Deacons ordained at Josephinum

Bishop John M. D’Arcy presides over rite of ordination

By Tim Johnson

COLUMBUS, Ohio — It was a day of celebration for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend as Bishop John M. D’Arcy journeyed to Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, for the ordination of three transitional deacons to the priesthood.

Bishop D’Arcy ordained Jason Freiburger and Bob Lengerich, third year theology students at Pontifical College Josephinum, for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, and Julio Oo for the Archdiocese of Taunggyi, Burma.

With Deacon Tony Steinacker, Bishop D’Arcy noted that the diocese now has three transitional deacons.

Steinacker will be ordained in October of this year; Freiburger and Lengerich will be ordained in 2007.

Filled with the music of the Josephinum Choir and accompanied by brass and organ, the regal tones filled the St. Turibius Chapel on April 30.

The rite of ordination began with the calling of the candidates to serve God’s people. Each candidate answered by affirming his presence, readiness and willingness to serve. Msgr. Paul Langsfeld, rector of Pontifical College Josephinum, testified to the worthiness of the candidates.

In his homily, Bishop D’Arcy explained the rite. He quoted Pope John Paul II who said that laying prostrate was “a very evocative gesture” on the part of the deacon. And the laying of hands dated back to the beginning of the church and to the apostles them-
Bishop travels to confirmations and diaconate ordination

BISHOP JOHN M. DARCY

Two deacons for our diocese

A special moment in the long journey toward becoming a priest. That was central to my most recent weekend.

In a way, the weekend started at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, where there were 154 young people for the sacrament of confirmation. A blessed evening, indeed, with pictures outside on a lovely spring night. Last year, four young men entered the seminary for our diocese, and three came from St. Vincent. This is surely a sign that, under God’s grace, the outreach to youth at St. Vincent has been effective.

A special moment also to greet two extraordinary people who, that morning, had attended Mass for the 50th anniversary of marriage — Terry and Dolly Coonan. Both active even yet in the St. Vincent de Paul Society and Terry is well-known for having been a teacher and a basketball coach at Central Catholic High School and Huntington, all with great success. Up until recently, he still did substitute teaching at Bishop Dwenger High School. It was a special joy to speak with them about the fact that they now have two grandsons in the seminary — Matt, who is at the Josephinum in Columbus, and Tink, former point guard at Bishop Dwenger who is at immaculate Heart Seminary in Winona, Minn.

The next day, after a full schedule of meetings, I was off in the evening to Monroeville for a delightful confirmation with Father Glenn and the three young men who were to be confirmed on the floor of this old chapel, like so many before them, the Litany of the Saints calling on all those in heaven to pray for the soon to be confirmed. The imposing of the hands, goes back to the apostles. A moment of great joy for their parents and families, for the seminary and for the one being confirmed to be the bishop.

A delightful brunch followed and an opportunity to spend time with some of our graduates. Then, I was homeward bound in the early afternoon with a brief stop in Decatur with Father Glenn still in the driver’s seat.

West and then east

I was off early the next morning to Culver for a delightful confirmation including parishioners as well as cadets from the Culver Academies. Always special to be with Father Glenn and the many families, for the seminary and for the one being confirmed to be the bishop.

A great adventure

We then drove east, and following us in her car was Mary Szymczak, associate director of the Office of Vocations. Mary left her car at about the halfway point with our good friend, Father Dave Voors, pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption, Decatur. Then Father Kohrman became pilot of my car and we headed southeast to the Pontifical College Josephinum Seminary. I sat in the back seat and read, prayed and slept a little. Father Kohrman, with an advanced degree in engineering, proved a worthy pilot assisted by Mary. We were in Columbus before we knew it. Father Glenn, technologically astute, also figured out some aspects of my still-new chariot.

A magnificent ordination

On Saturday evening, I presided at what is called the ceremony for candidacy. This is the moment a young man becomes a right candidate for the priesthood. He has not made any final commitment but is officially announced as a candidate and may be a deacon and eventually a priest. There were seven so-received. It was a joy to ordain all of them, especially Kevin Bauman from our diocese, who formerly taught modern languages at the University of Notre Dame and who is a parishioner of St. Matthew Cathedral Parish, South Bend.

A special Sunday

On Sunday morning, I ordained three men to the diaconate, two of whom will serve in our diocese. They will, in fact, be in parishes this summer. These are Bob Lengierich and Jason Freiburger. Bob is from St. Vincent de Paul Parish, and Jason is from St. Therese Parish, Fort Wayne. Jason is a graduate of Bishop Luers High School and is from a large Yoder family also ordained one young man from Burma.

This was a very special ceremony in the beautiful old chapel at the Josephinum. Families were there, the music was exceptional, and the liturgy was carried out in a most prayerful fashion. Ordinations are always special, and this one was filled with grace for me and I hope for all those in attendance.

The ceremony itself is like a great catechism lesson with the imposition of hands, the signing of the young man as a candidate on the floor of this old chapel, like so many before them, the Litany of the Saints calling on all those in heaven to pray for the soon to be confirmed. The imposing of the hands, goes back to the apostles. A moment of great joy for their parents and families, for the seminary and for the one being confirmed to be the bishop.

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Something new

When Father David Voors left Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, he was given what he called an “expensive toy.” This is something of a kind of machine that sits on the dashboard. He typed in Josephinum and the next thing there was this lady speaking to us through the miracle of the satellite, telling us when to turn left or right, guiding us to our destination and then to our return home. Unbelievable. When I was a young boy, my father had an old Model A Ford. When it wouldn’t start, he would go to the front, put in the wrench and crank it up. Here we have now a satellite going around the world and guiding us to turn left or right. All in one lifetime. When there was a detour, she was “recalculating.” All in a day’s work and, most important, we have two new deacons for our diocese. It was a joy to ordain them.

Teachers’ council

Many years ago, I formed the Council of Catholic School Teachers, which has been a great blessing for me and, I believe, for the diocese. I promised to attend all the meetings the first two years and, if I liked them, I would meet with them twice a year. I have kept this promise. This has given me a regular contact with the teachers and time to understand their concerns. A new place and a new great welcome from Bishop William McManus, my immediate predecessor, and Bishop Leo Poursley. I recall Bishop Poursley’s words when we entered the room when we were vesting, “Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini” (“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord”).

I recall the day the bells rang in the plant of the coast of Maine before coming, not knowing what was ahead of me but relying on his grace and his strength. So much has happened in the 21 years. Sometimes it seems like a moment, every day full and demanding. I give thanks to God for having been bishop here and for having been given a lengthy tenure, which allows one not only to plant seeds but to see the seeds flower and grow. The many men and women who work around me in the various departments have done so much, it is a joy to work with them. I look forward to more time as the good Lord and the church allows. If they go, the season, since the turn of the year, I have completed 16 confirmations, for a total of 24 parishes. The most recent was at St. Thomas the Apostle, Elkhart, with Father Bill Sullivan, an exceptional pastor. The long trip to Elkhart and back, after the long weekend in Columbus, was demanding, but it is always special to be with Father Bill, not only a devoted Red Sox fan, but an efficient, hardworking and prayerful pastor.

The same must be said of Father John Delaney, who has given exemplary leadership wherever he has been stationed. Father Delaney has 16 young people for confirmation at the St. Thomas ceremony. He has been quite strong in welcoming large numbers of Hispanic Catholics and helping them to be part of St. Thomas Parish in Goose. Father Delaney is assisted by Father Constantino Rocha, a native of Mexico.

The long drive home was made easier when I was able to pick up a New York radio station and hear the late innings of the Red Sox triumph.

Baseball report

The season doesn’t really begin until you play the Yankees. Now that has started, I am on the edge of my seat because I still do not consider myself a sports fan but, we will see. How about the Chicago White Sox? Mgr. William Lester’s team, after so many years of waiting, seems to be the best in baseball. The south side of Chicago deserves it, and so does Mgr. Lester. See you all next week.
He reminded the congregation that when the Gospel is proclaimed, a duty is given to the deacons. We are speaking to us, his people.

After the examination of the candidates in which each candidate stated his willingness to perform what the church requires of the deacons and the promise of obedience and respect to his bishop, the candidates lay prostrate on the floor while the Litany of Saints was sung.

The laying on hands signifies a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit by which men are configured to Christ in holy orders. After the ceremony, Deacon Bob Lengerich told Today’s Catholic he could feel, at that moment, the power of the apostolic succession (bishop being ordained by his bishop and back).

The act of ordination is completed with a special prayer that asks God to dedicate the candidates to the service of the altar, the word and church. The newly ordained deacons were then invested with the stole — the sign of the deacon’s office — and the dalmatic — the outer garment that symbolized his order.

The Book of the Gospels, signifying the deacon’s duty to proclaim the Gospel and preach its meaning by word and example, was presented and then the bishop, new deacons and other priests, deacons and seminarians, extended a sign of peace.

Lengerich said he woke up early Sunday morning from his heart beating so hard. He prayed all 20 decades of the rosary and the Divine Mercy chaplet. The nervousness went away as the ceremony began.

This is just one step closer to the priesthood. When Lengerich’s mother, Susie, was pregnant with Bob, she said a prayer entrusting Bob to the Blessed Mother. “Today, I’m giving him back,” Susie said after the ceremony.

Bob’s father, Ed, said he knew his son would be a priest since young Bob was in third grade and now Bob’s father quipped that he hopes for “a free ride upstairs.” Both Ed and Susie say they are thrilled their son has chosen to dedicate his life to the church.

The same sentiments were shared by the Freiburger family. “It’s a special day and I couldn’t be prouder,” said Jason’s grandmother, Helen Freiburger. Just as the Lengeriches have religious vocations in the family — great uncles and great aunts — so too does Jason’s family.

Jason’s grandfather, Robert Freiburger, believes that Jason’s father, Eugene, may have paved the way to the priesthood. Eugene attended a seminary high school and some time in seminary college.

Jason’s mother, Margaret, said Jason consistently said he wanted to be a priest, but in high school and college the thought waned a bit. Jason is a Purdue University business graduate. After college, he decided, “I might as well check it out and see if it’s the right thing today,” Margaret relayed.

“I always thought it would be nice to have a son who is a priest,” Margaret said, and then added that she and Eugene would not be unhappy if another of their sons decided to follow the same course.

Jason told Today’s Catholic he was “happy, overjoyed” and “grateful for the vocation.” He noted the students from St. Therese School in Fort Wayne, his home parish, sent spiritual bouquets. He was also grateful to the people throughout the world who pray for him.

Both deacons were joined by immediate and extended family and friends.

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The money received in this collection will be used to help those who are in need right here in our own diocese. In a special way it will be used to support mothers who are poor, homeless or refugees; mothers who need individual, marriage and family counseling; mothers who are pressured in one way or another to have an abortion and who need psychological and financial assistance throughout their pregnancies; mothers who are trying to escape situations of physical abuse and who need safe shelter and perhaps job training; or mothers who need affordable, quality childcare while they work to put food on the table for their families.

In the name of Mary, the mother of the Savior, who spent her life looking out for the needs of others and drawing them close to her Son, I ask you to be as generous as you can with this collection.

Sincerely yours in our Lord,

Most Reverend John M. D’Arcy

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The church has traditionally dedicated the month of May to special devotion to Mary, the Mother of God. It is in Mary’s example of service and intercession, shown in a wonderful way at the wedding at Cana, that the church finds her own model of motherly love, which consists in bringing people closer to Christ while responding with concrete help to their human needs. Next weekend, when we as a nation honor the great vocation of motherhood, we will have a special opportunity to share in the motherly love of the church by contributing to the traditional Mothers’ Day collection for Catholic Charities.

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Pray for vocations

May 7, 2006

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This Sunday is set aside as a World Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life.

On the weekend of April 30, I journeyed to the Pontifical College Josephinum and ordained two young men to the diaconate in preparation for becoming priests. I am scheduled to ordain one young man to the priesthood this fall. Currently, we have 14 candidates in the seminary. I have interviewed and accepted three more. I expect to interview another five or six young men.

We are very careful in our screening of young men, as we need to be, as the church requires and as the nature of the priesthood requires.

This is a joint enterprise for all of us. May I ask everyone to make this a regular part of your prayers, especially after holy Communion, for we would not be able to receive the sacred body and blood of our Lord without the instrumentality of our priests. I count on you for your prayers for this most important of all pastoral needs.

Sincerely yours in our Lord,

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Mother’s Day collection assists Catholic Charities

May 6, 2006

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Sincerely yours in our Lord,

Most Reverend John M. D’Arcy
BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

SOUTH BEND — Miami Street felt abandoned, until you looked south. And that’s when you saw them: a sea of red twinkling lights. The police cars stretched back as far as you could see.

Though it’s hard to say how far south the black and whites extended from St. Matthew Cathedral, you just knew that hundreds of South Bend police, Cpl. Scott Severns’ brothers and sisters, were waiting to say goodbye. Severns was shot by a South Bend teen in an apparent robbery attempt. He died April 23.

A Mass of Christian burial was held Friday.

Before Severns’ funeral, officers in dress blues marched forward — department by department, force by force — South Bend Police Department, St. Joseph County Police Department, Elkhart, Marshall, LaPorte, Osceola, Evansville, Cedar Lake, Logansport, Marion, Goshen, Bristol, Buchanan, Mich. and more.

They formed ranks on the street in front of the church, waiting for Severns. And when he did, the city stood in silent salute — at least the part of the city where Severns was surrounded by the ones who loved and knew him best. It was as if the world itself stopped just for a moment to pay its respects.

As Severns was carried into the St. Matthew Cathedral Church, row after row of officers and their families filed in to offer their condolences and to see Severns off one last time. After doing so, they walked out, their faces showing the tears of those who have lost, at the same time knowing the danger that Severns faced is one they all face.

Domenique Diggins, whose father Sam Diggins is a South Bend Police officer, said she decided to come to the services to support Severns’ family.

“It’s hard to lose a family member,” she said about an hour before services began. “It could’ve been my father.”

While there wasn’t enough room in the church for everyone to sit, a tent, which accommodated several hundred, was set up in a rear parking lot with a television so everyone could watch their comrade be honored.

“When I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for you are with me — and they remembered the man baptized as a child, sports star in elementary, high school and college, avad golfer, third generation police officer.

“Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Do not let your hearts be troubled ...’” Father Michael Heintz, pastor of St. Matthew Cathedral, said he wanted to make clear why everyone was gathered for the Mass of Christian Burial: “We are a people of faith. We travel by faith, not by light.”

Just as God allowed his own son to suffer and die and to rise, “I go to prepare a place for you ...”

“He didn’t suffer so we wouldn’t suffer,” Father Heintz said. “He suffered to teach us how.”

And while, he said, we live in the shadow of the cross, we bask in the light of the resurrection.

“Death is not our final journey,” Father Heintz said. Severns, he said, chose a life of service over one of personal satisfaction.

And it showed. Highly decorated, Severns was 2004 Officer of the Year.

And, it seems, the South Bend community recognized what.

The Moreau decree read, “It is with great joy and thanksgiving that we inform you that this morning, April 28, 2006, His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI authorized the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints to promulgate the decree regarding a miracle attributed to the intercession of the Venerable Servant of God, Basil Anthony Mary Moreau, priest and founder of the Congregations of Holy Cross, born on Feb. 11, 1799 in Laigné-en-Belin (France) and died on Jan. 27, 1873 in Le Mans (France).

This is the final step in the beatification process of the founder. However, the date and the city where Severns was surrounded by the ones who loved and knew him best. It was as if the world itself stopped just for a moment to pay its respects.

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U.S. cannot remain silent on Darfur, bishops say

BY JERRY FELITAU

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As thousands of Americans gathered at “Save Darfur” rallies across the country April 30, the nation’s Catholic bishops joined with other religious and political leaders in calling for greater U.S. efforts to end the genocidal campaign against the non-Arab population of Sudan’s Darfur region.

“Sunday’s ‘Save Darfur’ rally should remind our leaders that our nation cannot remain silent in the face of killings, rape and wanton destruction,” said Bishop Thomas G. Wenski of Orlando, Fla., chairman of the bishops’ Committee on International Policy.

“Our country can and must do more, much more, to defend and protect the innocents in Darfur. Anything less would be unworthy of us as a people committed to human life and dignity,” he added.

At the chief “Save Darfur” rally, held on the National Mall in the nation’s capital, Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington reminded an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 participants faces a “daunting challenge” of delivering humanitarian aid to 2.5 million people who have fled their homes and another million still in their homes who risk starvation.

Two years ago Bishop John H. Ricard of Pensacola-Tallahassee, Fla., then head of the bishops’ Committee on International Policy, warned that Darfur was “rapidly becoming the newest symbol of human depravity and ethnic cleansing.”

An estimated 400,000 people have died in the conflict since 2003. Last November Pope Benedict XVI made an urgent appeal to the international community to avert the rights of the people of Darfur.

Bishop Wenski said the nation’s bishops support recent Bush administration efforts “to strengthen the mission of the poorly funded, ill-equipped and undermined peacekeepers from the African Union.” He said the bishops had repeatedly urged passage of the Darfur Accountability Act and welcomed its adoption by Congress late last year.

Along with the political and religious leaders who addressed the Washington rally were several celebrities, including actor George Clooney, whose recent visit to Darfur with his father sparked wide media interest, raising U.S. popular awareness of events there and helping to spark the “Save Darfur” rallies across the country.

“This is the first genocide of the 21st century, but there is hope,” Clooney said.

Pope: Church must be more selective in picking saint candidates

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Catholic Church should be more selective and very rigorous in choosing candidates for sainthood, Pope Benedict XVI said in a message to the Congregation for Saints’ Causes.

Pope Benedict told the congregation that from the moment of his election a year ago, he had put into effect changes that met the “widely shared hope” that the difference between beatification and canonization would be underlined and that localchurches would be more involved in the entire process.

Modern men and women need true models of holiness, he said, and they must be chosen with care.

First, the pope said, further instructions are needed to help local bishops “safeguard the seriousness of the investigations that take place in the diocesan inquiry” into a candidate’s martyrdom or the person’s Christian virtues and miracles attributed to him or her intercession.

Second, he said, there must be a real and not just a conviction among a small group of people that the person in question was a good Christian.

Although he did not refer specifically to any individual, the pope said that a spontaneous and widespread perception of sainthood, as occurred in the case of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, “is a sign from God that indicates to the church those who deserve to be placed upon the calendula to give light to all those in the home.”

On the question of miracles, Pope Benedict appeared to rule out a case where some theologians had hoped would leave space for consideration of “moral miracles,” such as dramatic conversions that occur when a notorious sinner turns his or her life around after coming into contact with the writings of a candidate for sainthood.

“The uninterrupted practice of the church establishes the necessity of a physical miracle,” he said. “A moral miracle is not enough.”

“To add to reassuring us that the servant of God lives in heaven in communion with God, miracles are the divine confirmation of the judgment expressed by church authorities about the virtuous life” lived by the candidate, he said.

The congregation’s plenary also included a discussion of the definition of martyrdom, a debate that has been going on for at least 30 years.

The traditional definition of a martyr is someone who was killed out of hatred for the faith.

But, for example, Conventual Franciscan Father Maximilian Kolbe was canonized in 1982 as a martyr even though the Nazis at the Auschwitz death camp did not kill him explicitly because of his faith. When a prisoner escaped from the death camp, Nazi officials announced 10 would die in his place. One of the 10 chosen was a Polish army sergeant who asked to be spared because he had a wife and children.

Father Kolbe stepped forward and asked the camp commandant to let him replace the man. The commandant agreed, and Father Kolbe and the other nine were locked up in a bunker to starve to death. When guards entered the bunker to remove the bodies, Father Kolbe was still alive. They killed him with an injection of carbonic acid.

Pope Benedict told congregations that while the strength of the faith of martyrs has remained unchanged, “the cultural contexts of martyrdom and the strategies on the part of the persecutors” have changed.

In most cases, he said, modern persecutors attempt to hide their hatred of the Christian faith and Christian virtues, claiming to be, for example, in defense of “political or social” ideologies.

The determination over what constitutes martyrdom is one of the questions involved in the ongoing process for the canonization of Archbishop Oscar A. Romero of San Salvador, who was shot as he celebrated Mass.

Opponents have argued that he was killed for his political stance; supporters have said his pro-nuclear stance about social and political matters were motivated solely by his faith-based conviction about human dignity and the demands of justice.

Pope Benedict said a person could not be declared a martyr without “irrefutable proof” of the victim’s willingness to die for the faith “without moral certainty” that the persecutor’s action stemmed “directly or indirectly” from a hatred of the faith.

The martyrs of yesterday and of our time gave their lives freely and knowingly in a supreme act of charity to witness to their fidelity to Christ, to the Gospel and to the church,” the pope said.

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Vatican official suggests Catholics boycott ‘The Da Vinci Code’ film

ROME (CNS) — Catholics should consider boycotting the film “The Da Vinci Code” as one way to let the world know the story offends and defames the church, said Archbishop Angelo Amato, secretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. If the kind of “slander, offenses and errors” contained in Dan Brown’s best-selling book and the film based on it had been written about “the Qur’an or the Shoah (the Holocaust), they rightly would have provoked a worldwide uprising,” the archbishop told Catholic communications directors. The archbishop spoke April 28 at a Rome conference for church communications personnel sponsored by the Opus Dei-run University of the Holy Cross. In response to a question at the end of his talk, Archbishop Amato declined to issue a clear call for all Catholics to boycott the film. However, during his speech, he did tell the communications directors, “I hope you all boycott that film.”

Church leaders express mixed reactions after Chinese ordination

KUNMING, China (CNS) — An ecclesiastical order recently conducted without papal approval has drawn mixed reactions from Chinese church leaders concerning its legitimacy. Bishop Joseph Ma Yinglin, 41, was ordained bishop of Kunming April 29 in Kunming by the Hong Kong Diocese asking that the ordination not take place. Anthony Lu Banian, vice chairman of the Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association, attended the event in Kunming, 1,300 miles south of Beijing, and held the press that Bishop Ma’s ordination would not harm China-Vatican relations, since the new prelate was chosen by election. However, a high-ranking Vatican source told UCA News before the ordination that the Holy See might regard the ordination as problematic because most of the 26 electors who chose him — 14 laypeople, 9 priests and 3 nuns — were not priests.

Cardinals visit White House, Hill on immigration reform

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Several U.S. cardinals had a busy morning in Washington April 28 urging the Senate to pass comprehensive immigration reform legislation. The cardinals want a “comprehensive reform” that deals compassionately with the millions of undocumented aliens in the United States, Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick of Washington said in brief remarks at a photo opportunity between meetings on Capitol Hill. The U.S. bishops have expressed support for many aspects of a compromise bill expected to reach the Senate floor in early May, but they are also concerned about harsh enforcement provisions in the legislation, including expeditiously removal of illegal aliens along the border and denial of protections to asylum seekers. Cardinal McCarrick and Cardinals Roger M. Mahony of Los Angeles and William H. Keeler of Baltimore started the day with a breakfast meeting on immigration reform with White House deputy chief of staff Karl Rove and other White House aides.

Interreligious peace gathering in U.S. marks 20 years since Assisi

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Themes of prayer, peace, justice, love, dialogue and care for the poor intermingled as representatives of world religions gathered at Georgetown University in Washington April 26 for the 2006 International Prayer and Dialogue meeting. The event marked the 20th anniversary of the first such gathering, convened by Pope John Paul II in 1986 in Assisi, Italy, and it was the first time the yearly interreligious prayer and dialogue meeting was held in the United States. Religious leaders of Christians, Muslims, Jews, Buddhists, Hindus, Shintoists and Sikhs were among the more than 500 participants. Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick of the Washington Archdiocese, one of the co-sponsors of the two-day gathering, told the group that by coming together they were fulfilling Pope John Paul’s dream “that we would pray together for peace.”

Vatican officials say condom-AIDS study still in consultation stage

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Vatican officials said a study on condoms and AIDS protection was still in the consultation stage and that Pope Benedict XVI had not yet decided whether a document would be issued on the topic. The sources said there were strong arguments for allowing married couples in which one spouse is infected with HIV, which causes AIDS, to use condoms as a disease-preventing measure, when it overrides any contraceptive intent. On the other hand, the sources said, the Vatican is hesitant to make any move that would be seen as an endorsement of contraception as a method of disease prevention, because condoms do not offer 100 percent protection from AIDS and could encourage sexual promiscuity. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity to Catholic News Service April 26, after several days of speculative reports on what the Vatican planned to say on the subject.

Vatican official named coadjutor bishop in Venice, Fla.

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has named Msgr. Frank J. Dewane, undersecretary of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace at the Vatican, as coadjutor bishop of Venice. As coadjutor, Bishop-designate Dewane will become head of the diocese upon the retirement or death of current Bishop Salvatore R. Mataro, 74, who had requested the appointment. Bishop Dewane, 58, is head of the Diocese of Burlington, Vt.

Vermont’s Bishop Angell suffers mild stroke but is recovering well

BURLINGTON, Vt. (CNS) — Bishop Kenneth A. Angell, retired head of the Diocese of Burlington, is recovering well from a mild stroke, Bishop Salvatore R. Mataro of Burlington said in an April 26 statement. “Medical evaluation of his condition brings to us a bright and hopeful prognosis of a full recovery for Bishop Angell,” said Bishop Mataro. Bishop Angell, 75, was admitted to the Fletcher Allen Health Care Unit of the Medical Center in April 26 to the Fanny Allen Campus of Fletcher Allen Health Care “for a period of physical rehabilitation.”

‘Da Vinci Code’ author says novel overcomes religious ‘apathy’

PORTSMOUTH, N.H. (CNS) — The author of the “The Da Vinci Code” said his best-selling novel goes beyond its “commercial value” to discuss “big ideas” about the role of religion in history. The book also has sparked lively debate and dialogue on Christianity, overcoming the “apathy” that can envelop religion and people of faith, said Dan Brown. His novel, which has been criticized for its treatment of Catholic figures and institutions, has been turned into a movie, which is scheduled to be released nationwide May 19. “Religion is a work in progress. We learn by our mistakes,” he said April 27 in the New Hampshire Public Radio program “Writers on a New England Stage.” "I often say that the film is about how to lead a life of meaning and purpose in a world that is rife with evil. The plot. . . . is a piece of history that is buried in the paintings of Renaissance artist Leonardo da Vinci.”
**BISHOP DWENGER STUDENTS ‘DRESS DOWN’ FOR LIFE**

Bishop Dwenger High School participated in the National Pro Life T-shirt Day on April 25. To show respect for life, any student who wore a pro-life t-shirt was allowed to “dress down” for the day. Each year the pro-life organization Saints For Life sponsors a new design for a pro-life t-shirt as a way to proudly witness to the culture of life.

**Junior Theatre students perform in The Serra Club**

REBECCA GRUBBS, Pure Fashion Fort Wayne coordinator, has a vision of using girls and women in attendance this year. “My hope is that through attending, or participating in Pure Fashion, women young and old will think more critically about the choices they make, the merchandise they buy, and the overall way in which they present themselves to the world.”

A few seats are still available. Individual tickets are $35, or purchase a table of eight for $280.

To learn more about the mission of Pure Fashion nationally, please visit the Web site at purefashionshow.com.

**FORT WAYNE — The third annual Pure Fashion Show, celebrating style and virtue, will be hosted in Fort Wayne again this spring. This fashion event will take place May 6 at the Fort Wayne Grand Wayne Center, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.**

Pure Fashion is a leadership program for girls in grades 8-12 designed to offer them a fun, exciting and effective virtue formation program at a critical stage in their lives.

To be a Pure Fashion model, girls must participate in a training program. They learn skills to help them become confident, competent leaders in their schools and communities. Session topics range from etiquette to public speaking skills, always with the goal of helping the girls become distinguished, capable and respectful young women. Pure Fashion girls also learn the art of makeup, hairstyling and carrying themselves with poise. The models also plan to bring their message to the community by building a Pure Fashion float for this year’s Three Rivers Festival Parade.

Once the training is complete, Pure Fashion models star in the Pure Fashion Show.

“Pure Fashion is a chance for us women to show society how to reveal true inner beauty. Rather than drawing attention to our bodies, we draw attention to us as people, so that others listen to the words we say, and imitate the good works we do,” said Audrey Litchfield, age 17, a past participant who will be modeling again this year.

The day will also include speaker Julie Laipply, former Miss Universe 2002, the silent auction, which will benefit both Fort Wayne’s Women’s Care Center and local Challenge girls club.

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To learn more about the mission of Pure Fashion nationally, please visit the Web site at purefashionshow.com.

**Groups host philanthropy summit**

SOUTH BEND — The for-profit and nonprofit sectors will come together on Tuesday, May 9, to explore new ways of forging alliances through cause marketing at the first annual Philanthropy Summit. This luncheon event is being hosted by Make a Difference Michiana and the St. Joseph County Chamber of Commerce at the Century Center in South Bend. Tickets for the event can be purchased through the Web site at www.makeadifference-michiana.org or by calling (574) 234-5543.

Jeff Terry will be the keynote speaker at the Philanthropy Summit. Terry is the senior manager for corporate commitment and strategic relationships with Whirlpool Corporation. He will share his experiences of building relationships with nonprofits and describe how these alliances have contributed to the growth and overall success of Whirlpool’s business.

Additionally, three local businesses will be honored at the luncheon with Good Corporate Citizenship Awards for their alliances and contributions to local nonprofit organizations. Following the luncheon will be a dessert reception where luncheon attendees will have the opportunity to meet with and learn about local nonprofit organizations in attendance.

**St. Joseph’s alumnae accepted into Juilliard**

SOUTH BEND — Paul Appleby, a 2001 graduate of Saint Joseph’s High School, has been accepted into the prestigious Juilliard music school in New York City. The honor is distinguished, as Juilliard takes less than 3 percent of applicants and an even smaller percentage into their graduate programs.

Appleby graduated from the University of Notre Dame last year, earning a degree in arts and music. At Juilliard, he plans to work on a master’s in music and vocal arts.

While at Saint Joseph’s, Appleby was active in music and drama, appearing as A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” Joseph in “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,” Macbeth in “MacBeth” and Curly in “Oklahoma!” He was also a member of the league-winning quiz bowl team his senior year.

**Bishop Sample of Marquette to speak at Serra conference**

SOUTH BEND — The Serra Club of South Bend has announced that Bishop Alexander Sample of the Diocese of Marquette, Mich., will be one of the principle speakers at the eight-state regional conference the club is hosting at Notre Dame, Oct. 26-29. Bishop John M. D’Arcy of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is unable to attend and welcomes Bishop Sample to the conference.

At 45, Bishop Sample is the youngest bishop in the United States.

The Serra Club conference is entitled “Thirsting for Knowledge, Truth, Clarity and Christ!” Other speakers include Father Theodore Hesburgh, CSC, president emeritus of Notre Dame, Dr. Charles E. Rice of the Notre Dame Law School and Fred and Lisa Everett of the Office of Family Life of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

St. Vincent de Paul Society honors members

SOUTH BEND — The St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County will honor its selected volunteers with the prestigious Top Hat awards at its annual breakfast on Sunday, May 7, at St. Anthony School gymnasium.

Volunteer units of all area parishes will assemble for a 9 a.m. Mass in the church. Father Terry Fisher, pastor, will celebrate the Mass. Sean Wendlinger is president of the society. — EJD

**St. Joseph School offers tuition plan for non-Catholic, non-parishioners**

MONROEVILLE — St. Joseph School, the parish school of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, has announced that it now offers a tuition plan for non-Catholic, non-parishioners.

St. Joseph School has several programs that help families reduce tuition, including the SCRIP program with 100 percent of the profits going back to school families, the 100 Club profits, as well as the families participating in the cleaning of the school.

For information about St. Joseph School, in Monroeville, call the school office at (260) 623-3447.

**FORT WAYNE — A bold new student enrollment campaign is underway for St. Jude Catholic School in South Bend. The school is offering a tuition discount for new families.**

“It is high time St. Jude School gets into the educational consumer market,” said Father Derrick Sneyd, St. Jude pastor. “We provide a quality education while instilling integrity and character to the children who walk our hallways. We know that new families who try St. Jude School will find a home here.”

An open house will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on May 21. Prospective students and their families are welcome to tour the building and meet the teachers and administrative staff.

St. Jude Catholic School serves grades kindergarten through grade eight. Openings are available in all grades.

For more information, contact the St. Jude School Office at (574) 291-3820.

Central Catholic Class of ‘61 to hold reunion

FORT WAYNE — The Central Catholic High School Class of 1961 will be celebrating their 45th reunion on Sept. 23 at the Grand Wayne Center in Fort Wayne. The reunion is scheduled to be held at 5 p.m. at St. Mary by classesmate, Loren “Klenn” Carlisle. The reunion will be for the deceased members of the class.

The following list is all of the members that are returning: Ann Boehm, Elaine DeVold, Janet Disney, Gary Feichter, Dave Gieringer, Bonnie Harris, John Herber, Patricia Lebrato, Jim Long, Margaret Marshall, Maureen Miller, Bob Oldham, Diane Pahly, Judy Pepple, James Riemann, Judith Schuhler, Richard Sikto, Mary Ellen Solfield, Marilyn Vaughan, Thomas Walker, Carolyn Vorndran, Jeanne Welch, Mary Ann Whittington.

If you know the whereabouts of any of these people, please contact Rita Jansen King at (260) 747-5949 or e-mail stjosephfkwk@hotmail.com.

Correction

The June 3 World Apostolate of Fatima diocesan-wide gathering featuring Our Lady of Guadalupe Church will include a talk by Father Sergius Wohlebski, OPM, Mass and a special Mass for the sick and dying on May 25 by contacting Jim Monper, treasurer, 8032 Westwood Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46818 or call Emma in Fort Wayne at (260) 652-3281 or St. John Church in South Bend at (574) 233-5414.
The role of good art is vital in Hollywood and the church

BY THERESA A. THOMAS

This is the third feature in a series of lectures at the University of Notre Dame, sponsored by the Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture and titled “Hollywood: Mission Field or Mission Impossible.”

NOTRE DAME — “Why does God care about Hollywood? The Role of Entertainment in Human Life” was the topic presented by Barbara Nicolosi on April 27 at the University of Notre Dame. Nicolosi is a writer, speaker, blogger, adjunct professor of screenwriting at Azusa Pacific University in Azusa, Calif., and executive director of ACT ONE, a nonprofit organization that, according to its Web site, “trains people of faith for careers in screenwriting at Azusa Pacific University, the University of Notre Dame, Chapman University, and the University of Southern California.”

Speaking to an audience that ranged from teens to those of retirement age, an animated Nicolosi discussed two common but wrong reactions to Hollywood, the church’s historical role as patron of the arts, the purpose of art, St. Thomas Aquinas’ classic definition of beauty and how it relates to both liturgical music and the art form of cinema, and why a Christian presence is needed in Hollywood.

“Being a Teflon Christian is the ‘cave dwelling’ or ‘Teflon’ Christianity’s influences in the movies will be creating works that talk about sin without being occasions of sin themselves. The movies will wake people up to sin without violating their faith,” said Nicolosi. 

She said that she believes there is a “groundswell in the church. The younger generation is beginning to say, ‘Enough garbage! We want beauty.’ She said she believes it is up to the young artists to show the world what the beauty is going to look like.”

Nicolosi invited members of the audience to pray to discern whether they are being called in some way to be artists of faith or music lessons and practically, music lessons and musical instruments used regularly during the Mass.

“Quoting from ‘Beauty and the Truth of Christ’ a message by then Joseph Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict XVI, and one that she described as a way to discern whether the movies are being made with an ignoble purpose or not to make one feel good, but that is simply stupid, with poor acting, pretty faces and poor special effects,” said Nicolosi. “If Hollywood is going to be a Teflon Christian, it must be chaste, not alone in the universe. They must not be chaste, but absolutely active like the mother of grace that is beauty. Further, she continued, there are three mistakes that are often made in both production of movies (which are art forms) and in liturgical music. First, art must have a political purpose is a mistake. It violates the sense of wholeness and balance that makes something beautiful. An example of this mistake would be a movie made with an agenda where the message is overshadowed or more important than the quality of the film. Second, art made only to make people feel good about themselves is a mistake. An example of this would be music at Mass that is “Barney-like” and inappropriate for the solemnity and profundity of the liturgy, but permitted so as to not make those offering the music feel bad. In film, an example of this mistake would be a non-harmonious movie made only to make one feel good, but that is simply stupid, with poor dialogue. Third, art used for distraction or other ignoble purpose where radiance is lost is a mistake.”

Nicolosi contended that making a film that simply makes people laugh is a good thing. “It is mercy,” she stated, “to give people joy, relief and lighthearted delight.” She said that in laughing together in the theater or living room, people discover they are not alone in the universe. They are taken out of isolation. Seeing movies with others can be communal. The role of the Christian in Hollywood, according to Nicolosi, whether it is as a writer, producer or other professional, is to go farther than simply providing comedy and light-heartedness, however, “As (the author) Flannery O’Connor has said we need to let people know that grace is being offered, not necessarily that everything in life is pretty. Grace challenges us.” Nicolosi said that Christianity’s influences in the movies will be creating works that talk about sin without being occasions of sin themselves. The movies will wake people up to sin without violating their faith.

Nicolosi said that according to St. Thomas Aquinas a beautiful thing possesses three essential characteristics: a sense of beauty that is pretty, a sense of harmony and a sense of radiance or brilliance. These things must be present in order for a work of art to be a thing of beauty. Further, she continued, there are three mistakes that are often made in both production of movies (which are art forms) and in liturgical music. First, art must have a political purpose is a mistake. It violates the sense of wholeness and balance that makes something beautiful. An example of this mistake would be a movie made with an agenda where the message is overshadowed or more important than the quality of the film. Second, art made only to make people feel good about themselves is a mistake. An example of this would be music at Mass that is “Barney-like” and inappropriate for the solemnity and profundity of the liturgy, but permitted so as to not make those offering the music feel bad. In film, an example of this mistake would be a non-harmonious movie made only to make one feel good, but that is simply stupid, with poor dialogue. Third, art used for distraction or other ignoble purpose where radiance is lost is a mistake.”

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Nicolosi explained that historically the church has been the greatest patron of the arts. It commissioned great paintings and statues for churches and spectacular music to accompany liturgical celebrations. When she quipped, “That might be hard to do because I don’t know about you, but my home parish keeps the 70s alive,” the audience burst into laughter. By her own admission she is neither a fan of “Gather Us In” style liturgical music nor tambourines used regularly during the Mass.

“She stated that formation in these arts must start in the domestic church, the family. Parents must provide discipline, an environment that allows love of God and neighbor to blossom, and practically, music lessons and accessibility to great classic books. “If Hollywood is going to change,” concluded Nicolosi, “we as a society must become more culturally literate.” She concluded that God indeed cares about Hollywood, and members of the Catholic Church should too, and that a Teflon Christian is a significant and powerful art form that can be used for good.
FaithFest 2006 celebrated ‘IT’

BY KRISTI WARD

MISHAWAKA — Catholics believe it, mean it, live it, speak it . . . but what exactly is IT? At FaithFest 2006 IT came alive as close to 300 teens from 25 parishes — including two parishes from Michigan — donned bright green shirts and demonstrated their lively and energetic version of IT by singing, talking, listening, questioning, praying, dancing, acting, creating and laughing.

IT was their Catholic faith and they were at Marian High School in Mishawaka to celebrate. Steve Weigand, diocesan director of youth ministry, said the Diocesan Youth Council organized FaithFest with the goal of young people serving their peers.

“They plan this whole day for their Catholic peers to do a couple of things — to strengthen Catholic identity and to celebrate their Catholic faith.” He smiled. “That and show that young people can lead responsibly in the church.”

The members of the youth council put together a day filled with activities, including adoration, reconciliation, Mass and lots of different workshops. In between those activities, young people could walk the prayer labyrinth, belt out a song on the open mike stage, enter the poster contest, or visit The Village for games, exhibits, information, books and other goodies.

Throughout FaithFest, the young people enjoyed the comedy, heartfelt witness and toe-tapping music of artist Jesse Manibusan along with the zany fun and spiritual message of Dan Harms and Kyle Heimann from Popple. Other highlights of the day included a question-and-answer session with Bishop D’Arcy, and a dinner from Olive Garden served by Marian parent volunteers — plus the presentation of youth ministry awards to Luke Zimmer from St. Anthony de Padua Parish in Angola, Sarah Rumpola from Christ the King Parish in South Bend and adult leader Bill Odell from Little Flower Parish in South Bend.

“There’s quite a bit of activities for the kids — I think most of them are enjoying themselves,” said John Bodenschatz, an adult leader from St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Fort Wayne. “You’ve got a pretty wide span of different kids who are in different places in their faith, so I think it’s trying to have a little bit of something for everybody.”

St. Charles’ youth minister, Margaret “Marge” Digan, had a death in her family, so Bodenschatz and two other adult volunteers brought their group. Bodenschatz said he enjoyed FaithFest almost as much as the kids. “I’ve enjoyed the workshops I went to,” he said. “I thought The Village was pretty neat — I thought the whole thing was pretty good.”

Weigand said the FaithFest written evaluations were positive overall — some said FaithFest was better than last year — and revolved a lot around the message and ministry of Jesse and Popple. When a group of teens was asked for their opinion of the artists, comments included “they’re awesome,” “Jesse’s really funny and he made me think,” and “I loved the music and I’m glad I came”.

The yearly celebration of young people has been going on for 12 years, according to Weigand and Bodenschatz had a few words of advice for teens trying to decide if they want to attend next year: “If you want to participate, you’re more than welcome to participate,” he said. “If you’re kind of more reserved and don’t want to and you’re not sure what goes on, they’re not going to make you do anything you don’t want to do.”

Weigand said he’d like to encourage young people to think about celebrating their own IT.

“I would challenge them to consider what it is they have to share with the church,” he said. “The church needs them.”
Natural Family Planning: Put responsible parenthood into practice

We have seen how responsible parenthood calls married couples to good stewardship of the gift of fertility. This stewardship requires understanding and respecting the gift of fertility, subordinating sexual passion to reason and will and making decisions about how many children to have that are both generous and responsible. If a married couple has a proportionately serious reason to prevent a pregnancy, many people reasonably ask whether it really matters what means they choose to accomplish this goal.

If we reflect on our everyday experience for a moment, we can readily see that the means we choose to accomplish a worthy goal matter enormously. If I want to raise money for a good cause, I can either hold a bake sale or rob a bank. In the same way, the church has always taught that the means a couple chooses to prevent a pregnancy matter enormously from a moral point of view.

As we have seen, sexual relations are meant to signify the mutual gift of self that marriage is supposed to be. That is why the church has traditionally referred to sexual intercourse as “the marital act.” Through this most intimate language, husband and wife say to one another with their bodies what they proclaimed publically on the altar on their wedding day: “I accept you completely as the gift from God that you are, and I give myself completely to you in return.” Understood from this point of view, sexual relations between husband and wife are meant to be a renewal of their marriage covenant. And this very act, which expresses their mutual gift of self, also makes them capable of receiving from God the greatest possible gift — a new being who literally “personifies” their love, created in their image and likeness, but who bears, above all, the image and likeness of God.

Out of deep reverence for the way in which God has designed sexual relations, the church teaches that “each and every marital act must of necessity retain its intrinsic relationship to the procreation of human life.” — “Humanae Vitae” #11. This means that because God has inscribed in sexual intercourse an inseparable connection between its love-giving capacity and its life-giving capacity, married couples must respect the integrity of this act whenever they choose to engage in it.

Natural family planning (NFP) is an umbrella term for methods of family planning that respect this inseparable connection. Based on daily observation of the natural signs of fertility and infertility, which occur in a woman’s body, modern methods of NFP differ significantly from the outdated “rhythm method,” which relied on prediction of a woman’s fertile period based on past menstrual cycles. NFP enables a couple to identify the days when conception is most likely should they desire to conceive.

This same knowledge also enables a couple to refrain from sexual relations on the days when conception is possible should they desire to avoid a pregnancy. In this regard, international studies confirm that when spouses are properly instructed and follow the rules carefully, NFP can have an effectiveness rate of 98-99 percent.

Couples are also taught how to practice exclusive, extended breast-feeding provides a significant period of infertility after the birth of a child. This kind of birth control, as is the most basic form of NFP because it can have the effect of naturally spacing the births of children over the course of a woman’s childbearing years.

The church promotes NFP because it personifies the love, created as “the marital act” which expresses their mutual gift of self, also makes them capable of receiving from God the greatest possible gift — a new human being who literally envisions their love, created in their image and likeness, but who bears, above all, the image and likeness of God.

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Lisa Everett is the co-director of the Office of Family Life for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR JUBILARIANS

Vocations Prayer

By Kay Cozad

God of all creation,
We come to you in thanksgiving for your sovereignty and steadfast love.
We ask, with hopeful hearts, that you would raise up among us those who might shepherd your people to yourself. Show special graces to those whom you call to a vocation in priestly service or religious life. Inspire them to holiness that they may heed your call and dedicate their lives to your service.
Grant those chosen for religious formation willing and holy hearts and guide their path to strength of faith, deep abiding love for you and humble, trustworthy service to your people. Open the hearts of teachers, family and friends that they may lovingly encourage those vocations according to your will.
Strengthen, with love and courage, those already in your service as priests, deacons, brothers and sisters and grant them health of body, mind and spirit so that they may be ever-present representatives of your son Jesus Christ.
And grant us all, Father, open and loving hearts for you as we continue to build your church on earth.
Amen.

Msgr. Robert Contant 60 years

By Ginny Kohrman

M sgr. Robert Contant was ordained on Sept. 21, 1946, by Bishop John F. Noll. Born on Dec. 5, 1920 to Henry and Ruth Contant, he was baptized at St. Patrick Parish in Fort Wayne, where he later attended grade school. In 1939, he graduated from Central Catholic High School. His college years included studies at St. Joseph Rensselaer, St. Gregory Seminary in Cincinnati and Mount St. Mary of the West Seminary in Norwood, Ohio. He served as an associate pastor at St. Vincent, Elkhart, St. Patrick, Fort Wayne and St. Mary, Decatur. In 1964, Msgr. Contant was appointed pastor of St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Parish. After serving as pastor there for 33 years, he retired in 1997 and moved to St. Charles Seminary in Carthageoga, Ohio. This transition into retirement was a difficult decision for Msgr. Contant, who much like Pope John Paul II, maintained a deep desire to serve but suffered the effects of a progressive neurological disorder, Parkinson’s disease. St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel had become his home, a place of friendships and love.
Msgr. Contant, gifted with an incredible intellect and memory, has always led a very simple life, modeling an asceticism that was either admired or perhaps sometimes misunderstood by others. He never desired a prestigious lifestyle and would not dispose of a single thing if it still worked, or could be repaired. When asked if the parish should buy him a new refrigerator to replace the ancient, frost-laden Philco model, he replied, “Why? This one still works.” Jerry Croy, a longtime friend and convert to Catholicism under the direction of Msgr. Contant, still admires his ability to “negotiate” with utility companies regarding the parish’s electric and gas bills. He knew the laws well and could use them wisely to save the parish unnecessary payments. He was a master with numbers and worked earnestly to protect the financial integrity of the parish. Msgr. Contant was a man who could talk widely and deeply on any given subject with almost anyone.

“Msgr. Contant was a man who could talk widely and deeply on any given subject with almost anyone.”

JERRY CROY

Msgr. Contant’s physical abilities deteriorated, he humbly sought the direction of medical professionals and parishioners who could help him “adapt” and continue on as pastor.
Jerry Croy remembers that, as a younger priest Msgr. Contant loved to hunt rabbit or pheasant with the Baker’s and Lengerich’s from Decatur. It is told that he even kept a hunting dog at Hessen Cassel for such hunting trips. He also loved to fly fish, sometimes vacationing with brother priests in the west to catch a full stringer of trout.
Msgr. Contant currently lives in the infirmary at St. Charles, receiving continuous nursing care and extra-special spiritual care from Brother Dennis Rumschlag. Brother Dennis reports that Msgr. Contant attends Mass on a daily basis at 6:15 a.m. He always takes his Breviary with him to Mass, although it is increasingly difficult for him to follow along in prayer. Msgr. Contant, now using a wheelchair for his main mode of mobility, still enjoys visiting with others. He reports that he has adjusted well to bilateral hearing aids, having “none of the difficulty that other older people seem to have in getting used to them.” He still talks of wanting to be of service to others, but then smiles and says, “It probably doesn’t make sense to train someone who is in my shape.”

Ten years ago, Msgr. Contant was invited to Rome to concelebrate his 50th anniversary as priest with Pope John Paul II. It was a unique and beautiful experience for a man, who, like Pope John Paul II, looks upon his priesthood as a life of humble service for the good of others.
Father Bill Niedhart
50 year jubilee

BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

A s an accounting student at the University of Notre Dame, he had doubts. But when it seemed as if God was calling, Father William Neidhart couldn’t just ignore it and expect it to go away.

“I went in thinking that it was n’t my vocation,” Father Neidhart said.

He said if it hadn’t worked out, he would have been “perfectly happy living a normal life.”

God apparently had other plans for Father Neidhart.

He said that once he became a priest he never had a doubt that it is where he was supposed to be.

At 82, Father Neidhart is a jubilarian priest, or one who has been in service 50 years. Now he’s in semi-retirement at St. Joseph Parish in South Bend on Hill Street.

Father Neidhart, originally from Fort Wayne, has been serving at St. Joseph in South Bend for the past five years. He’s also served at St. Pius X, Little Flower, Holy Cross and was also in Burbank, Calif., for a time.

He spent his first 11 years teaching high school, and he’s been in parish ministries for 39 years.

He had a stint in the Air Force in World War II with a troop carrier outfit in England and France.

He came to Notre Dame on a G.I. Bill scholarship and graduated with an accounting degree in 1949.

During his time at Notre Dame, Father Neidhart said he began to have thoughts that God was calling him to be a priest.

And by his senior year at the university, he believed the call unmistakable.

“I thought I had to give it a try,” Father Neidhart said.

He said later that he began feeling that he wanted to do what God wanted him to do.

“It became clear my last semester,” Father Neidhart said.

He was ordained in 1956.

Father Neidhart said service has changed significantly over the years, but one way in particular stands out to him.

When he first started, he said, the priest of a parish was like a one-man show. He did it all, from administration to Mass.

The members of the lay ministries have changed all that so the priest can serve people the way they were meant to, Father Neidhart said.

“Lay ministries in particular have done a great deal to help us to see that we all share in the priesthood of Christ through baptism,” Father Neidhart said.

“How about it, we wouldn’t be able to serve people as well.”

He said a smart priest will find laity in the church to help out.

“The group is better than the individual,” he said.

Along with the laity positions that have opened up over the years, Father Neidhart said young men considering the priesthood and others considering lay positions need to be open to calls on their lives by God.

“Each call is different,” said Father Neidhart, who sees his call as a gradual one. “You need to be open and try to live a grace-filled, Christ-like life.”

And living a life of service is a powerful one.

“I think for me, it’s been a wonderful life to be God’s instrument in the ways a priest can be,” Father Neidhart said. “I think doing God’s work is certainly a powerful thing. It’s a powerful gift to be able to do this.”

Later, he called his life as a priest “truly a beautiful life.”

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Father Henry Madigan, OFM Conv.
50 years of priesthood

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

MISHAWAKA — He has been a teacher, a parish priest, a counselor and administrator since he professed simple vows in 1950 after entering the Franciscan novitiate in Cohoes, N.Y. Now in his 50th year of the priesthood, Father Henry Madigan, OFM. Conv., is he truly enjoying serving as the assistant director to novices for the Conventual Franciscan Friars in Mishawaka, especially since it gives him time to pursue his favorite hobby.

“My hobby now has to be enjoying the pursuit of understanding of Scriptures. People have such strong ideas from holy Scripture, which is especially apparent today,” says Father Henry, who points out that one cannot literally interpret Scripture, especially since the first written words were not written until at least 20 years after Christ.

“You have to remember that they were written from the viewpoint and the understanding of the time. And then they were translated from Hebrew to Greek and then to English. It is really fascinating. We need to consider the philosophy and approach was very different from today. It is a fascinating weave of forces that all came together,” he notes.

Father Henry is especially aware of the diversity and humanity of these sacred writings and that we actually have a scriptural message that was enshrined in words so long ago. He is very impressed “by the work of the Scripture scholars and the various specialists who have applied and do apply their broad knowledge so that we can better understand the writings coming to us from ancient peoples whose concept of history, customs and language are so different from our own,” says Father Henry.

“I am especially impressed with the quality of catholics in Indiana,” he notes, mentioning an example of the devotion of parishioners at Mass. Father Henry also notes that he, along with the Franciscan community to which he belongs at the novitiate, also looks forward weekly to the Sunday celebration of evening prayer with those who gather in South Bend at Notre Dame.

“It is inspiring for our novices as well as for ourselves,” he says.

On May 26, Father Henry will celebrate 50 years as a priest. He professed simple vows in 1950 and continued his studies in philosophy in Franciscan seminaries in Carey, Ohio and Chaska, Minn. He then pursued degrees in theology at the Grand Seminaire in Montreal. After being ordained, he taught moral theology and homiletics at St. Anthony-on-Hudson in Rensselaer, N.Y. until assigned to the province’s parish mission and retreat ministry. In the mid 60’s, he served as assistant director of the inner city apostolate established by the Diocese of Camden, N.J. Assigned to the formation ministry of his province, he established the pre-novitiate program in Holyoke, Mass. Father Henry also served as administrator and or pastor of four parishes and also spent time as director of friar students in Washington, D.C.

When asked about his hopes for the future, Father Henry says he prays he will “be able to make a contribution to the community in which I live and try to help people grow in Christ. I enjoy working with people. Helping them with anything they need help with. I like people. I would like to bring a greater sense of Christ in their lives.”

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Father Robert Yast
50th jubilee of ordination

BY ANN CAREY

MISHAWAKA — When Robert Yast was stationed with the Air Force in Naples, Italy, at the end of World War II, he accompanied three of his buddies to Rome because he wanted to see the churches. And while the other men were out trying to meet Italian women, Airman Yast attended Easter Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica and started to think about becoming a priest.

Now, 60 years after that Easter Sunday in Rome, Father Yast celebrates 50 years in the priesthood, which he says is a happy, beautiful, joyful life.

Father Yast grew up in a family with one brother and two sisters in St. Joseph Parish in LaPorte, which now is part of the Diocese of Gary. When he graduated from high school in 1944, he enlisted in the Air Force.

After two years in military service, he studied music at Indiana University with the assistance of the G.I. Bill, though thoughts of the seminary were in the back of his mind.

At the end of his sophomore year, a good friend left college to join the Benedictines at St. Meinrad and invited Father Yast to visit him. The view of the priesthood at St. Meinrad attracted him, so Father Yast approached Bishop John Noll about studying for the priesthood for this diocese.

He was ordained May 26, 1956, and assigned as an assistant pastor at St. Peter in Fort Wayne, where he enjoyed the friendship of the other assistant, Father Joseph Crowley (who would become auxiliary bishop of this diocese). The year after his ordination, the diocese was split, with the western half, including Father Yast’s hometown of LaPorte, becoming the Diocese of Gary. All the priests stayed within the diocese of their assignments at that time, so Father Yast remained with the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

With his quick wit, uncanny ability to remember names and warm and caring nature, Father Yast endeared himself to congregations at all or his assignments: St. Peter for 12 years; St. John the Baptist in South Bend for four years; pastor of St. Anthony, South Bend, for 16 years; pastor of St. Patrick, Walkerton, for three years; and pastor of St. Joseph, Mishawaka, for the past 15 years. Since his arrival in South Bend in 1968, Father Yast has served as chaplain for the local Serra Club, a natural fit for him, for he has always worked to encourage vocations to the priesthood, which he considers to be “a beautiful life.”

“Every day has different experiences to offer,” he said. “I would sure tell any boy to check into the priesthood. I think sometimes we get the idea that it’s all prayer and all austere. But it isn’t; it’s joyful and a happy time.”

One of those special joys for him, Father Yast said, has been to witness the deep faith and goodness of the people he has met in every parish he has served. He especially likes ministering to the sick, he said, for that is when many people are most receptive to the faith.

The Staff of Our Sunday Visitor, Inc., congratulates Msgr. Owen Campion. As a priest, diocesan newspaper editor, editor of The Priest magazine, and associate publisher of Our Sunday Visitor Publishing, Msgr. Campion has served the Church faithfully and well for 40 years. We are grateful for his ministry.
As a Brother in the Congregation of Holy Cross, you will share in a rich tradition of unselfish service and become a brother to many. For more information about beginning a new life as a Brother of Holy Cross, contact Br. Philip R. Smith, C.S.C. P.O. Box 460 Notre Dame, IN 46556 e-mail: psmith@brothersofholycross.com (574) 631-0995 www.brothersofholycross.com

Father Owen Campion
40th jubilee of ordination

BY TIM JOHNSON

HUNTINGTON — Journalism has captured the heart of Msgr. Owen Campion, associate publisher of Our Sunday Visitor in Huntington. But in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, this genteel southern gentleman has also won over the hearts of parishioners at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel and St. John the Baptist in Fort Wayne. He will celebrate 40 years in the priesthood on May 21.

His interest in journalism and the English language goes back to his childhood in Nashville, Tenn., where a Dominican nun at his elementary school captivated young Owen and his classmates with a way of making diagramming sentences fun. At Father Ryan High School in Nashville, he was the school newspaper and yearbook editor. It was through the influence of his elementary school sisters and Father Ryan High School diocesan priests and his parents’ strong Catholic faith that Owen decided he would like to be a priest.

After college and seminary, then-Father Campion was ordained a priest May 21, 1966, for the Diocese of Nashville. His explanation of the Mass of the resurrection for funerals and a few articles written about travels to Mexico soon garnered the attention of the bishop. He became the editor-in-chief of the Tennessee Register in 1971. Soon after he took the post, the Diocese of Memphis was created, and the Register lost nearly half of its subscribers, but under Father Campion’s care and a growing Catholic population in Nashville, the paper quickly recovered.

At the Tennessee Register, the newspaper received more commendations for excellence from professional associations than any other American diocesan newspaper of its size. His active role in the Catholic Press Association — he served nine years on the board of directors, served as its treasurer and was named its 36th national president — garnered attention from Bob Lockwood, president of Our Sunday Visitor. In 1988, Lockwood invited Father Campion to be the associate publisher of the national paper as Father Vincent Giese retired. Our Sunday Visitor not only publishes a national Catholic newspaper, but is the largest publisher of Catholic periodicals and books in English in the world.

As Father Campion began his work at Our Sunday Visitor in 1989, the Holy See named him the ecclesiastical assistant for the International Catholic Union of the Press (UCIP), the official worldwide organization of Catholic publishers and journalists. His travels took him throughout the world. In 1997, Pope John Paul II appointed him a member of the synod of bishops for the Americas, one of 13 priests in the Western hemisphere and Europe so honored. He told Today’s Catholic that his favorite vacation is to just stay at his home. He served until 1998 and was elected an honorary member for life to the UCIP in 1997.


With the Allen County Public Library’s strong genealogical department, Msgr. Campion spends much of his free time studying his family’s history. His mother’s family descends from some of the original settlers of Jamestown. And his family is also some of the original settlers in the state of Tennessee.

Msgr. Campion enjoys browsing cookbooks and planning meals. He has an extensive library. Celebration plans include a party on May 20 at St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel, with Father Edward Erpelding, who also is celebrating a 40th anniversary.

We ask the Blessed Mother’s protection and love upon Father David Voors as we celebrate with him his 25 years as a priest. We offer prayers, congratulations, and thankfulness. God bless you.

Our Lady of Good Hope Parish
FORT WAYNE
Father Edward Erpelding — 40 years

BY DON CLEMMER

FORT WAYNE — While he was ordained in the diocese and currently serves as pastor of St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Parish, over 25 years of Father Ed Erpelding’s priestly ministry took him far beyond the boundaries of his diocese. Erpelding served in the Navy Chaplain Corps, and after his discharge, he returned to the diocese to serve as a priest.

In 1974, Erpelding was ordered to active duty. He was reluctant to give up his ministry, but he was determined to find a way to make it happen — which he eventually did by attending Emory-Riddle Air University in Washington, D.C., and traveling the “gap” in the 1970s at the height of Vietnam. When he heard that the Persian Gulf in the late 1960s, at the height of the Vietnam war, Erpelding looked around at the young men around him, and he could see how tense they were and realize that it was part of his duty to put them at ease. He then removed his gas mask, rolled it up like a pillow and pretended to sleep on the deck. When the crew noticed this, they relaxed considerably, sensing that, if the chaplain wasn’t worried, they were going to be fine.

Erpelding received many awards, including the Legion of Merit, one of the highest honors bestowed by the Navy. He also brings a tough, eclectic personal interests, such as painting, fishing, diving, playing musical instruments and his real specialty — painting.

For his service, Erpelding received many awards, including the Legion of Merit, one of the highest honors bestowed by the Navy. A chaplain carries no weapon, only prayer. Father Erpelding notes, and he is quick to point out that prayer is quite powerful. It needs to be powerful, as the duties of a Navy chaplain differ from that of the parish priest.

“The chaplain’s purpose is to preserve humanity,” Father Erpelding says, citing a “Lord of the Flies” breakdown of order and spirituality as exactly the sort of scenario his presence is meant to prevent, even as he endures the same hardships as the servicemen to whom he ministers.

“The priest is called to be a priest-victim with Christ,” he says. This means doing his priestly duty even in situations where his and everyone else’s lives are at risk, such as in the Persian Gulf in the 1980s when “the balloon went up” and Father Erpelding and much of the rest of the ship stood in gunmasks on the deck, anticipating an attack. As Father Erpelding looked around at the young men around him, he could see how tense they were and realize that it was part of his duty to put them at ease. He then removed his gas mask, rolled it up like a pillow and pretended to sleep on the deck. When the crew noticed this, they relaxed considerably, sensing that, if the chaplain wasn’t worried, they were going to be fine.

Erpelding brings a tough-as-nails approach to the priesthood that tends to get the job done. A fellow Serviceman once saw the crosses on his uniform while the two were stationed in Saudi Arabia.

“You can’t wear crosses in Saudi Arabia,” the man said. “Watch me,” replied Father Erpelding. “As far as I’m concerned, these are telephone poles, and I’m in communications for Christ.”

Father John Pfister

40th jubilee of ordination

BY DON CLEMMER

HUNTINGTON — This quote could be applied to Father John Pfister who, now in his 40th year of priestly ministry, finds himself at St. Mary Parish back in his hometown of Huntington. Father Pfister is actually the first native of Huntington — a town that has produced numerous vocations over the years — to receive an assignment in the town.

“Garsh,” Father Pfister says, “it’s been very interesting. I still get smiles on my face walking down the street, remembering when things used to be.”

Reflecting on his own childhood in Huntington (where he attended St. Peter and Paul Parish), Father Pfister doesn’t remember anyone ever driving the idea of being a priest into him, rather his parents — both committed Catholics — created a positive, faith-filled atmosphere in which considering a vocation was a natural development.

It is that atmosphere that Father Pfister tries to recreate for young people in his ministry. This year has yet another dimension, as Father Pfister is able to use local examples from his own childhood — mowing lawns, delivering newspapers, participating in local athletic leagues — to make the possibility of a religious vocation more relevant for the youth at St. Mary.

“I say I was just one of the kids,” Father Pfister explains. “God called me. He might call you also have to leave a lot of nice people.” He adds, “I always wanted people to work together toward the good, and I always felt good when we accomplished that.”

As just a few examples of the good he has encountered, Father Pfister mentions starting a perpetual adoration chapel at St. Jude, Fort Wayne, watching a class of students go all the way from first grade to high school graduation during his time at Queen of Angels. “It’s been a good 40 years,” he says. “I love being a priest. I wouldn’t want to do anything else. I just wish there were more people to give us a hand.”

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FATHER JOHN PFISTER

FATHER ED ERPELDING
Father Cornelius Ryan, CSC, 40th jubilee of ordination

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

SOUTH BEND — After serving 40 years in the priesthood, many of which he served in Africa in poverty-stricken areas, Father Cornelius Ryan, CSC, says that keeping busy is what makes every moment worthwhile, no matter what the situation.

“No matter where I have gone or what I have done, I get involved,” says Father Ryan. “Every time you go to a new place and take on something new, you discover something new about yourself. You have to enjoy your priesthood, or your life, fully, always.”

His life adventure began with studies at Notre Dame in the late 1950s with graduation in 1962. He then went on to the Holy Cross Foreign Mission Seminary in Washington, D.C. and was ordained as a priest in June of 1966 in the Sacred Heart Church. Father Ryan had no idea what God may be calling you to be a priest. He not only coached but served in a number of parishes, many young people. Though he says Father Ryan when he was put on a deportation order because of governmental changes. “This order was passed through an office where I had friends, who intercepted it. I left Kasese abruptly to give the impression this order had been carried out,” says Father Ryan, noting that luckily he never was sent out of the country. “I was assigned to teach African traditional religions and philosophy at the National Seminary in Katango and Alokulum, alternating between the two locations.”

Leaving the national seminars in 1976, Father Ryan went on to St. Henry’s College, a “D Level” (Junior College) where he stayed for many years teaching the hearts and changing lives of many young people. Though he did not know much about the sport of soccer, Father Ryan “got serious about coaching” soccer. He not only coached but served on the National Soccer League Committee, managed the national stadium for international matches and started national soccer camps. The teams he (helped) coach reached the Final Four eight times and was the up-country school to win the national title.

In 1978, Father Ryan says that he decided to take some time back in the states to attend a master’s degree program at UCLA. Unfortunately shortly thereafter when he returned to Africa, war broke out and destroyed the school. “They had made it a barracks. It was fully ransacked,” says Father Ryan. The tragedy did not break the priest. Instead, he helped start several projects he loves to talk about and rightly so as they not only brought funding for the rehabilitation of the school, but livelihoods for many African youth.

“We did screen printing. T-shirts, calendars, artwork,” says Father Ryan. “They had to hand cut the film used for making the screens for all our screen printing. It was wild, we had to hand cut and plane the wooden dowels used to hang the calendars. One order required more than 30,000 dowels,” says Father Ryan, who recalls at least 50 students would come nightly to help out in the project which not only helped repair the 18 dormitories, but completed the building of the chapel as well.

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God may be calling you to be a priest. Call us. We are anxious to discuss the possibilities with you.
Father Warner, CSC 40th jubilee of ordination

BY ANN CAREY

NOTRE DAME — It’s been a challenging journey from a childhood in Lakewood, Ohio, to important leadership positions at the University of Notre Dame and with the Congregation of Holy Cross, and Father Richard Warner, CSC, has enjoyed every step along the way.

Father Warner, presently director of Campus Ministry at Notre Dame, will celebrate 40 years in the priesthood Dec. 17, and says, “I’ve enjoyed every minute of it, and would surely do it again.”

Father Warner started thinking about priesthood in his parish grade school, where the Sisters of Charity encouraged students to consider religious vocations. At St. Edward High School in Cleveland, he was taught by Holy Cross brothers and got to know and respect them. So, by the time he graduated from high school, he knew that he wanted to become a Holy Cross priest.

He lived with other Holy Cross seminarians at Notre Dame’s Old College while studying for his bachelor’s degree in philosophy, and then requested assignment to Universidad Catolica in Chile, where the influence of the parishioners and their devotion motivated Father Warner to pursue further education in theology. Additionally, he has been involved with Campus Ministry since 1989, which makes him responsible for the spiritual life of the university.

A pastor 24 hours a day, Father Warner lives in a residence hall on campus, where his door is always open for any of the young men who want advice, counsel, spiritual direction or simply a sympathetic and understanding ear.

Civic engagement also is a big part of his life, for Father Warner has been chairman of the board of South Bend’s Center for the Homeless for 18 years and a member of the board of Memorial Hospital.

So, what has been the best part of his priesthood? “It’s everything,” Father Warner said, but especially celebrating the Eucharist, particularly with communities of young people.

Father Warner said he had to decide whether to get to know so many fine young people at Notre Dame and to enter into their lives in many ways. Even after students graduate, they often call on him for important moments in their lives, like marriages and baptisms of their babies.

Father Warner encourages young men contemplating the priesthood to foster their response to what they think might be God’s call and act on it, because “It’s a wonderful grace, and it’s a great life.”

Father Warner 25th jubilee of ordination

BY KAY LOAD

DECATUR — Father David Voors of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Decatur, will mark June 20 as the 25th anniversary of his ordination into the priesthood.

Born in Fort Wayne to Charlie and Mary Voors, fourth of seven children, Father Voors believes his vocational choice was formed within his family. “My mom prayed every day that one of her sons would become a religious,” he recalls. With family visits from his uncle, Mgr. William Voors and other priests, and encouragement “to be open to the call,” Father Voors considered the priesthood at an early age.

A young priest chose to spend his freshman year of high school at the Divine Heart Seminary in Donaldson but returned home to graduate from Central Catholic High School in 1972. After working at Lincoln Life for two years, Father Voors began his formation for the priesthood at St. Pius X Seminary in Erlanger, Ky., where he earned a baccalaureate in philosophy. During that time, he was an avid amateur radio operator and still holds his license, though he admits he doesn’t use it for radio these days. He could also be seen jogging or biking in those early seminary days.

Father Voors then attended Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., earning a graduate degree in theology. “Never in my eight years of seminary did I have serious doubts. I sought God’s guidance and was utterly at peace within my heart,” says the priest of his vocational studies.

The young seminarian was ordained to the diaconate and spent a year serving the people of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne. And on June 20, 1981, David Voors was ordained into the priesthood by Bishop William McManus at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

His first assignment as priest was St. Matthew Parish in Fort Wayne where he served with Bishop Crowley for six years. Father Voors moved to Plymouth in 1987, where he pastored the parish for 10 years. “It was a wonderful place to be pastor,” says Father Voors. “Good people, great enthusiasm!” Our Lady of Good Hope in Fort Wayne was Father Voors in 1997, where he found more enthusiasm and involvement.

August of 2005 found Father Voors moving once again, this time to St. Mary of the Assumption, Decatur, where he is currently pastor. He finds this parish to be very well-cared for and filled with faithful people.

The passion this priest has for serving God’s people shines when he says, “Every day is different. There’s never a dull moment in the influence of the parishioners and their devotion motivate Father Voors.”

Father Voors also enjoys a devotion to the Blessed Mother as well as eucharistic adoration and stemming from his time in Donaldson, he faithfully prays the holy hours each day.

Father Voors enthusiastically offers those considering the ministry “There’s no doubt the Lord is pouring out special graces on the young men of the diocese. I say, take the first step and find out.” As for his own ministry as priest he says, confidently, “With peace in my heart I know this is what God wanted for me. And it is up to me to live it right.”

A celebration to honor Father Voors will be at St. Mary of the Assumption, Decatur, on July 16. Friends are invited to a jubilee Mass at 2 p.m., followed by a reception.

Father John Delaney 25th jubilee of ordination

BY DENISE FEDOROW

GOSHEN — Father John Delaney of St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen, is a Fort Wayne native who credits the Holy Cross Sisters at Sacred Heart School for planting the seeds for his vocation. He said at Sacred Heart School for planting the seeds for his vocation.

Father Delaney’s feeling is if you want to accomplish a great deal of good for God, “There’s no doubt the Lord is pouring out special graces on the young men of the diocese. I say, take the first step and find out.” As for his own ministry as priest he says, confidently, “With peace in my heart I know this is what God wanted for me. And it is up to me to live it right.”

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Six Brothers of Holy Cross mark jubilee anniversaries

BY BROTHER CHARLES MCBRIDE, CSC

NOTRE DAME — Six Brothers of Holy Cross will celebrate their jubilee anniversaries on Saturday, June 17, with a Mass of thanksgiving at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on the campus of the University of Notre Dame. Celebrating will be one brother with 75 years of religious profession, one with 70, three with 50 years and one with 40 years. A dinner will follow the Mass at Notre Dame for invited guests.

Of the six brothers celebrating, five have served or are presently serving and living in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Three brothers currently reside in Schubert Villa in Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame, one at Gilmour Academy, Gates Mills, Ohio, and one in Johnson City, N.Y.

Brother Robert Fillmore, CSC, provincial of the Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross will accept the brothers’ renewal of vows. Brother Daniel Kane, CSC, of Gates Mills, Ohio, will be the musical director and organist.

Celebrating 75 years of vows is Brother Thaddeus (Karl) Gottenmoller, CSC. At 95, Brother Thaddeus Gottenmoller has the distinction of being the oldest living member in the Midwest Province. Those who live with him at Schubert Villa in Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame would describe him as the Enegizer Bunny; he just keeps on going. At his age, he goes for a daily swim at Notre Dame’s Rockne Memorial Pool. Despite the present construction in the area, Brother Thaddeus continues to rake the lawn and clean under trees and in flower beds at Schubert Villa and Dujarie House. His famous tomato plants are ever present, but Brother Thaddeus, who is also a very spiritual man, may be found in the chapel praying during the wee hours of the morning.

Brother is presently the oldest Brother of Holy Cross to graduate from Cathedral High School, Indianapolis in 1929. He joined the brothers at Sacred Heart Postulate, Watertown, Wis., on Jan. 20, 1930. He made his first vows at Sacred Heart Church, Notre Dame, July 2, 1931. Brother graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1935. Between 1935 and 1980 Brother Thaddeus taught science and mathematics courses at six of the brothers’ high schools; two of them on different occasions, in what are now the Eastern and Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross. His assignments took him to Evansville, New Orleans, Albany, N.Y., Valatie, N.Y., Taunton, Mass., Lakewood, Ohio, and South Bend.

In January 2002, he formally retired to the Columbus Hall community at Notre Dame, and this past year moved to Schubert Villa in Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame.

Celebrating 70 years of vows is Brother Camillus (William) Kirsch, CSC. Brother Camillus Kirsch, CSC, 90, has taught science, history and Thaddeus, is the epitome of energy. Although he has had a hip and two knees replaced in the past few years, he continues to begin his long brisk walks long before many are awake. Although brother is the third oldest member of the province, he continues to keep both his mind and body active.

He graduated from Cathedral High School in 1934. William Kirsch entered Sacred Heart postulate of the brothers in Watertown, Wis., in September of 1934. He took first vows at Sacred Heart Church, Notre Dame, in August of 1936. Brother Camillus graduated magna cum laude from Notre Dame in June 1940.

Brother Camillus’ first assignment was for a year at Reitz Memorial in Evansville, Ind., followed by a year of graduate study at the University of Notre Dame and at the University of Chicago. He went to the Father Gibault School for Boys, Terre Haute, as the assistant principal director in 1943. Brother Camillus worked and prayed 27 years of his religious life at Gibault, on three different occasions.

Brother has been very active in the Knights of Columbus on the local and state level. He was a member of the Indiana Children’s Home Association and Indiana State Welfare Conference. Brother Camillus retired to Columbus Hall in 2000 and in 2005 he moved to Schubert Villa in Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame.

Celebrating 50 years of vows are Brothers Julian Casper Przybyla, CSC, James Giles Kinsella, CSC, and James William Bagans, CSC.

Brother Julian Casper Przybyla, 70, has been a community chef or maintenance grounds worker until the last few months. Brother currently assists brothers living at Schubert Villa or Dujarie House in taking them to medical appointments. His free time is taken up with working on the grounds at Columbus Hall, Notre Dame or playing golf with fellow religious.


After the novitiate, brother would be a community chef from January of 1956 until August of 1980. During those years he would move eight times and serve in six different community houses: Dujarie Hall (twice), Notre Dame; Sacred Heart Military Academy, Watertown, Wis.; Cathedral Hall (twice), Notre Dame; Holy Trinity High School, Chicago; Holy Cross Brothers Center, Notre Dame; and Dujarie House, Notre Dame.

Brother James Giles Kinsella, 77, is presently a resident of Schubert Villa at Holy Cross Village, Notre Dame. Brother James moved to Columbus Hall, Notre Dame, when LeMans Academy closed in Rolling Prairie in May 2003. After a short stay in the hospital in 2005, brother was moved to Schubert House for a couple of months and then to Schubert Villa in Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame where he presently lives.

Brother suffers from a number of serious health problems. A native of Richmond, Va., Brother James is known as Giles to his family. After graduating from high school at St. Joseph’s Academy, Collegeville, in 1947, Giles attended Earlham College, St. Joseph College and Xavier University before Uncle Sam drafted him in the Korean War in 1952. He served in the Army at Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas and in Big Delta, Alaska. To members of the community as well as students Brother James has a very dry sense of humor, which some have a difficulty understanding.

Giles entered the Juniorate at St. Edward’s University, Austin, Texas, in June 1955 and St. Joseph’s Novitiate, Rolling Prairie, Aug. 15, 1955. He took his first vows at St. Joseph’s Novitiate on Aug. 16, 1956.

Brother James Bagans, 69, a 1955 graduate of Catholic Central High School in Monroe, Mich., is the third of the six brothers celebrating jubilees this year who graduated from schools conducted by the Brothers of Holy Cross.

Brother James would have only four assignments in Holy Cross over the years.

Celebrating 40 years of religious vows is Brother Richard Keller, CSC.

Brother Richard Keller, 60, is currently on the staff at Gilmour Academy working with the student residence campus ministry, retreats and perfecting.

A native of Shelby, Ohio, Brother Richard graduated from Shelby High School in 1960 and then held various jobs before entering the Juniorate at Watertown, Wis., in October of 1964. He made his first vows at St. Joseph’s Novitiate in Rolling Prairie, Indiana, January 26, 1966.

For the next 11 years he would be chef in five different community apostles. He returned to the Holy Cross Brothers Center at Notre Dame in 1973 for four more years, before going to Gilmour Academy, where he has been for the last 29 years. Brother Richard Keller is a master chef of the American Culinary Institute.
Sisters of the Holy Cross celebrate 2,065 years of vowed life

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

NOTRE DAME — Thirty-six Sisters of the Holy Cross will celebrate their jubilee years in Holy Cross on July 23, 2006, in the Church of Our Lady of Loretto at Saint Mary’s College, South Bend, and Saint Mary’s Campus School, Notre Dame. These jubilarians will be the last of the 2,065 years of vowed life of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross. They will be the last jubilarians in the Congregation to enter the Congregation before Saint Mary’s College opened its doors in 1856.

75-year jubilees

Sisters celebrating 75 years of vowed life in the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross are Sisters Rosalba (Sister M. Francine), Patricia Jean Garver (Sister M. Marcella), Ann Therese McAndrew (Sister M. Flora), M. Susanna Collins, Marilla Dyer and M. Catherine Francis Ford.

• Sister Maria Carmencita Bateman taught at Holy Cross School, South Bend, 1946-49. St. Michael School, Plymouth, 1951; and St. Vincent de Paul School, Elkhart, 1950-53.

• Sister M. Rose Bernard Tarleton was a professor at Saint Mary’s College, Notre Dame, 1973-79.


• Sister M. Judith Anne Prindiville taught at Sacred Heart School, Fort Wayne, 1956-61 and 1970-71, and Holy Cross School, South Bend, 1980-81. From 1976 to 1980 she served on the staff of Mary’s Solitude, Notre Dame.

• Sister Regina Ciukaj taught at St. Vincent de Paul School, Elkhart, 1956-58, and Christ the King School, South Bend, 1959-61.

• Sister Ruth Evelyn Mauch taught at Holy Cross School, South Bend, 1956-57, and Saint Mary’s Campus School, Notre Dame, 1963-64.

• Sister Patricia Anne Clossey and Pamela Welch are silver jubilarians celebrating 25 years since their first profession.

• Sister Patricia Ann Clossey served at the Northeast Neighborhood Center, South Bend, 1978-79. She was a parish minister at St. Stephen’s Parish, South Bend, 1986-89.

• Sister Pamela Welch served as chaplain at Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, 1986-91, and as a compensation analyst, 2002-03. She also worked in human resources for Holy Cross Services Corporation, Notre Dame, 1994-2002.

• Sister M. Judith Anne McAndrew taught at Saint Joseph School in South Bend, 1946-51. She also served at Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, 1981-96, and did social work and pastoral ministry at Northwood Nursing Home, Holy Cross Care and Rehab, and Saint Joseph Care Center, all in South Bend, 1996-2001. Presently she volunteers at Our Lady of Peace Hospital in South Bend.

• Sister Patricia Jean Garver taught at St. Patrick School, South Bend, 1946-50 and 1962-68; Sacred Heart School, Fort Wayne, 1950-51; and St. Michael School, Plymouth, 1954-59. She also ministered to the aging at Saint Joseph’s Tower, South Bend, 1984-87. From 1987 to 1989 she served as a receptionist and hospitality person at Moreau Seminary, Notre Dame.

• Sister M. Mercia Scherer at Saint Joseph School in South Bend, 1965-69. She also worked in the office of Holy Cross School, South Bend, 1970-80, and served as a receptionist for Holy Cross Shared Services, Notre Dame, 1986-91, and as a chaplain at Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, 1986-91, and as a compensation analyst, 2002-03. She also worked in human resources for Holy Cross Services Corporation, Notre Dame, 1994-2002.

• Sister M. Francis Rose Ruppert, served in retreat, spiritual direction and prayer ministry at Mary’s Solitude, Notre Dame, 1988-90.

• Sister M. Leo Anthony Maynard served as administrator of Campus Management Services at Saint Mary’s, Notre Dame, 1973-81. She has served in retreat, prayer and pastoral ministry in South Bend and Notre Dame since 1981.

60-year jubilees

Jubilarians celebrating 60 years are Sisters Maria Carmencita Bateman, M. Rose Bernard Tarleton, Veronica Mattingly (Sister M. Pierina), Frances Clare Ugast, M. Anita Joseph Reeves, Lauretta Kearney (Sister M. Malachy), Ann Keating (Sister M. Rose Angela), Margaret Flaherty (Sister M. Alexis), M. Mercia Scherer, Patricia Jean Garver (Sister M. Margarita), Ann Therese McAndrew (Sister M. Florinda), M. Susanna Collins, Marilla Dyer and M. Catherine Francis Ford.

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MISHAWAKA — The Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka are honoring seven of their sisters who are celebrating jubilees of 60, 50, 40 and 25 years of religious life. Mother Theresia Bonzel, whose cause is being considered for beatification, founded the congregation in 1863 in Olpe, Germany. In 1875, the first sisters came to Lafayette at the invitation of Bishop Joseph Dwenger, who was bishop of the then Diocese of Fort Wayne. Bishop John D’Arcy will celebrate the eucharistic liturgy for the sister jubilarians on June 24 at St. Francis Convent in Mishawaka.

60th anniversary

Sister M. George Ann Fronick was born in St. Louis and entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Francis on Aug. 12, 1946. Sister George Ann ministered in domestic work in the convents where the sisters resided, including St. Francis Convent in Mishawaka and St. John the Baptist in South Bend. She retired to Our Lady of Angels Convent in Mishawaka in 1990.

Sister M. Cecilia Gotfredson was born in Detroit and entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Francis on Aug. 12, 1946. Sister Cecilia also ministered in domestic work in the convents where our sisters resided, including St. Anthony’s in Louisville and St. Francis Convent in Mishawaka. She retired to Our Lady of Angels Convent in 1990.

Golden jubilee

Sister M. Doris Ann France was born in Fort Wayne and entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Francis on Aug. 12, 1946. Sister Doris Ann ministered as a nurse and director of nursing service in various health care facilities staffed by the sisters, including Our Lady of Angels in Mishawaka. Sister presently ministers at the information desk in St. Francis Hospital in Beech Grove.

40th anniversary

Sister M. Robertann Lathrop was born in Detroit and entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Francis on Aug. 12, 1946. Sister Robertann ministered as a first grade teacher for many years in several schools staffed by the sisters. She presently is retired from teaching but assists the sisters in various ways at St. Francis Convent in Mishawaka.

40th anniversary

Sister M. Arlene Gonsiorowski was born in Hammond and entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Francis on Aug. 12, 1956. For many years Sister Arlene ministered in several schools staffed by the sisters, including St. Mary School in Huntington and Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne as teacher and at Central Catholic High School in Lafayette and Marian High School in Mishawaka as counselor. Sister Arlene is presently pastoral associate at St. Ann Parish in Gary.

Silver jubilee

Sister M. Paula Skelly was born in Chicago and entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Francis from Highland on Aug. 10, 1981. Sister Paula has taught in several elementary schools staffed by the sisters and presently is teaching at St. Mary School in Griffith.
 Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ celebrate jubilees

DONALDSON — Eighteen Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ are celebrating a jubilee this year. A community celebration will be held June 18 in the Ancilla Domini Chapel. Blessed Catherine Kasper, at the request of Bishop Luers, sent eight Poor Handmaids to the Fort Wayne Diocese from their foundation in Dornbach, Germany. These sisters staffed a school and cared for the sick in Hessen Cassel.

75-year jubilarians
Sister Carmeline Parisi has dedicated her 75 years as a religious to the care of others. In the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, she was a childcare provider at St. Vincent Villa and a cook at St. Paul, Fort Wayne. She has also worked as an aide in the Catherine Kasper Home, Donaldson. Sister Carmeline retired to the Catherine Kasper Home in 1990.

Sister Maricita Petrites is also celebrating her 75-year jubilee. Her ministries have included teaching at St. Monica and St. Agnes Schools in Mishawaka, and caring for the elderly at Vincent House in Elkhart. She served at various missions in Indiana, Illinois, and Minnesota. Sister Maricita retired to the Catherine Kasper Home in 1991.

Sister Ruth Schroeder is also celebrating 75 years as a Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ. She was a teacher and organist at St. Monica School and St. Joseph School in Mishawaka. She also taught in Illinois, and played the organ and provided service to the community at Catherine Kasper Home, where she retired in 1993.

70-year jubilarians
Sister Frances Herum is a 70-year jubilarian. She taught school in Indiana and Illinois her entire career. Among the local schools where she taught are St. Monica and St. Joseph, Mishawaka and St. Patrick, Arcola. Sister Frances retired to the Catherine Kasper Home in 1993.

As a teacher, Sister Johnilda Mannhard served 20 years in many schools in Illinois and Indiana. She ministered at St. Vincent Villa, Mishawaka and at St. Paul, Fort Wayne. In various locations she provided childcare, home care, dietary services, and currently community services for the Poor Handmaids. Sister Johnilda lives at Convent Ancilla Domini, Donaldson.

Sister Rose Marie Kalil was born in Mishawaka. In her 70 years as a Poor Handmaid, she served both the young and elderly, in childcare and as a retirement home. Sister Rose Marie served at St. Vincent Villa, Fort Wayne and St. Joseph Hospital and Healthy Family Center, Mishawaka. She retired to the Catherine Kasper Home in 1995.

Sister Rosemary Wagner, a lifelong educator, ministered at various schools as principal and teacher in Indiana and Illinois including St. Joseph in Fort Wayne and St. Joseph in Mishawaka. She retired to the Catherine Kasper Home in 1996.

60-year jubilarians
Sister Antoinette Volk worked in dietary services for 44 years at various schools and hospitals including St. Joseph Hospital, Fort Wayne, and Convent Ancilla Domini, Donaldson. Thereafter, she became the coordinator of hospitality and a companion to the elderly. Sister Antoinette retired to Catherine Kasper Home in 2001.

Sister Cecile Wisman has served in many ministries including education, both as a teacher and as a principal, as an organist, the business manager of Ancilla College, and later as a volunteer. Among the schools where she taught were St. Monica, Mishawaka; Ancilla Domini High School, Donaldson; and St. Vincent Villa, Fort Wayne. She retired in 2001 and currently lives at Catherine Kasper Home.

Sister Celine Tomasic was a dedicated teacher for over 60 years at various schools in Indiana and Illinois. She now lives at St. James the Great, Convent, Hobart, and does parish ministry.

For many years Sister Claudine Magolske provided nursing care in various locations including St. Joseph Hospital, Fort Wayne. For the past 35 years she served at the Poor Handmaid Community in Mishawaka and has retired to the Catherine Kasper Home. Sister Claudine was born in Mishawaka.

From 1979 - 1985, Sister Josephine Effert served on the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Leadership Team in Donaldson. Other positions she held include teacher, principal, organist and pastoral care provider. Currently she is a hostess and assists in the administration office at St. Elizabeth Hospital, Chicago.

Sister Jude Henken has served in pastoral services almost her entire religious life. She ministered at St. Paul School, St. Joseph Hospital and St. Vincent Villa, Fort Wayne, St. Monica, Mishawaka; and Convent Ancilla Domini, Donaldson. Sister Jude retired to Catherine Kasper Home in 2005.

Sister Julia Barry has served in childcare, parish ministry and education in her 60 years as a Poor Handmaid. She served at St. Vincent Villa, Fort Wayne; St. Bavo, Mishawaka and at various positions at Convent Ancilla Domini and Catherine Kasper Home, Donaldson. She currently resides at Convent Ancilla Domini.

Caring for the young, and elderly has been Sister Leandra Welling’s ministry as a Poor Handmaid. Among the places she has served is St. Vincent Villa, Fort Wayne and at Maria Center, Donaldson as director. Sister Leandra currently resides at Convent Ancilla Domini and provides service to the PHJC Community.

Sister Mary Conrad Kerkhoff has been a teacher at St. Vincent Villa, Fort Wayne, and St. Joseph School, Mishawaka, among other schools. She has been vice-president of mission effectiveness at St. Joseph Medical Center, Fort Wayne, and has served the PHJC community as provincial. Currently she resides at Convent Ancilla Domini.

50-year jubilarians
During her 50 years as a Poor Handmaid, Sister Kathleen Morrissey has been in education and ministry to the elderly. She has taught at St. Bavo, Mishawaka; Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne; and Ancilla Domini High School and Ancilla College, Donaldson. She has served the elderly at Miller’s Merry Manor, Walkerton, and as the director of Maria Center, Donaldson. Sister Kathleen resides at Convent Ancilla Domini.

25-year jubilarians
Sister Sharlene Kakkattil is celebrating her 25-year jubilee and lives at Marian Convent, Fort Wayne. She is from the PHJC India Province and is a native of the state of Kerala, India. Sister Sharlene is in the United States to study clinical pastoral education. Prior to coming to the U.S., she was a nurse and served in the formation of new PHJC community members.

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(Tienes sed de más?)
Are you willing to risk for others?
(¿Te arriesgas por los demás?)
Opportunities await you!
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Sr. Lautina Kahne (Español) 630-350-9052
HUNTINGTON — Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters whose motherhouse, Victory Noll, is in Huntington, will celebrate the jubilees of 15 of their sisters. The jubilee celebrations will be held on May 24, for the 60, 70, 75 and 80-year jubilarians, and on Aug. 5 for the golden jubilarians (50 years). The congregation was founded in 1922 as a missionary community and the sisters minister in the United States and Bolivia.

80-year jubilarians
Sister Monica Ulubari, OLVM, was born in Bueyeros, Bolivia. She served as teacher in Panama and returned to Bolivia in 1970 and entered the community from Mt. Angel, Ore. Her past ministries include home visiting, census taking, educational ministry at the homebound and catechetical subjects. She currently resides at Victory Noll and is involved in prayer ministry.

75-year jubilarians
Sister Elaine Sullivan, OLVM was born in Independence, Kans., and entered Victory Noll from DeQueen, Ark. She served in New Mexico, Arizona, California, Texas, Ohio and Gary. Her ministries include home visiting, coordinator of religious education, pastoral care, catechetics and community administration. She currently resides at Victory Noll and is involved in prayer ministry.

70-year jubilarians
Sister Agatha Gerlits, OLVM, hails from York, Neb., and entered Victory Noll from Mt. Angel, Ore. Her past ministries include home visiting, census taking, educational ministry at the homebound and catechetical subjects. She currently resides at Victory Noll where she is involved in prayer ministry.

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Victory Noll Sisters celebrate 15 jubilarians

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Sisters of Providence to honor jubilarians

SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS — Fourteen Sisters of Providence are celebrating their golden jubilee this year. They will be honored during a eucharistic liturgy at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, June 24, in the Church of the Immaculate Conception at the motherhouse.

There are Sisters Maureen Abbott, Agnes Clare Buckley, Catherine Buster, Ann Casper, Mary Ann Fox, Joanne Golding, Mary Adrian Jacoby, Ellen Kohoe, Mary Frances Keusel, Joan Kirkpatrick, Irma Meuse, Mary Louise O’Connor, Patricia Paolinelli and Dorothy Souligny.

Two are natives of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, and they also formerly ministered there.

Sister Ann Casper is a native of Huntington. She currently ministers as executive director of the Office of Congregational Advancement at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

Sister Ann, the former Sister Kenneth Ann, entered the congregation in 1956, from St. Patrick Parish in Fort Wayne. She professed perpetual vows Aug. 15, 1963.


Diamond jubilarians

Twenty-two Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, are celebrating their diamond jubilee this year. They will be honored during a eucharistic liturgy at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 8, in the Church of the Immaculate Conception at the motherhouse.

They are Sisters Adele Beacham, Anita Bechert, Joanna Brown, Joanne Collins, Mary Mark Dede, Ann Doherty, Michael Therese Elliott, Marie Alexis Geiger, Marie Brendan Harvey, Caroline Hatch, Mary Louis Henmo, Annette Cecile Holmes, Rosemary Khusaen Dolores Ann Linhart, Adele Mann, Florence Marie Maxwell, Frances Maureen McGrocy, Adele Anne Miriam, Rita Ann Roethle, Lois Ann Stoiber, Mary Maxine Teipen and Margaret Ann Williams.

Sister Rita Ann Roethle is a native of Fort Wayne. She currently ministers in prayer at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

Sister Mary Mark Dede is a native of Terre Haute. She currently ministers as a volunteer in the Clearwater, Fla., area. In Fort Wayne, Sister Mary Mark was a teacher at Central Catholic High School (1952-1953).

Sister Michael Therese Elliott is a native of Medford, Mass. She currently ministers as a member of the Residential Services Staff at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

Sister Judith received her bachelor’s degree at St. Francis College, Joliet, Ill.; masters’ degrees from De Paul University, Chicago, and in formative spirituality from De Paul University, Pittsburgh, Pa. During her years as an educator, Sister Judith taught and served as principal at schools in Illinois. In addition to being an educator, sister was novice and postulant director and presently is the director of the temporary professed.

In 1989, Sister was appointed as vice chancellor for the Diocese of Joliet and has served as chancellor of the Diocese of Joliet since 1990 to the present.

Sister Judith Davies, OFS

Sister Judith Davies, OFS, will celebrate her 50th jubilee on June 10 at the motherhouse of the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Frankfort, Ill.

Sister Judith was born in Fort Wayne, on Oct. 2, 1940 to Harry L. Davies and Mildred C. (Weller) Davies. Her family belonged to St. Jude Parish, Hessen Cassel, in Fort Wayne.

On Sept. 2, 1956, she entered the convent and was received as a novice on June 21, 1957. Sister Judith made first profession of vows on June 22, 1959, and final profession of vows on June 22, 1962.

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Sister Judith Davies, OFS

Sister Judith Davies, OFS, will celebrate her 50th jubilee on June 10 at the motherhouse of the Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Frankfort, Ill.

Sister Judith was born in Fort Wayne, on Oct. 2, 1940 to Harry L. Davies and Mildred C. (Weller) Davies. Her family belonged to St. Jude Parish, Hessen Cassel, in Fort Wayne.

On Sept. 2, 1956, she entered the convent and was received as a novice on June 21, 1957. Sister Judith made first profession of vows on June 22, 1959, and final profession of vows on June 22, 1962.

Sister Judith received her bachelor’s degree at St. Francis College, Joliet, Ill.; masters’ degrees from De Paul University, Chicago, and in formative spirituality from De Paul University, Pittsburgh, Pa. During her years as an educator, Sister Judith taught and served as principal at schools in Illinois. In addition to being an educator, sister was novice and postulant director and presently is the director of the temporary professed.

In 1989, Sister was appointed as vice chancellor for the Diocese of Joliet and has served as chancellor of the Diocese of Joliet since 1990 to the present.
Pray for more vocations

Lord, help me to know my vocation. That is a prayer that Bishop John M. D'Arcy has encouraged young people to pray every day. Time and again, the bishop takes people opportunities — like the all-schools Masses, confirmations, high school visits — to remind young people that prayer is vital to discern one's vocation.

Sunday, as Today's Catholic made media ordination coverage plans with Bishop D'Arcy at the Basilica of St. Joseph in Fort Wayne, their respective geographical areas. Diocesan vocation directors are always pushing for more vocations. The church needs many good quality men to come away from their ministry, there is a real need for more than just a few good men. The church needs many good quality men to come forward as well as many good quality women to devote their lives to holy orders or religious life.

The final phase of the diocesan ordination on Sunday only added to the grandeur and significance of the day. Surrounded by family and friends of the candidates, Bishop D'Arcy ordained two top-quality men, Jason Freiburger and Bob Lengerich, as transitional deacons. In 2007, God willing, these two men will be ordained to the priesthood. Later this year, the ordination of Tony Steenacker will take place at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. There is a real sense of hope at Josephinum. The men studying theology there, to prepare for the priesthood, are truly good quality men.

One striking account of these men is that they come from good Catholic homes — where the vocation begins. They come from families where they pray together, attend Mass together every week, make the faith more than something they live for one hour a week on Sunday, but live throughout the week. Both men had family members who were religious. One had a dad who went to the seminary at one point. Not only did these men have the prayers of their moms and dads to support them, they had the prayers of their parents, siblings, nieces and nephews, aunts and uncles, great aunts and great uncles, providing an extra cushion of support.

Jason Freiburger told Today's Catholic that he was grateful by the amount of prayers he received not only locally, but throughout the world. A visit to Europe last year with the Josephinum Choir brought them to several worlds and overseas.

Sometimes the good qualities of priest candidate can be obvious — sometimes more obvious to those around him than to the individual himself. That is why it is always good to plant a seed for someone who may have good priest qualities.

Bob Lengerich’s situation, his sister told Today's Catholic she teased her brother when he was just four years old that he would be a priest because he wanted to pray the rosary with his mom and dad. When a priestess sister at St. Vincent de Paul School in Elkhart encouraged Bob to think about the priesthood, he would say, “No, I want to be an astronaut.” He was serious enough to send away for information from NASA.

Throughout his life, Bob had a compassion for those who needed help. But even Bob said he was surprised when his parish of St. Vincent asked for names to be submitted to the vocations office of young men who would qualify as good candidates for the priesthood and Bob’s name came up and over and over. He met with Father Galic, director of vocations, and the diocese has been graced. So Bob set his goals beyond the heights of the moon.

Bob told Today's Catholic, the young men in our seminaries are discerning their vocation. Please keep them in your prayers and, as we celebrate World Day of Prayer for Vocations in this issue of Today's Catholic, pray that other good people, quality people, will discover and follow their vocation.

Also, as we celebrate the jubilarians in this issue, take time to say thank you for a job well done. Let us help our pastors and dear sisters know they are appreciated, loved and in our prayers.

DaVinci Code confusion clarified

Next week, Today's Catholic will run a special section on the DaVinci Code, a fictional book by Dan Brown being brought to movies May 19. The movie is directed by Ron Howard and stars Tom Hanks. You can’t walk into a bookstore or listen to the radio without being faced with a lot of DaVinci material. We hope the section will clarify some of the issues from the book and movie. Whether one is a clergy or friends may have. With the interest in this movie and book, this is a great opportunity to evangelize and we encourage all to carefully read the section created and distributed by Our Sunday Visitor newspaper in Huntington and the Today’s Catholic.


Our late Holy Father, Pope John Paul II, is known for his devotion to Our Lady of Fatima, as Father Adam chronicles so well in his letter. That same Holy Father also said that Medjugorje “is the fulfillment of Fatima,” indicating his belief that there was a direct relationship between these two. Pope John Paul II also said, “If I were not the pope, I would be in Medjugorje,” indicating his understanding and appreciation of what was happening in that remote village. His statement also underlines the Holy Father’s respect for the church’s process of verifying such apparitions, and how he did not want to circumvent the system in place by visiting the site before the study was completed.

In such investigations, the church can make one of three pronouncements — that there is some supernatural occurring and it is worthy of belief, that there is nothing supernatural occurring and should not be believed, or that further investigation is still needed before a final and definitive decision is rendered. This third option is the current status of the church’s investigation of the apparition of Medjugorje.

While the investigation continues, Pope John Paul II did not forbid pilgrims from visiting Medjugorje. In fact, in some of his statements, it would appear that the late Holy Father actually encouraged such pilgrimages. While the Holy Father suggested that, until a final decision is given by the Vatican, the church and priests should not organize such pilgrimages on their own, he also made it quite clear that they should definitely accompany pilgrims on such pilgrimages, acting as spiritual directors to those traveling.

It troubles me greatly to see what might be perceived by some as some type of “competition” between apparitions and/or pilgrimage sites, as just as it would trouble me greatly to see the same type of “competition” existing between various forms of prayer and/or spirituality — such as charismatic vs. traditional, Cursillo vs. Christ Renews His Parish, etc.

As a pastor, I am always happy to help people coming back to Christ, the church and the sacraments, and I welcome whatever the prayer form or program that can have such an effect on the lives of the faithful.

Pastor, St. John the Baptist Parish
Fort Wayne

Prayer

Bishop receives praise about statement

Once again Bishop D’Arcy inspires us with his cogent and insightful comments on the unfortunate situation at Notre Dame. We are blessed to have a pastoral leader in this diocese who is true to the church leadership in Rome.

Unfortunately, the cow seems to be out of the barn at Notre Dame. The sad legacy of the prior administration is a largely non-Catholic faction that, in many cases, has no equity or interest in a Catholic character.

Father Daryl Rybicki
Pastor, St. John the Baptist Parish
Fort Wayne
Jesus is the good shepherd

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

4th Sunday of Easter
Jn 10:1-18

Again this weekend, the church offers a selection from the Acts of the Apostles as the first reading for Mass.

In this reading Peter preaches. The setting is Jerusalem where a Christian community has formed, clustered around Peter and the other apostles. Prayer, total devotion to the Lord, bold charity, and a sense of unity characterize this community.

The community is outward looking, seeing as its solemn responsibility the need to make Jesus known far beyond the circle of believers.

It is important in all these stories to note that Peter speaks for the other apostles, and for the community itself. While Acts elsewhere makes clear that this Jerusalem community greatly revered all the apostles, Peter is quite the prominent apostle.

He was acknowledged as leader because the community saw him as having been commissioned as such by Jesus. Acts says that Peter was “filled with the Holy Spirit.” Peter was speaking in and with the power of the God of Israel.

He emphasizes that healing a cripple, recalled earlier in Acts, was accomplished with the healing ability of Jesus. Of course, it was a divine ability.

In this sermon, Peter insists that no salvation is possible without Jesus, because Jesus gave Jesus to the world as the redeemer of humankind.

The First Epistle of John is the next reading.

These epistles, attributed to John but actually in the tradition of John, all have an eloquence and depth that is most appealing. The passage offered in this reading in fact is rather brief, only two verses, but it nonetheless is most expressive.

It reassuringly declares that believers believe in something less than God’s children. The imagery is strong. No other human relationship so directly and well conveys the notion of love, caring and life giving, than that of a parent and child.

The reading also says that those who are worthy of being God’s children one day will see God. In this vision, they will possess everlasting life.

St. John’s Gospel supplies the last reading, and it is a glorious revelation about the Lord Jesus. At the time of Christ, Roman Palestine was by and large an agricultural nation. Most people had their livelihood in farming or in herding. Sheep herding was a major industry.

Thus, when Jesus referred to shepherds and sheep, everyone instantly knew the message implied. Everyone knew what herding sheep was all about.

Sheep are gentle animals, vegetable and not at all aggressive. They also are quite vulnerable. They need their shepherds. Good shepherds care for the sheep, helping them to overcome the vulnerability created by their meekness and lack of cunning.

Jesus, in this passage, compares us to the sheep. We are vulnerable. He is the Good Shepherd. He lays down life itself for us. He wishes that none of us be lost. He wishes that all of us be securely united with God, and protected by God.

Reflection

In the Gospels, Jesus on several occasions uses the strong image of the good shepherd. It is an image in which Christians over the centuries have found most appealing, since it is an image that is so expressive and so comforting.

This weekend’s liturgy builds on the image presented in the marvelous reading from the Fourth Gospel. When the superb literary technique of this Gospel is added to the process, the image is stunning and beckoning in its brilliance.

It is vital that believers, indeed all people, realize that humans are very much like sheep. In so many ways, humans are vulnerable. The greatest vulnerability is the human reluctance to admit inadequacy and personal limitation.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He overcomes human failure. He suffices for the vulnerability. In Jesus alone is eternal life.

READINGS

Fourth Week of Easter
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26 Ps 87:1-7 Jn 10:22-28
Wednesday: Acts 12:24-13:5 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 in 12:44-50
Friday: Acts 13:26-33 Ps 2-6 11 Jn 14-16

CATEQUIZ’EM

By Dominic Campion

May 1 is the feast of St. Joseph the Laborer. This quiz looks at what the Catechism of the Catholic Church has to say about work and the greater social context societies that support it.

1. Most of the data on work in the catechism is to be found in:
   a. Part I: “Who is the Pope?”
   b. Part III: Life in Christ
   c. Part IV: “Pray unceasingly”

2. Most of the discussion about justice in society falls under this commandment:
   a. the first
   b. the third
   c. the fourth

3. The catechism teaches that even before looking at specific concepts in social order, people should accept that all people are:
   a. made in the image and likeness of God
   b. to be judged by their productivity
   c. to be paid at least 50 percent of the average wage in a country

4. The catechism uses this phrase to refer to keeping in mind in society, respect for persons and what is due them:
   a. social justice
   b. subsidiarity
   c. liberation from theology

5. In general the catechism tells us that society should be geared towards the:
   a. church
   b. conversion of the masses
   c. individual

6. To sum up the idea that decisions should always be made at the lowest possible level, the Catechism of the Catholic Church uses this term:
   a. solidarity
   b. subsidiarity
   c. subsistence

7. The Catechism of the Catholic Church makes clear that although Catholics should in general respect authorities, they do not have to do so when:
   a. the authorities are elected by less than an absolute majority
   b. the rules or commands of authorities are illegitimate and immoral
   c. the Catholic Church has communicated the head of state

8. Which of the following is not considered necessary for a well-balanced society?
   a. respect for each person
   b. social well being and development
   c. institutionalized pacifism

9. The Catechism of the Catholic Church discusses the preferential option for the poor. What does this mean?
   a. When in doubt, wages should be increased to a new minimum.
   b. Poor people are more moral than rich people.
   c. When making economic policies, society should focus greatest attention on the needs of the least affluent.

10. The church rejects discrimination because:
    a. discrimination is a no-no because the Bible tells them so.
    b. the church is made up of many different ethnic groups.
    c. institutionalized pacifism

11. The church accepts the need for fair wages. Therefore it sees as acceptable:
    a. collective bargaining and unionization
    b. the one party state
    c. colonialism

12. The church sees part of our social responsibility as including these two items:
    a. Death and taxes
    b. Voting and paying taxes
    c. Tax evasion and representation

13. This doctrine addressed in the Catechism of the Catholic Church reviews when war is acceptable:
    a. the just war doctrine
    b. the balance of war and peace doctrine
    c. the doctrine of the arms race

14. Why does the catechism not simply state an amount to be considered a just wage?
    a. because it is not their function and it would vary from place to place
    b. it is not their function
    c. colonialism

15. The Catechism of the Catholic Church accepts that nations can compel service in social context societies that support it.
    a. made in the image and likeness of God
    b. to be judged by their productivity
    c. to be paid at least 50 percent of the average wage in a country

ANSWERS:
1. b, c, 2. c, 3. b, 4. c, 5. a, 6. a, 7. c, 8. c, 9. b, 10. c, 11. b, 12. b, 13. a, 14. b, 15. b
Mary’s perpetual virginity is revelation, and true

I was very disturbed after a discussion on Mary with my two daughters. They believe she had more children after Jesus. They believe she is called the Virgin Mary only at the birth of Jesus and did not remain a virgin after his birth. In my way of thinking, she can not today be called the Virgin Mary if this is true. I do not believe this is true. Please give me your church’s response to this. J.C. South Bend

The Scripture passages that may seem to pose a problem with the church teaching that Mary remained a virgin and had no other children after Jesus are those that refer to Jesus’s “brothers and sisters” (see Mt 12:46; Mt 13:55; Mk 3:31-34; Mk 6:3; Lk 8:19-20; Jn 2:12; 7:3, 5, 10; Acts 1:14; 1 Cor. 9:5). However, it must be remembered that the New Testament was not written in English. It was written in ancient Greek. Also, it must be remembered that the language

that was spoken in Jesus’ time was Aramaic. Why is all this talk about language important? Because both in Greek and in Aramaic, the words that are translated into English as “brothers and sisters” had a wide range of meaning in the New Testament and in Jesus’ time. Those words could mean brothers and sisters, half brothers and sisters, other close relatives, close relatives, or even close friends of the family. So when the New Testament speaks of Jesus’s “brothers and sisters,” we actually do not know exactly to whom this refers. It certainly could mean cousins, close family friends, etc. There is no clear meaning from Scripture. Therefore, one cannot conclude simply on the basis of the New Testament alone that Mary and Joseph had other children. It is interesting to note that nowhere in the New Testament are these “brothers and sisters” referred to as Mary’s children. Also, why

would Jesus have given Mary to St. John at the foot of the cross if Jesus had other brothers and sisters?

We believe as Catholics that divine revelation comes to us not only through sacred Scripture but also through sacred tradition. Sacred tradition is the living transmission of the message of the Gospel in the Church. In other words, the truth of God comes to us not only through what is written in the Scriptures but also through the Church. The Church through the ages. Jesus promises us that the Holy Spirit will always keep the church as a whole in truth. With this being said, Mary’s perpetual virginity has always been believed by the church. It is part of this sacred tradition which is guarded by the Holy Spirit.

So, in summary, the church as a whole has always believed this, and the Scriptures in no way say differently. Mary’s perpetual virginity is the revelation of God, and it is true.

Did Jesus have a sense of humor? MW, Fort Wayne

I think that it is most reasonable to conclude that Jesus did have a sense of humor. Having a sense of humor is part of what it means to be human. We believe that Jesus was truly human as well as truly divine. Therefore, it makes perfect sense that he would have had a sense of humor. However, this sense of humor

would not be corrupted as with the rest of us who get caught up through humor in trivialities and sometimes sinful vulgarities. His sense of humor would have been most authentic, pure, human and beautiful.

The ‘Truce of 1968,’ once again

In 1968, Cardinal Patrick O’Boyle of Washington, D.C., disciplined 19 priests who had publicly dissented from Pope Paul VI’s teaching in the encyclical “Humanae Vitae.” Three years later, the Vatican’s Congregation for the Clergy decreed that Cardinal O’Boyle should have enforced those penalties against those priests who informed the cardinal privately that they agreed that the church’s teaching on “the objective evil of contraception” was “an authentic expression of the magisterium.” The congregation explicitly avoided requiring that the priests, who had disputed publicly, retract their dissent publicly. A new biography of O’Boyle, “Steadfast in the Faith” (Catholic University of America Press), suggests that the decision not to require a public retraction was made by Paul VI himself.

In his O’Boyle biography, Morris J. McGregor, who’s not immediately “The Washington Case.” His narrative is based in large part on interviews with those who had personal knowledge of the negotiations between the Archdiocese of Washington and the Congregation for the Clergy (then led by an American, Cardinal John J. Wright). But McGregor badly misstates my views on what I termed the “Truce of 1968” when he writes that, like others, I “have claimed that removing the sanctions sent a message to the laity that resulted in its widespread rejection of ‘Humanae Vitae.’”

I have claimed no such thing. What I did argue in my 2002 book, “The Courage to Be Catholic,” and what I would still argue today, is that the Truce of 1968 (exemplified by the settlement of the Washington Case) taught various lessons to various sectors of the church in America.

The Truce of 1968 taught theologians, priests and other church professionals that dissent from authoritative teaching was, essentially, cost-free. The Truce of 1968 taught bishops inclined to defend authoritarian Catholic teaching vigorously that they should think twice about doing so, if controversy was likely to follow; Rome, fearing schism, was nervous about public action against dissent. The result, as I put it in “Courage,” was “that a generation of Catholic bishops came to think of themselves less as authoritative teachers than as moderators of an ongoing dialogue whose primary responsibility was to keep everyone in the conversation and in play.”

And Catholic lay people learned, as I wrote, “that virtually everything in church law was questionable: doctrine, morals, the priesthood, the episcopate, the legal system. Wherever a teachable moment toward cathedrals Catholicism got a decisive boost from the Truce of 1968: if the bishops and the Holy See were not going to defend seriously the church’s teaching on this matter, then picking-and-choosing in a supermarket of doctrinal and moral possibilities seemed, not simply all right, but actually admirable – an exercise in maturity, as was often suggested at the time.

Did the Truce of 1968 cause a “widespread rejection of ‘Humanae Vitae’” among Catholics? Not happened before the Vatican intervention in the Washington Case, and no serious observer doubts that there was widespread rejection of the classic Catholic teaching on artificial contraception before “Humanae Vitae” was issued. What the Truce of 1968 did do, however, was make it far harder for those who opposed it to explain and defend church teaching to do so.

That’s a Good Question

Some have recently been pleased to describe the Truce of 1968 as a “neoconservative myth,” as if that overused adjective explains everything (or anything). But in the four years since Catholic scandal time dominated the headlines, those who dismiss my argument as fantasy have yet to propose a credible, comprehensive, alternative explanation of the crisis of clerical sexual abuse and episcopal malfeasance. “The Courage To Be Catholic.” I suggested that a large-scale breakdown of ecclesiastical discipline had been one crucial factor in creating the crisis, and that the Truce of 1968 was one important moment in that disciplinary breakdown. Those who deem this interpretation of history a “myth” should offer an alternative account from which we all might learn. In four years, they have failed to do so.

Why, is an interesting question.

The Catholic Difference

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

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S P I R I T U A L I T Y

George Weigel
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BY GINNY KOHRMAN

Opening prayer

A Prayer To Our Lady of Light

Most Blessed Mother, be with me as I approach the Lord this day, that I may learn to quiet the clamor within my soul, that I may leave behind my worries and questions, that I may empty myself of all longing and need so that I may become an image of that holy silence and hear what God has to say to me within my heart. Help me to approach all people in this way, that I may hear truly what each one has to say, without inserting myself into their messages, and so come to closer communion with each one. Amen.

— “100 Names of Mary: Stories and Prayers,” St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2001

Scripture: Mk 12: 41-44

Commentary

As I awkwardly slide through the realities of mid-life, or slight-ly beyond, the authentic gift of feminine growth is increas-ingly confident and thankful for my God-given gift of femininity. Retrospectively, I now realize that at times I have felt unsure of my role and purpose in life as a mother and a wife. If I were to try to pinpoint an exact reason for feeling like a “fish out of the water,” I am sure I would mass or skew those influences that have caused such uncertain-ty. Regardless of my reasons, I have talked with other women who experience or have experi-enced a similar restlessness. It would seem as if the mean-ing of the authentic gift of femininity is hidden under the bushel basket of modern culture. Perhaps women who have been victimized, hurt or ignored have responded radically to the patriarch-al hierarchy of the institutional church or to some other kind of dominance. It would seem that important feminine relations to the feminine genius or authentic femininity have been put aside, trivialized or perhaps rejected by those that teach within the church. There really is no benefit in pointing fingers at those who may be directly or indirectly at fault. I have come to believe, through struggle, that cour-ageous, hopeful, gifted women look for new inroads and opportunities to inspire positive changes in the hearts of others. I have come to realize that my own restlessness was a result of worldly exterior pressures and not those convictions that have been imprinted on my heart.

A heart renewed

On Aug. 15, 1988, Pope John Paul II began his apostolic letter, “Mulieris Dignitatem,” by emphasizing these closing remarks to the Second Vatican Council. The church was told: “The hour is coming, in fact has come, when the education of women is being acknowledged in its fullness, the hour in which women acquire in the world an influence, an effect and a power never hitherto achieved. That is why at this moment when the human race is undergoing so deep a transformation, women imbued with a spirit of the Gospel can do so much to aid humanity in not falling.”

When I first heard these words of empowerment and hope at a Catholic Women’s Conference in Chicago, my eyes were opened to the many possibilities of that call and I began to learn from others just what this meant for women of faith. I was excited to think that the church truly recognized the incredible role and power of women that we had the ability to “aid humanity in not falling.” I, as a woman of faith, had never been told that my vocation could make such a difference for humanity. A veil of negative emotions was lifted from my mind and heart, and I began to ponder the possibilities of my femininity. Could it be that I, myself, had failed to understand what the “fullness of the vocation” of women really meant?

Mary-Theotokos — perfect femininity

As I continued my search regarding the fullness of the vocation of women, I was com-forted by what I found in readings of Pope John Paul II and those who took the time to ponder his words. In “Mulieris Dignitatum,” John Paul II writes: “The dignity of every human being and the vocation correspon-ding to that dignity find their definitive measure in union with God. Mary, the woman of the Bible, is the most complete expression of this dignity and vocation. For no human being, male or female, created in the image and likeness of God, can in any way attain fulfillment apart from this image and likeness.”

“Mulieris Dignitatum” p. 5.

Mary, who was united and filled with the very life of God, Jesus Christ, models for women, the fullness of our feminine voca-tion. Mary, by her decision to become the Mother of God, by her sincere gift of self, perfectly models both spiritual and physi-cal motherhood. She, through her fiat and the power of the Holy Spirit, radiates and brings to others the very life of Jesus Christ.

Women, like Mary, are asked to allow the grace of God to per-meate them with the spirit of Christ, so that through their whole being, there is to be witness to the pres-ence of Christ to others. Women, like Mary, have the incredible gift and potential to become both spiritual and physical mothers in order “to aid humanity in not falling.” What a gift!

Physical and spiritual motherhood

Johnnette Benkovic in her book called “Full of Grace” writes: “Everything about woman diminished ornegated by a life of diminished or negated by a life of work. From the delicate intricacy of the female body to the complex artistry of our emotional makeup, women have been chosen by God to participate in his exquisite and sovereign act of bringing, nurtur-ing and sustaining life.”

Because we are made up of both body and soul, women’s ability to give life takes on a physical and a spiritual reality. Our female bodies are designed by God to accept and direct the process of life through the mutual self-donation of husband and wife. The feminine spirit is life giving as well.

Johnnette explains, “By virtue of the gift of our gender, each of us is intertwined with another. Just as our bodies have been created with the capacity to bear physical life, our souls have been especial-ly created by God to bring spiritual life to the world. Thus, our call to motherhood is in no way diminished or negated by a life of celibacy or an inability to physi-cally bear children. All women are meant to bring life.”

In the Gospel story of the gener-ous widow, Jesus sits at the Beautiful Gate of the Temple somewhere near the Court of the Women. Jesus is very impressed with the total gift of the poor women to the temple treasury. Her faith in God, was so great, that she literally gave all that she had. Spiritual mothers, women filled with the love of God, natu-rally respond to others in a nurtur-ing, affirming, life-giving way. Women’s hearts and souls are to become conveyors of God’s love to the world. The Blessed Virgin Mary models for all women the fullness of this feminine nature.

Living authentic femininity

If women are to claim their feminine vocation, it is important that we look for ourselves to find the image of that person who was so marvelously created by God with inexhaustible potential. When we routinely look to the world or to others for definition, we miss the dimension that God has asked us to fulfill. We will more fully recognize our feminine vocation as “mother,” life givers who choose to unite ourselves with the Creator of life. Our occupations, vocations and circumstances should not negate the inner call of motherhood, but should activate within us the desire to bring life through Jesus Christ to others. When we surren-der our lives to Christ, as did Mary, the creativity and power of our “mission” as women will be greater than we can imagine. Our families, workplaces, churches and all of society will begin to reflect the love of God made pres-ent through each of us. Women have been given a great gift. Perhaps it is time to reclaim the divine call of motherhood.

Evangelization and action challenge

For interior renewal

Reflect on those special women who have made a differ-ence in your life, either physically or spiritually. Continue the legacy of that feminine vocation by recalling how you have affirmed or nurtured life in another.

Reaching out to others

Considering your family, workplace, neighborhood, parish community and using your God-given gift ... help someone who may be struggling with their faith in Jesus Christ or the teach-ings of the church ... through listen-ning, prayer, affirmation or spiri-tual guidance.

Transforming society

Our faith tradition tells us that the Blessed Virgin Mary inter-cedes for us, to the Father when we ask her in prayer. Today pray for all women, that they may come to realize the dignity of their authen-tic femininity and the divine miss-ion entrusted to them by the cre-ator.

Closing prayer

Woman

It is the privilege of every woman to hold the pain of those around her, to be a source of strength when others are weak. It is her gift to be joyful in the midst of sadness and suffering, to be a gentle healing power, a balm for every need.

For each woman has been called to be love — to let her body and spirit breathe forth it — to let her very being vibrate with its power and beauty — and deli-cately gentleness.

I thank you, my Creator, that I am lovingly wonderfully made ... a woman. Amen.

— Mary Cecilia Jachowski, CSSV, adapted

Jubilee Pilgrim Cross

May 5-12: Queen of Angels
May 12-19: St. Vincent de Paul/Bishop Dwenger
May 19-26: St. John Bosco
May 26-June 2: Immaculate Conception

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May 7, 2006 T O D A Y ’ S C A T H O L I C
Weather creates havoc with ICCL baseball games

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — Weather played havoc with the schoolboy baseball teams in both divisions of the Inter-City Catholic League. But St. Jude and Christ the King remained tied for first place in the John Bosco Division and Corpus Christi remained unbeaten in the Martin De Porres Division.

Maroon blanked Corpus Christi

St. Jude edged St. Matthew, 6-2, and Christ the King downed St. Thomas, 6-3. Corpus Christi batted out 14 hits in swamping St. Adalbert, 13-1, to stretch their unbeaten string to five straight wins.

In other games, Holy Family beat St. Anthony, 10-0, St. Thomas, 13-0, and Corpus Christi, 14-0. St. Thomas, 13-0, and Corpus Christi, 10-0.

Standings for the John Bosco Division

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St. Jude</td>
<td>4-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christ the King</td>
<td>4-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Thomas</td>
<td>4-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Cross</td>
<td>3-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Joseph, St. John, Our Lady of Hungary</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Matthew</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Anthony</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corpus Christi</td>
<td>0-5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Standings for the Martin De Porres Division

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corpus Christi</td>
<td>5-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Jude (Green)</td>
<td>3-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Michael Plymouth</td>
<td>3-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Family (Blue)</td>
<td>3-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Adalbert</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christ the King (White)</td>
<td>2-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mishawaka Catholic</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Thomas (Maroon)</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Anthony (Maroon)</td>
<td>0-4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All-State Forward Transferring to Lady Cougar Program

Three-time All-State selection Jessica Hathaway, a 2004 Bishop Luers graduate, has indicated to University of Saint Francis women’s basketball coach Gary Andrews that she will transfer to USF starting with the 2006-07 school year to play basketball for the Lady Cougars and complete her collegiate education. Hathaway has played at Florida Gulf Coast University the past two seasons. Andrews is very pleased to acquire Hathaway, whom he coached for one season during his tenure as coach at Luers.

All eyes are set on the city showdown. The final two meets were be held on May 1 and May 4 (to be reported later). All eyes are set on the city showdown, which is scheduled for May 13, at Bishop Luers High School. Below are the results from the first half of the season.

Bishop Dwenger High School meet, Fort Wayne

The much anticipated season opener for half the teams was run on April 17. St. Jude took both boys’ and girls’ titles in a close point race over St. Charles. Individual girls winners for St. Jude were Aubrey Schrader, hurdles, 400 and relay; Lauren Palmer, 100, high jump; Katie Leeuw, 800; Kate Kinley, 1600; and the 4x100 relay team, Erika Moss, Leah Elinger and Sally Berghoff; Andrew Eckrich, 800, 1600, Matt Weber, 400, relay, and high jump; Phil Schroeder, discus; and the other events of the 4x400 relay team — Bobby Widner, Jon Adams and Tony Szwarszczkopf, all received blue ribbons for the St. Jude boys’ team.

Chris Widner of St. Vincent was a double winner in the shot put and discus events. St. Charles took first place in the other eight (combined) events, which included both boys’ and girls’ 800 relays.

Bishop Luers High School meet, Fort Wayne

On April 19, the remaining teams of the field — St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth, St. John New Haven, St. Therese-St. Aloysius and St. Joseph, Hessen-Cassel — held their first meet. Of the 352 points possible in the girls’ events, St. John New Haven scored 158. The next team was St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth with 104 points. The boys’ from St. John, New Haven, won Kayla Zink, shot and discus; Emily Lahrmann, high jump, 400 relay; Courtney Hedden, 200, 400 relay; the other half of the 4x100 relay team — M. Tippman and H. Watts; and the 4x200 relay team — Bradley, Thorp, Shepard, Kaysor. Katie Kayser (St. Louis Academy-St. John New Haven) also won both distance races.

Other than Andrew Brennan’s winning performances in the mile and half-mile races for St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth, St. John, New Haven, won every other event in the boys’ division. Individual boys winners for the Raiders included Stephen Wuest, Nick McCarthy, Josh Voelker, Mike McCarthy, Matt Beininger, Colin Stuerzenberger, Andrew Hoffman, Leighton Painter, James Barnes and Kevin Kohlman.

CYO track nears the final meets

Associate Director of Religious Education

Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

SOUTH BEND OFFICE

Applications are being accepted for the leadership position of Associate Director of Religious Education - South Bend Office. The ideal candidate would have had the experience of being a catechist and possess a BA degree or MA in Theology Degree.

The South Bend position has a particular focus of working with parish Directors of Religious Education and assisting in the strengthening of catechist formation. Both the Fort Wayne and the South Bend offices work in close collaboration in service to the entire diocese.

Essential qualities would be: a strong commitment to the Catholic Faith; good relational skills; a team player; the capacity to initiate activity; finding satisfaction in helping others grow in their faith.

If a candidate does not have extensive background, funding is available for an MA in Theology through the University of Notre Dame.

Call Sue Gerard in the South Bend Office for an application at 574-259-9994 ext. 230 or email at catechesis@sbinet.com or contact Sister Jane Carew in the Fort Wayne Office at 260-399-1411 or email at jmartin@fw.diocesefwsb.org

TODAY’S CATHOLIC

May 7, 2006

Sports
Diocesan high school students invited to stand with Mary-Louise Kurey

BY JILL BOUGHTON

MISHAWAKA — Last week, every student in a diocesan high school heard a straightforward, inspiring message from Mary-Louise Kurey, Miss America finalist, professional singer and director of the Respect Life office for the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Mary-Louise had the audience at Marian High School on April 28 listening attentively, calling out answers and crowding around for autographs. The previous day, students at Bishop Luers gave her a standing ovation.

As a seventh grader whose locker was next to a drug dealer, Mary-Louise made a personal decision to abstain from drugs, underage drinking and premarital sex. This was a sincere but very private decision.

She wonders now, “If I had been more outspoken, could I have made a difference to some of my friends?” — the high school friend who got pregnant despite using a condom and had her romance end shortly after her daughter was born; the college roommate who wound up in a mental health unit after hearing the nightly cry of her aborted baby.

Since then, Mary-Louise has made a difference to 200,000 young people in 32 states who have heard “Standing with Courage: Confronting Tough Decisions about Sex.” At Marian, she was introduced by seniors Drew Simerly and Olivia Arick.

Jen’s twin brother David handled leadership in the Respect Life club; Jamie O’Hara and Jen Violi, she was introduced by seniors Drew Simerly and Olivia Arick.

At Marian, Drew easily crushed an empty pop can but couldn’t destroy a full one. “That’s you when you’re full of God,” Mary-Louise explained, urging students to be open to a vocation to priesthood or religious life as well as marriage.

She put in a plug for daily Mass, personal prayer and a “spiritual shower,” going to confession.

Justine, Matt, Sarah and Jason formed a line including both, the present, marriage and the end of life. Mary-Louise pointed out that marriage may be made in the relatively short time between now and then have long-lasting consequences. She stack tape to Bobby, Jenny and P.J.’s clothing and moved it from one to another to illustrate how promiscuity weakens the ability to “stick” or make a lasting commitment.

Mary-Louise’s message was simple and memorable: Our loving God has a happy, fulfilling life and mission for each one of us. Sexuality is such a precious gift that God has provided marriage as the perfect context for it. Chastity includes abstinence, but it’s better viewed as saying yes to your future, your dreams, making a difference in the world and finding real love in your life. To quote from her book, “Standing with Courage: Confronting Tough Decisions about Sex,” “Chastity ... is a call to action! It is an active, deliberate lifestyle choice to embrace purity of mind, heart and body, and to use this choice as a way to shape your character and discover your mission!”

She encouraged those who have made poor decisions in this area to seek forgiveness and make a fresh decision to be pure from now on. She called even sins like abortion “a drop in the ocean of God’s mercy.”

She emphasized her message with statistics as well as personal stories; despite living in a society saturated with sexual messages, a growing number of teenagers, 55-60 percent, are virgins. Those who make this choice lower their chances of divorce by 60-70 percent. On the other hand, one out of five Americans over age 11 have a sexually transmitted disease, and the human papilloma virus is the most prevalent disease in this country, far more common than AIDS.

Perhaps the most touching personal story Mary-Louise shared was having a 33-year-old virgin get down on his knees three years ago and ask her to share his life. “We’re still on our honeymoon,” she confessed.

Mary-Louise Kurey ended her presentation by addressing each gender. “Having sex doesn’t make you a man,” she pointed out, exhorting the young men not to use or be used by pornography.

She urged the young ladies to dress modestly, and to apply the love test: “You’re worth waiting for!” She concluded by singing “Hero,” which begins, “There’s a hero if you look inside your heart.”

A heroine using her gifts to embolden others to heroism.

School Principal
Saint Mary’s School - Alexandria, Indiana
Seeks faith-filled and dedicated visionary leader.

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• Progressive and welcoming parish community
• Dedicated and experienced staff
• Active parent involvement
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• Prefer practicing Catholic with, or working
  toward Indiana Administrator’s license

Send letter of interest, resume and transcripts to:
Father Paul Cochran - 820 West Madison
Alexandria, Indiana 46001
ourpablo@insightbb.com deadline: May 20, 2006

Sharon Foundation
Sharing Meadows, a Christian community for other abled adults, needs a few compassionate, loving people to live in the homes with two residents, providing companionship and supervision while teaching daily living skills. Benefits include a salary, room and board, health insurance, two days off a week on a rotating basis, four weeks paid vacation per year centered around Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas, and a bonus after each year of completed service. Retirees, recent college grads or anyone who wants to engage in meaningful, joyful work should consider it.

Join our community and make a difference in the lives of our developmentally disabled villagers while adding a new dimension to your own life.

Call Share Foundation at 219-778-2585 or email share@sharefoundation.org
Two books, two different approaches to church history

BY YORK YOUNG

Readers may have noticed that over the last couple of years in this column, the majority of books reviewed have been recommended as worth your time. Because it’s too easy to always be negative, it’s important to be led to good media. However, book reviewers should not get trapped into only providing columns on books with positive reviews. There have been a couple of negative reviews, and hence warnings about how readers might not get much out of a particular book, in these pages.

Recently, this reviewer attempted to pursue a book that takes a look at recent church history, the last 40 years, which is popping up a lot these days with the 40th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council, which closed December 1965.

“A Church in Search of Itself” (Knopf, $25.95) is so bad through the first chapter I just couldn’t bring myself to read down its road of despair (rarely do I finish a book). In the first 40 pages, Robert Blair Kaiser, a former Jesuit, was so negative about Pope John Paul II and the current state of the church I wondered if we lived in the same Catholic world.

Kaiser is part of that group of people who consider themselves progressives and often get labeled liberals (political words do not really work here), but generally are those that don’t have the courage to say “I don’t like the church and I’m leaving it.” Instead, they try to make the church what they want — it is here that women’s ordination, freedom to make liturgical changes of any sort at the local level and complete democratic election of bishops are prime of place — not what the church needs to do as mandated by Christ.

Enough negativity, though. Switching gears, “Don’t Know Much About Catholic History” (Our Sunday Visitor, $9.95), is a small tome that, at the least, thankfully looks to the church as a positive in its references for the general reader. Minsus the lack of details for many of those references, more research will have to be done by the reader.

On the pro side, Moczar gives mini reviews of further books to pursue at the end of each chapter. On the con side, rightly or wrongly, too many of the reviews don’t have much to do to expand our reading in that fashion (even though that is why some readers might be attracted to this particular title).

For readers interested in beginning the pastime of learning history through study and reading, this is a good place to start.

As mentioned in a recent review in this column, Catholics and the church’s role have been instrumental in where we are now in the history of the world. Therefore, learning a little bit about it is not a bad thing.

The movie “United 93” (Universal) may be reaching out to a bigger audience, but many of those references, more research will have to be done by the reader. Minus the lack of details for many of those references, more research will have to be done by the reader.
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

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

DEVOTIONS
First Saturday devotion held Fort Wayne — The World Apostolate of Fatima will hold devotions of reparation at St. Joseph, corner of Ellyn and Hale and at St. Patrick, Arcola on May 6. Reconciliation will begin at 7:15 a.m., meditation at 7:30 a.m., and the rosary at 7:45 a.m. with Mass at 8 a.m. All are welcome.

First Sunday Rosary Fort Wayne — An all-family rosary will be Sunday, May 7, from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at MacDougal Chapel. Father Adam Schmitt of St. Joseph Parish and Sister Jane Carew from the diocesan Office of Catechesis will be attending.

Diocesan-wide First Saturday Mass Warsaw — The World Apostolate of Fatima will hold a diocesan-wide First Saturday Mass of reparation on June 3, at Our Lady of Guadalupie Church. Devotions begin at 8 a.m. with Mass at 9 a.m. Special guest, Father Sergius Wrobelewski, OFM, will speak at breakfast following Mass on consecration to Mary. Adults $5, children $2. Send payment/reservations by May 25 to: Jim Momper, 8032 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, May 5, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The cost is $6 for adults, $3 for children and under. Fish, two sides and beverage are included.

Knights plan fish fry South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5570 will have an “all-you-can-eat” spaghetti dinner on Thursday, May 11, from 4 to 6 p.m. for the benefit of diocesan seminarians. Adults $6, children ages 5 to 12 $2.50. The council is located at 5302 Linden Ave., one block east of Mayflower Road.

Knights plan fish fry Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a fish fry on Friday, May 5, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Chicken strips for $7 and shrimp for $8 will be available.

Chicken, fish and tenderloin supper Huntington — St. Mary Parish will have an “all-you-can-enjoy” chicken, fish and tenderloin supper on Friday, May 5, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the gym, 903 N. Jefferson St. Other menu items: cheesy potatoes or chips, coleslaw or applesauce and homemade desserts. Adults - $7.50, children 6 to 12 $4.50, 5 and under free. Bake sale. Carry-out available.

Day of reflection at convent Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be at St. Francis Convent, (across from Marian High School) on Wednesday, May 31 from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The cost of the day is $15 and includes lunch. Register by Friday, May 26, to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

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Any Wellborn to discuss book Fort Wayne — Catholic author Amy Wellborn will discuss the errors in the “Da Vinci Code” on Tuesday, May 23, at 7 p.m. at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center. She will also be signing her book, “De-Coding Da Vinci: The Truth Behind the Fiction” and “De-Coding Mary Magdalene: Truth, Legend and Lies.” The event is free.

MISC. HAPPENINGS
Mother’s Day celebrated in a different way Granger — The Elizabeth Ministry of St. Pius X Parish will have a memorial Mass on Monday, May 15, at 7 p.m. for all who grieve for the loss of a child because of infertility, the death of an infant or child, miscarriage or abortion — recent or long ago. There will be time for fellowship following the Mass for those who share similar experiences and pain. For information call Theresa at (574) 243-8770 or Rachael at (574) 271-6951.

Single Catholic men and women forming social group Fort Wayne — “The Gap,” a newly forming singles social group for widowed, divorced and single men and women, who range in age from 45 to 65, will hold its first gathering on Friday, May 12, at 7 p.m. in St. Elizabeth parish hall. Enjoy a evening of fun with other mature single Catholics. Hors d’oeuvres and refreshments provided. For information call (260) 432-7346 or e-mail gap4565@msn.com.

Diocesan-wide First Saturday Mass Fort Wayne — The World Apostolate of Fatima will hold a diocesan-wide First Saturday Mass of reparation on June 3, at Our Lady of Guadalupie Church. Devotions begin at 8 a.m. with Mass at 9 a.m. Special guest, Father Sergius Wrobelewski, OFM, will speak at breakfast following Mass on consecration to Mary. Adults $5, children $2. Send payment/reservations by May 25 to: Jim Momper, 8032 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, May 5, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The cost is $6 for adults, $3 for children and under. Fish, two sides and beverage are included.

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Garage Sale planned Fort Wayne — St. Peter Parish will have a garage sale on May 19 and 20, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the pavilion at 500 E. DeWald St. Come early for best bargains.

Faith and fertility specialist to speak Granger/Fort Wayne — Patrick Holly, MD, CNP PMC, will speak on “New Hope from NaPro Technology: An Ethical and Effective Treatment for Infertility” at St. Pius X Parish on Wednesday, May 10, from 7-9 p.m. in the parish center. He will also be speaking at St. Vincent Parish in Fort Wayne on Tuesday, May 23. Sponsored by the diocesan Office of Family Life.

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo New Haven — St. Louis HASA will celebrate Cinco de Mayo Friday, May 5, at 7:30 p.m. in St. Louis Besancon Hall. Bruce Summerfield will be guest speaker. Come enjoy his powerful message and artwork. Chips and salsa to follow. Reservations to Anita needed by Friday afternoon at (260) 749-5815.

Day of reflection at convent Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be at St. Francis Convent, (across from Marian High School) on Wednesday, May 31 from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The cost of the day is $15 and includes lunch. Register by Friday, May 26, to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

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DONATIONS
St. Vincent de Paul needs your help South Bend — St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County is in need of donations and monetary contributions. Large items will be picked up. Call the office at (574) 234-6000 for information.

St. Vincent de Paul needs your help Fort Wayne — The St. Vincent de Paul Society of Allen County is in need of donations. Monetary contributions are always appreciated. The St. Vincent de Paul Society accepts cars, trucks and vans. Donations can be dropped off Monday through Friday at 1600 S. Calhoun from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (260) 435-3561 for pick up information. Large items will be picked up.
The first Catholic church building planned for the Culver area blew down, and the next two burned down.

In 1859, an attempt was made to build a small church in Monterey, but in the early stages of construction, a strong wind blew down the frame. The event was seen as an omen, and construction never resumed.

In 1897, a small church was finally built in Culver on the northeast corner of Lakeview Street and Lake Shore Drive. It was dedicated on July 4, 1897. Eight years later it was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. For the next 40 years, Mass in Culver was on a now-and-then basis, sometimes in the basement of the Carnegie Library and sometimes in the El Rancho theater on Lake Shore Drive.

In 1948, St. Mary of the Lake Parish finally got on solid footing with the arrival of Father Joseph Lenk, who for all time will have the iconic presence on Lakeview Street and Lake Shore Drive. It was dedicated on July 4, 1955. Father Lenk dramatized his sense of humor and the parish debt by painting the church doors bright red, with the promise that when the debt of $350,000 was paid, the doors would be repainted bright green. The Green Door Celebration was held on June 20, 1971.

The present church was completed in August of 1975. Father Lenk dramatized his sense of humor and the parish debt by painting the church doors bright red, with the promise that when the debt of $350,000 was paid, the doors would be repainted bright green. The Green Door Celebration was held on June 20, 1971.

The man who once called Mr. Priest made impressive changes for the Catholic presence in Culver. At the end of his 30 years there, Catholics were no longer called papists and nine Culver cadets had become priests. A splendid example of how one person can open wide the doors to Christ.

This warm and welcoming parish has a unique claim associated with its sinner-saint patron. It is the only church in the U.S. named for St. Bavo.

A Model T Ford would be an appropriate time line symbol for the beginning of St. Bavo Church, since it was founded in 1903 just when Henry Ford was making his first tin lizzies. This was 60-some years after the arrival of Belgian immigrants who at that time worshipped with the German Catholics at St. Joseph Parish in Mishawaka. The pastor there, Father August Oechtering, seeing a need for a Flemish speaking priest, arranged for just that in the person of Father Charles Stuer, who arrived at St. Joseph on Sept. 2, 1902.

At that time, the plan was for the Belgians to continue to be St. Joseph parishioners. However, with the death of Father Oechtering, it became obvious that Mishawaka could use another Catholic church, and with permission from Bishop Alerding of Fort Wayne, a wood frame building went up at the corner of 8th and West streets.

Father Stuer became the first pastor and named the new church in honor of St. Bavo, a Belgian nobleman, who in his youth had been an irresponsible wastrel who sold his servants as slaves but converted to the faith on the strength of sermon by St. Amand. Eventually, Bavo built an abbey on his estate, gave his wealth to the poor, became a monk and lived as a recluse in a hollow tree.

The current church building at 7th and West was dedicated on Jan. 1, 1905 when the parish had about 100 families. Its cornerstone had been blessed on May 8, 1904 by Bishop Meerschaert of the Oklahoma Indian Territory. Eventually Italian and Polish families were folded into the St. Bavo community in a harmonious and loving way.

In 1999, St. Bavo’s interior received a major renovation that included all new pews, a relocation of the altar, a new organ, a new baptismal font, a restroom and air conditioning.

Out of the dust disturbed by this renovation, Father Jim Shafer, pastor at the time, discovered in the church basement, the Stations of the Cross, which had been in the original wooden church in 1903. These were refurbished and installed in the new interior.

This warm and welcoming parish has a unique claim associated with its sinner-saint patron. It is the only church in the U.S. named for St. Bavo.

St. Mary of the Lake, Culver, Est. 1948

St. Bavo, Mishawaka, Est. 1903