view of the world. A sacrament is something that reflects Christ’s presence. Catholic wisdom says that the world — and everything in it — is gift and sign from God.

Catholics use the gifts of creation in all their rituals and are very comfortable with bringing three-dimensional, stained glass windows, music, drama and other elements of the created world into their worship. God’s greatest sacrament (sign) to the world was Jesus Christ himself. In the seven great sacramental moments of Catholic Church life, we use water and oil, bread and wine, human touch as signs of God’s love for humanity.

We believe that, even though humans can — and do — commit atrocious acts, this is not what first defines us. We believe that all persons are made in the image and likeness of God and because of this all human life, from womb to tomb, has value and meaning, basic rights and responsibilities.

We see the process of conversion as lifelong and ongoing, beginning with our baptism. There is no one moment when a Catholic says that he or she became Catholic. Achieving our fullest potential is a process, a journey through stages as we enter more deeply into God’s life. The same God who created us also continuously walks with us through our life’s journey towards holiness.

We Catholics take community seriously so that we believe it extends even beyond the grave — to the communion of saints, past and present. Because life in Christ is eternal and not bound by our earthly concept of time, we believe we are still “in communion with” those who have gone to heaven before us. And so, we pray for “the souls of the faithfully departed” and to the saints for help and guidance.

Being in the Catholic Church means we belong to a church that spans time and distance. It is one of the truly international and multicultural institutions in the world today. People of every race and nationality are Catholic, part of the faithful Church. Because of this, the Catholic Church has the universal resources to meet the challenges of each century. And because of this, we can go anywhere on the planet and explore the same unchanging Sunday Gospel that crosses all cultures.

Catholics have a commitment to justice. Social transformation through justice is woven throughout our Catholic faith. Our personal conversion process, in imitation of Christ, calls us to abandon ourselves to the fullness of means of salvation as lifelong and ongoing, beginning with those dearest to us. Inflame our hearts with joy in our Catholic faith and may ever more confidently preach the Gospel message through words and actions and live out our baptismal call to extend God’s kingdom here on earth.

For interior renewal: Offer daily reflection on why you are Catholic. What makes the Church special to you? What are you called to do?

For reaching out to others: If you sense an interest, invite non-Catholic friends to inquire into RCIA or an inactive Catholic to join you for a parish catechetical presentation. Consider becoming a RCIA sponsor or mentor.

For transforming society: Reread the paragraphs: “Catholics have a commitment to justice.” Identify one more concrete way to further God’s kingdom on earth — and then do it.

Closing prayer

O God of compassion, we have come to the end of our faith sharing and look forward to returning to our homes and families. We ask that we may go forth in renewed love to serve all your people, beginning with those dearest to us. Inflame our hearts with joy in our Catholic faith and may ever more confidently preach the Gospel message through words and actions and live out our baptismal call to extend God’s kingdom here on earth.

Fill us with your courageous Spirit, O Lord. Amen.

The complete series of Disciples in Mission literature can be found at www.diocesefwsb.org/DM

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March 31-April 21
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Parishioners of St. Jude Parish walked the Jubilee Pilgrim Cross to St. Charles Borromeo Church on Saturday, stopping along the way at 14 stations for prayer and song.
Pope, Russian Orthodox patriarch affirm importance of cooperation

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI and Russian Orthodox Patriarch Alexy II have affirmed the importance of Catholics and Orthodox cooperating to keep Gospel values alive in increasingly secularized societies. The Vatican March 17 published an Italian translation of letters the two leaders exchanged in February. Pope Benedict sent his brief letter on the occasion of Patriarch Alexy’s 77th birthday and his name day Feb. 23. The letter was given to the patriarch by Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, former president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, who was invited to Moscow for the birthday festivities. In addition to offering his prayers and best wishes, the pope expressed his hopes for improved relations between the Catholic and Russian Orthodox churches.

U.S. foreign policy must promote religious freedom, bishop says

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Because religious freedom “lies at the heart of human rights,” the U.S. government must give it greater support and higher visibility in its foreign policy decisions, a Catholic bishop told a congressional panel.

Bishop Thomas G. Wenski of Orlando, Fla., chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on International Policy, was addressing the House International Relations Committee’s subcommittee on Africa, global human rights and international operations.

“Given the enormous potential of our policies to carry us to a more humane world, as well as the troubling ways religion can be manipulated, especially in coercive or repressive environments, religious freedom needs to be at the center of the work on human rights,” he said. The March 16 hearing was convened to review the U.S. State Department’s annual reports on human rights practices.

Pope, Egyptian president discuss nuclear arms, religious tolerance

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI met Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak March 13 to discuss the situation in the Middle East, tensions surrounding Iran’s nuclear program and religious tolerance in Egypt, the Vatican said.

Mubarak returned to Rome specifically to meet the pope at the end of a March 9-13 series of visits with European leaders. The president had met Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi March 9 in Rome, but could not meet the pope at the time because of the Vatican’s annual Lenten retreat. Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said Pope Benedict and Mubarak spent about half an hour together and began their meeting by discussing “the good relations between the Holy See and the Arab Republic of Egypt and the situation of interreligious relations in the country.” The two spoke English and spent about 20 minutes together without aides present.

“The meeting allowed them to review themes relative to the prospects for a stable peace in the Middle East,” Navarro-Valls said.

“There was a profound exchange of ideas about the situation in Iraq and also a look at issues regarding the Islamic Republic of Iran.”

Priest says culture of death builds fortress if it controls society

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS) — The director of Human Life International warned an Indianapolis audience of pro-life supporters against being complacent because a culture of death builds “a fortress of death” when it gains control of a society. But when a culture of life predominates in a country, Father Thomas Euteneur said, society’s laws, traditions and customs act like a stronghold to protect the sacred institutions of life, marriage and family.

The first duty of government is to protect the innocent, he said, as well as whatever is fundamentally important for the survival of the society. After he arrived in Indianapolis March 4 and before his address that evening, Father Euteneur prayed the rosary outside a Planned Parenthood abortion clinic and called on St. Michael the Archangel for help in the fight against the culture of death.

During his keynote speech on “Mary’s Role in the Pro-Life Movement,” he challenged more priests to join him in the “spiritual warfare” to save souls by praying outside abortion clinics and preaching pro-life homilies during Masses.

VATICAN PRIEST VISITS CHILDREN IN NEW ORLEANS

Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, former president of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, went to New Orleans March 13 to view the destruction Hurricane Katrina brought upon the city. Father Cantalamessa planned to share the experiences of storm victims in a series of programs for Italian television during Lent.

Church in the village of Macasana, was found dead by parishioners who arrived at the church for the 6:30 a.m. Mass March 18. When the priest did not show up for Mass, a few of them went to his home, where they found him in his room lying on the ground, partially naked, his face covered with a pillow and a towel in his mouth. According to forensic reports, the 61-year-old priest’s body bore 27 knife wounds on the back and chest, inflicted after his death from asphyxiation as a result of strangulation.

The Vatican decalcarmed the priest and will no longer receive financial support from the archdiocese and they may no longer perform public ministry, with the exception that those who are priests may offer absolution to the dying, the March 17 announcement from Terrence C. Donilon, archdiocesan communications secretary, said that all eight men had been removed from active ministry prior to the Vatican decision. The seven priests who were laicized are: Anthony Buchette, Paul Finegan, Thomas Forry, Robert Morissette, Ernest Tourgney, Patrick Tague and Ryan. The deacon who was laicized is Joseph Crowley.

Catholic priest murdered in southwestern India

PUNE, India (CNS) — The murder of Father Eusebio Ferrari, a parish priest in India, has shocked Catholics in the southwestern Indian state of Goa. Father Ferrari, pastor of St. Francis Xavier Church in the village of Macasana, was found dead by parishioners who arrived at the church for the 6:30 a.m. Mass March 18. When the priest did not show up for Mass, a few of them went to his home, where they found him in his room lying on the ground, partially naked, his face covered with a pillow and a towel in his mouth. According to forensic reports, the 61-year-old priest’s body bore 27 knife wounds on the back and chest, inflicted after his death from asphyxiation as a result of strangulation.

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Catholic priest murdered in southwestern India
Senior Spirit

Required minimum distribution rules direct withdrawals from retirement plans

Question: What are the rules for withdrawing required minimum distributions from retirement plans?

Answer: The IRS requires that when an individual reaches a certain age, he/she must start taking money out of his/her retirement plan accounts. These withdrawals are called required minimum distributions. Special attention of the required minimum distribution rules is to prevent participants of retirement plans from leaving money in their accounts unnecessarily in order to avoid paying the federal income taxes that have been deferred over the years.

The required minimum distribution rules apply to employer-sponsored retirement plans, such as 401(k) plans and profit-sharing plans, as well as traditional, rollover, SEP, SARSEP and SIMPLE IRAs. Roth IRAs are not subject to the required minimum distribution rules.

When to take distributions

Distributions must begin on a participant's required beginning date (RBD). The participant's RBD is April 1 after the year in which the participant reaches age 70. For each succeeding year, minimum distributions must be taken on or before Dec. 31. If the participant takes his/her first distribution between Jan. 1 and April 1 of the year after turning 70, he/she must also take the next distribution on or before Dec. 31 of that same year.

Typically, ordinary income taxes will be due on the distribution amount in the year the withdrawal is received. However, if an individual made nondeductible contributions to an IRA, a portion of the distribution will be tax free.

Life expectancy tables

The required minimum distribution is based on the individual's life expectancy, beginning in the year when he/she attains age 70.

When IRS issued Final and Temporary Regulations in 2002 for any required minimum distributions taken on or after Jan. 1, 2003, they also issued new life expectancy tables — the Uniform Lifetime Table, the Single Life Table and the Joint Life Table. The Uniform Lifetime Table is used most by IRA owners and plan participants for calculating lifetime required minimum distributions. The only participants who will not use this table in calculating their required distribution would be those whose spouse is their sole beneficiary for the entire year and is more than 10 years younger than the participant.

The Joint Life Table is used for lifetime distributions for those participants whose spouse is their sole beneficiary for the entire year and is more than 10 years younger. Beneficiaries never use this table.

The Single Life Table is used by designated beneficiaries to compute required minimum distributions on inherited retirement plan accounts. This table is never used to calculate the participant's lifetime required distributions.

Calculating Distributions

The required minimum distribution is calculated using the participant's account balance on the prior Dec. 31 and dividing it by the life expectancy factor from the appropriate table. The factor is determined by the participant's age on his/her birthday during the current year.

Let's assume that George's date of birth is Nov. 19, 1935. George turned 70 in 2005 but doesn't reach 70 until May 19, 2006. Therefore, he has a required minimum distribution for 2006. Because he will be 71 in 2006, he must use the factor listed in the IRS table for age 71 in order to determine his required minimum distribution.

Here are the steps involved in George's calculation. First of all, George must determine his age as of Dec. 31 of the current year — 71. Second, George needs to determine the life expectancy factor from the Uniform Lifetime Table — 26.5. Next, he must determine the total balance of all of his IRAs and retirement plan balances (excluding Roth IRAs) as of Dec. 31 of the prior year — $300,000. Finally, he calculates his required minimum distribution by dividing his account balance by his life expectancy factor — $11,321.

Before any required minimum distribution, the IRS will impose a penalty of 50 percent of the amount that was not distributed.

Distributions after death

It is important for the participant to name a designated beneficiary of his/her retirement plan in order to calculate required minimum distributions after death. For purposes of calculating required minimum distributions, the designated beneficiary is determined using the Uniform Lifetime Table of Sept. 30 of the year following the participant's death.

If the participant dies before April 1 of the year after reaching age 70, the beneficiary's required minimum distribution is calculated using the longer of the beneficiary's life expectancy or the participant's life expectancy based on age at death.

Note: This information is for educational purposes only and is not intended for tax advice. Please consult with your professional advisor.

Male, Smith, CPA/PFS, is vice president and director of financial planning for STAR Wealth Management, Fort Wayne, and the dean of planned giving, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

St. Michael couple shares their devotion and talents

Lloyd graduated from West High School in 1949. His family didn’t have a tractor, so Lloyd started farming with horses at the age of 12.

Many of the West High students would be in school only two or three days a week during planting and harvest time. In November of 1951, Lloyd joined the United States Air Force, was sent to electronics school and became the supervisor working on the radar systems for 65 jets, F-86Ds — Dog Interceptor Sabres — at Perrin Air Force Base in Texas.

In 1955, Staff Sergeant Anderson retired from the Air Force and came home to Theresa.

Theresa Housen had grown up five miles south of Plymouth. She went to St. Michael School through the eighth grade and graduated from Plymouth High School in 1952. A bright, hardworking student, she was third in her class.

After she graduated, she got a job as a clerk in the shoe department of Montgomery Ward in Plymouth.

And that’s where she met Anderson when he came into the store with a friend.

He asked her out.

They went to a movie during a heavy snow storm and then went out driving to see the Christmas lights around town.

On Labor Day, 1954, he gave Theresa an engagement ring. They were married the next year on April 16. She lived with her folks, milking a herd of cows for her brother, Lawrence, until Lloyd was discharged from the Air Force the following November.

In 1957, the young couple moved to the home, where they now live on Queen Road, two weeks before Sharon, their second of three daughters, was born.

They bought a herd of cows and Lloyd and Theresa became dairy farmers.

In 1960, Lloyd went back to studying electronics. He got a job as a technical writer with the Bendix Corp, in South Bend making Navy missiles.

For 17 years, once a year, the Andersons hosted a weekend trail ride on Kurt Marohn’s farm. Sponsored by the Marshall-Starke Horse Association, it featured 30 miles of trails.

“We’d have over 150 riders,” Lloyd said. “It was great fun.”

His heart is still on the trails. Theresa watches. They take their camper, a horse and bicycles and travel to Colorado, Kentucky, West Virginia and southern Indiana.

“For 40 years,” Lloyd said, disgustedly, “I went on the trail ride in the Hoosier National Forest. Never missed one until ‘05 when I was covered up with the town fire department controversy.”


In their retirement from civic duties the Andersons plan to travel more.

Theresa will take up her paint brushes and learn more about herbs and natural medicines. The Andersons will remain busy and productive people. They are members of St. Michael Catholic Church.
St. John veteran believes divine guidance protected him

BY DENISE FEDOROW

GOSHEN — Stanley Uryga, parishioner at St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen, has had his share of narrow escapes — including escaping from a POW camp, living through a car-train accident and surviving a stroke — and through it all, he believes he was guided from above.

“Everything that happened from the time I became a POW to today, I believe I was guided and taken by the hand from place to place from God above,” he said.

“There were many times I should’ve been dead.”

Uryga is not sure why his life was spared so many times, but he is sure there is a reason.

Stanley met his wife Dorothy in 1950 and have three children, Julie (Senger), Jamie and John and 12 grandchildren.

Stanley was raised in Wojakowa Krakow, Poland on a farm about 40 miles from where Pope John Paul II was born. When Germany seized Poland in 1939, Uryga’s older brother hid from the Nazi soldiers and the family thought he was dead. In May 1941, Stanley’s Aunt warned him the Nazi soldiers were coming to the village and he must hide in his Aunt’s attic. One night the dogs started barking, and Stanley decided to escape back to Poland, and he slipped into a boxcar that was covered with boxes and trash.

When he arrived home he had to talk to his aunt’s attic. One night the dogs started barking, and Stanley’s aunt warned him the German soldiers had come looking for him. He attributes the fact that he didn’t get caught when others were caught to place from God above,” he said.

After getting hurt, he was sent to the railroad to unload boxcars. “Inside the crevices of the boxcars, Polish people would write notes saying, ‘We’re praying for you,’ ‘hold on’ — that sort of thing. We’d write back ‘so and so says hello’ so they’d know he was alive."

On the weekends, they were guarded by German soldiers who were injured in the war, and while the prisoners were unloading, they’d sometimes go for coffee. Stanley decided to escape back to Poland, and he shipped into a boxcar that was covered with boxes and trash.

When he arrived home he had to talk to his aunt’s attic. One night the dogs started barking, and Stanley’s aunt warned him the German soldiers had come looking for him. He attributes the fact that he didn’t get caught when others were more educated or who were army officers got caught to divine guidance.

“I ran as fast as I could as far as I could into the woods and climbed a tree and tied myself in it with my belt in case I fell asleep. I strongly believe an angel or a saint guided me step by step. There was no way I could’ve done that without help,” he said.

Stanley ended up joining a Polish underground army and when the Germans declared war against Russia. The Russian Army asked them to join forces against Germany. He was with a group that escaped into Italy and then England, at which point, the Polish soldiers were fighting, wearing a Polish insignia under British rule.

When discharged, there were more than 11,000 Polish soldiers in England. The Russians were still in control of Poland and called Winston Churchill, wanting the soldiers returned.

“That was the most worrisome time. If we were sent back, Russia would’ve totally destroyed us,” he said.

At the end of the war, Stanley returned to Schiltach to the metal factory he escaped from to prove to himself and show them he had made it and was still alive. He also discussed how, when the Nazi’s first occupied Poland, they took all the teachers and priests — anyone who the people looked up to for help or guidance.

Stanley returned to England and became an ambulance attendant at the hospital where he met his wife. A year later, the couple came to the United States to Detroit and two months later, Stanley was drafted to serve in the Korean War.

“In a way, we were devastated — we just came in and had no time to settle,” Stanley said. But when he went before the draft board and told his story, they told him he didn’t have to serve, that he had served enough.

But Stanley joined the Air Force Reserve, serving out of South Ridge Air Force Base in Mt. Clemens, Mich. He worked with a medical group that dropped medical supplies and equipment for the troops.

Col. Richard Mudd was his commanding officer. Mudd was the great-grandson of the infamous Mudd who was imprisoned for treating John Wilkes Booth, President Lincoln’s assassin. Every year until he passed away, Mudd sent a Christmas card to Uryga.

Stanley believes miracles are around us every day; we’re just not always open to them. Six years ago, he had another narrow escape. While attending Mass at St. John, he began to feel ill. He told his daughter she’d better take him to the hospital. He was told by the medical staff that, because it was just a short drive from St. John to the hospital, his life had been saved.

When asked if he felt like he had nine lives he replied, “Many, many more than nine.”

And Uryga said he has wondered many times why his life was spared so often. “I strongly believe there was a reason for it, I do know whatever happens, happens for better. Good always follows bad.”

He also said he never thought he’d live to be nearly 80, but he’s not afraid of dying and feels, as Christians, death is a cause for celebration.

Uryga used to volunteer with the homebound ministry at St. John’s and was active with the Knights of Columbus. Last year the Knights surprised him with a medal of freedom and a flag from Senator Richard Lugar’s office.

Stanley, who became a U.S. citizen in 1956, feels as Americans we don’t realize how lucky we are.

“This country has been blessed and I sincerely hope we get on our knees and thank God for what he gives us,” Stanley said. “Freedom is worth dying for. If you lose your freedom, you lose everything.”
WARSAW — Have you ever looked at your teenager and asked in frustration, “What were you thinking?” Have you ever been awestruck at a painting, poem, story or song created by an adolescent? Have you ever wondered about the roller coaster emotions in the adolescents you teach? There are reasons for all these things — and more.

Kathleen McGee and Laura Buddenberg of the Girls and Boys Town Center for Adolescent and Family Spirituality in Omaha, Neb., led a recent workshop on the teen mind at the new Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Warsaw. With over 40 parents and catechists attending, McGee and Buddenberg shared valuable clues gathered from recent research to what’s going on in adolescent minds and bodies — and what adults can do to help them stay safe.

They gave a recipe for risky teenage behavior which included a 300 percent increase in hormones, powerful peer pressure, powerful media messages and a need for autonomy. They also included research, which showed the prefrontal cortex — the part of the brain responsible for self-control, judgment, emotional regulation, organization, planning and impulse inhibition — undergoes a major growth spurt at puberty, but remains immature until adulthood.

The lack of prefrontal cortex maturity often leads to unusual — and sometimes destructive — teen choices, but it’s also responsible for the awesome creations of adolescent artists.

McGee and Buddenberg said hormones are the reason for the roller coaster emotions since hormonal increases cause wild and spectacular mood swings — and as they reminded the workshop participants, the changes don’t just happen to young girls.

“I’ll say it for young men as well as young women,” said Buddenberg. “You tend to hear about it more in girls, but guys have the same experience. Kids can be totally up one moment and totally down the next. And that’s very normal. It makes you a little crazy as a parent or if you’re trying to teach kids, but that’s simply a normal thing.”

McGee stressed early in the workshop the word “adolescent” doesn’t mean just the teen years. “Thirty percent of girls these days are getting their menses at eight now,” McGee said to gasps from the audience. “So, adolescence — when we use that term, we don’t think teenager anymore — adolescence officially begins with puberty, whenever that happens.”

Throughout the workshop, Buddenberg gave suggestions on how to teach teens to “hardwire” their brains to lead safe and healthy lives — and stressed the need for adults to be aware of the way teens think. “Kids do feel things very intensely,” she stressed. “They don’t yet have the brain hardware for problem solving, nor do they have the life experience. They can get stuck in a situation and literally be unable to reason a way out, or hit the depths of despair over something and not see the light at the end of the tunnel. It’s important to remember that as adults.”

Both leaders offered useful tips on teaching kids life skills based on the Ten Commandments and provided lists of helpful reading materials. As one of the major ways to help keep kids safe, Buddenberg recommended encouraging kids to make and be a good friend and explained how parishes can help.

“If a child has even one friend that stands by him against a culture that offers every wacky thing under the sun, that can be a kid’s best protection,” she says. “Church, youth group, religious education programs — they’re very obvious places where kids really do find good friends — and where you can go and be yourself,” said Buddenberg.

“And our programs, our parish should be the very places where that happens — where everybody is welcome.”

SAINT JOSEPH’S HIGH SCHOOL’S H.O.P.E. GOES GLOBAL

The h.o.p.e. membership raised money for an Ark. Through the efforts of the Heifer Project International, people will receive animals to help them survive and thrive. Animals range from llamas and water buffalo to rabbits, chickens, and, of course, heifers. The students took on the project of raising an Ark at a cost of $5,000. Two of each animal are included in this symbolic Ark. The Saint Joseph’s High School community collected a total of $6,861.57.

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**NOTRE DAME** — They are handsome, energetic young peo-
ple, 17 students at the University of Notre Dame who obviously are
enjoying themselves as they dance, sing, rap and joke. A passerby
peering through the window of their rehearsal room never would
be able to guess that the topic of all this merriment is the very seri-
ous topic of chastity.

However, it is exactly this joy-
ful, enthusiastic approach to
chastity that promises to appeal to
the middle school and high school students the “Chastity: Love with
out Limits” program hopes to reach.

“We really want to communi-
cate what the real meaning of
human sexuality is and how we,
as young adults, can best live that
meaning now,” explained Mary
Twetten, Notre Dame-Saint Mary’s Right to Life.

Twetten told Today’s Catholic
that our culture’s view of the
human person is the root cause of
abortion and other attacks against human life. But, the student pro-life group decided to
offer chastity presentations to
younger students as an effective
way of building up a culture of
life.

“It’s also a way of using our
own particular gifts and situation,”
she said, for “young students are
much more likely to respond posi-
tively to chastity when they see
other young people who are living it too.”

And living chastity in a joyful
manner, for these young people are
decent and happy about wearing
something old-fashioned, designed by
the church to make you unhap-
py and unfulfilled,” Twetten
explained. “It’s just the opposite: It
brings joy and allows one to truly
love other people in a profound and
fulfilling way.”

Indeed, in the skits presented for
the younger students, the col-
lege students stress that chastity is
more than just abstinence: Chastity
is about how human beings use
their sexuality to love someone
else, and love is just not love of
someone’s body but love of the
whole person.

“Ultimately, chastity is about
loving the right way. If we’re
going to love, let’s do it right,” is
the message of one skit.

Twetten said that the content of
their program is based on the
Catechism of the Catholic Church and on Christopher West’s “Theology of the Body Explained: A Commentary on John Paul II’s Gospel of the Body.” She said they
try to tailor their material to the
interests of middle school and
high school students. After presenting
several short skits to a group, the
college students — usually about 10
men and women come for a presenta-
tion — break the younger people
down into smaller groups.

In the small groups, the older
students relate their own stories,
experiences and struggles, said
Twetten, and they tell the younger
students what they have learned from
these experiences. In the small
groups, younger students are
encouraged, and feel free, to ask
the college students any questions
they may have.

The greatest challenge to
chastity for middle school and
high school students is the pres-
sure placed on them by the culture
and by other students, Twetten
said. This kind of pressure sug-
gests that if a young person is a
virgin, it must be because he or
she is unpopular or not “cool” or
not good-looking, she explained.

Peer pressure is a big issue in
middle school and high school, she
continued, and also includes not
just pressure to participate in sexu-
al activity, but what she calls
“smaller steps along the way,” like
immodesty in dress, dance or
speech, using pornography, and
viewing inappropriate movies,
books or magazines. These issues
are all addressed in the skits put
on by the college students.

Schools, parishes or youth
groups interested in scheduling a
“Chastity: Love without Limits”
presentation should contact Mary
Twetten at Notre Dame-Saint
Mary’s Right to Life, 314
Lafortune, Notre Dame, IN 46556
or mtwetten@nd.edu.

**NOTRE DAME STUDENTS ENCOURAGE CHASTITY WITH ENTHUSIASM BY ANN CAREY**

One of the skits in the Notre Dame chastity presentation involves dress-
ing modestly in order to present oneself as a person with dignity. Notre
Dame students participating in the skit are, from left to right: Rachel
Miller, freshman from St. Louis; Joanna Emilian, freshman from Fort
Wayne; Mary Twetten, senior from Brookfield, Wisc.; Laura Rose, sopho-
more from Fort Wayne; and Kimberly Stoddard, freshman from Loveland,
Colo.

Ed Reef addresses the student body at Bishop Luers High
School onScottish heritage as part of the school’s Diversity
Day. The assembly also featured a tribute to Rosa Parks, a
dance lesson from the IPFW (Indiana-Purdue Universities at Fort Wayne) Hispanics Unidos group, a skit recounting
the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Luers students per-
forming in a gospel choir under the direction of Gordon
Martin.

**TODAY’S CATHOLIC**

**MARCH 26, 2006**
**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

when Eula and friend Arrion returned, and after she inspected all we had accomplished, her joy was obvious. We could actually see hope returning to the face of this gracious woman ...

Eula gave Bobay a gift of a couple small starter shoots from her aloe vera plant, which he had discovered under the back of her house, and replanted for her. “She said I could take it home as a souvenir from the experience,” wrote Bobay.

When the St. Jude group went to the Gulf Coast in November, all they could do for Eula was demolition — removing the lower four feet of all her walls, and removing ruined lower cabinets — and they desired to do something more positive for her this time.

“Eula’s home stands about three feet above the ground, and the storm surge from Katrina came another four feet above that threshold, flooding Eula’s house, and ruining her walls, her major appliances, her lower cabinetry, her furniture, her clothing, and pretty much everything else she owned, except for the items high in closets and upper cabinets.”

The other St. Jude crews spent the day installing and mudding drywall at houses selected by the diocese. Those presently at the top of the list are the elderly and handicapped.

**Friday, Feb. 10.**

Many St. Jude parishioners supported the mission trip with cash and gift cards. On the final day of work, Art Renninger and crew did demolition work at two separate homes.

Bobay wrote, “They worked in Biloxi at Robert’s place, and in Pass Christian for Erlene. This was the first crew ever to help Robert in the many months since the disaster. Erlene, in her mid-70s, has so much mold in her home that her health is seriously declining, yet she has not received her FEMA trailer (she’s approved and is on a waiting list).”

Art “and Julie checked in on a woman named Betty, whom they met on an earlier mission. After seeing how Betty was faring, the Renningers visited a Willie and Willie Mae Cook and their four children.”

On this mission to Mississippi, the Renningers drove their pick up truck down and donated the truck to Willie and Willie Mae, who lost their only transportation to Katrina.

“Julie describes the Cook family as ‘the best witnesses for Jesus Christ anyone could ever want to meet.’ She explained that Willie and Willie Mae are actually thankful for the hurricane, because of the many wonderful people who have responded to God’s call to help his children in this devastated area.”

At Eula’s home, the additional building materials and supplies were purchased to complete the drywall work. “Two other crews joined us at Eula’s today to wrap up our work there, including new friends from Oregon and Natchez,” Miss."

Bobay told about two retirees, Fred Voss and Fred Maer, from Natchez, Miss., who worked with the St. Jude group.

Voss told Bobay that “his grandchildren’s Catholic school in Natchez, which has existed for well over 100 years, has added about 150 New Orleans refugee students to the school, which had a pre-Katrina enrollment of about 350. He had done some relief work in New Orleans a few months ago, and said the biggest difference between the two devastated places was the awful smell of rot and mold down in New Orleans.”

The Natchez retirees cut and installed insulation for Eula’s walls before the drywall was hung.

“Also joining us for most of the week was a couple from Oregon. Bob and Chris Adelman. Bob and Chris drove 3,000 miles from Oregon to work down here for three weeks.” Joining the St. Jude team at Eula’s, “the 10 of us installed all of the remaining drywall and insulation in the house. … We worked with added urgency, knowing that today would be our last opportunity there, at least for awhile.”

“Dan and Eula purchased a new washer and dryer. … She was very happy to have us unload it into her almost-renovated home. …”

The team also “replaced Eula’s mailbox, which had been knocked off of its post, and had been temporarily rehung to her chain link fence by a section of wire. …”

With the drywall cut and being hung, efforts turned to insulation. “Much of that blown-in insulation had been carried away with Katrina’s winds.”

“As late afternoon became early evening, we had to put away our tools for the final time. We all made one last inspection of our work, and gathered outside on Eula’s porch. Arrion had let it slip that tomorrow would be Eula’s 69th birthday, so we all sang Eula ‘Happy Birthday’ as we ended the week.”

The team needed three more days to get the house in shape for Eula to move in, still “we definitely restored hope to this woman, who before we arrived, had not much prospect of returning home anytime soon.”

The work remaining to be done is the installation of the cabinets and the (salvaged) sink and countertops, the drywall finishing (tape and mud compound) and painting. Although this work remains, the home is nearly ready for Eula’s return. … We very much hope that Eula will connect with another crew to complete the work.

“As Eula expressed her sincere thanks for our work, she wished she could do something for us in return. We simply asked her to keep us in her prayers, as we will her. Of course she said she would. It was very gratifying to spend the week helping to restore hope to this woman.”

“The overwhelming need for help is obvious,” wrote Bobay. “The widespread breadth of the storm’s destruction means an unprecedented effort of many years will be required to rebuild this coast. At this point, now five months after the August hurricane, the recovery has barely begun.”

This T-shirt representing St. Jude Parish joins others from mission response teams that have stayed at the retreat center in Biloxi, Miss.
Today's Catholic welcomes letters from readers. All letters must be signed and include a phone number and address for verification.

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TODAY'S CATHOLIC” IN • 46856-1169 or e-mail to: editor@fw.dioceseweb.org
THE VATICAN LETTER

CINDY WOODEN

The glory of heaven awaits

The Second Book of Chronicles

God’s people, their purpose is not set as volumes. While these thus it exists in all modern translations. Thus it has remained, and way, it was separated into two volumes as editors and translators had their beams of the approaching dawn.

The drabness and trials of earthly is not as if the more somber violet wear vestments of a rose color. It of heaven awaits.

The Second Book of Chronicles

But another trial was the presence among them. They lost their way.

The Sunday Gospel

Fourth Sunday of Lent

This weekend, the church cel- eb rates “Lecture Sunday,” the name drawn from the first word in Latin of the Entrance Antiphon, “Rejoice!” Lent is well under way. Easter is not far in the future. It is not so trivial as a day to rejoice that the drabness and penance of Lent is soon end. Rather, it is a lesson about life.

The Annunciation

The Gospel continues. It is a eloquent proclamation of God’s mercy. Humans can find joy, and they can find eternal life. But in and through Jesus can they find joy and life.

Reflection

The church gently, but firmly, leads us onward through Lent. It reassures us that Easter is not far into the future. In fact, it will come in only a few more weeks.

If Lent has been hard, Easter should be a moment of joy- ful, personal resurrection. In faith, we then also should rise, ourselves being raised by our identity with Christ from the death of sin.

Lent’s productivity and effec- tiveness, however, depend upon us. We ourselves, by our commit- ment to God, and then by our prayer and penance, decide the outcome for Lent personally for ourselves.

The church today urges us to continue to make Lent effective, to look ahead to resurrection.

READINGS

Fourth week of Lent


By Dominic Campilione

The Annunciation is celebrated on March 25. This quiz looks at that feast.

1. What does annunciation mean?
   a. ascending into heaven
   b. same as transubstantiation
c. an announcement

2. According to tradition (not mentioned in the Bible), how old was Mary thought to be at the time of the Annunciation?
   a. 12 to 15 years old b. 25 to 30 years old c. 45 to 60 years old

3. According to Luke, the Annunciation was made by a.
   a. an angel b. Joseph c. Anna

4. What was this messenger’s appearance?
   a. it was an obelisk b. it appeared to be a man it was in the form of a dove.

5. Mary was addressed in these words: a. Woman, behold thy son b. Take heed c. Hail, Mary

6. Which Latin title for a prayer does this relate to?
   a. Tantum Ergo b. Ave Maria c. Pater Nostre

7. Mary was troubled at the arrival of a messenger. Why?
   a. She thought the messenger was a tax collector.
b. She did not at first understand what was going on.
c. She had prepared only five loaves and two fishes, so did not want more guests.

8. What unsettling message was announced?
   a. that Mary would marry a man called Joseph
   b. that Mary’s boy child Jesus Christ was born on Christmas day
c. that Mary would have a son

9. Why was Mary’s reply puzzled? a. She was not living with her betrothed yet so wasn’t sure how she could have a baby.
b. She thought it strange that a Palestinian was speaking in Latin.
c. She was expecting the milkman, not a divine messenger.

10. The messenger’s reply reassured her that this would all be done by a. Jehovah b. the Holy Spirit c. the New Adam

11. The messenger also mentioned Elizabeth’s pregnancy. Why was this notable? a. Elizabeth was married to a Gentile.
b. Elizabeth was never married.
c. Elizabeth was old.

12. What connection was Mary to Elizabeth? a. They were not related, but their sons would cross paths in ministry.
b. They were cousins.
c. Elizabeth was Joseph’s sister.

13. Mary’s “ fiat ” refers to her a. early version of the Lamborghini chariot, then being sold in Israel.
b. the acceptance of God’s will, indicated by her saying “let it be done.”
c. initial refusal.

14. Why do theologians not see the Annunciation as a violation of Mary’s free will? a. Mary’s consent, they decided, was foreseen, but not preordained by God.
b. Mary was the only human born without free will.
c. Because in Aramaic, no and yes were fairly close in meaning.

15. Why is the Annunciation commemorated in March? a. Because it replaced the pagan feast of the Ides of March.
b. Because Mary’s diary had the following entry “March 25: an Annunciation.”
c. Simply because it was nine months before the celebration of the Nativity.

ANSWERS:

1c, 2a, 3a, 4b, 5c, 6b, 7b, 8c, 9a, 10b, 11c, 12b, 13b, 14a, 15c
An apostle is one sent on a mission, disciple is one who learns. The word “apostle” comes from the Greek verb “apostellō,” meaning to send away. So an apostle is one sent on a mission, Jesus established his church on the Twelve Apostles. These were the first bishops of the church. As Jesus was sent by God the Father, so the apostles were sent by Jesus into the world to preach the Gospel and baptize the people. The apostles traveled throughout the known world establishing churches and making converts to Christianity. The Twelve Apostles are also referred to as simply the Twelve. These include the Twelve called the apostles and the first pope who eventually went to Rome; St. John, who worked in Ephesus or ancient Asia Minor in what is now Turkey; St. James the Greater, who is said to have gone to Spain and later became the first bishop of Jerusalem; St. Matthew, who is said to have preached in Ethiopia; St. Thomas, who is believed to have traveled to Persia or Iran and even southern India; St. Bartholomew, who may have reached deeper India; St. Andrew, who is credited with preaching in Greece, Macedonia and Thrace; St. Philip, who reached Hierapolis in Asia Minor or Turkey; St. Jude, who went to Syria; St. Simon, who may have journeyed to Persia or Iran and Babylonia or southern Iraq; and finally Judas Iscariot who betrayed Jesus and committed suicide. St. Matthias was chosen to take the place of Judas as an apostle, and legend says he preached in Arabia.

These Twelve were a select group especially close to Jesus. The number “twelve” reminds us of the 12 tribes of Israel. Jesus says these Twelve will sit on 12 thrones to judge the 12 tribes of Israel. Although these Twelve are called apostles, the word “apostle” has many other meanings. Father John McKenzie defines an apostle in the New Testament as one who has witnessed Jesus and had a personal commission from Jesus to proclaim the Gospel. Some of the early Christian missionaries or coworkers of the Twelve are also called apostles, such as Barnabas from Cyprus, Junias from Rome, Andronicus from Rome and Apollos from Alexandria.

St. Paul also claims to be an apostle because he saw the risen Christ in a vision on the road to Damascus in Syria. Michael Schachter says that probably this extended meaning of the word “apostle” was first used in Antioch in Syria for the authorized missionaries who went out to preach Christ. F. Cross says it is possible that the term “apostle” was used in the second generation of Christians of a wide circle of church officials. In modern usage, the word “apostle” is sometimes used to designate the first Christian mission to a country. Thus St. Patrick is called the apostle of Ireland, St. Boniface is the apostle to Germany, and St. Cyril and Methodius are the apostles to the Slavs.

The Epistle to the Hebrews even calls Jesus himself an apostle, because he was sent, commissioned and authorized by God. The Mormons used the word apostle to designate one of the twelve men of the Church’s administrative council. The Eastern church uses the word apostle to designate an episcopal see in their liturgy, which is a portion of an epistle of one of the apostles or part of the Acts of the Apostles. The word “disciple” means a student or one who learns. Jesus gathered a group of disciples around him in the form of a small rabbinical school, which was familiar in the first-century Palestine. A typical allegiance to Jesus held the group together. St. Luke mentions 72 disciples of Jesus. The disciples were witnes.

I n 1964, and continues today, the Catholic Church debates the Civil Rights Act. For years, the Catholic bishops of the United States have taught that segregation constituted moral purpose, and they have moral principle to public policy. They pledge themselves to defend the unconscionable – any more.–

Catholic Democrats and abortion: same old same old

I cannot credibly claim to believe that the Catholic Church believes “about the value of human life” and “the responsibility” of the church’s pastoral authorities. What everyone, irrespective of race, creed, or political position to defend the unconscionable – any more.–

GEPPEFCDLLE

F. Cross says it is possible that the term “apostle” was used in the second generation of Christians of a wide circle of church officials. In modern

When discussions about end of life treatments come up, people will often say something like this: “I don’t want anyone. No tubes for me. I just want to go quickly and peacefully.” People are attracted by technology and what it offers when the most ambiguous worries about life when they are in a weakened or vulnerable state. They imagine becoming trapped in a situation where they aren’t allowed to die but are kept in a kind of suspended animation by machines.

They also worry that their pain may not be managed well. Sometimes they may feel pressure from family members that they are living too long. They may also fear disconnecting, however, need to be scrutinized carefully because they can prompt us to act rashly and think unreasonably when it comes to making concrete treatment decisions.

In making end of life decisions, the important question is whether a proposed treatment is likely to be ordinary or extraordinary. Ordinary treatments are required as part of our duty to take care of our health. Extraordinary treatments, on the other hand, are optional. The process of weighing whether a treatment is ordinary or extraordinary was concretely summarized back in 1980 in a passage from the Vatican’s Declaration on Euthanasia:

“In any case, it will be possible to make a correct judgment as to the means by studying the type of treatment to be used, its degree of complexity or risk, its cost and the possibilities of using it, and comparing these elements with the result that can be expected, taking into account the state of the sick person and his or her physical and moral resources.

Thus ordinary treatments will offer a reasonable hope of benefiting or at least not excessively costing and will not unduly burdensome. Taking antibiotics to fight an infection would generally be an ordinary treatment, since it would be expected to combat the infection, would not unduly burden the patient or be expensive and would be a low-risk procedure.

In order to decide whether a treatment is ordinary, we must also look at the particulars of the patient’s condition, and not merely focus on the treatment, the medical device or the medicine itself. So if a person were imminently dying from cancer, with but a few hours of life remaining, the physician diagnosed that he had an infection in his lungs, the use of antibiotic medications would generally be extraordinary and optional. Even if antibiotics were likely to be largely ineffective to the patient’s real-life situation.

Weighing and determining whether a treatment is ordinary or extraordinary is not always a simple and straightforward task. It often requires some struggle and searching. I recall one horrible week in my early 70-year-old mother’s life when she was in a nursing home with Alzheimer’s. We spoke by phone every few weeks as the condition of her mother would change. She would ask, “Do I have to put mon into an ambulance trip every day?” Sometimes the timing just doesn’t go right! It causes stress and anxiety at her age.

One time when her mother got a urinary tract infection, she ended up sending her to the hospital for treatment. After some discussion, it had become clear that making an ambulance trip would mean providing a bridge to healing for her mother, bringing her to another plateau in her condition and hence enabling her to extend her life. When the urinary tract infection came back again a few months later, she had taken her to the hospital a second time.

But after more nursing passed, her mother’s condition suddenly deteriorated further. She had several small strokes, in addition to a serious bowel obstruction and kidney problems. I remember how at a certain moment during one of our phone conversations, as we were reviewing her mother’s condition, it became clear to both of us that we had crossed a line into new territory. We saw that it was becoming an extraordinary treatment, and it was not going to be costless and would not be able to save her at all. Our son had been in the service and our great nieces were visiting from Yale and did not know when we would ever see them again.

No tubes for me. We would sometimes be required as part of our duty to take care of the health and life, which we have received as a gift from God.

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The Blacksmith of Hollynckle Hollow

BY WILLIAM HODDE

His name was George Adam Klein. His story is typical of many of the thousands of 19th century Americans, the chil-
dren of immigrants. They came searching for a better life of their own, freedom from tyranny.

They filled eastern cities and flowed westward. They cleared forests and tilled the prairies. They practiced all the trades necessary for a more comfortable living. They were farmers, stonemasons, carpenters, farmers, storekeepers, and when need be, soldiers.

In the 1830s and later, Catholic Hessians from the region of Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, settled in Portage County, Ohio. Some of them were descendants of Hessian soldiers in the American Revolution, sold by their prince to the British as mercenaries. Many who survived went home and told their families what a wonderful place America was, and some decided to come to America. Other Germans from Alsace-Lorraine joined them, to become the nucleus of the many German congregations of Randolph County. Many of them were farmers. John George Klein was born in 1831 by Father John Martin Henmi, later Bishop of Milwaukee.

Some settled nearby in Rootstown in the parish of St. Peter of the Fields. These, our German forebears, brought their strong Catholic Faith, their deep

faith in Jesus Christ, his church, with its sacraments and way of life. They were the sturdy, hard-working farmer stock, looking for land and independence, which they would find in the American homeland. They found these in America.

George Klein was born in 1867, the son of Adam Klein, whose parents, John and Elizabeth brought him to Ohio about 1837. George was the second of four, his father was a schoolteacher, his mother was the daughter of immigrants.

The family moved to Portage County, Ohio, and Adam Klein became a stonecutter and builder. In Portage County.

Adam Klein came in 1858, worked as a farmer, served in the Civil War. His unit was captured by Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest in middle Tennessee. Adam spent several months in the infamous prison camp at Andersonville, GA. His health was wrecked, though later he made a precarious living as a farmer to support his family.

George Klein was “rather short in stature, but strong and wiry. He had the hands and did the metal work in the shop. He was very handy in the shop. He was recognized as a good worker and also a bit cranky at times, especially toward the end of a hard day. He would hold the lantern, while he nailed on another shoe or two. He knew his metals, hot or cold, and also the woodwork that went with many of his repair jobs. Boys were thrilled to watch him work, and to know his gentle and knowing touch with animals.” (From “Growing Pains in Hollynckle Hollow” by Albert Paulus. Johnynnckle Hollow was a kind of early industrial park in Portage County. The site took its name from the “johnny cake” that most working farmers ate as a lunchtime staple. It is described as a cake or bread made of cornmeal and water or milk, usually cooked on a griddle.)

Sadly, George Klein died while still in his prime, in 1913, at the age of 48. He was helping to move a schoolhouse, when the building slipped, and he was killed. He had hoped to start the first Ford agency in Portage County. His wife died three years later — very painfully, of cancer. They left eight children, one of whom became my mother.

Four of the Klein children carried on the family name and traditions.

George and Anna’s story can be duplicated dozens of thousands of times in our country’s history. They were admirable people, deeply attached to their Catholic faith. They pioneered the land, built businesses, educated their children.

The Klein children were also very close to their Catholic family values that have helped to make our country great.

People continue to show their support for George’s heroes to admire. We might forget enter-
tainers and sport stars and take a longer look at our own ancestors.

The Blacksmith of Hollynckle Hollow

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

Every week, sometimes twice a week, I take time to pray at a decade or two of the rosary. While it may not seem to be such a big deal or effort on my part, the location of prayer, the time of day, is very significant. I pray at the gas pump.

No, my prayers are not being offered due to the price increase — please help the gas companies understand my budget!” — or in thanksgiving — “thank you for bringing the price down so I can buy a latte too.”

This little habit of praying while I stand waiting for the gas pump started long ago. So long ago I don’t remember. Maybe I started praying a decade when the price of gas started rising above $2 a gallon. Does it really matter? Everyone seems to be rushed, no matter what they are doing, even when they are pumping gas.

As a person who finds little time to pray, praying at the pump just seemed to be, and is, something I could do. Actually, it’s something everybody can do. People, even when they are pumping gas, can pray. Instead of MPG (miles per gallon), I wonder?

Praying at the pump, however, I pray whenever I encounter a wait, whether it be at a grocery store, the doctor’s office or for a train. The grocery store is another good place. I have found there are a lot of frustrated, much too-hurried people in such places. It helps me get back to where I need to be spiritually when I stop at a gas pump.

While praying at those places I do not keep track of the prayers as I don’t think people should be wondering whether or not my prayer habit will change when I get a different gas price. My “90¢ a gallon, Caravan’s full just right for a decade. What is going to happen when we get a newer car?”

We can all use a prayer at the gas pump

BY FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

No tubes for me

Weighing and determining whether a treatment is ordinary or extraordinary is not always a simple and straightforward task. It often requires some struggle and searching. I recall one horrible week in my early 70-year-old mother’s life when she was in a nursing home with Alzheimer’s. We spoke by phone every few weeks as the condition of her mother would change. She would ask, “Do I have to put mon into an ambulance trip every day?” Sometimes the timing just doesn’t go right! It causes stress and anxiety at her age.

One time when her mother got a urinary tract infection, she ended up sending her to the hospital for treatment. After some discussion, it had become clear that making an ambulance trip would mean providing a bridge to healing for her mother, bringing her to another plateau in her condition and hence enabling her to extend her life. When the urinary tract infection came back again a few months later, she had taken her to the hospital a second time.

But after more nursing passed, her mother’s condition suddenly deteriorated further. She had several small strokes, in addition to a serious bowel obstruction and kidney problems. I remember how at a certain moment during one of our phone conversations, as we were reviewing her mother’s condition, it became clear to both of us that we had crossed a line into new territory. We saw that it was becoming an extraordinary treatment, and it was not going to be costless and would not be able to save her at all. Our son had been in the service and our great nieces were visiting from Yale and did not know when we would ever see them again.

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**St. Joseph Mishawaka wins B-League championship**

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — The boys basketball stalwarts from St. Joseph School of Mishawaka dominated the post-season tournament of the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) by winning both the B-League fifth and sixth grade championship.

During the regular season, St. Joseph-B (Mishawaka) won the St. John Bosco B Division, St. Martin de Porres A Division, and sixth grade division of the St. Joseph School of Mishawaka. The sixth grade division of the St. Pius-B1 Gold of Granger won the championship.

In the fifth-grade St. Joseph team, said director Greg Schultheis, in a hair-raising finish, the fifth-grade St. Joseph team nipped St. Thomas of Elkhart when Chris Ross tossed in the game-winning basket with 1.6 seconds to play, 31-30. The two teams also played an overtime game during the regular season which St. Joseph also won when Michael Whitfield pumped in 19 points, including the winning basket.

The two teams listed 13 eighth graders on their roster and posted a fifth-place finish in the Gold League. They were beaten in the first round of the tournament by St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth, 45-59.

In the sixth grade tournament finale, St. Joseph made a successful defense of its crown by St. Jude of South Bend in a double overtime, 44-40. Coley Schultheis and Anthony Rice both tallied the winning points.

Tim Singleton of St. Anthony scored a record number of 31 points in a losing semifinal game to St. Joseph.

**CYO basketball teams profiled**

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — As the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) said good-bye to another great season of play and looks forward to spring sports, a few teams, St. John the Baptist in Fort Wayne and the St. Rose-St. Louis girls in Monroeville and Besancon, are left to be profiled.

**St. John, Fort Wayne, boys 7**

“Every boy in the seventh grade came out for basketball this year,” reported head coach John Fazio.

“They started out as a bunch of football players playing team basketball by the end of the season,” he said.

The Eagles had just two victories this season, but improved steadily and were a “great group of kids, very respectful,” stated Fazio. He feels it is okay to play multiple sports at this level, but encourages his players to play basketball more than just three months out of the year.

“Basketball takes a year-round commitment,” he stressed.

The black and gold lost to St. Joe, Decatur, in the first round of the White League tournament.

Mike Teeders, Mike Stromczeck and Scott Ruse volunteered their time as assistants.

**St. Rose-St. Louis girls**

Coaching basketball has been a part of the Meyer family for many years. Melissa (Meyer) Harris once played for the green and white herself and has been holding the head coaching spot for the girls seventh-and-eighth grade for the past five years. Harris had strong play and leadership from eighth graders, Kristy Gerland and Andrea Martin who led the Twins scoring attack. Lexy DeVido pulled down the most rebounds for the team which finished with a 9-8 record overall (3-3 in CYO).

They also finished second place in two different holiday tournaments.

“This was a fun group of girls who gave 110 percent all season,” concluded Harris.

Her assistants were her mother, Ava Meyer, and sister, Mindy Castle.

**HOLY FAMILY GIRLS TAKE THE SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP**

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March 26 - 29, 2006 - 7 to 8 p.m. each evening

Sunday, March 26 - “FAITH” - Father Joseph Rulli

Mission begins with Silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following 11 a.m. Mass.

Monday, March 27 - “RECONCILIATION” - Father Bill Kummer

The Sacrament of Reconciliation available this evening.

Tuesday, March 28 - “PRAYER” - Father David Voors

Wednesday, March 29 - Concluding service with Mass

**“EUCHARIST”** - Bishop John M. D’Arcy

Morning Sessions begin at 9 a.m. - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

“Morning Prayer and Reflection Session”

with Ginny Kohrman - Knights of Columbus Hall

Morning Sessions follow 8 a.m. Mass

Refreshments following all sessions.

Everyone is invited to join our Parish Faith Community!

Holy Family’s varsity girls basketball team in South Bend were the regular season Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) champions. The team consists of the following: front row, from left, Lauren Szymanski, Ashleigh Bousquet, Anna Catanzarite, Ashlee Smith, Alexandra Bousquet and Rachel Briggs; and back row, Coach Tom Smijieki, Mollie Gillean, Grace Costello, Symone Tripolis, Alina Skwarcan, Tori Budzinski, Coach Pat Catanzarite.

**BISHOP DWENGER GYMNASTS TAKE STATE TITLE**

Bishop Dwenger High School will honor its 2006 state championship gymnastics team at a school assembly on Monday, March 27 at 10:30 a.m. This marks the second straight state title for the Dwenger gymnasts and the school’s third title in the past four years. Since 1993, Bishop Dwenger has been runner-up five times and state champions four times.
Cub Scouts find their own style of ‘March Madness’

FORT WAYNE — Cub Scout from Pack 3019 of St. John the Baptist in Fort Wayne will tell you the real (March) “Madness” takes place on a wooden race track and not on a wooden gym floor.

For over 53 years, the St. John the Baptist Cub Scouts of Pack 3019 have whittled away blocks of wood, shaping and painting miniature racing cars that swoop down a sloping wooden track in response to the law of gravity.

On March 19, each Scout competed for the fastest car within their age group. Over 80 cars entered this year’s race. As an entry fee, each racer had to bring a new toothbrush or tube of toothpaste that will be distributed to those in need.

The top three contenders from each of the dens moved on to compete in Pack-wide Grand Prix event. This year they will be joined by area businesses in a special Corporate Challenge Race. Local companies are building and sponsoring race cars to raise money to buy a state of the art computer programming track to time the races down to 1/100,000th of a second.

Winners in the Grand Prix Race were Nathan Grabner, first place; Jonathan Brecht, second place; and Nick Steffen, third place.

Winners of the den races were the following: fastest Tiger Cub: Gareth Brouwer; fastest Wolf: Michael Sturm; and fastest Webelos: Ben Gust.

Winners of the Corporate Challenge were the following: fastest car: Abby Rock LLC; driven by Bill Berghoff; best of show: Goulloff Jordan Survey & Design, Inc., driven by Tim Goulloff.

“The pinewood derby is a valuable part of our Cub Scout program. By participating in this event, our boys learn the carpentry skills necessary to make the racing vehicle, the value of fair play and the importance of good sportsmanship,” said Roger Grabner, Cub master of Pack 3019. “Derby Fever is an event that transcends generations. Many of our Corporate Challenge Racers competed in the pinewood derby as kids, and they are thrilled to have a chance to finally build their own race cars without the help of an overzealous dad.”

There was also an open “Hot Wheels” race, where siblings, parents and the general public could bring in a new Hot Wheels race car that is still in the package and race it in a single-elimination event. The winner of the Hot Wheels Race was Billy Berghoff.

In the footsteps of Father Junipero Serra

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Sonoma Valley - July 31 - August 8, 2006

Join fellow Catholics as they take a very special tour of the California Missions. There is no better way to experience Franciscan spirituality and missionary zeal than on a California mission tour. Gain an insider’s glimpse into the life of missionary work of Blessed Junipero Serra as he brings the Catholic faith to remote parts of the new world. Learn the stories of the missions, assist at Mass in ancient sanctuaries, discuss the promise of our Catholic faith in the new world, enjoy sightseeing in cities that grew up around the early missions - San Diego, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. Enjoy the vineyards and the olive groves of Sonoma Valley in this perfect blend of faith and vacation travel.

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MOVIE
CAPSULES
NEW YORK (CNS) – Following are recent capsule reviews of movies issued by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Office for Film and Broadcasting.

“She’s the Man” (DreamWorks)
Breezy if uneven modernizing of Shakespeare’s comedy of mistaken identities, “Twelfth Night,” about a teenage tomboy (Amanda Bynes) who poses as her twin brother (James Kirk), enrolls in his coed boarding prep school to play soccer, and winds up falling in love with his/her jock roommate (Channing Tatum), who has a crush on a pretty student (Laura Ramsey), who, in turn, is smitten with the new “boy,” leading to predictable romantic complications. Director Andy Fickman cleverly updates Shakespeare’s plot devices — mixed-up lovers, triangular attractions, and gender-bending deception — to mostly good effect, and the film overcomes forced humor in large measure due to Bynes’ effervescence, though its occasionally crude comedy makes it best suited for older teens and up. Some sexual humor and innuendo, a bathroom brawl between three girls, brief implied nudity, sports roughness, a few crass expressions, as well as an instance of profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned.

“V for Vendetta” (Warner Bros.)
Provocative futuristic thriller based in London about a masked antihero (Hugo Weaving) who enlists the aid of a young office worker (Natalie Portman) to undermine a totalitarian government headed by an Orwellian dictator (John Hurt) and his covering advisers (Stephen Rea, Rupert Graves, Tim Pigott-Smith). Director James McTeigue, working from a Wachowski Brothers adaptation of Alan Moore (uncredited by choice) and illustrator David Lloyd’s graphic novel, has crafted a reasonably intelligent political allegory, with emphasis on character development, ideas and even a bit of romance, rather than simple mindless violence, the performances are first rate, and the film’s theme of the individual’s responsibility in standing up to tyranny — while questioning the moral limits of opposition — is worthy, and stops short of imparting a universal anti-authoritarian message. Some discreetly handled violence with bloodshed, a haggard, scattered profundity, rough and crude language and expressions, minor lesbian-themed flashback and implied gay male character, corrupt Anglican clergyman, attempted rape, sexual innuendo, drug use. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is L — limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

WHAT’S HAPPENING? carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today’s Catholic, PO. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or e-mail: fhtgan@fw.diocesefwsb.org. Events that require an admission charge or payment to participate will receive one free listing. For additional listings of that event, please call our advertising sales staff to purchase space.

31, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, April 1, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. $1.50 bag sale on Saturday. Dinner theatre Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Parish will have a dinner theatre on Saturday, April 1, 6 p.m. in the school hall. Tickets are $10 for a single and $20 for a couple. Dine includes a appetizer buffet, beef, pork chops, side dishes and a dessert bar. A cash bar will be available. Entertainment will include a local recording artist, talent from the parish, and a DJ with dancing. Call Mike Hudecek (260) 318-0262 for information or to reserve tickets. Live chalk drawing Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Parish will host Mary Hilger for a chalk drawing on Friday, April 14, at 6 p.m. Stations of the Cross will follow at 7 p.m.

Bishop Luers Marketing Committee sponsors chicken dinner Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School marketing committee will sponsor a Nelson’s chicken dinner at the Jefferson Pointe Wal-Mart on Saturday, April 29, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dinners are $6.50. Advance tickets are available after April 10 by calling (260) 436-1493 or the Luers Marketing Committee.

Cathedral youth group to host last pancake breakfast Fort Wayne — Angels Inc. will host the last pancake breakfast of the season on Saturday, March 26, from 10:30 to noon. Adults $5, children (10 and under) $3, families $13. Proceeds fund YCLI tuition.

Leukemia benefit Fort Wayne — A benefit for Mark Johnson, who was diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia in November 2005, will be held at the Queen of Angels activities center, 1660 W. State Blvd., on Saturday, March 25, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. This event includes a bake sale, silent auction, art and music with proceeds helping to defray medical costs and lost family income.

FISH FRIES

Knights plan fish fry Granger — The Knights of Columbus Council 4263 will have an all-you-can-eat fish fry on Friday, March 31, from 4 to 7 p.m. at their building, 1600 W. Washington Ave., Fort Wayne. Adults $7, children (3-12) $3.75 and children under 3 free.

Fish fry at St. Matthew Cathedral South Bend — St. Matthew Cathedral, 1701 Muir St., will host its annual all-you-can-eat fish fry on Friday, March 24, from 4 to 7 p.m. in the school gym. Carry-out and drive-through available. Adult tickets $7, seniors $6, children (4-12) $4, children under 4 free.

Arts and enrichment host fish fry Fort Wayne — St. John the Baptist Parish will host an all-you-can-eat fish fry on Friday, March 24, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Parsley Activity Center, 4500 Fairfield Ave. Adults and carry-out $6.75, children (6-12) $3.50 and children 5 and under free. Drive-through service available.

Luncheon planned by K of C ladies Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus, 553 E. Washington Blvd. will have a soup and salad luncheon on Monday, March 27, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Donation $5.

Card party and salad bar planned New Carlisle — The Altar and Rosary Society of St. Stanislaus Kostka Church will have a card party and deluxe salad bar on Sunday, March 26, at 11 a.m. Tickets are $5 and must be purchased in advance by calling (574) 654-3364 or (574) 289-2986.

Fish fry at St. Hedwig South Bend — St. Hedwig Parish will have an all-you-can-eat fish dinner on Friday, March 24, from 4 to 7 p.m. in the Memorial Center. Tickets are $7 for adults and $3 for children 6-12. Children under 5 free.

Fish fry at St. Joseph Fort Wayne — A fish fry will be held Friday, March 24, at St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel. All-you-can-eat fish with broasted potatoes, homemade coleslaw, apple sauce, homemade dessert, roll and drink. Cost is $7 for adults, $5.50 for children ages 6-11, age 5 and under free. Carry-out also available. For information, call (260) 639-3580.

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, Corner of Oak and Diamond streets, will have a rummage sale on Friday, March 31, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Devotions

First Saturday devotions Fort Wayne — The World Apostolate of Fatima will have First Saturday devotions of reparation on April 1, at St. Joseph Parish, Brooklyn and Hale, and at St. Patricks, also on the 15 of every month. Confession begins at 7:15 a.m., meditations on the rosary at 7:30 a.m. with the rosary beginning at 7:45, Mass at 8 a.m.

First Sunday rosary for families Fort Wayne — The First Sunday rosary for families will be at MacDougal Chapel, Sunday April 2, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. with Father Tom Shoenmaker from St. Jude Parish, and Sister Jolene Heiden, SSND, from the Office of Spiritual Development attending.

Lenten vespers held during Lent Fort Wayne — St. Henry Parish, 2929 E. Paulding Rd., will have vespers during Lent every Sunday at 6 p.m.

Day of Reflection You are invited to attend a Day of Reflection at St. John’s, St. Patricks, Mishawaka (across from Marian High School) on Wednesday, March 29, from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is “Praying the Our Father.” The cost of the day is $15 and includes lunch. Register by Friday, March 24, at (574) 259-5427.

Misc. Happenings

NFP session planned South Bend — A natural family planning session will begin Sunday, March 26, at St. Anthony de Padua School from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Cost is $15. Call (574) 234-5711 or e-mail nfp@stjosephcatholic.org for information or to register.

Sisters’ auxiliary bake sale planned South Bend — The St. Aladbert Sisters’ auxiliary bake sale will be Saturday, April 8, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Heritage Center. Lamb cakes, sweet-sour cabbage and baked goods for Easter will be available. Lamb cakes may be pre-paid and ordered by calling (574) 288-5708.

Saints Alive host moving sale Fort Wayne — The Saints Alive office will have a moving sale on Saturday, March 25, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Food will be available, collectibles, artwork and home decor items from the Atlanta Merchandise Mart.

Rummage sale Kendallville — Immaculate Conception Parish, corner of Oak and Diamond streets, will have a rummage sale on Friday, March

$1 OFF
FISH SUPREME SANDWICH

Mix the sauce and dressing together in a large bowl. Add the croutons and toss until well coated. Enjoy as a salad or on top of a warm salad of mixed greens. You can also add grilled chicken or fish for an even more delicious meal. This recipe is perfect for a weeknight dinner or a weekend get-together. It's a crowd pleaser and sure to be a hit with your family and guests. Whether you're looking for a simple and delicious meal or an impressive appetizer, this salad recipe is sure to impress. It's easy to make, quick to prepare, and packed with flavor. Give it a try today and see why it's a favorite in our household. -Meera, recipe creator
Surrounded by a busy traffic pattern and set square in the center of downtown Goshen, the alluring colonial church, the modern combination school and parish office building equipped with high-tech tools for education and business needs, plus a large playground area with colorful, compelling play equipment belie the fact that it is all connected by a thin tread through time to such ancient figures in diocesan history as Fathers Badin, Sorin and Julian Benoit.

St. John the Evangelist is the third oldest parish in the diocese and was established as a mission of St. Augustine Church (later named the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception) in Fort Wayne. Its beginnings were so primitive that the first congregation consisted of 30 families scattered widely over Elkhart County and, in its first school, the desks were boards nailed to church pews.

Today, St. John is a successful 50/50 blend of approximately 1,000 Hispanic and Anglo families with Hispanic and English ministries covering traditional services such as cantors and liturgical ministers to specialties such as photography, Vacation Bible School, and Catholic Campus Ministry, which allows Catholic students at nearby Goshen College to feel welcome at St. John the Evangelist Parish. Another unusual ministry, known as Chefs for a Week provides evening meals for up to one week to parishioners back home from a hospital stay.

Of the many pastors who have served here, Father Herman Miller, who was pastor from 1935 to 1949, is recalled as one far ahead of his time with the spirit of ecumenism. His relationship with the Protestant ministers in town and their people did much to overcome the barriers, which existed in this predominantly Protestant community and area. The dividends of good will he created are exemplified today by the significant presence of St. John’s priests celebrating holy Mass at the annual Elkhart County Fair, the third largest county fair in the United States, and the appearance of spectacular floats sponsored by St. John in the fair’s grand parade that rolls right by that striking colonial style church at Main and Monroe in Goshen that is St. John the Evangelist.

The baptismal font designed and cleverly built by long-time parishioner Vince Traxler, appears as a solid cube but has hidden plungers to open its doors and make it a useful cabinet.

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The dividends of good will he created are exemplified today by the significant presence of St. John’s priests celebrating holy Mass at the annual Elkhart County Fair, the third largest county fair in the United States, and the appearance of spectacular floats sponsored by St. John in the fair’s grand parade that rolls right by that striking colonial style church at Main and Monroe in Goshen that is St. John the Evangelist.

The founding pastor of St. Martin de Porres Parish was Father Eugene Zimmerman, followed by Fathers Robert Hammond, Richard Urbine, Edward Erpelding and Terry Place, the current pastor. Father Dominique Carboneau, pastor of St. Aloysius, Yoder, has the only known religious vocation from St. Martin de Porres Parish.

Above the front entrance to this church stands an impressive bronze figure of St. Martin de Porres. One wonders how many who pass through the shadow cast by this statue know that Martin de Porres was an illegitimate child who as a Dominican lay brother, founded an orphanage, a foundling hospital and distributed food to the poor.

He was canonized in 1962 by Pope John XXIII and is the patron of interracial justice.