April 9, 2006

Serving the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

TODAY’S CATHOLIC

Immigration reform brings Fort Wayne community to the streets

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — More than 5,000 people took to the streets in downtown Fort Wayne on April 2 to rally for the just immigration reform law. The rally, sponsored by the Hispanic Leadership Coalition of Northeast Indiana, Inc. (HLCNI), had the purpose to raise awareness about the immigration reform issue in the local context, according to Max U. Montesino, HLCNI president and an associate professor of organizational leadership and supervision at Indiana-Purdue Universities at Fort Wayne (IPFW).

Montesino added the purpose of the rally was “to protest xenophobic legislation passed by the House of Representatives (the situation changed this week with discussion that took place in the U.S. Senate); to call for more humane and solid immigration reform that protects our country against ‘real terrorists’; and to support legislation projects already submitted by some Senators that address comprehensive immigration reform.”

Montesino told Today’s Catholic, “HLCNI believes that law HR 4437 — already approved by the House of Representatives — and others being considered by the Senate are only punitive to the immigrant, without any real solution to the immigration crisis we face today. They make matters worse, affecting documented and undocumented people.”

On March 27, the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee passed the Comprehensive Immigration Reform Act of 2006. The committee-passed bill includes a pathway to legal status and citizenship for undocumented immigrants, guest worker programs and a pathway to citizenship and protection from being charged with

REMEMBERING GOOD FRIDAY

The statue of Jesus located in the Cathedral Museum in the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center in Fort Wayne depicts the scourging by the Roman soldiers.

BY DON CLEMMER

SYRACUSE — Father Jim Shafer made it quite clear in his series of talks at the annual Bishop’s Retreat that the Eucharist is the richest, most complex mystery in Catholicism and that a person could spend a lifetime exploring and describing it. But he only took a weekend. And the approximately 120 young adults who had gathered at the luxurious Oakwood Inn from across and beyond the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend happily followed him as he looked at dimensions of the sacrament including unity, love, sacrifice, thanksgiving and mission.

“Father Jim has quite a spiritual depth without being ‘heavy,’” noted Sister Jacinta Kreck, OSF, one of the retreat coordinators of Father Shafer’s talks. “His love for Jesus in the Eucharist and his joy in life shines through.”

“He’s such a great speaker, especially on the Eucharist,” said Mark Landrigan, Indiana-Purdue Universities at Fort Wayne (IPFW) student and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parishioner of his pastor’s work on the retreat.

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Bishop John D. D’Arcy offered a blessing outside of St. Patrick Church in Fort Wayne at the beginning of the just immigration reform march and rally. The bishop and Father John Overmyer, St. Patrick pastor, joined thousands of Latino, white, African American and others on a march April 2 from St. Patrick Church to the Allen County Courthouse. Bishop D’Arcy is the son of Irish immigrant parents.

REMEMBERING a ‘rock of faith’

Vatican, diocese, world memorialize Pope John Paul II

Tight-knit generations

Parish offers multigeneration knitting ministry

The Young Voice

St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel prepares for Easter

Diocesan offices will be closed Good Friday, April 14
Meeting, mission, retreat and march bring variety to the week

A week like no other

In a way, I suppose that can be said of any week. No week or no day is the same. Well into my 50th year as a priest, it is still true, and I believe most priests would agree with me. No day is the same. It is part of the joy and fascination of this life.

I spent Thursday with our Priests’ Council seeking their advice on a number of matters. How can we foster vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life as part of the observance of our sesquicentennial anniversary? Secondly, we looked at how to receive holy Communion services outside of Mass on weekdays. Thank God, we never have to do it on Sunday.

Father Mark Gurtner, who has completed his studies in canon law, has been very helpful in sharing with us a new admonition from the Holy See in a document called, “Redemptio Sacramentum.” Here it indicates that the bishop should only rarely, and with special conditions, give permission for holy Communion outside of Mass on a weekday. So, we are working to bring our diocese into full communion and compliance with this directive. Not that we have Communion services very often. In fact, they are rare in our diocese. But, we also want to instruct our people as to why this should be rare on weekdays.

We all need to understand that the Mass is an eucharistic act, and Mass must always be the normal way to receive holy Communion, except, of course, in the case of the ill and the dying. We also needed to discuss some financial matters at the council meeting.

Following another meeting with a small group of priests, I headed south on Route 15 from Sacred Heart Parish, Warsaw, where we were meeting, toward the lovely, Indiana town of Wabash and the marvelous parish of St. Joseph the Worker. I arrived at St. Bernard in plenty of time.

Closing mission

The beautiful country church was almost full. They had had four exceptional nights with wonderful preaching. There was great enthusiasm among the people. They told me that three priests had heard confessions the night before, and there were long lines for each priest. It was a joy to preach there and to see the wonderful spirit. The pastor is Father Sextus Don, a Salesian priest. This is the congregation founded under the great St. John Bosco, noted for his work with young people. Father Sextus comes to us from faraway Sri Lanka, which was hurt so much by the tsunami. “He has made us broader our outlook,” said one parishioner. The people also spoke about the spirit of reverence and the sound instruction they receive from him.

There is also much enthusiasm and gratitude for Sister Marilyn Elliott, OSF. Sister has been principal at St. Bernard School, Warsaw. I can recall not many years ago when many were asking if this parish school should continue. Through the hard work Sister Marilyn, Father Sextus and many parishioners, the numbers have increased so that, in kindergarten, preschool and early grades, the numbers are higher than perhaps they have been in years. Much credit to Sister Marilyn. They have added a grade, so now they have six grades in all.

A Catholic school in a small town like Wabash, may which is 10 percent Catholic, is very important. A number of children from other traditions attend the school. It is held in high esteem in the community.

Home then through the night on Route 24 to Fort Wayne after a very special day.

Youth retreat

Believed to be the 21st successive year in which we have had a weekend retreat for young people. Coordinated by Linda Purge and various people from our Young Adult and Campus Ministry Office, it is a special time. To those who I said, “Linda, it never gets old.”

I followed my usual procedure of arriving on Saturday afternoon at Oakwood Inn, near Syracuse. It’s a marvelous place, right picking up my box lunch, I headed to Fort Wayne with a car full of young Hispanic Catholics from South Bend following me. At St. Patrick Church, I joined a huge crowd, estimated at 7,000, in a peaceful and joyful march, to make evident to the citizens of Fort Wayne our concern, and the concern of many Catholics, about some harsh legislation recently passed by one branch of Congress.

This legislation would send 11 million Hispanics back to Mexico and would make it a crime to assist them or give them employment. Another piece of legislation sponsored by the other branch of Congress is more balanced. Remember, many of them have children born in this country and, consequently, are United States citizens. This would legalize their parents under certain conditions. They would pay a fine and would be documented. They could stay six years as guest workers here and obtain a driver’s license. If they wish, they could then begin the five-year road to becoming citizens. That is the same five-year road that my dear mother and father took after coming to this country as immigrants over 80 years ago.

It was joyful to be with these Hispanic Catholics and to march through town. We started at St. Patrick Parish, and paused in front of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception to pray the Hail Mary in Spanish. It was important to me to be with them, and it seemed important to them. Why did I participate and support illegality. In fact, it is the wish of our people that they be documented. They are members of our parishes. They work in our cities. I am their shepherd. I wish to stand with them in their hour of need and show my love and care, and also affirm their desire to become good citizens of this country. Indeed, many of the marchers have been here for many years. These are the people Christ has given to me to shepherd, and it was a joy to be with them.

What a privilege the next day to offer Mass in our Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception with a large crowd for our beloved John Paul II on the first anniversary of his going to “the house of the Father.”

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Holy Week

Now comes this most important week of our church year. I will follow my usual schedule with the chancel cross on Monday night at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend and, on Tuesday night, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. On Wednesday, I will celebrate the Holy Thursday liturgy at St. Matthew. On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, I will be at the cathedral in Fort Wayne.

We are all very much a part of the mystery of Christ. It will be a time of prayer and of opening our hearts to his love.

I especially invite our people to some time of adoration during the night. I urge everyone to seek out the sacrament of penance in these days. The Red Sox won the opener. The sea- on has begun. See you all next week.
Pope Benedict celebrates Mass, calls his predecessor ‘rock of faith’

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope John Paul II was a “rock of faith,” communicating the Gospel even when he could no longer speak and suffering racked his body, Pope Benedict XVI said, celebrating a memorial Mass for the late pope.

Just as he did a year earlier when he lay dying, Pope John Paul drew tens of thousands of people — mainly young people — to St. Peter’s Square to mark the first anniversary of his death with an April 2 nightime vigil and an April 3 evening Mass.

In his homily at the Mass, Pope Benedict said, “Those who were able to associate with him close up could almost touch that pure and solid heart; a faith that also impressed huge crowds as he traveled the world.”

Pope Benedict was speaking from personal experience as one of Pope John Paul’s closest collaborators for more than two decades as head of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Among the dozens of cardinals concelebrating the Mass was one who knew Pope John Paul even better. Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz of Krakow, Poland, who served as his private secretary for almost 40 years.

Addressing some 30,000 people — including Italian actress Sofia Loren — gathered in St. Peter’s Square for the Mass, Pope Benedict said his predecessor had a “convincing, strong and authentic faith, free of fear and compromise, which touched the hearts of many people,” particularly at the moment of “his agony and his death.”

On the actual anniversary of his death, April 2, some 80,000 people gathered in St. Peter’s Square to recite the rosary, sing hymns and remember the vigil kept by thousands of people the pope lay dying a year earlier.

“He continues to be in our minds and in our hearts,” Pope Benedict told the crowd gathered for the candlelight vigil.

“He continues to communicate to us his love for God and his love for humanity,” Pope Benedict said. A group of young Romans in the square when the pope died returned with a banner addressed to the late pope: “We are here with you. We are here to thank you.”

The banner-maker, 27-year-old Bindu Casalini, said, “There were so many moments when he made us feel important.”

“Rerading the words of John Paul I, I feel he’s still close. He’s still important to me,” she said. Her friend, Marco Iannotta, said: “It was like losing a member of the family. But he left us so much written down that it’s like we can still dialogue with him.”

Pope Benedict knelt in the window of his studio overlooking the square, reciting the rosary with the crowd.

As the clock approached 9:37 p.m., the hour of Pope John Paul’s death, the rosary concluded and Pope Benedict addressed those present and thousands of Catholics watching by satellite in Poland.

Pope Benedict said that especially in how Pope John Paul accepted his weakening physical condition and death “he gave such strength and hope to all of us, that a dying person does not have worth because of his efficiency or appearance, but for his soul, because he was created and loved by God.”

Jerry Zole of Lublin, Poland, was one of thousands of Poles who traveled to Rome to mark the anniversary by praying at the tomb of the late pope.

“I was here last year and when I left I wondered if I ever would come back. But I promised myself to be here on this night,” he said.

Pope John Paul “showed us the way to live.”

“Venerable, Francis” of the Diocese of Fall River, Mass., was one of dozens of seminarians from the Pontifical North American College who were praying in the square when Pope John Paul died; they returned for the anniversary vigil.

“At Mass when we pray for Benedict, our pope it still seems strange,” he said. “It seemed right to come here today.”

Pope John Paul, who served almost 27 years, was the only pope many of the seminarians ever knew.

Pope Benedict also dedicated his midday Angelus address April 2 to Pope John Paul.

The late pope’s last hours, he said, were “a pilgrimage of faith, love and hope, which left a profound mark on the history of the church and humanity.”

“John Paul II died as he always lived, animated by the indomitable courage of faith, abandoning himself to God and entrusting himself to the Blessed Virgin Mary,” he said.

“In his last years, the Lord gradually stripped him of everything,” Pope Benedict said. “When he could no longer travel and then not walk and finally not even speak, his gesture, his proclamation was reduced to the essential: to the gift of self until the last.”

The anniversary was marked at parishes, cathedrals, concert halls and on television channels in Rome, Poland and around the world.

BISHOP D’ARCY REMEMBERS POPE JOHN PAUL’S DEVOTION TO PRAYER

Bishop John M. D’Arcy, at a memorial Mass held at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on April 3, recalled Pope John Paul II’s devotion to prayer.

Prayer was at the heart of John Paul II, the bishop told the congregation at the noon Mass. The pope’s conviction to always seek and do the will of God brought him to a life of holiness. Pope John Paul II died April 2, 2005.

REFORM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“smuggling” for humanitarian organizations that provided assistance to immigrants, according to Catholic Charities USA statement.

“Fortunately, the recommenda-

tion from the Senate Judiciary Committee is a positive sign. This committee essentially said ‘no to the xenophobic bill passed by the House of Representatives,’” Montesino added.

However, the Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tenn.) has offered his enforcement-only proposal, and the Senate will decide whether to have debate on Sen. Frist’s bill or the bill passed by the Judiciary Committee, the Catholic Charities advisory added.

Such legislation, proposed by Sen. Frist, could have ramifications for church-related agencies such as Catholic Charities and even priests from the diocese who work with immigration.

Father Larry Snyder, president of Catholic Charities USA, announced in a press statement last week, “We are pleased with the progress the Senate Judiciary Committee has made proposing enacting immigration reform that not only promotes the security of our nation, but also puts undocumented workers and their families on the path to lawful permanent residence and citizenship.”

In addition to providing a pathway to legal citizenship and worker protections, the committee’s draft legislation includes a “Good Samaritan” provision that will protect groups like Catholic Charities that may provide aid to illegal immigrants. “Catholic Charities USA is grateful that the senators recognize that those providing humanitarian assistance should not be subject to criminal penalties for fulfilling their mission of helping those in need,” said Father Snyder.

“If the proposal that came from Law HR 4437 — the one passed by the House — is not changed by the entire Senate, there will be terrible consequences for our undocumented brothers and sisters,” Montesino added. He believes the Senate will stop the House-passed bill. “If not, all of us will go to jail, because we will not stop providing support, compassion and solidarity to our undocumented brothers and sisters,” Montesino said.

Even the Fort Wayne Police, who would enforce the House bill said police departments across the nation, would “find all the effort at improving community policing to go to waste, and that is an area in which the Fort Wayne Police Department has made tremendous progress.”

Monseigneur Montesino agreed that the immigration laws need to be tightened in light of 9-11.

“We need immigration reform in our country to protect us against terrorists that wish us harm. But to criminalize the immigrant community in the name of security is wrong,” Montesino said. “We need to solve the immigration problem; no doubt about it. But we do not need to penalize the hardworking Hispanic community in this process. The best way what law law HR 4437 would do.

“We need the Senate is discussing is a comprehensive way of dealing with a problem that we have to solve,” he added.
WASHINGTON (CNS) — Clergy child sex abuse allegations dramatically declined in 2005 over the previous year, but costs skyrocketed, according to the yearly audit on how the U.S. church is applying child protection policies.

Dioceses, Eastern-Rite eparchies and religious communities paid out $467 million in child sex abuse-related costs in 2005, $309 million more than in 2004, while new credible allegations dropped by 28 percent to 783, said the audit report made public March 30.

Most of the money, $346 million, was paid out by dioceses and eparchies, with 49 percent covered by insurance. The payouts involved many cases reported in prior years.

When added to previously released costs, the U.S. Church has paid out more than $1.3 billion on clergy sex abuse-related issues, mostly in settlements to victims, since 1950.

Besides allegations, the number of alleged victims and abusers dropped significantly. The 783 allegations involved 777 people who said they were abused by 536 clergymen, almost all priests. Males made 81 percent of the 756 clergy who were abused by 1,083 people who said they were abused by 532 clergymen, almost 777 people who said they were abused by 532 clergymen, almost 777 people who said they were abused.

A major reason for this is that many years before reporting abuse, people often have been waiting for the Gavin Group of Boston and the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, known as CARA, at Georgetown University in Washington.

The report said 191 of the 195 U.S. dioceses and eparchies participated in the audit. The Diocese of Lincoln, Neb., and the Melkite Eparchy of Newton, Mass., refused to participate, it said.

At the news conference, Bishop Skylstad said that aside from the power of persuasion he had no authority to force a bishop to participate in the audit process.

The Archdiocese of New Orleans and the Diocese of Beaumont, Texas, were exempted because of the damage they suffered in hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the report added.

For the CARA statistics, 94 percent of the dioceses and eparchies responded and 67 percent of the 221 religious communities responded.

The report said 22 dioceses were noncompliant with at least one of the 17 articles in the charter. Of these, 21 were noncompliant in implementing sex abuse prevention education and five failed regarding background checks. The Armenian Exarchate of the United States, based in Brooklyn, N.Y., was noncompliant with five articles, more than any other diocese or eparchy.

A lot of cases were settled last year involving large sums of money, she said.

The diocesan audits were done by the Gavin Group of Boston and the statistics on costs and new allegations were compiled by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, known as CARA, at Georgetown University in Washington.

Most of the diocesan noncompliance involved training classes in child sex abuse prevention for clergy, lay employees, volunteers and children in church programs. The number of dioceses that were noncompliant fell to 8 from 10 last year.

Number of priests accused of child sex abuse decreasing, says study

BY AGOSTINO BONO

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Although child sex abuse allegations against Catholic clergy may continue, there is a marked decrease in the number of cases that have occurred in recent years, said a report by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York.

The most of the recent allegations concern events that took place decades ago, it said in a supplemental report to its mammoth study of the nature and scope of the U.S. clergy sex abuse crisis.

The original study, covering the years 1950-2002, was released in 2004 and commissioned by the U.S. bishops’ National Review Board. The supplemental study contained further analysis of the same data and was released in Washington March 30 along with the 2005 audit of how the U.S. church is applying its sex abuse prevention charter.

“The decrease in sexual abuse cases is a true representation of the decrease in sex abuse cases reported by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York.

Martin Smith, data analyst for the study, said the spike in clergy sex abuse cases after 1985 was due to a more significant drop after 1993.

Almost 95 percent of the 7.7 million people needing training in 2005 received it, said the report.

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FORT WAYNE — The first weekend in April was one of celebration for those at St. Peter Parish in Fort Wayne. Following the April 2 Sunday morning Mass, Father Phil Widmann, pastor of St. Peter, invited the congregation to join him in dedicating the parish St. Vincent de Paul Society food bank’s new home.

An informal gathering at the food bank took place following the Saturday evening Mass on April 1 as well.

An enthusiastic crowd gathered with Father Widmann and the St. Vincent de Paul Society volunteers who staff the food bank inside the house located at 510 E. DeWald St. between the church and the new pavilion dedicated only last year. A sample display of food donations complimented the reception tables that held coffee and pastries for those in attendance. Father Widmann blessed the house and those who would minister there with peace and God’s love. Scripture readings and intercessory prayers were shared by the group with two to 20 incisors among single-incident cases than in the group with two to 20 incidents are more frequently found.

The fact that 55 percent of the abusers were reported to have had more than 20 victims and who began abusing within three to four years of ordination. The food bank, originally created by a single family residence, was gifted to St. Peter Church years ago after the death of its owner. Once converted into a convent, it became home to several sisters of different religious orders serving in Fort Wayne, including the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ and Our Lady of Victory Missionary. Following the sisters’ stay, Father Eugene Koers used the house as his residence until his death in November of 2005.

The food bank, originally created by the women of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, has served the parish and surrounding community since 1945. What began as a small food bank staffed by volunteers was located in the basement of the church and served five families a month. It has since grown to serve over 40 families each week due to the fall in local economy and the closing of neighboring St. Andrew Parish and their food ministry.

From the basement, the food bank moved to the church boiler room and eventually on to a stall in the parish garage. When the house on DeWald St. became empty, Father Widmann agreed to relocate the food bank there.

According to St. Vincent de Paul Society President, Tom Haley, the house provides more room and a homelike atmosphere for the visitors they serve. “It’s uplifting here. We went from the basement to this house. Now we have so much room. It’s like having a home of your own!”

The front rooms house the areas in which volunteers organize and bag the food, paper and cleaning goods for the food bank. Each bag contains items worth over $30. Visitors enter the back of the house in a warm, inviting room where they sign in.

St. Vincent de Paul Society treasurer, Jeanne Lubomirski, says, “It’s nicer here. We can speak to the people who come in, whereas before it was hard to connect to them. Now they can sit and talk to each other, too.”

The upstairs rooms have been converted into office and meeting space for the food bank. Construction is underway on a private chapel as well.

The food bank is supported solely by contributions collected monthly during Mass at St. Peter. Haley, Lubomirski and others are considered bargain hunters as they search the city for sales on items they purchase for the visitors of the food bank.

St. Peter pastoral associate Tony Henry says this move is a great need here and those who come are grateful.

Volunteer JoAnne Amstutz agrees, saying, “They’re not greedy, they’re needy. They care about each other. It’s community.”

Father Widmann, pleased with the move, says, “The move has pumped new life into the operation. They (St. Vincent de Paul Society) have lots of plans.”

This house is now home to the parish food bank supported and staffed by the St. Vincent de Paul volunteers. The food bank receives visitors every Thursday from 1-2 p.m. in a roomy and more home-like atmosphere.

The St. Peter food bank is open every Thursday from 1-2 p.m. for those needing assistance from the area. Visitors are required to sign in and may receive food goods two times each month.

FATHER PHIL WIDMANN, pastor of St. Peter Parish, is joined by a standing-room-only crowd at the dedication of the new home to its St. Vincent de Paul Society food bank, located adjacent to the church at 510 E. DeWald St. in Fort Wayne.

The Novena to the Divine Mercy

On Good Friday, 1937, Jesus requested that St. Faustina make a special novena before the Feast of Mercy, from Good Friday through the following Saturday. He, Himself, dictated the intentions for each day. By means of a specific prayer she was to bring to His heart a different group of souls each day and thus immerse them in the ocean of His mercy, begging the Father - on the strength of Jesus’ passion - for graces for them.

(See diary of St. Faustina, 1209)

Prayers for the Novena

(Diary, 1209-1229)

The novena and chaplet is said on the rosary.

Begin with the three beads each day your intentions with the soul is read. It is greatly recommended that the following novena intentions and prayers be said together with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, since Our Lord specifically asked for a novena of Chaplets, especially before the Feast of Mercy.

First Day

“Today bring to Me all mankind, especially all sinners, and immerse them in the ocean of my mercy.”

Second Day

“Today bring to Me the souls of Priests and Religious, and immerse them in My unfathomable mercy.”

Third Day

“Today bring to Me all devout and faithful souls, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy.”

Fifth Day

“Today bring to Me those who do not believe in God and those who do not yet know Me.”

Sixth Day

“Today bring to Me the souls of those who have separated themselves from My Church, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy.”

Seventh Day

“Today bring to Me the souls who especially venerate and glorify My mercy, and immerse them in My mercy.”

Eighth Day

“Today bring to Me the souls who are detained in purgatory, and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy.”

Ninth Day

“Today bring to Me the souls who have become lukewarm, and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy.”

HAPPY EASTER!

This is a shortened version of the novena.

St. Peter Food Bank finds new home

JOHN JAY

Continued from Page 4

use of suspension and treatment increased the positive results,” it added.

Smith said the data shows there were “many cases, frankly, when no response” was made by church officials.

“The average abusing priest was in his late 30s at the time of the first reported abuse, the analysis said. The average time lapse between ordination and the first reported incident of abuse was 11 years, the study said.

Because of this time gap, “there are no clear, early indications of risk that a priest will abuse later on,” it said.

Terry said the only exceptions in terms of possible early detection are serial abusers who had more than 20 victims and who began abusing within three to four years of ordination.

The fact that 55 percent of the abusers were reported to have had only one victim indicates that most priests had a low likelihood of repeating a sex crime, said the report.

“Very young and very old clerics are more frequently found among single-incident cases than in the group with two to 20 incidents,” it said.

Priests accused in only one case of sexual abuse “show evidence of greater self-control or self-correction,” it said.
Committee on Scouting receives Quality Diocese 2005 Award

FORT WAYNE — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Catholic Committee on Scouting received the Quality Diocese Award for 2005 from the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. Scouting is a youth ministry working with the Girl Scout councils, Boy Scout councils and the youth ministry department.

In addition to programs of retreats, training, religious emblems, the development of responsibility, maturity, leadership and the day apostolate formation, youth and adults find the constant elements that the Catholic Committee on Scouting tries to achieve in their youth ministry.

The committees encourage parents, priests, religious leaders and teachers to support Scouting. The committee thanks parishes that have a pack, troop unit or crew for their support. If a parish or local church community does not have a Scouting program, the committee encourages them to give it serious consideration.

Members of the two diocesan Catholic committees on Scouting are Bishop John M. D’Arcy; Father Christopher Young, chaplain; Gary Weaver, chairman and Laura Ray, vice chairman. The South Bend committee consists of Janet Lattrez, Dr. Susan A. Ross, a professor in philosophy, will give a lecture on “Why Does God Care about the Nature of the Human Person?” from Thursday, April 20, at 7:30 p.m. in the Little Theatre, Moreau Center for the Arts. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Dr. Susan A. Ross, a professor in the theology department at Loyola University Chicago, is the keynote speaker. She will present “For the Beauty of the Earth: Women, Sacramentality and Justice.”

The Madelewa Lectures in Spirituality are sponsored by Notre Dame’s Center for Ethics and Culture as its Spring Catholic Culture Series.

Amy Wellborn, syndicated columnist and author of the widely read Open Book Web log, will give a lecture on her recent book “De-Coding Da Vinci: The Fact Behind the Fiction of ‘The Da Vinci Code’,” at 7:30 p.m. April 10 in Room 155 of DeBartolo Hall. Wellborn argues that Dan Brown’s best-selling novel has “a starting number of blatant, glaring errors on matters great and small that should send up big red flags to anyone reading the novel as a source of facts, rather than pure fiction.”

Correction

A plenary indulgence may be obtained by participating in the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, not one hour as printed in last week’s That’s A Good Question column.
Youth group takes on the mission of exploring hunger

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

SOUTH BEND — Their stomachs may have been grumbling after a day without food, but members of the Kingdom Construction Company (KCC) youth group found that finally eating didn’t fill them up as much as serving the food they prepared for people at the Hope Rescue Mission.

“That was one of the major times that surprised me. I found myself caring not so much about eating for the first time in a day but instead making sure that everyone around, the people that we were feeding, were all served and satisfied. It certainly says something about the experience we all had over the past 24 hours (of fasting),” said Dan Jacobs, youth group member.

“I just kept doing what I was doing. The food everyone made (for the mission) was awesome, which made the meal even better. It was wonderful to eat, but I think I was more hungry that I would have enjoyed it more,” said Kate Kirbie, youth group member.

Seventeen members of the KCC came together recently for their sixth annual 24 Hour Food Fast at Little Flower’s Friday Night Fast event. The 24-hour event actually began with eating at Little Flower’s Friday Night Fast event and divided up into groups to purchase groceries for the Hope Rescue Mission Saturday evening dinner menu.

Fasting began immediately after the Friday evening service with an evening check full of activities, menu planning and shopping for the planned dinner.

One of the activities, a grocery shopping “field trip” opened the eyes of the youth to the reality of hunger.

“We went to the grocery store and divided up into groups to purchase, theoretically, groceries for a week. One group represented a family of two parents and one child with no limit on what they could spend. The second group represented a middle class family of two parents and two children with a budget of $200 for the week. The third group represented a poor family of a single parent with three children who only had $50 in food stamps for the week. That experience was also eye opening,” said Bill Odell, youth group director.

“We tend to forget how much we have and how little others have and how we never seem to be conscious of that fact as much as we should,” noted Jacobs.

Returning to the church late Friday evening after also shopping for the dinner they would prepare Saturday, the group then watched the movie, “Romero” which takes a close look at the real issues of hunger, noted Odell.

“I want them to realize that hunger doesn’t happen in a vacuum, but has reasons. No one wants to be hungry or chooses to be hungry. Contrary to popular belief, laziness is the least of them. Rather, hunger and poverty are caused by armed conflicts, discrimination, corporate greed, unjust government policies, oppression, pollution, disease, environment abuse, all which result from ignorance, selfishness and a lack of compassion, all of which were portrayed in the movie, ‘Romero,’” said Odell.

The fast continued Saturday morning with a prayer service, “Give a Person a Fish,” followed by a simulation activity in which they examined the effects of power play and discrimination on people. In the early afternoon, the group then prepared the meal which included four kinds of pasta, a KCC “signature” Jell-O dessert and double chocolate cupcakes.

“Unlike the Jell-O, the signature Jell-O cake didn’t work out. It collapsed into a multi-flavored Jell-O” said Odell.

The KCC then traveled to Hope Rescue Mission where they unloaded, served and ate dinner.

“One of my favorite parts was when we gave peace to everyone. Somehow it was so meaningful. In the beginning of the fast, Bill told us one of the meanings of the fast was to be in solidarity with the oppressed. By sharing peace with everyone we had just served, it made me realize how similar we are to everyone at the shelter. We could easily be in their place, and them in ours, so we should treat them the same as we would want to be treated,” said Kirbie.

“The whole event made for an altogether very wholesome experience. I just remember sitting back and feeling completely powerless, yet inspired to make a change. I felt completely moved from when I walked in on Friday to the experience, especially after the things we had just dealt with,” added Jacobs.

One of the activities, a grocery shopping "field trip" opened the eyes of the youth to the reality of hunger.
Pope says people do not need to be perfect to be called to a vocation

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — One does not have to be perfect to be called to a vocation in the priesthood or religious life, but one must recognize that God calls each person to repentance and holiness, Pope Benedict XVI said.

“Human frailties and limits do not represent an obstacle” to having a vocation, “as long as they contribute to making us more aware of the fact that we need the redeeming grace of Christ,” the pope said in his message for the 2006 World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The day dedicated to prayer for vocations to the priesthood and religious life will be celebrated May 7 in most countries; the pope’s message for the day was released March 30 in Italian.

From Jesus’ time, Pope Benedict said, God has called individuals to dedicate their lives totally to serving God and their brothers and sisters. God’s call is not addressed to the perfect, but to those open to God’s love, which changes human hearts and makes them capable of communicating the love of God to others, the pope said.

Christian convert, in Italy, thanks pope for appealing on his behalf

ROME (CNS) — After fleeing to Italy, a refugee man who faced the death penalty for converting to Christianity thanked Pope Benedict XVI for appealing on his behalf in Kabul.

“In Kabul they would have killed me, I’m sure of that,” Abdul Rahman said after he was granted refugee status in Italy on grounds of religious persecution.

Speaking to a small group of Italian reporters March 30, Rahman thanked a number of people who pressed for his release; the first person he mentioned was the pope. Rahman, 41, arrived in Italy from Afghanistan in strict secrecy.

He said he intended to stay in the country and find work. In the meantime, he was being cared for by the Italian Interior Ministry, officials said. Pope Benedict and others had appealed for Rahman’s release, urging Afghan authorities to show respect for freedom of religion.

Late pope’s ‘new evangelization’ has transformed airwaves

INVER GROVE HEIGHTS, Minn. (CNS) — The late Pope John Paul II might have found it a sweet irony that millions of Americans tuned into Catholic radio stations on Holy Thursday, marking his death April 2, 2005. When he called for a “new evangelization” in the U.S. at the dawn of the 1990s, he was able to affect “real justice” outside the U.S. military’s legal system, said the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council. The chairman of the council, Bishop Christopher Saunders of Broome, urged the Australian government to ensure that detainee David Hicks receives “a proper trial before a nonmilitary court or gets released to Australia. This situation has gone on for far too long,” the bishop said. Bishop Saunders urged the Australian government to follow the lead of Commonwealth countries such as Britain and Canada, who have secured the release of their own nationals from detention at Guantanamo Bay. “Concerns about conditions at Guantanamo, the indefinite detention and the deficiencies of military trials should be a basis for action on behalf of Mr. Hicks,” said Bishop Saunders. Hicks, a former Australian soldier, was captured with Taliban combatants when U.S. troops overran their positions in Afghanistan in 2001.

Polish bishops seek forgiveness for priests who were informers

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) — Poland’s Catholic bishops have requested forgiveness for priests who served as secret police informers under communist rule.

“The dramatic experiences of Poles and priests during the Second World War betrayed by certain people of the church — we are pained by this,” a new pastoral statement quoted the testimony of those who experienced distress and harm,” the bishops’ conference said in mid-March. “But we also stress that the Christian attitude is to extend mercy and forgiveness toward those who show repentance and offer recompense. We are concerned for everyone’s salvation, including those who persecuted the church,” the statement also criticized the media for sensation-alizing reports that about 10 percent of Catholic priests are believed to have acted as communist informers in Poland, although wider secret police recruitment was recorded in some dioceses in the 1980s.

Australian Catholic council calls for release of Guantanamo detainee

SYDNEY, Australia (CNS) — A 30-year-old Australian captured by U.S. forces in Afghanistan in 2001 and held in detention in Guantanamo Bay should be afforded “real justice” outside the U.S. military’s legal system, said the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council. The chairman of the council, Bishop Christopher Saunders of Broome, urged the Australian government to ensure that detainee David Hicks receives “a proper trial before a nonmilitary court or gets released to Australia. This situation has gone on for far too long,” the bishop said. Bishop Saunders urged the Australian government to follow the lead of Commonwealth countries such as Britain and Canada, who have secured the release of their own nationals from detention at Guantanamo Bay. “Concerns about conditions at Guantanamo, the indefinite detention and the deficiencies of military trials should be a basis for action on behalf of Mr. Hicks,” said Bishop Saunders. Hicks, a former Australian soldier, was captured with Taliban combatants when U.S. troops overran their positions in Afghanistan in 2001.

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Saint Mary’s College invites prospective students and their families to attend

Family Faith

Knitting generations together at Ss. Peter and Paul

BY KAY COZAD

HUNTINGTON — Saturday afternoons are generally reserved for ball games, shopping and other recreational activities in Huntington. But if you visit Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church between 1-3 p.m. you’ll find something very different going on.

Every Saturday, young girls, grades 3-8, gather with women of the parish to knit and crochet.

This intergenerational knitting group was the brainchild of Jerid Miller, youth minister there, who believes that bringing the generations together promotes not only personal and social development, but spiritual growth as well. “The ladies are role models for the girls. They do a lot of teaching without even knowing it,” says Miller. “The kids are more likely to stay in the church when they have relationships with others there.”

Why knitting? Miller says it was a lost art that has experienced resurgence in recent times. The new group met for the first time on Jan. 7, when young and old gathered for an introductory lesson on this useful craft. Most of the girls, all of whom attend Huntington Catholic School, together joined after responding to letters of invitation they received from the youth ministry. Others, like third-grader Corinne Zay, heard a friend talk about it and decided to join.

Several women responded as well. Parishioner Beth Fulton was excited by the prospect of the group. “I saw Jerid’s advertisement in the bulletin for retired women to teach the girls to knit. I’m not of retirement age but I called Jerid to see if I could join,” says Fulton, who has emerged as the group’s facilitator. An avid knitter, Fulton has been knitting for many years.

The enthusiastic, intergenerational knitters of Mother Mary’s Heart Warmer’s Knitting and Crocheting Group gather around the craft table at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish to continue their work on a service project for their community. Around the table from front left are: Melanie Joblonski, Angela Sober, Corinne Zay, Cindy Zay, Marilyn Stoffel, Beth Fulton, Erica Carroll, Brittany Scher, Laurisa Richard and Katelyn Niswander.

TECHNOLOGY IMPACTS HOW WE TALK TO OUR TEENS

Today’s teenagers use cell phones, text messaging, instant messaging and chat rooms to catch up with each other. They have long buddy lists filled with their friends’ screen names. This has a lot of parents feeling out of the loop. But in the spirit of “if you can’t beat ‘em, join ‘em,” many parents are realizing that these same technologies are making communication with their teens more fun and easier than ever.
Workshop teaches language of the body

BY KRISTI R. WARD

GRANGER — Lisa Everett of the Diocesan Office of Family Life says with a smile, “I tell them it’s normal to be nervous — this is a private matter, we’re talking about private stuff.”

Everett recently presented a program for seventh and eighth grade girls and their mothers called “Beyond the Birds and Bees — Understanding the Language of the Body” at St. Pius X Parish in Granger. Eight mother-daughter duos attended the workshop along with youth minister Tara Schmitt. Everett’s own eighth-grade daughter, Elizabeth, was also present.

Everett said she offered the program for the first time last spring. “It’s something I’ve wanted to do for years — and I saw an increasing need,” she said. “I really wanted to get mothers and daughters together to talk about important things.”

She opened the workshop with prayer and then talked about the biblical and theological vision for sexuality as a gift to be treasured and enjoyed within the sacrament of marriage. After that, she moved to an in-depth exploration of physical, emotional and hormonal changes throughout a woman’s monthly cycle.

“Sex is the body language of married love,” Everett stressed. “Sex is a gift that should be gift wrapped.” Those comments led to a discussion on the virtues of modesty and speaking, acting and dressing in a way that is attractive, but not “sexy.”

The discussion was followed by personal testimony from Caroline Murphy, a senior at Saint Joseph’s High School. Murphy is active in sports and takes a leadership role in several school organizations — and she’s also received a full scholarship to Notre Dame. Murphy’s parents told her she could date when she was 16. A week after her 16th birthday, she attended a retreat where she was challenged not to date during high school. That led to all sorts of rewards — she focused on learning and school activities and she became closer to all her friends and family, especially her mother.

Murphy concluded by presenting each girl with a CD of her favorite Christian songs and encouraged them to contact her.

Everett also presented a nine-step game plan for chastity, which included signing a pledge card, writing a letter to your future spouse or wearing certain jewelry as a reminder of your commitment to chastity, finding supportive friends, making modesty a priority and socializing in groups rather than single dating.

Another program for mothers and daughters will be presented on April 24 from 1-4 p.m. in the Parish Center at St. Mary’s in Fort Wayne. A father-son program for seventh and eighth graders will also be presented on May 21 (time and location to be announced).

Contact Lisa Everett for more details at the Office of Family Life (574) 234-0687 or by e-mail: Lisaanneverett@sbcglobal.com
since she was “younger than these girls.” Though her career as a hair dresser requires much of her time, Fulton says she knits and crochets every free minute she has. “I love it. Everyone should learn it. It is therapeutic and meditative.”

Other seasoned knitters include Betty Kindler, Marilyn Stoffel, Pat Oakley and Mary Brennan. Kindler, who has been a member of the parish for 40 years, and Stoffel, a parishioner for 63 years, agree they enjoy being with the girls and feel they all learn something new each time they gather. “This group is positively great,” says Stoffel. “It teaches them something new and brings the generations together.”

Moms join the group periodically as well. Cindy Zay attends with her daughter Corinne as a way of spending personal time with her away from her other four children. “I wanted to be with just her. I think it’s wonderful the girls are learning to knit at an early age.”

The early meetings not only included instructions on how to knit and crochet, but involved choosing a mission for the group as well as a special name. Inspiration for the name Mother Mary’s Heart Warmer’s Knitting and Crocheting Group came in light of the beautiful stained glass window depicting the Annunciation. The window depicts the Virgin Mary sitting with a basket of red yarn. The group was thrilled when Miller designed a transfer illustrating the Annunciation, which Fulton ironed on canvas knitting bags for each of the members.

The mission chosen: to develop their knitting and crocheting skills in an effort to craft projects to be offered to local charity efforts. “Because the skills are limited now, we are making squares to be sewn together for a blanket. It will be presented to the Huntington Right to Life Office for a young mother in need,” says Fulton. Eventually the group would like to knit hats and mittens for the Boys and Girls Club, as well as items for the local nursing home and homeless shelter.

The weekly meetings begin with prayer and a refresher course on previously learned skills. The first hour is devoted to work on the community project. Following snack time, provided by a parent, the girls return to craft any other project they might enjoy. Most, says Fulton, return to work diligently on the service project.

Each member of the group enjoys making these hand crafted squares. Melanie Joblonski, like the others, came to learn to knit but likes the service aspect of the group. “Making squares is an easy way to get everyone involved. It shows how everyone can help.”

Lauren McCullough, Angela Sober, Erica Carroll, Laurisa Richard, Brittany Scher and Katalyn Niswander all agree that the joint effort to make a blanket is worthwhile.

“It’s a really good idea. It’s neat that we’ll all pitching in to make this blanket for the babies who can’t afford one,” says Richards. “And they all agree with Carroll when she says, “It’s a great opportunity for kids to have others (women) teach us, so we can make other stuff for other people.”

In the spirit of fun there is a sense of devotion to service among the girls and as they develop their new found skills with the help of their mentors, they expect to produce many heart-warming creations for future service projects as well as personal gifts. And there is no doubt that each of their creations will be crafted with faith, community and spirit.
I have been going to school at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel for 10 years and been a member of the parish for the last 14. These are my thoughts on the school and what I got out of it that I think I would not have gotten at a public school.

I think that the patron of St. Joseph is played out very well at St. Joseph Hessen Cassel. St. Joseph is the patron saint of workers. The students and staff at St. Joseph work hard to do their best. St. Joseph’s builds its Catholic identity through teaching by example. We are encouraged to use our time, talent and treasure in our parish and community. We collect food for the food bank, work at the parish fish fries and serve at Mass for example.

We start each day with a prayer and ask God to help us do our best this day and every day. The faith comes into play since in our classes we are taught the normal subjects, but we can also bring our faith into play as how it ties into the class and how the church views our lessons and the every day aspects of our lives. We are taught to not just do the minimum amount to get through the class but to do extra to better ourselves.

We are taught that if you want something you have to work for it, it will not just be given to you.

Our faith is emphasized through the Scripture readings, prayers at various points in the day, our constant reminder that is the reason we are who we are, and the help our teachers give with the class and our everyday life. We are taught that you control your own destiny with God's help. We are taught to share our gifts with the less fortunate and fellow human beings whether it is singing in nursing homes or mowing grandma and grandpa’s lawn or any other talent we may have. We are taught to do these charities without solicitation. We are also taught we should help build each other and the kingdom of God every day of our lives.

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ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, HESSEN CASSEL is located in Fort Wayne. The school has 153 students in grades pre-K through eighth. Robert Herber is the principal. Additional information is available at www.stjosephhc.com, sjhc1@comcast.net or by calling the school at (260) 639-3580.

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Easter Prayer

O loving Jesus, I know that you loved me so much that you died on the cross for my sins. How great that you rose from the dead on Easter morning so that when I die I can be with you in heaven forever and ever. Amen

— Cara, fourth grade

My favorite part of Easter is ... because I can go to my grandma and grandpa’s to see them.

— Kathryn, kindergarten

Jesus rises from the dead. My grandma and grampa and cousins come over.

— Isabel, first grade

looking for Easter eggs.

— Seth, second grade

the gathering of families together.

— Kendall, third grade

When Jesus rose from the dead. All of God’s people were led. To him in heaven above. So we would know of his love.

— Robert, third grade

sharing candy with my cousins.

— Andy, fourth grade

going to church as a family. Every other Sunday we go at different times, but on Easter we all get together and sit with each other. It always puts a smile on my face.

— Amy, eighth grade

Celebrate Easter with this word search

By Georgia, sixth grade

Easter poem

By Brett, third grade

Celebrate Easter

When Jesus rose from the dead.
All of God’s people were led.
To him in heaven above.
So we would know of his love.

Drawing by Andy, kindergarten
Why did Jesus die?

A Good Friday reflection

BY EARL KUMFER

We are caught up in a great cosmic war of good vs. evil. God our maker and his faithful creatures are in a winner-take-all struggle with Satan, the general who marshals all the forces of evil, rebellion and sin. From all eternity, God’s strategy has built a great setup in Eden. Likewise, we are aware of God’s love and reborn as God’s children. We are sons and daughters of God our Father.

Answer A: Jesus is savior

We are caught up in a great cosmic war of good vs. evil. God our maker and his faithful creatures are in a winner-take-all struggle with Satan, the general who marshals all the forces of evil, rebellion and sin. From all eternity, God’s strategy has built a great setup in Eden. Likewise, we are aware of God’s love and reborn as God’s children. We are sons and daughters of God our Father.

Answer B: Jesus is redeemer

Adam and Eve really blew a great setup in Eden. Likewise, we burn our spiritual bridges behind us when we sin — and we get plenty of practice at that. Whatever the motives and causes of sin are, the result is that we create a huge gap between our Maker and ourselves. And we don’t have the power to unravel the network of evil we have spawned or to rebuild the bridges with our finite and now flawed power. Because we can’t make amends, we are damned.

St. Augustine of Hippo sees this tragedy as a happy one. Our helplessness cried out to God’s mercy to revise his plan of creation. And he did. But justice also had to be served. Because we could not pay the price of sin, God sends his own Son, who as God can pay the huge ransom and as man can draw his Father’s forgiveness to all mankind by obedience. The price is Jesus’ willing suffering and death. Today we celebrate that the bill is paid, once and for all. We are ransomed and reborn as God’s children.

Jesus’ blood price makes us at-one with God; sin is atoned.

Answer C: Jesus is role model

Jesus is not a cowboy, but a shepherd. He does not drive us like cattle into heaven, but leads us if we follow. Spirituality is about imitating Jesus, being his disciple. This requires a conversion from doing what we want to becoming like him in both living and in dying. He came, he showed us how, and he went on ahead, sending his Spirit to guide us. He left us a plan: Love one another as he has loved us. And he left us a dramatic example. He told and showed us how to live. And how to die.

One of the powerful scenes in Mel Gibson’s “The Passion of the Christ” is the portrayal of Simon of Cyrene who is recruited to help Jesus carry his cross. Jesus literally embraces, hugs, his cross, but he can’t make it alone. Simon is converted and throws himself into the task so fully that he doesn’t quit when the job is done. Jesus showed us how to die well in very tough circumstances. And he showed us, in his resurrection, that it all leads to a new, better life. If, like Simon, we follow him and do what he did, we will help make his kingdom come in this world. We will change our hearts, perfect our wills, and move on through death to a different, more perfect world.

Answer D: Jesus is love incarnate

This theology of Jesus’ death is neither well known nor popular today. Adopting this view requires serious revision of one’s understanding of God, of the purpose and meaning of creation, of salvation, and of today’s earth. Former elements of this answer were developed in the theology of the sainted John Duns Scotus, a Franciscan known as the “Subtle Doctor.”

Duns Scotus offers a vision of a God who is not a grisly general, willing to sacrifice his creatures and even his own Son to conquer evil. For him, Jesus’ death was not required by human sinfulness. Jesus is not God-become-man for the sake of paying our guilt price nor to lead us out of our vale of tears to the Promised Land. The Incarnation, God becoming man in Jesus, would have happened even if Adam and Eve would not have fallen, even if no human person ever sinned.

The divine intention, says Duns Scotus and others after him, was to share divine life in full communication with every single human person. So, there would have to be a person who was that very communion — a person who was both natures in one Person. God so loves us characters in his creation script that he wrote himself into the script. That person is Jesus. The author becomes a character; the creator becomes a creature. Jesus lives humanly in every way but sin. He is born of flesh, he lives in human time and in the human condition — eating, talking, learning, having friends, having headaches and allergies. And since death is part of living, he dies. Jesus is gift, God’s gift of himself to us in our finite, concrete selves. As gift, Jesus wasn’t expected nor required. A gift doesn’t have to be paid for. It pays no bills. But it gives joy. It makes us excited that God would so love us and creation as to want to be one of us in every possible way — being abandoned, experiencing pain, being loved by a mother and friends — including the ultimate personal act, dying.

So, what is this feast about? Why did Jesus die?

There are at least four choices to this test question. Perhaps you can write a fifth, maybe “All of the above.” But we have to wait a while to get our grade, because God has the answer key.

Earl Kumfer is a professor of philosophy and theology at the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne.
Tenebrae service captivates ND community

BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

SOUTH BEND — The crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ captivates millions of Christians worldwide during the Easter season.

As well it should since it is a foundation for the faith. And for most students at the University of Notre Dame, their devotion is no less apparent than on Holy Thursday night when they will attend the traditional Tenebrae service at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on campus.

And, it seems, few churches can do a Tenebrae service like the basilica can.

According to Father Peter D. Rocca, CSC, and rector of the basilica, the church will be packed, mostly with students, though some alumni and surrounding community members will also fill the basilica. According to Father Rocca, few churches can hold traditional Tenebrae — Latin for darkness — services because they are difficult to prepare and do well. Much of the service depends on the quality and traditional elements of the music. That’s because the service is almost entirely all musical, Father Rocca says. And the university, he says, has been blessed with wonderful choirs and singers that can perform the music beautifully.

Traditional Tenebrae

The basilica’s Tenebrae service is part of the tridium from Holy Thursday evening through Easter Sunday evening. Father Rocca says.

The Tenebrae service combines the Offices of Matins — today, the Office of Readings — and Lauds — today, the Office of Morning Prayer, Father Rocca says.

In part, the service is a series of singing recitations of Psalms, Lamentations and responses. The only light in the basilica during the service will come from a candelabra with seven candles, Father Rocca says.

The Lamentations, he says, are powerful for attendees of the service because they are laments over the sack of Jerusalem in B.C. 587 by the Babylonians. Often, Father Rocca says, the laments are seen as also relating to the suffering of Christ.

With the end of singing each psalm, one candle will be extinguished, says Father Rocca. When the light from one candle remains, it will be taken from the candelabra and walked, still lit, from the church.

“That the church will be cast in total darkness, which is reminiscent of the darkness that was manifested with the crucifixion of Jesus,” Father Rocca says. The darkness, he says, will seem to point to the triumph of darkness over life and the chaos of darkness.

“One would think the forces of evil had won,” Father Rocca says.

But the candle that is taken from the church is returned and placed at the top of the candelabra, which suggests Christ defeating death and darkness, he explains.

“That’s why the students like it,” Father Rocca says. “It’s so different from what they’re normally exposed to — from the chanting of the Psalms and the exiting of the candelabra... Freshmen coming in have never seen anything like it. There’s a lot of drama and symbolism. It’s so powerful.”

He says there’s nothing like the compelling symbolism of the clash between death and light during the service. And because the service is late at night — 11 p.m. — those symbols become even more pronounced.

With the service lasting one hour, Father Rocca says, “it helps usher us into the observance of Good Friday.”

While few of us can imagine what it was really like 2,000 years ago at the crucifixion of Christ, the Tenebrae service seems designed to give us an inkling, as is the entire Easter season.

Along with hundreds taking part in the Stations of the Cross on campus, many students also attend all the liturgies throughout

**2006 Holy Week Liturgy Schedule**

**Basilica of the Sacred Heart - Notre Dame**

**Saturday, April 8**
5:00 PM: Palm / Passion Sunday Vigil Mass
Palm / Passion Sunday, April 9
9:45 AM: Sunday Mass with outdoor procession
Noon: Sunday Mass with outdoor procession
2:15 PM: Sunday Litanies Vespers

**Monday of Holy Week, April 10**
11:30 AM: Mass 5:15 PM: Mass

**Tuesday of Holy Week, April 11**
11:30 AM: Mass 5:15 PM: Mass
7:00 PM: Campus Wide Stations of the Cross (procession departs from Grotto)
9:15 PM: Opportunity for individual confession (follows Stations in the Basilica)

**Wednesday of Holy Week, April 12**
11:30 AM: Mass 5:15 PM: Mass

**Holy Thursday, April 13**
9:00 AM: Morning Prayer
Noon: Basilica closed until 4:00 PM
5:00 PM: Everlasting Mass of the Lord’s Supper
6:30 PM: Adoration in the Lady Chapel
11:00 PM: Tenebrae

**Good Friday, April 14**
9:00 AM: Morning Prayer
Noon - 3:00 PM: Hours of Silent Prayer
3:00 PM: Celebration of the Lord’s Passion
7:15 AM: Stations of the Cross

**Holy Saturday, April 15**
9:00 AM: Morning Prayer
Noon - 3:30 PM and 5:00-7:30 PM: Basilica Closed
9:00 PM: The Paschal Vigil Mass

**Easter Sunday, April 16**
8:00 AM: Easter Sunday Mass 10:00 AM: Easter Sunday Mass
Noon: Easter Sunday Mass
7:15 PM: Easter Paschal Vespers

**Confessions During Holy Week (April 10 through April 15)**
Monday: 11:00 AM, 4:45 & 7:00 PM
Tuesday: 11:00 AM, 4:45, 7:00 and 9:15 PM
Wednesday: 11:00 AM, 4:45 & 7:00 PM
Holy Thursday: 11:00 AM, Noon & 7:00 - 8:00 PM
Good Friday: 11:00 AM, 2:00 & 7:00 - 8:00 PM
Holy Saturday: 11:00 AM, Noon & 3:30 - 5:00 PM

**Easter Traditions**

**Easter Lilies**
Long considered a symbol of Christ’s resurrection, lilies have become a tradition during the Easter celebration. This year our Floral Shoppes will carry beautiful 4 to 5 bloom Easter lilies, fresh floral bouquets and special holiday arrangements that are sure to brighten your holiday.

**Hot Cross Buns**
Made from scratch in Martin’s own Bobe Shoppes. They’re spiced with cinnamon and nutmeg and loaded with diced fruit and raisins.

**Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception**
1100 South Calhoun Street - Fort Wayne - 424-1485

**Holy Week and Easter Schedule**

Holy Thursday, April 13
Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 7:00 pm
Father Robert Schulte presiding

Good Friday, April 14
Celebration of the Lord’s Passion at 1:00 pm
Bishop John M. D’Arcy presiding

Way of the Cross at 7:00 pm

Holy Saturday, April 15:
Easter Vigil at 8:00 pm
Easter Sunday Masses, April 16
7:30 - 9:30 and 11:30 am (No 5:00 pm Mass)
Father Peter Rocca, CSC, is the rector of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at Notre Dame. The basilica has a tradition of celebrating the Tenebrae service. “It’s a powerful service that helps people enter more fully and more deeply into the events of the death and Passion of Christ,” says Father Rocca.

The people of St. Jude Catholic Church
Randallia Drive at East State Blvd. in Fort Wayne
invite all to join in the celebration of the Paschal Triduum

Holy Thursday, 7:30 PM
Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper

Good Friday, 12:30 PM
Celebration of the Lord’s Passion

Holy Saturday, 8:30 - 11 PM
Easter Vigil Mass including all 7 Old Testament Readings

Easter Sunday Masses:
9:00 and 11:00 AM

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Tuesday, April 11 • Chrism Mass at the Cathedral 7:30 PM
Wednesday, April 12 • Confessions 7:00 - 8:00 PM
Holy Thursday, April 13 • No Morning Mass
Confessions 10:00 - 11:00 AM • Mass of the Lord’s Supper 7:00 PM
Vigil with Blessed Sacrament in Classroom 1 • 8:30 - 11:00 PM
Good Friday, April 14 (Day of Fast and Abstinence)
Commemoration of the Lord’s Passion • 12:30 PM
Confessions • 2:00 PM until finished
Holy Saturday, April 15 • Easter Vigil Mass • 8:30 PM
Easter Sunday, April 16
8:30 and 10:30 AM • Easter Sunday Mass
7215 St. Joe Road • Fort Wayne

Saint Pius X Church
52535 Fir Road
Granger (574) 272-8462

Our Lady of Good Hope
HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE
Tuesday, April 11 • Chrism Mass at the Cathedral 7:30 PM
Wednesday, April 12 • Confessions 7:00 - 8:00 PM
Holy Thursday, April 13 • No Morning Mass
Confessions 10:00 - 11:00 AM • Mass of the Lord’s Supper 7:00 PM
Vigil with Blessed Sacrament in Classroom 1 • 8:30 - 11:00 PM
Good Friday, April 14 (Day of Fast and Abstinence)
Commemoration of the Lord’s Passion • 12:30 PM
Confessions • 2:00 PM until finished
Holy Saturday, April 15 • Easter Vigil Mass • 8:30 PM
Easter Sunday, April 16
8:30 and 10:30 AM • Easter Sunday Mass
7215 St. Joe Road • Fort Wayne

Most Precious Blood Church

EASTER TRIDUUM
Thursday 7:00 PM Mass of the Lord’s Supper
(Adoration after Mass until 9:00 PM)
Friday - 1:30 PM Good Friday Liturgy & Communion
Saturday - 8:00 PM Easter Vigil Mass
Easter Sunday - 8:00 & 10:15 AM Masses
(Regular Sunday Schedule)

1515 Barthold Street • Fort Wayne
Pope’s 1968 writings echo teachings today

It has now been one year since the interregnum between the late John Paul II and his successor, Joseph Ratzinger, now Benedict XVI. In the course of the year, Benedict has presided at the World Youth Day gathering in Cologne, published his first encyclical and carried out new apostolic travels. The books he wrote earlier in his life — whether as a private theologian or as a curial prefect — have been snatched up and are being devoured by the public, Catholic and otherwise — whether as a private theologian or as a curial prefect — have been snatched up and are being devoured by the public, Catholic and otherwise, to such a degree that one of his earliest works, “Introduction to Christian,” has sold out and is being reprinted.

The “Introduction” is seminal for understanding Benedict’s thought. Written in 1968 as the fruit of his lectures at Tübingen the summer before, it is as timely today as it undoubtedly was then. It reveals both a depth of thought as well as a genuine engagement with the modern imagination.

He shows remarkable sensitivity to the problem of unbelief and its causes. In the course of the work, he digresses in a brief excursion — literally a “detour” — in which he offers what he considers the principal features of a genuinely Catholic theology.

It is intriguing, when one hears or reads his papal homilies or his encyclical, how his contemporary teaching echoes his reflections of nearly 40 years ago; there is a profound unity of thought in this man. In a nutshell, the six themes — pivotal, according to Ratzinger, for a genuine Christian theology — can be summed up as follows:

• While the individual has intrinsic value, that value is only truly understood in relation to the community; that is, there can be no “lone ranger” Christians — identity is determined and enriched precisely by being part of something larger than oneself.

• Christians are most emphatically “for” others — following the example of Christ, there is in the Christian life an indissolubility of service to others and the glorification of God.

• The process of human history, particularly in Christ, is ultimately achieved in paradox — seeming unintelligibility or apparent incompatibility: the Lord of the universe has revealed his glory on a cross; to see God, one must be attentive to this dynamic.

• There is no need for a legalism or slavery derived from achieving the minimum; as God has lavished life upon us, we are called to offer back to God and to our neighbor the gift of self with the same productivity, and only those who love can understand this.

• There is a definitive character to God’s revelation in Christ — Christ is in one sense the “end” but in another just the “beginning” of a new mode of existence; while God’s revelation is complete in Christ, the result is not stagnancy, but makes possible a dynamic new way of being.

• The primacy of acceptance over production, of being over doing, a recognition of creatureliness is a liberation from the drive to “earn” one’s value or achieve self-worth in “doing.”

• We could all rest under the wings of the peace dove. Amen.

Tom Bielik is the Israeli youth minister or youth director at the Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley. He is available to speak to classes in our Catholic schools and in our parish religious education programs.

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• There is so much that is rich, evocative and stirring in Ratzinger’s words and ideas that one looks forward to his continued reflection and teaching.

Conflict in Massachusetts

For over 100 years, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Boston has carried out, with integrity and resourcefulness, the beautiful service of placing children for adoption. Special attention was always given to hard-to-place children, including those with handicaps. Now this blessed activity is over. The bishops of Massachusetts made it clear that they could no longer violate church teaching by placing children with same-sex couples.

The Massachusetts legislature, according to reports, refuses to enact a conscience clause, which respects Catholic teaching and allows this agency to place children only in a family where there is a marriage between a man and a woman.

What would John Adams, the author of the Massachusetts Constitution, say about this brutal affront to religious liberty? What would the authors of the First Amendment of the Constitution say about the refusal to consider a law that would respect the freedom of Catholics?

One is also left to wonder why Catholics in the great state of Massachusetts, one of the original 13, do not seek redress of this affront in the courts. Such an effort would be not only to reclaim a right that is important, but would also be undertaken for the benefit of children, who have a right to a home where they will be raised by a man and a woman. Why does no one speak for the little ones in a state that, from the beginning, supported religious freedom?

SOUTH BEND — Shalom, My name is Tom Bielik. I’m 27 years old, and I came to South Bend for a year from Israel, working as a youth director for the Jewish Federation. I want to tell you about living in Israel and about the current events and the latest news from Israel.

Israel is a beautiful and wonderful place to be. The things you usually see on the news are only a small and minor part of the country. Israel is a land of amazing history, a lovely landscape of deserts, mountains, beaches and rich, some of the world’s most beautiful cities, one of the most modern, very warm and kind people.

The long conflict with the Palestinians, and the war against terrorism are a part of the reality, but nevertheless we have a normal life. Big cities with culture, art and nightlife, universities, technology and all the modern comfort that you have here in the United States. The Gaza strip, is well designed, very warm and kind people.

The interesting thing about Israel is that there’s always something going on in Israel. It depends on like we are the focus of the world’s attention, and everything that happens gets a lot of coverage.

To understand the latest current events in Israel, we need to go back. Last August, Israel took a brave step and carried out the disengagement plan from Gaza strip. Sharon, the prime minister at the time, made this decision in spite of strong opposition from his own party, the “Likud.” Sharon pulled out 8,000 Jewish settlers from Gaza and gave back the Palestinians the control of their land, hoping that this unilateral step would start the peace process again and bring peace to the region.

After the disengagement Sharon decided to leave his party and form a new party, “Kadima,” to give him the chance to continue the process and work toward a solution to the conflict. He gathered parliament members from all the different political sides, and new elections were scheduled for March 28. But as we know, not everything worked the way Sharon planned. About two months ago Sharon had a major stroke and was hospitalized. He has remained in a coma and is not able to lead his new party. Ehud Olmert, the former mayor of Jerusalem and Sharon’s successor, was appointed as the acting prime minister and the new leader of the Kadima party.

Another recent event you need to know about to understand current events in Israel is the success of the “Hamas,” the terror organization, in the Palestinians elections. The Hamas won, and are now working to form the new government of the Palestinian Authority. This is an alarming sign to Israel, since the Hamas still refuses to recognize Israel’s right to exist.

On March 28, the elections were held in Israel. As expected, Ehud Olmert and his party, Kadima, won, but they didn’t get as many seats in the Knesset (the Israeli parliament) as they expected. The Labor party came in second. Many other small parties, like “Shas” (the ultra-Orthodox religious party), “Yisrael Beitenu” (the party of the Russian immigrants) and “Hagama” (the party of the elderly pensioners) won many seats. The Likud, the former party of Sharon, had failed to gain any significant political power.

Now Olmert will need to put his effort into forming the coalition and the new government of Israel in order to continue Sharon’s agenda and promote the peace process and more pullouts from the West Bank.

Another interesting point in these elections in Israel is the low voter turnout, only 63 percent, the lowest ever in Israel, though it is still high compared to the U.S. This shows that the Israeli people have apathy or are tired of the current leaders and parties.

It’s almost Passover time. In Israel, this is the time of changes. The winter is over, and the warm spring arrives, bringing beautiful flowers that cover the land and fresh water running in all the streams and lakes. The smell of summer is in the air. The scenery changes, both in the political scenario and the landscape itself.

And as we know, there will always be more news and more surprises coming from our little country.

There are about 1.5 million people living in Israel, twice a year, going to and coming back from Africa and Europe. From their point of view, in the sky, they just see the same land and nature, without knowing of all the other changes and happenings. They don’t care about the elections, the conflict or the fight against terrorism. I hope that someday it would be the same for us, all the citizens of Israel and the Middle East region, and we could all rest under the wings of the peace dove. Amen.
THE VATICAN LETTER

CAROL GRATZ

words and do good deeds; “only spiritual people” bathed in the grace of the Holy Spirit emamate beauty, he said. Cardinal Ivan Dias of Mumbai, India, said the lives of the saints can be inspirational even for people of other religious faiths or no faith at all.

Most holy people do not often embody modern notions of beauty; many, like Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, were poor and others, like Pope John Paul II, were ailing and practically voiceless, and yet they still attracted people of all beliefs to listen to their message, he said. People living a holy life might also be the object of ridicule, persecution or other hardships, making the church help people discern this liberating and redeeming path of beauty from the more deceptive forms glistening and gleaming in magazine ads, on television and in storefront window displays? Bishop Donal Murray of Limerick, Ireland, said in his address that most advertisements aim to persuade people they need certain products or services and that something “passing and trivial is more important and desirable than it really is.”

In a world full of bright, attractive images, Bishop Murray said, “questions about the awful do not exist,” and, quoting U.S. psychoanalyst William James, he said “the big outside worldly wilderness with all its sins and sufferings” is avoided.

Christian beauty is also manifest in people who live a life of holiness, said other participants. Slovenian Jesuit Father Marko Rupnik said people infused with love for the other become beautiful. It is not enough to offer kind and good, can lead people to God, said the council’s president, French Cardinal Paul Poupard. But, he asked, can the church help people discern this liberating and redeeming path of beauty from the more deceptive forms glistening and gleaming in magazine ads, on television and in storefront window displays? Bishop Donal Murray of Limerick, Ireland, said in his address that most advertisements aim to persuade people they need certain products or services and that something “passing and trivial is more important and desirable than it really is.”

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Nothing ‘ordinary’ about the office of bishop

By Patricia Kasten

The CBS news magazine “60 Minutes” prides itself on asking the hard questions that other television news vehicles are too polite, or perhaps too afraid, to ask. That tough-minded approach to an important issue wasn’t much in evidence, however, when “60 Minutes” recently took on the question of whether “spare” embryos “left over” from in vitro fertilization procedures should be used for stem-cell research that would result in the embryos’ death.

Determined to ask the tough questions, Princeton’s Robert P. George, a member of the President’s Council on Bioethics, tried to explain certain basic moral facts to Arthur Caplan, an ethicist, make of that?”

“Dr. Caplan, hasn’t it true that there isn’t a single embryonic stem-cell therapy at even the earliest stage of FDA clinical trials?”

“Dr. Caplan, what are we to make of the fact that, to date, embryonic stem cells can’t be used therapeutically because they cause tumors in the animals into which they’ve been injected? And what are we to make of the fact that, because of the biological complexities involved, no one understands, or is even close to understanding, why this happens?”

“Dr. Caplan, why do leading stem-cell scientists tell us that, even if curves using embryonic stem cells are forthcoming (and some reputable scientists are dubious about the prospect), those curves are discrepancy away? And if that’s true, why has embryonic stem-cell research been so grotesquely hyped by its advocates? Doesn’t that risk a public backlash when the cure aren’t forthcoming next month, next year, or after 20 years from now? Hasn’t Lord Winston, Great Britain’s leading scientist in this field, warned about precisely that? Come to think of it, Dr. Caplan, didn’t you and a colleague write an op-ed piece raising similar caution after Proposition 71 passed in California last year?”

“Dr. Caplan, why is there so little public discussion of the fact that adult stem-cell therapies are being used today in treating some 65 diseases? Don’t you think that private sector biotech firms are pouring their research dollars into adult stem-cell research and therapies? Why does it seem so important to you and your allies among scientists to direct government funds toward embryonic stem-cell research?”

“Dr. Caplan, in recent months, the fullness of holy orders. The official business of the Church at the Last Supper, the first Mass, when he told his apostles: “Do this in memory of Me.”

Canon 375 says the bishops succeed to the place of the apostles through the Holy Spirit and serve the church as the teachers of doctrine, priests of sacred worship and ministers of governance. The bishop acts in communion with the pope and the other bishops.

Canon 376 distinguishes between various types of bishops. Canon 375 confers the dignity of a diocese or particular territory of land. Any other bishops are called titular bishops. These comprise: 1) coadjutor bishops with the right of succession to a diocese, 2) a retired or former diocesan bishop and 3) all other bishops who have a titular see, e.g., auxiliary bishops, legates of the Holy See, territorial abbots, apostolic vicars, apostolic administrators, special servants in the Roman curia, and any other bishops who are not coadjutor, diocesan or retired diocesan bishops.

The term “titular” means existing in title only, especially bearing a title derived from a defunct church jurisdiction. So a titular see is a diocese, often from the early church, that no longer has a diocesan bishop. Titular bishops have no jurisdiction in the titular church, but enjoy the privileges and honors of the episcopal order.

Today’s Catholic welcomes questions from readers to pose to Father Michael Heinzt, Father Mark Gurtner and the Office of Worship. Please e-mail your questions to editor@tw diocease.wsfb.org or mail them to Today’s Catholic, That’s A Good Question, P. O. Box 1169, Fort Wayne, IN 46856. Include your name, city and an e-mail address or phone number so we can contact you if necessary. Anonymity will be preserved upon request.

George Weigel is a senior fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.

THE NAME

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A N A N D R T A K I N G

The word “titular” means nothing ‘ordinary’ about the office of bishop

The Catholic Church has three types of bishops: ordinary, personal ordinaries and titular bishops.

An “ordinary” is a church office, such as that of bishop, a governor of a diocese or territory or group. The church also uses the term “ordinary” to describe the parts of the Mass that do not vary from day to day but assume a regular or customary condition. Again the church employs the term “ordinary” in its liturgical season of “Ordinary Time,” meaning the period not dealing with the Incarnation of Christ (Advent and Christmas) nor the public life of Christ (that of Lent and Easter), but the public life of Christ that includes his teachings and miracles. This season is divided into “Ordinary” time in its scripture readings. So the season of ordinary time does not mean it is unimportant. In fact, the miracles and teachings of Christ treated here are extraordinary.

The new Code of Canon Law defines the noun “ordinary” when used in Catholic Church affairs. “Ordinary” in addition to the Roman pontiff, by the title of ordinary are understood in the law diocesan bishops and others who, even if only temporarily, are placed over some particular church or a community equivalent to it, as well as those who possess general ordinary executive power in them, namely, vicars general and vicars episcopali; likewise, for their own members, major superiors of clergies of pontifical right and of clerical societies of pontifical right who have the fullness of holy orders. The official business of the Church at the Last Supper, the first Mass, when he told his apostles: “Do this in memory of Me.”

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The term “local ordinary” is normally used in the new Code of Canon Law. For example, Canon 273 says clerics are bound by a special obligation to show reverence and obedience to the Supreme Pontiff and their own ordinary.

The term “bishop” refers to the third step in the sacrament of priesthood. The bishop is said to have been ordained by the pope and the other bishops.

The word “titular” means existing in title only, especially bearing a title derived from a defunct church jurisdiction. So a titular see is a diocese, often from the early church, that no longer has a diocesan bishop. Titular bishops have no jurisdiction in the titular church, but enjoy the privileges and honors of the episcopal order.

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From pain to joy

BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

GRANGER — As a younger woman, Amy Schlatterbeck realized some of her friends possessed something she wanted: a relationship with Christ. And as far as she could tell, the only difference between herself and them was that those friends were Protestant and she was Catholic.

“In high school, I had close friends who introduced me to Christ in a different way and to reading Scripture,” said Schlatterbeck, 27, who graduated from Penn High School in 1997. “The experiences with her friends in high school and college led her on a journey of spiritual discovery that took her full circle and back to where she started: the Catholic Church.

Now, she said, she believes she’s doing exactly what God intended for her to do, and she loves it.

Schlatterbeck is pastoral associate at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Granger. She has trained to be a catechist for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program, which guides children into a relationship with the Good Shepherd. Schlatterbeck is using the Montessori teaching method. The program also teaches the kids, in three different levels, about the Catholic faith.

“I feel like I was created to do this,” Schlatterbeck said of her role at St. Pius. “I feel like my two loves have come together — my love for children and my love for God.”

But it was a long journey.

At the time she became friends with other students in the Protestant tradition, she said she doesn’t recall being around Catholics who had type of relationship with Christ her friends did. And she wasn’t exposed to too many Catholics who read Scripture.

Now, she said, she comes across other Catholics all the time who pray and read Scripture and do have that relationship with Christ.

“It was just part of my journey, I guess,” Schlatterbeck said of those experiences.

But because of them, she began to dig to try to learn more about God. In her early years at the University of Notre Dame, while pursuing her undergraduate degree in history, she began to search out what she believed. She began investigating Protestant churches; she attended Bible studies and studied on her own.

Then she took a trip that would change her life and lead her back to the church she had nearly forsaken.

In the year before her senior year, Schlatterbeck decided to travel to Memphis, Tenn., on a service project trip for a week. She worked with Mother Teresa’s Missionaries of Charity at a homeless shelter for women and children.

“I never experienced people who had such a relationship with Christ,” Schlatterbeck said of the Missionaries of Charity.

All the doubts she seemed to have about the Eucharist and Mary, the Mother of God, seemed to all melt away while watching and working with the people in the order.

She was also deeply moved by their hour-long adoration before the sacraments as well as all their disciplines of praying all the different prayers of the church on a daily basis.

The Eucharist had always been a source of doubt for Schlatterbeck. But once she saw the joy and love the sisters with the Missionaries of Charity had for the Eucharist, her doubt seemed to turn to awe.

And Mary, too, was a stumbling block. But after Schlatterbeck got past her issues with the Eucharist, she seemed to fall in love with Mary.

“You can’t help but fall in love with Mary,” Schlatterbeck said. “She’s the embodiment of what the church is. She brings Christ into the world.”

After graduating from Notre Dame in 2001, Schlatterbeck went on to get a master’s degree in Theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio.

When she graduated from there in 2003, she went on to work as a teacher at Marian High School in South Bend and worked part time in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Then, in July 2004, she was offered a position at St. Pius, and she took it.

While 20 years ago, she said, it may have been looked upon unfavorably for her to get a theology degree because she’s a woman, now that is not an issue.

She said she would encourage younger people wishing to further their academic to do it while they’re young because it’s much easier before getting married and having a family.

Schlatterbeck said she’s going to continue her career in the church because she loves being in church and always has, even as a child.

She said she sees this desire as God’s call on her life. Eventually, she said, she would like to become a formation leader to train other catechists to teach Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.

Eventually, she said, “I want to teach younger people in college to do what I do.”

LOVE OF GOD, LOVE FOR CHILDREN, COME TOGETHER FOR PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

Sister Margie Lavonis, CSC, a former campus minister and vocation director, works for the Sisters of the Holy Cross communications department. mlavonis@cscsisters.org.

Young Adult Perspectives

A good exercise for Holy Week might be to reflect on our lives and the suffering that we have experienced. See if you can find a “resurrection” in the situation. For example, maybe Mr. Wonderful dumped you for another girl. If he hadn’t, you would never have married the love of your life. Or maybe you lost your job, only to find a more interesting and life-giving one.

Talk to Jesus about your pain and ask him to help you to allow that pain to make you a better person. Consciously unite yourself to him during these holy days.
ICCL looks back at a successful basketball season

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — The recently-completed 60th basketball season in the Inter-City Catholic (ICCL) League was easily the most successful in the history of the circuit, according to William Sorukas, a 40-year executive who has directed the hardwood scene for a number of years and in order to provide all players with an opportunity to compete their second teams will be designated by color. Three games on Monday afternoon, April 10, will formally open the season. The games are Holy Cross vs. Corpus Christi at Kennedy Field; Holy Family Blue vs. Christ the King White at Boehm Field; and St. Matthew vs. St. Joseph at Sheridan. The defending champion is the combination teams of St. Joseph, which set an unblemished record of 19-0. The list of coaches of the Martin De Porres Division includes the following: Christ the King White, Joseph Boes; Corpus Christi Red, Brian McMahon; Holy Family Blue, Mark Borlik; Mishawaka Catholic, Phil Heil; St. Adalbert, Tom McCoy; St. Anthony Maroon, Steve Waltz; St. Michael, Plymouth, Mark Marsch; St. Jude Green, Todd Parker; St. Thomas Maroon, James Mulkrey.

Eighteen ICCL baseball teams ready to hone skills

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — A record number of 18 baseball teams will hone their baseball batting skills in two divisions of the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) that will open the 60th diamond season on April 10. This year the bottom-four teams in each division are going to have a post season tournament of their own, according to director William Sorukas. Providing the bottom-four teams in each division is a new twist to the circuit, said Sorukas, since they are the weaker teams and it is not always the right thing to do by putting them in a blind draw in the regular post season tournament.

Walter Bukowski will be the umpire in chief this season and will administer all playing rules. The nine teams in the John Bosco Division are the following: Corpus Christi; Christ the King; Holy Cross; Holy Family; St. Anthony; St. Joseph of South Bend, St. John and Our Lady of Hungary; St. Jude; St. Matthew; and St. Thomas, Elkhart. The nine teams in the Martin De Porres Division are the following: Christ the King, Ron Ratkay; Corpus Christi, Lou Berthold; Holy Cross, John Krzyzewski; Holy Family, Scott Alwine; St. Anthony, Daron Bittner; St. Joseph (South Bend) St. John-Our Lady of Hungary, Chris Nykowski; St. Jude, Mike Finkler; St. Matthew, Steve Talos; St. Thomas, Elkhart, Mike Brewers.

Elementary School Principal

Most Precious Blood School, Fort Wayne, seeks candidates for the position of School Principal. The ideal candidate is a faithfully practicing Catholic with excellent interpersonal skills who is ready to be the Religious, Educational and Managerial Leader of a Catholic elementary school. All candidates must be eligible for an Administrative license. Most Precious Blood is a strong urban parish community with a school that is committed to Catholic education in a true family-like atmosphere. PB has an enrollment of 175 in preschool through 8th grade, with an experienced, dedicated faculty.

For information, or application, please contact:
Catholic Schools Office • P.O. Box 390
Fort Wayne, IN 46801 • (260) 399-1425
Application deadline: April 21, 2006
Position to begin: July 1, 2006

SPORTS

Saint Joseph’s Honors Basketball Athletes

Saint Joseph’s High School in South Bend held its annual awards ceremony on March 22. Senior forward Travis Thorpe was awarded the team’s Most Valuable Player. The team’s Most Improved Players were sophomore Marcus Macellari and junior Jamie Pawleski. The Mental Attitude Award went to seniors Kevin Paczesny and John Kilbury. Sophomore Ryan Richter received the Defensive Award. Seniors Mike Danielson, John Kilbury, Travis Thorpe and Brandon Wasoski received Two-Year Varsity Awards.

Israel hikers seek sponsorships

FORT WAYNE — Greg Bercaw, a teacher at St. John the Baptist School in Fort Wayne, is planning a summer trip with two friends. Their plan is travel all the way across Israel — about 550 miles — on foot. Their journey will take them across a desert, past three seas, along side ancient ruins and through modern cities.

In order for this trip to become a reality, they will need to cover significant costs of equipment, travel, food and other logistical concerns. They are, therefore, seeking sponsors and donors and, in return, will gladly visit sponsoring churches, synagogues, civic organization, Scout troops etc. after their trip and share their experience firsthand.

For more information on sponsoring this journey, contact Greg Bercaw at (260) 432-7442 or visit www.israelnationaltrail.com.
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Lima Central Catholic, a 382 students (grades 9-12) school in Lima, Ohio, invites qualified applicants for principal position, beginning July 1, 2006.

Major responsibilities include:
• Administering day-to-day school operation, management of resources, including revenue, expenditures, facilities, equipment and all programs.
• Educational and faith leader - ensuring the highest quality educational and faith development experience for students.
• Generating strategic and operating plans in collaboration with staff, board and families.
• Serving as lead Development Officer for the school that seeks to raise operating and endowment funds for fiscal viability.

Interested applicants must be practicing Roman Catholics, hold valid Ohio Principal license and have taught for at least three years.

For more information, visit the school’s website at www.lcchs.edu

Please send resume, including e-mail address and phone numbers, cover letter of interest, contact information for three references, transcripts and licenses to:

Theodore J. Wallace, President, The Paremos Group Consultants
143 Woodbury Drive, Dayton, Ohio 45415
tjwallace@paremosgroup.org • 937-657-4932

An aggressive compensation package is included. Application deadline is April 26, 2006.

Hispanic Disciples in Mission group prepares to reach out

BY KRISTI R. WARD

ELKHART — I was early. And I was nervous. My assignment was to visit and write about the Hispanic Disciples in Mission program at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Elkhart.

My problem was my fear I wouldn’t be able to communicate. No one was around except a young man setting up chairs in the empty school gym. I waited in the hallway, trying desperately to remember some fragments of my high school Spanish. I’d once heard a visiting priest say, “Yo tengo mucho español en mi corazón, pero no tengo mucho en mi cabeza” (“I have lots of Spanish in my heart, but not much in my head”).

That’s exactly how I felt.

While I was repeating the phrase in my mind, people began to arrive. They looked at me curiously, smiled, and recognizing me as being out of my element, said “hello” instead of “hola” as they went past.

Lupita Zepeda, co-leader of the program, greeted me with a smile, led me into the gym and introduced me to the young man who was setting up chairs. He was Miguel Reyes, the other leader of the program.

By then rivers of people were flowing in — some were pushing baby strollers, some were senior citizens, some were just out of high school — but all of them were smiling and greeting each other — and me — warmly.

As I watched, almost 90 men and women gathered in groups and began in-depth discussions about the Bible readings they heard. They were about halfway through the six weeks that they would meet during Lent and were concentrating on learning how to live the Catholic faith fully.

In the second and third years of the program, they’ll come up with ways to reach out to their community and share their faith with others.

The gym was soon filled with the hum of discussions and light laughter. I wandered from group to group and tried to listen in. One man in a green South Pole sweatshirt spoke earnestly and placed his hand over his heart saying “es verdad” (“it’s true”) as his rapt audience listened. Another young man held his tiny dark-haired daughter on his lap as he listened to a woman share her experience.

I left the gym to visit the youth program upstairs led by Josephina Hernandez. Here, too, I was met by warm smiles from 25 young people and their leaders, as I listened to discussions on how they applied their Catholic faith in their school and daily lives.

Everywhere I went I was greeted warmly. The people showed me their smiles I was welcomed and accepted. They also showed me their desire to grow spiritually and share the Catholic faith with others — and their willingness to devote time and effort to learning to be a disciple.

If they do half as well with the people they’re trying to reach as they did with a nervous reporter, they’ll reach the goal of the Disciples in Mission program. They’ll transform the world for Christ.
If you’re going to visit Italy, try a saintly companion

**Traveling with the Saints in Italy**
by Lucinda Vardey.

ISBN 1-58768-024-6

**REVIEWED BY VINCE LABARRERA**

Having recently undertaken a pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome, I found Lucinda Vardey’s book, “Traveling with the Saints in Italy — Contemporary Pilgrimages on Ancient Paths,” a good companion both before and during the journey.

Finding and visiting Italy’s sacred sites can be an overwhelming challenge for even the most ardent pilgrim: where to go, what to see and how much time to devote to the visit as well as how to find a particular location. Traveling provides guidance and answers to questions along with some practical tips and brief backgrounds on Italy’s saints.

A useful introductory section defines saints and virtues and furnishes the reader with some food for meditation before undertaking a pilgrimage, what to expect and how to journey using the 444-page book in a paperback.

The work is divided into four parts and covers 10 pilgrimages in central Italy, northern Italy, Rome and southern Italy.

The lives of well-known and lesser-known saints from the various regions are examined, including St. Benedict, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua and St. Catherine of Siena. Some contemporary figures of the Catholic Church also are included, such as Blessed Pope John XXIII and Padre Pio (St. Pio of Pietrelcina).

After the biographical sketch of the life of each saint, Vardey provides a summary of his or her spiritual teaching, a pilgrim prayer, a chronology of events in the saint’s life and suggestions for intentions. For those with the time and wherewithal, the book provides an itinerary for a stay of one or two days, or even a week, along with maps and detailed directions to the prime places to visit in a particular saint’s life.

Sidebars on religious art and artists also are useful, especially a four-day retreat in Rome that can be taken by foot, bus or taxi. (It is best to leave any car outside the main center of the Eternal City.) Included in the pilgrimage to Rome are some popular sites such as the Colosseum and the Pantheon since they had a role to play in the early history of the church.

Vardey has guided pilgrimages in Italy for 10 years, dividing her time between Toronto, Canada, and a retreat house in Tuscany. Her handy book fits easily in carry-on luggage or a travel bag for easy reference as the details of your pilgrimage begin to take shape. It’s the kind of book you can read for a time during your approximately 10-hour flight to Rome or while you wait at the airport for a connecting flight. It’s also something you will want to keep on your hotel nightstand for a quick review before you set out on the day’s journey.

**SCENE FROM NEW ABC SPECIAL ‘THE TEN COMMANDMENTS’**

Dougray Scott stars as Moses in a scene from the new ABC miniseries “The Ten Commandments.” The special will air before Easter on April 10 and 11.

**MOVIE CAPSULES**

**NEW YORK (CNS) — Following is a recent capsule review issued by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Office for Film and Broadcasting.**

**“Ice Age: The Meltdown” (20th Century Fox)**

Interior, but still highly entertaining, sequel to the 2002 computer-animated hit which finds the prehistoric trio — cranky mammoth Manny (voiced by Ray Romano), sarcastic saber-toothed tiger Diego (voiced by Denis Leary) and wise-cracking sloth Sid (voiced by John Leguizamo) — joined by a confused shaman (voiced by Queen Latifah) and a tag team of prankster possums (voiced by Seann William Scott and Josh Peck) as they race to escape an impending cataclysmic flood triggered by the warming climate.

Directed by Carlos Saldanha, the globe-spanning tale of action and intrigue that follows the members of an elite undercover team as they race to locate the source of a deadly virus that threatens to kill millions of Americans. With Stephen Dorff, Miranda Otto, Angelica Huston, Blair Underwood, Colm Meaney and Danny Huston. (The miniseries concludes Sunday, April 16, 11-11 p.m. EDT.)

Monday, April 10, 9-10 p.m. EDT (PBS) “The Boy in the Bubble.” The life of David Vetter, who died at age 12, is a tragic tale about ambitious doctors pitted against frightened young parents. This “American Experience” documental raises some profound ethical questions. Did the doctors condemn the boy to a life not worth living? Did they, in the end, effectively decide how to kill him?

Tuesday, April 11, 9-10:30 p.m. EDT (PBS) “The China Project” (working title). The “Frontline” series examines ambitious doctors pitted against frightened young parents. This “American Experience” documentary raises some profound ethical questions. Did the doctors condemn the boy to a life not worth living? Did they, in the end, effectively decide how to kill him?

Wednesday, April 12, 8-9 p.m. EDT (Discovery) “The Iceberg That Sank the Titanic.” Documentary about the 15,000-year-old iceberg that collided with the Titanic on that fateful night in the cold, dark Atlantic.

**Holy Week programming**

By Harry Forbes

**NEW YORK (CNS) — Here are some television program notes for the week of April 9. They are not necessarily recommended by the Office for Film & Broadcasting.**

Sunday, April 9, 8-11 p.m. EDT (EWTN) “Solemn Mass of Palm Sunday.” Celebrated by Pope Benedict XVI in St. Peter’s Square at the Vatican.

Sunday, April 9, 9-11 p.m. EDT (CBS) “Robert Ludlum’s Covert One: The Hades Factor.” A globe-spanning tale of action and intrigue that follows the members of an elite undercover team as they race to locate the source of a deadly virus that threatens to kill millions of Americans. With Stephen Dorff, Miranda Otto, Angelica Huston, Blair Underwood, Colm Meaney and Danny Huston. (The miniseries concludes Sunday, April 16, 11-11 p.m. EDT.)

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Wednesday, April 12, 8-9 p.m. EDT (History) “The Ten Commandments.” Two-part special exploring the real story behind one of history’s most famous documents. Legal, religious and historical scholars, including Alan Dershowitz and Old Testament expert Daniel Smith-Christopher reveal how the issues raised by the Ten Commandments have been viewed, and punished, throughout history. (Concludes Thursday, April 13, 8-9 p.m. EDT.)

Friday, April 14, 8-10 p.m. EDT (A&E) “Dolly Parton.” The “Biography” series profiles the Tennessee native who became one of country music’s best singers and songwriters and one of the most durable superstars. Interviews with Darryl Hannah, Lily Tomlin, Henry Winkler and Olympia Dukakis.

Friday, April 14, 9-10 p.m. EDT (Science) “Venus Unveiled.” In April, as the Venus Express spacecraft reaches orbit and begins its mission, the planet Venus becomes the focus of intense scientific interest. The program will reveal the violent world of Venus, the mystery of how it got to be that way, and how scientists are unraveling it.

Saturday, April 15, 10-11 p.m. EDT (Discovery) “The Iceberg That Sank the Titanic.” Documentary about the 15,000-year-old iceberg that collided with the Titanic on that fateful night in the cold, dark Atlantic.

**SCENE FROM NEW A&E REALITY SERIES ‘GOD OR THE GIRL’**

Dan DeMatteo is one of four Catholic men with a calling to the priesthood featured in the new A&E reality series “God or the Girl.” The five-part special will air beginning on Easter.
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

WHAT’S HAPPENING? carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today’s Catholic, PO. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or e-mail: fhogan@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.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

 Marriage encounter plans weekend

 Fort Wayne — A worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend will be April 28-30 at the Signature Inn. Registration fee is $40. A donation is taken on Sunday. Contact Mike and Julia Roszkowski at (574) 243-0743 for information.

Health and safety fair planned

 South Bend — Our Lady of Hungary Parish will have a health and safety fair on Tuesday, April 18, from 2 to 5 p.m. in the school gym. The fair will offer resources and provide education about assisting individuals and families. Free bearing, cholesterol and blood sugar testing available. Free bike helmets, face painting and games. Children must be accompanied by a parent. Admission is free.

Bishop Luers hosts preview night party

 Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will have a Luers Knight preview party on Friday, April 21, from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and on Saturday, April 22, for $1.

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Day of reflection offered

 Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent, (across from Marian High School) on Tuesday, April 25, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is “God, our Rock.” The cost is $15 and includes lunch. Registrations needed by Friday, April 21, by calling Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

Rummage sale

 New Haven — A rummage sale will be held at the St. Louis, Republican parish hall on Friday, April 21, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, April 22, from 9 a.m. to noon. Fill a bag on Saturday for $1.

Memorial association to begin

 Fort Wayne — Sacred Heart and St. Henry will begin a Friday memorial association. In May, a monthly Mass will be celebrated to honor loved ones and families, living or deceased. The names of the members of the memorial association are printed in the Sunday bulletin as a reminder of your intention. The cost is $5 per Mass, a total of $60 per year. Please contact Kim or Kathy at the parish office (260) 744-2519.

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Father Shafer had encouraged the retreatants ahead of time to take part in adoration, noting that, even when it doesn’t feel like it, Jesus is constantly “beaming at you” from the Blessed Sacrament. Comparing the effect of this to getting a tan on a cloudy day, Father Shafer recommended that each one of them try to get a “Son-burn.”

In the afternoon, Bishop John M. D’Arcy gave a talk on Eucharist and forgiveness followed by a question-and-answer session. The questions, submitted ahead of time by retreatants, dealt heavily with questions of eucharistic adoration and a prayer labyrinth.

“It’s really peaceful here,” said Amber Steury, parishioner at St. Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne, and student Saint Mary’s College. “I think this retreat has helped me settle down. I get to sit down and reflect on where I’m really going.”

“I did the labyrinth for the first time,” said Jessica Andrusiak of how she spent the quiet time. “I felt very centered and found some peace that I haven’t found in a long time. And I was able to take that to adoration.

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