Father Steve Kemperger named superintendent of Catholic schools

BY ANN CAREY
NOTRE DAME — When Holy Cross Father Steve Kemperger was a sophomore geology major at the University of Notre Dame, he volunteered to tutor children through a neighborhood study program at Saint Mary’s College. That experience hooked him on a career in education that now has taken him to the top education job in the diocese-superintendent of schools.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy has appointed Father Kemperger to the position, effective July 1. He will be the first Holy Cross priest to serve the diocese as superintendent of schools, although diocesan priests have served in that role previously. He will replace outgoing superintendent Michelle Hitte, who is retiring after 25 years with the diocese — first as a teacher, then principal, and then superintendent.

Father Kemperger has been her associate superintendent for the past two years and credits Hitte with handing over a school system that is in excellent condition.

“We always look for improvement,” Father Kemperger said, “but I think we have a very sound school system, and I really appreciate the good shape it’s in.”

Father Kemperger has followed a similar career path in education as Hitte. While studying geology at Notre Dame, he also took education courses at Saint Mary’s College, and when he graduated from

St. Martin de Porres renovation continues

BY DENISE FEDOROW
SYRACUSE — The unique “overturned boat” architecture of St. Martin de Porres Church in Syracuse was built in 1966 and, according to the administrative associate and director of religious education, Liz List, “nothing has been done since.”

That is until last September, when construction on a renovation project began. The renovation, by Kaiser-Spraker in South Bend, is basically doubling the square footage on two levels as the expansion wraps around the existing church.

“The architect said it was challenging in all aspects,” according to List. “They didn’t want to take away the uniqueness of the church with the capsized boat design for the lake area.”

List said the price tag for the original project was $2.2 million. The project was dovetailed on the Annual Bishop’s Appeal and the goal for the parish was to raise $1 million, but she said they were only able to raise $800,000, causing them to modify the original plans. Initially plans called for a new rectory and tearing down the existing religious education-parish office building moving both to the expanded church.

“Everything was to be in one building — one central location — which would have been much better,” List said.

The modified plans do not include any improvements to the rectory and four of the religious education classes will remain in the current building outside the church. Parish members were hoping to remove that building to gain parking.

List said there were two driving factors that spurred the renovation project. “Over the years the parish was concerned about the elderly not being able to go downstairs to enjoy festivities — such as our Ash Wednesday soup and salad luncheon, so we’ve been trying to get an elevator,” she said. “The parish council has also decided the way we handle our religious education is not feasible anymore. Four classes are held in the (church) basement and they’re just storage rooms, so we decided it’s time to do something about it.”

With the building project a religious education wing will be added in the addition towards the lake. Only the top floor will be finished with classrooms at this time.

No publication next week

Diocesan offices will be closed Monday, May 29

Fifty year commitment to Christ
St. John the Baptist celebrates anniversary
Pages 11-13

Priesthood is a gift
Msgr. William Faber, 97, celebrates 70 years of ministry
Page 8

Faith and Fertility
Moral principles involved in treating infertility
Page 10

BISHOP LUERS CELEBRATES CLASS OF 2006

Bishop John M. D’Arcy leads graduates of the Bishop Luers High School class of 2006 from the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception after the baccalaureate Mass on May 19.
Graduation, anniversary events fill calendar in last weeks of May

The coming of graduations

It began as it always does, with morning Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception for Bishop Luers’ class of 2006. What a joy to realize that we now have two deacons who are at the last step of their priestly formation, both of whom are graduates of Bishop Luers High School. Anthony Steinacker (Luers Class of 1991) will soon be receiving an assignment as deacon, which will probably continue into the early years of his priesthood. He has completed his academic work at the Pontifical Josephinum Seminary in Columbus, Ohio.

The second Bishop Luers’ graduate is Jason Freiburger (Luers Class of 1996), a member of St. Therese Parish. Although a deacon, he has one more year of studies at the Josephinum before being assigned to a parish in preparation for his ordination to the priesthood.

Shortly after this baccalaureate Mass, I headed north. I celebrated, I believe for the 22nd time, the baccalaureate Mass of Saint Mary’s College. In my homily I focused on the encyclical, “Deus Caritas Est,” of Pope Benedict XVI and was pleased to hear the positive reaction. Saturday afternoon I attended the always beautiful baccalaureate Mass at Sacred Heart Basilica, Notre Dame, and said my usual words at the end of Mass. On Sunday, I attended the graduation Mass at the University of Notre Dame, and while it is always beautiful, it was marked by something special this year — the singing of the Irish National Anthem in the Irish language.

On Sunday, I attended the graduation at the University of Notre Dame; and while it is always beautiful, it was marked by something special this year — the singing of the Irish National Anthem in the Irish language.

The history of our diocese

Among the interesting meetings last week was one with Joseph White, Ph.D., who is currently writing the history of our diocese. Joe has a doctorate in history from the University of Notre Dame, and he is nearing completion of this work, which will be several hundred pages. I have read some of it and find it altogether fascinating. The committee members who recommended him were present. A problem has arisen, and may you, dear reader, can help us. This, after all, is the history of the past 150 years commissioned for our jubilee, so we need to bring it up to the present. The only problem is that the bishop of the last 21 years is still quite active, and as far as we can tell, pretty much alive. Historians are always reluctant, understandably so, to write a history of a contemporary time. Joe White told me that he found the last 20 years quite interesting, with so many new initiatives. Having lived it, I find it interesting as well; fascinating may be an even better word.

So much of what has gone on in the diocese involved significant challenges. Joe has written a fine account, taken mostly from this newspaper. It is more an account of a reporter than that of a historian, like the earlier chapters. I read it and thought we might find another way of presenting these years. Perhaps I should write a shorter reflection, touching on the important themes as I have known them, trying to be objective. The other way is to accept Dr. White’s reflections. He is open to both approaches. What do you think? Although as I ponder this, I do not know where I would find the time, but I do not think it would be all that difficult once I got at it. What do you think, dear reader? Please let me know. I have asked our history committee, who recommended Dr. White, and I have some varied suggestions from them. I hope to ask some professional historians as well, including some at the University of Notre Dame; but I would like the readers of this column to give me their advice also.

As far as the rest of the history, I think it will be absolutely fascinating. It will include many photos. This has been a historic diocese, with national implications, because of Our Sunday Visitor, Archbishop Noll, University of Notre Dame, Congregation of Holy Cross — priests, brothers and sisters, the presence of Mother Theodore Guerin, soon to be canonized, and so much more.

Dr. White has put his heart and soul into this book; and while it is slower in finishing up than we had wished, we still hope to have it ready within the first three to four months of the Jubilee Year 2007.
MAY 28, 2006

SUPER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

NOTE: Father Andre Léveillé had noticed the young man’s dedication during his senior year of college and had asked him if he had ever considered becoming a priest.

The question planted a seed that flourished, Father Kempinger told Today’s Catholic, and after considering the diocesan priesthood, he chose the Congregation of Holy Cross.

“I fell in love with the philosophy and strength of the Holy Cross,” Father Kempinger said. “I looked at my college education and thought, ‘Well, I’d just seem a good match,’” he explained.

After a novitiate year, Father Kempinger asked to be assigned to a high school to get a sense of what it would be like to live and work in community. At Notre Dame High School in Niles, Ill., a suburb of Chicago, he taught religion and was director of student activities for the 780 male students. During his two years there, he earned a master’s degree in educational administration from Loyola University in Chicago. He presently is pursing a doctorate in education through part-time class work at Indiana University.

On the appointment of the new superintendent of Catholic Schools

May 28, 2006

I am very pleased to appoint Father Stephen Kempinger, CSC, as the new superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Fort Wayne- South Bend. I am most grateful to his provincial, Rev. David Tyson, CSC, for granting permission to Father Kempinger to serve in this capacity. It is another step in a long and devoted service by the Congregation of Holy Cross of priests, brothers and sisters in this diocese.

Father Kempinger comes with an excellent background. He has served as a principal in our schools, and has also served these past few years as associate superintendent of the South Bend area, with responsibilities extending throughout the whole diocese. In this time, he worked closely with Father Kempinger on a number of occasions. He comes with an excellent background in education, and has worked very well with our principals and with our pastors. I have no doubt that he will bring strength and energy to his new office.

I thank our search committee, which presented three exemplary candidates, all from within our own system.

I also wish to take this opportunity to thank Michelle Hittie, our outgoing superintendent of schools. Miss Hittie has brought a genuine professionalism to our office, has strengthened the central office of our diocese and worked well with our Diocesan School Board, the Council of Teachers and with all our principals on the elementary school level, and with our parents. She has been a joy to work with, and has brought great strength to our educational program.

I look forward to working with Father Kempinger in the years ahead.

Opus Dei and Catholic Worker petition zoning board for variances

BY ANN CAREY

SOUTH BEND — The Board of Zoning Appeals meeting May 18 took on a distinctly Catholic flavor, for both Catholic Worker of Michiana, Inc., and the local Opus Dei group petitioned the city for zoning variances for their South Bend facilities.

Catholic Worker came away with a favorable recommendation for a zoning exception for a house Catholic Worker recently purchased at 515 S. St. Joseph St. The exception would allow Catholic Worker to operate a group home that will house up to eight people, including staff and home一向.

Catholic Worker had failed to obtain such an exception last year for a site on Washington Street, after some neighbors and the Near West Side Neighborhood Organization objected to having a group home in the neighborhood zoned single family. Catholic Worker then sought a variance for a group home in a neighborhood that would be more suitable for a group home.

Unlike the sometimes contentious public hearings last year about the West Washington Street house, no counter-protestors appeared.

Windmoor, the current Opus Dei center, faces onto Notre Dame Ave. Opus Dei wanted to raze Windmoor and build two new buildings on its double lot, one that would face Notre Dame Ave., and one behind it that would face Washington Street. A third building was proposed for an adjacent lot on St. Peter, with a new garage to be built on a lot next to the third building. Variances needed for the plan were denied by the South Bend Board of Zoning Appeals.

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In a decision approved by Pope Benedict XVI, the Vatican has said the founder of the Legions of Christ, accused of sexually abusing minors, should not exercise his priestly ministry publicly.

The Vatican also said May 19 it would not begin a canonical process against the founder, 86-year-old Father Marcial Maciel Degollado, because of his advanced age and poor health.

The Vatican statement did not get into details about the allegations against Father Maciel, but Vatican sources said the wording of the statement and its call to penance signaled it had found there was substance to the accusations.

In the statement, Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said the Vatican had investigated the claims made by former Legiory seminarians against Father Maciel who founded the Legions in his native Mexico in 1941.

“After having submitted the results of the investigation to attentive study, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, under the guidance of the new prefect, His Eminence Cardinal William Levada, has decided — taking into account both the advanced age and his delicate health — to forgo a canonical process and to call the priest to a life reserved to prayer and penance, renouncing any public ministry,” the statement said. Navarro-Valls also added, “The Holy Father approved these decisions.”

The spokesman also said, “independently of the person of the founder, the well-deserving apostolate of the Legions of Christ in the United States and in Mexico, the Holy Father approved these decisions.”

As to the Vatican’s decision, it said, “with the spirit of obedience and trust in the church that has always characterized it, he has accepted this communication with faith, complete serenity and tranquility of conscience.”

The congregation said its founder knows that the restriction on his ministry is “a new cross that God, the father of mercy, has allowed him to suffer and that will allow him to obtain many graces for the Legionaries of Christ in the Regnum Christi movement.”

Regain, a U.S.-based organization of ex-Legionaries critical of Father Maciel, praised the Vatican action “as a true and just vindication of Father Maciel’s page 5
Bishop Lennon calls for unity among Catholics, fidelity to teachings

BY DENNIS SADOWSKI

CLEVELAND (CNS) — Calling for unity among Catholics and urging adherence to the teachings of the church, Bishop Richard G. Lennon became the 10th bishop in the Cleveland Diocese’s 150-year history May 15.

In a two-hour 45-minute liturgy filled with centuries-old tradition, Archbishop Daniel E. Pilarczyk of Cincinnati presented the new bishop with his crosier, symbolizing his leadership of the country’s 16th largest diocese.

Bishop Anthony M. Pilla, the man whom Bishop Lennon succeeds, sat near his side throughout the afternoon ceremony in the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist. Twice during the liturgy he was recognized for his 25 years as head of the Cleveland Diocese, each time receiving thunderous and sustained applause.

Also present were Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States; Cardinal Sean P. O’Malley of Boston, a Lakewood, Ohio, native; Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore; and two dozen archbishops and bishops from across the country, including representatives of the Byzantine rite.

Archbishop Pilarczyk was joined by Archbishop Sambi in installing the new bishop. It was Archbishop Pilarczyk who greeted Bishop Lennon at the main entrance — the holy door — of the cathedral and introduced him to the standing-room-only congregation of more than 1,200 people.

Archbishop Sambi read Pope Benedict XVI’s April 4 letter appointing Bishop Lennon, previously a Boston auxiliary who was vicar general and moderator of the curia under Cardinal O’Malley.

“The role of the bishop as the spiritual leader of the flock is to promote and strengthen the unity of God’s family,” Archbishop Sambi said.

In his homily Bishop Lennon, a native of suburban Arlington, Mass., said he was pleased to begin his work in Cleveland. He asked for the diocese’s prayers and support and pledged to work with all the faithful throughout the diocese.

Demonstrating the pastoral leadership that has endeared him among clergy and laity alike in Boston, Bishop Lennon issued a call for unity among all the faithful through the building of the community — both within the church and society at large.

Drawing from the liturgy’s first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, he noted how “the brothers and sisters devoted themselves” to building community. To do that, he called upon the church in Cleveland to uphold the teachings of the apostles as expressed by the church today.

“As (the church) founded by our great priest, Jesus Christ, it is imperative that his teachings be embraced and lived,” he said. “Let us as a diocese commit ourselves to a genuine fidelity to the ‘teachings of the apostles,’ thereby enriching our personal lives and offering to the wider community a contribution for the well-being of all.”

Bishop Lennon also stressed the importance of communion, both in responding to the needs of others, especially the poor and vulnerable, and the unity of Catholic life.

“Today we see in the church discrepancies which in some cases lead to divisions. This is not what the Lord desired, and thus he prophetically that there be unity among his followers,” he said.

“While in some areas there is room for diversity, in other areas of our Catholic life there needs to be unity. Only when we respect one another and listen to one another and have an openness to hearing as a community may we become a community,” he said.

The bishop discussed the importance of communion with the wider society, including others of different faith traditions as well as public officials, “to build up our way of life.”

Continuing on the topic of communion, Bishop Lennon said that celebrating Mass and receiving holy Communion is the most important activity of his priestly life. He invited the congregation to join him in that, citing Second Vatican Council documents that called the celebration of Mass and Communion both the summit and the source for Catholics.

“It is my hope that Mass and receiving holy Communion as a member of Christ’s body will indeed be the center of our lives as Catholics,” he said. Bishop Lennon also expressed hope that Catholics who do not attend Sunday Mass regularly will return to worship God “and be fed with his word and sacrament, thereby strengthening us by their presence as we do for them.”

Bishop Lennon ended the celebration by walking through the cathedral blessing the congregation. The audience applauded his gesture.

Steve Fink is one of more than 30 Barnes & Thornburg attorneys providing legal services to their fellow parishioners in the Diocese of Fort Wayne - South Bend.

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CNS PHOTO/JOHN R. BOYER, CATHOLIC WORKER BULLETIN

Bishop Richard G. Lennon of Cleveland listens to the words of welcome from representatives of the various secretariats of the diocese serving the 798,000 Catholics of northeast Ohio during his May 15 installation at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Cleveland. Bishop Lennon was appointed the 10th bishop of Cleveland April 4. He is the former rector of St. John Seminary, Boston.
A new entrance to St. Martin de Porres Church in Syracuse is being added on. The statue of St. Martin de Porres is being protected during construction under the wooden box.

DE PORRES
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“Hopefully in the future we can raise more funds to finish the additional classrooms and have all the religious education classes in one central location,” List said.

There are 115 students currently enrolled in the parish’s religious education program. K-12.

“Our main concern was getting the kids out of the storage rooms and adding an elevator, with as many elderly as we have, it’s a must,” List said improving the parking situation was also a high priority for the project. In the summertime, Mass attendance increases when vacationers arrive at their lake homes. There are 302 registered parishioners year-round at St. Martin and in the summer that number doubles. On long holiday weekends that number increases even more.

The parish was hoping to gain 80 parking spaces with this project but instead will actually gain about 35-40 spaces. A narthex is being added to the church to alleviate crowding during busy times and will allow room for parish members to congregate and visit after Mass. The plans do not call for additional pew seating, which caused a few concerns among parishioners, according to List. However, she said statistics taken over 40 years showed it was not feasible to do so when the extra seating was only really needed four times a year.

The majority of parishioners believe the renovation is a great idea. “They believe it’s a real positive step for our church,” Liz said.

Father Place and his parishioners may not have too much longer to wait. The completion date for the project is Aug. 28 and List said she was told at a recent construction meeting that they’re still “looking good for that date.”

MACIEL
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

tion of so many of Maciel’s victims.

Glenn Favreau, Regain board member, told Catholic News Service the Vatican “was trying to satisfy everybody” with its decision. It disciplined Father Maciel without applying the maximum penalty while it praised the work of the Legion and Regnum Christi, he said.

Favreau added that one of the accusations against Father Maciel was that he absolved in confession people who were his accomplices in sexual sins and that this is punishable by automatic excommunication.

Such a penalty is contained in Canon 1378 of the church’s Code of Canon Law.

Favreau, who is not among the accusers of Father Maciel, was a Legionary member from 1984 to 1997. He had been ordained a deacon before leaving.

The U.S.-based Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests said it welcomed the Vatican statement and said it disciplined Father Maciel because of its penal law, not for other reasons.

The Vatican brought no response, in 1998 the eight living accusers drew up another case against Father Maciel, accusing him of giving absolution to an accomplice in a sexual sin.

Vaca said they were informed early in 2005 that the Vatican was looking into the case.

Father Marcial Maciel Degollado, left, founder of the Legiónarios de Cristo, is pictured meeting students at Regina Apostolorum university in Rome in 1999. In a decision approved by Pope Benedict XVI, the Vatican said May 19 that Father Maciel, who has been accused of sexually abusing minors, should not exercise his priestly ministry publicly.

One of the accusers is Juan J. Vaca, a psychology professor at Mercy College in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., and a former priest of the Legiónarios de Cristo.

In a January 2005 interview with Catholic News Service, Vaca said that when he was being abused in his seminary days he once told Father Maciel that he needed to go to confession about those incidents. Vaca said Father Maciel tried to dissuade him, but when he was insistently the priest said, “Here, I will give you absolution,” and made a sign of the cross over him.

Vaca said several other seminarians reported similar incidents.

After earlier complaints to the Vatican brought no response, in 1998 the eight living accusers drew up another case against Father Maciel, accusing him of giving absolution to an accomplice in a sexual sin.

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POPE ADDRESSES ITALIAN BISHOPS’ CONFERENCE

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI addressed members of the Italian bishops’ conference in the synod hall at the Vatican May 18. He told them that part of the church’s duty is to help people see what public policies are helpful or harmful to the dignity of individuals and to the common good.

Bishops urge Congress to assist more hurricane victims, Haitians

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The chairmen of two key bishops’ committees urged special aid to the poor in Haiti and to U.S. hurricane victims in need of housing as a House-Senate conference committee began work on a supplemental appropriations bill. In a May 19 letter to the conference committee, Bishop Thomas G. Wenski of Miami and Bishop Thomas G. Wenski urged support for those “two essential areas of funding” in the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror and Hurricane Recovery 2006, Bishop DiMarzio, of Brooklyn, N.Y., head of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Domestic Policy, and Archbishop Wenski, of Orlando, Fla., chair the Committee on International Policy. The bishops said the supplemental appropri- ations bill should include at least $100 million for rental housing assistance for low-income house- holds and $50 million for food. The bishops’ letter includes $40 million “for the urgent needs of Haiti,” the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere.

Church officials critical of plans to legalize abortion in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES (CNS) — Catholic Church officials in Argentina are critical of an Argentine propos- al to legalize abortion under certain circumstances as part of a wide- ranging legal reform. The proposal was drawn up by a team of legal experts working on draft outlines for a proposed penal code. Although abortion is illegal in Argentina except in the case of the rape of a mentally dis- abled woman or when the mother’s life is in danger, the human rights groups believe at least 500,000 ille- gal abortions are performed annual- ly.

The issue of legalizing abortion under specific circumstances remains highly divisive in Argentina, and government offi- cials were quick to make it clear they were not officially endorsing these proposals. Media reports quoted church sources as saying a government official had called Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio of Buenos Aires, head of the Argentine bishops’ conference, to assure him that the government was not planning any change to current abortion laws. The Justice Ministry has invited the public to submit comments on the penal code pro- posals on its Web site.

Orthodox official sees quicker resolution of tensions under this pope

ROME (CNS) — The head of ecu- menical relations for the Russian Orthodox Church said he expects resolution of conflicts with the Catholic Church under this pope.

POPE SAYS MEDIA CAN BE USED TO DRAW ATTENTION TO PEOPLE IN NEED

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Catholic Church is active in the media not only because they can be used to help spread the Gospel, but also because they can promote soli- darity and draw people’s attention to situations of serious need, said Pope Benedict XVI. Addressing pilgrims gathered at the Vatican May 21 for the midday recitation of the “Regina Coeli” prayer, the pope looked specifically at the media’s ability to inform people about “the plague of hunger that still afflicts humanity.” He praised participants in the May 21 Walk the World marathon sponsored by the World Food Program and, in connection with the event, spoke about the May 28 celebration of World Communications Day. The celebration, he said, is intended to raise awareness about the need for quick, concrete action “to guaran- tee everyone, particularly children, freedom from hunger.

POPE SAYS SOME RELIGIOUS ORDEALS THREATENED BY MODERN CULTURE

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Reforms undertaken by religious orders aimed at ensuring deeper fidelity to the Gospel, to the church and to the poor are threatened by too many adaptations to a modern, materialistic culture, Pope Benedict XVI said. The pope met May 22 with some 15 superiors of women’s and men’s religious orders representing hundreds of thousands of priests, nuns, brothers and consecrated virgins around the world. “To belong to the Lord: This is the mission of the men and women who have chosen to follow the chaste, poor and obedient Christ so that the world would believe and be saved,” the pope told the superi- ors. Consecrated men and women, he said, are called to be a “credible and shining sign of the Gospel and its parables,” which encourage humility, self-giving and the renun- ciation of earthly goods for the sake of spiritual goods. “The Lord wants men and women who are free, not bound, able to abandon everything to follow him and who find every- thing only in him,” the pope said.

Author, spiritual director Father Edward Farrell dies in Detroit

DETROIT (CNS) — Cardinal Adam J. Maeda celebrated a funeral Mass May 13 in the chapel of Detroit’s Sacred Heart Major Seminary for Father Edward J. Farrell, a well-known author and spiritual director. Father Farrell, 75, died during an early afternoon nap May 9 at the Holy Trinity Oratory in Detroit. The author of 12 books on spirituality, Father Farrell was in demand as a retreat director, having conducted retreats in more than 70 countries. But many also sought him out for personal counseling. “There were just thousands who sought him out for guidance, or for a word of comfort, or for forgive- ness or healing,” said Sister Marcella Clancy, co-director with Father Farrell of the Holy Trinity Oratory. Father Farrell was active in work for evangelization, ecu- menism, social justice and peace, and had a deep devotion to the Eucharist, Sister Clancy said. “The core of Father Ed’s person and priesthood was Eucharist,” she said. “He would no more consider not celebrating Eucharist each day than he would consider not breath- ing, not having his heart beat for a day. Eucharist was the breath and heart of his life.”

Jesuit granted France’s highest honor for human rights work in India

NEW DELHI (CNS) — The French government has awarded its highest honor to Jesuit Father Cedric Prakash, an outspoken advocate for human rights in west- ern India’s Gujarat state. Father Prakash was awarded the Legion of Honor for his “outstanding contribution to the defense and promotion of human rights in India,” the French govern- ment said in a May 15 statement to the Associated Press. “For his contribution, he is not an honor for me but for all those who have work(ed) for human rights,” Father Prakash said. “This is a new situation here,” the Jesuit told Catholic News Service May 17. Father Prakash has been fighting for human rights in Gujarat state as the head of Prashant, a Jesuit social action group.

POPE SENDS CARDINAL SEPE TO NAPLES; CARDINAL DIAZ GOES TO VATICAN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI named Italian Cardinal Crescenzio Sepe to be the new archbishop of Naples and named Indian Cardinal Ivan Dias of Mumbai to succeed him as prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples. The appointments were announced May 20 at an audience with the 166 members of the Congregation for Bishops held in the Paul VI Audience Hall.

Cardinal Sepe succeeds Cardinal Michele Giordano, 75, who retired for reasons of age.

Cardinal Dias is the mission of the men and women who have chosen to follow the chaste, poor and obedient Christ so that the world would believe and be saved, the pope told the superi- ors. Consecrated men and women, he said, are called to be a “credible and shining sign of the Gospel and its parables,” which encourage humility, self-giving and the renun- ciation of earthly goods for the sake of spiritual goods. “The Lord wants men and women who are free, not bound, able to abandon everything to follow him and who find every- thing only in him,” the pope said.

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, Mo. (CNS) — When Jesus and his Apostles preached to their follow- ers, they would travel from town to town, covering several miles every day. The church’s Catholic radio can spread the Word of God in a nearly 100-mile radius in one day. KEXS (1090 AM) is the only Catholic radio station in Kansas City. KEXS is the last known as a religious radio station, but became a Catholic radio station nearly two years ago, on May 19, 2004. KEXS is the Pope’s birthday. Jim O’Laughlin, president of KEXS’ owner, Kansas City Catholic Communications, said the station is the day well. He also said the coinci- dence of starting on the pope’s birthday was not lost on him, since Pope John Paul II called for a “new evangelization.”

Catholic radio making imprint in Kansas City

Court rejects Spokane Diocese’s $45.7 million sex abuse settlement

SPOKANE, Wash. (CNS) — U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Patricia Winstead rejected the Spokane Diocese’s proposed $45.7 million settlement with 75 people who have sued the diocese for cler- gy sexual abuse. She said the pro- position violated a rule of fair treat- ment because it did not include some 100 other claims still under review or provide for possible future claims. Williams made her ruling during a telephone confer- ence hearing May 18. Earlier in the week lawyers for claimants who were forced to accept the proposed settlement submitted a proposal that would assess parishes nearly two-thirds of the market value of their church and school properties in return for not forcing them to close and be put up for sale. Winstead has said that the parishes and schools in the diocese belong to the diocese and must be counted among its assets in the bankruptcy proceedings. The di-ocese has appealed that ruling to the Federal District Court for the Eastern District of Washington. The diocese had filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in December 2004.
Eagle Scout Burrell to be honored

FORT WAYNE — Zachary Burrell, Jr., Boy Scout Troop 19, will be honored at a special Eagle Scout ceremony Wednesday, May 31, at 7 p.m. at the St. John the Baptist Pastory Activity Center.

To earn Scouting’s highest award, Zachary had to earn 21 merit badges, serve as a leader in his troop and complete a major community service project.

Zachary’s service project was organizing the renovation of the Girl Scout meeting room at St. John the Baptist Church. Renovation included taking up the old carpet, painting the walls and laying new carpets.

Zachary has been a member of Troop 19, chartered to St. John the Baptist Church, for seven years. He has served the troop as Scribe and Troop Officier. He was elected to the Order of the Arrow in 2001. Zachary participated in a troop trip to Charles L. Sommers National High Adventure Base, Ely, Minn., in the summer of 2000 with a trip to Philmont Boy Scout Camp, N.M., the following summer.

Zachary is a senior at Bishop Luers High School. He will graduate in the fall. Ben’s parents are Steve and Denise M. Domonkos.

Younger brother Jake was recently notified that he had been selected to attend Indiana University of South Bend, Bloomington, this fall.

Eagle Scout honored in May 21 ceremony

SOUTH BEND — Neehar Garg, a member of Troop 19, was recently notified that he had been selected to attend Indiana University of South Bend, Bloomington, this fall.

For more information, contact Chris Culver, associate director of the Office of Youth Ministry at ccuvler@fw.dioece-fw.org or Dave and Jan Torma, camp directors, at (574) 291-3381.

Queen of Peace Ministries to host Marian conference at Notre Dame

NOTRE DAME — Queen of Peace Ministries in South Bend will host the 2006 National Medjugorje Conference at the University of Notre Dame, May 26-28. This year’s conference will feature Msgr. Ben Franzenzelli, T.O.R., Msgr. Richard Verastegui, Dr. Theresa Karminski Burke and other inspiring speakers and performers.

There will be a candlelight rosary procession to the Lourdes Grotto, opportunities for prayer and Mass, an alternate memorial service and a new Marian Ministry. Housing is available both on-campus and at area hotels.

This year the International Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will also be on display.

There are several events planned for the 2006 National Medjugorje Conference include internationally known speaker and author Deidre Meier, co-founder of the Medjugorje Information Center in Las Vegas, Nev., Msgr. Ben Franzenzelli, popular television performer and author Eduardo Verastegui; Brother Jason Lewis, MIC., a convert to Catholicism, who has been seminarian with the Congregation of the Marians of the Immaculate Conception; Dr. Thomas Burke, who was instrumental in producing the first video presentation of the events in Medjugorje; Msgr. Ron Timmis, who has pastored many parishes in Medjugorje; and Father Anthony Bus, CR., author of “How’s Your Father Today?”

For information, visit www.queenofpeaceministries.com or telephone (574) 288-8777, fax: (574) 288-8779, or e-mail: maryconference@hotmail.com

Correction

The names of the Bishop Dwenger Catholic Youth Camp’s senior female and male valedictorian and salutatorian were reversed in the May 21 issue of Today’s Catholic.

Clare Ensley is the Bishop Dwenger Catholic Youth Camp’s senior female valedictorian, and Hailey Gardner is the salutatorian.

The 52nd annual St. George Day Mass and award ceremony was celebrated recently by the St. George Day Mass and award ceremony was celebrated recently by the Scout chaplain, Father Chris Young, at St. Anthony Church in South Bend. Laura Ray, the Catholic Committee on Scouting (CCOS) vice chair, presented Scouts their medal for earning their age appropriate religious emblems: Joseph Larson, Troop 563, Ad Altare Dei; Liam Wilcox, Pack 750, Parvuli Dei; Miguel Canda, Pack 750, Parvuli Dei; Jonathan Mauck, Troop 750, Ad Altare Dei. Also honored were scout leaders James Knopick and James Liponoga of Troop 750 who received the Bronze Pelican, a diocesan award to recognize dedication to providing a quality Catholic Scouting program to youth. Dr. James Mauck was presented the St. George Medal, a National CCOS award given to lay persons or clergy who foster the total personal and spiritual growth of Scouts and encourage them to actively live out their Catholic faith.

USF awards high school essay winners

FORT WAYNE — The School of Health Sciences at the University of Saint Francis recently sponsored an essay contest for high school students interested in health careers. The contest was open to all high school juniors enrolled at Bishop Dwenger High School, Bishop Luers High School and Anthis Health career students of Fort Wayne, Saint Joseph’s High School in South Bend and Marian High School in Mishawaka. Two students, Stephanie Woodruf of Bishop Dwenger High School and Chrissy Ruich of Bishop Luers High School, were chosen as award recipients of $500 and a USF hooded sweatshirt. The essay was to describe how the Franciscan Value, Reverence the unique dignity of each person, applies to your interest in a health care profession. Both Chrissy and Stephanie aspire to become registered nurses.

The Office of Youth Ministry of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is sponsoring a Catholic Youth Camp for boys and girls entering grades 4-6 from June 14-18, at Bair Lake in Irons, Mich. (about an hour and a half from both Fort Wayne and South Bend). The camp will provide an outstanding opportunity for young Catholics to have fun, pray and enjoy the summer camp experience. It will include swimming, canoeing, frisbee golf, a climbing wall, crafts, fishing, camp fires, hiking, daily Mass, prayer, soccer, basketball, put-putt golf and more.

Registration is $175 per child with a sibling rate of $150 per child. A camp minimum of 100 campers is necessary for the camp to operate. For more information, contact Chris Culver, associate director of the Office of Youth Ministry at ccuvler@fw.dioece-fw.org or Dave and Jan Torma, camp directors, at (574) 291-3381.

The Catholic Church’s vocation program, “Lower Your Nets” for Catholic Youth Camp

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More than 2,800 Notre Dame students received degrees May 21

NOTRE DAME — More than 2,800 students received degrees May 21 at the University of Notre Dame’s 161st commencement exercises, which were held at the Joyce Center on campus.

Mary McAleese, president of Ireland, was the principal speaker and the recipient of an honorary doctor of laws degree. Jazz pianist and composer Dave Brubeck received the 2006 Lactare Medal, Notre Dame’s highest honor and the most prestigious award given to American Catholics.

Catherine Doherty, a double major in anthropology and preprofessional studies from Leawood, Kan., delivered the valedictory address.

Degrees were conferred on 1,935 undergraduates, 318 master’s and doctoral students in the Notre Dame Graduate School, 380 master’s degree students in the Mendoza College of Business, and 191 Notre Dame Law School students.

Other honorary degree recipients are: Landrum R. Bolling, higher education leader and international peace maker; Kevin Cahill, internationally known expert on tropical medicine; Anthony F. Earley Jr., chairman of the board, chief executive officer, and president of DTE Energy Company; Norman C. Francis, president emeritus of Xavier University; Pulitzer Prize-winning author Harper Lee; Gil Loescher, emeritus professor at Notre Dame and international expert on refugee and humanitarian issues; Francis C. Oakley, president emeritus of Williams College; philanthropist Karen Rauenhorst; John F. “Jack” Williams College; philanthropist Oakley, president emeritus of Notre Dame Law School students.

BISHOP CELEBRATES BACCALAUREATE MASS AT SAINT MARY’S COLLEGE

Travel to the Holy Land with Father Glenn Kohrman (Pastor of St. Mary of the Lake, Culver)

November 13-22, 2006

Caesarea • Tiberias
Upper Galilee • Jerusalem, and more!

Register before August 5, 2006 and the price is $2,099 from Chicago
To register, contact Pentecost Tours (Batesville, Indiana) 1-800-713-9800 travel@pentecosttours.com

Msgr Faber celebrates 70 years as priest

Mary McAleese, president of Ireland, presented the commencement address at the University of Notre Dame on May 20.

BISHOP CELEBRATES BACCALAUREATE MASS AT SAINT MARY’S COLLEGE

I RISH PRESIDENT PRESENTS ADDRESS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Msgr Faber celebrates

70 years as priest

FORT WAYNE — June 6 will mark the 70th jubilee anniversary of ordination into the priesthood for Msgr. William Faber, who celebrated his 97th birthday in March. In his years he has witnessed many changes, both culturally and within his beloved church.

Born in Evanston, Ill., on March 26, 1909, to Susan and Michael Faber, sixth of eight children, Msgr. Faber and his siblings were very close, one brother being “like a twin.” The children helped out during the Depression years by selling vegetables at a roadside stand.

Msgr. Faber and his “twin” spent their time together caddying at the local golf course where he learned to love golf, a sport he played well throughout his life. His family, he says, have all lived good long lives, including one sister who is a retired nun.

“Longevity is in our genes,” says Msgr. Faber brightly. “Six of the eight lived 90-plus years and the other two made it to 87.”

Msgr. Faber attended Catholic grammar and high schools in Evanston where he remembers being taught by tremendous nuns, yet had “no inclination” for a vocation until the eighth grade. Msgr. Faber plainly said he had them both returning to Fort Wayne.

The young priest’s first assignment was at Holy Angels Parish in Fort Wayne where he ministered to the people for more than 40 years. Msgr. Faber and his “twin” are both retired and Msgr. Faber spends a lot of time at his home in Kendallville.

Msgr. Faber was ordained into the priesthood in 1936 by then Bishop Leo Pursley in 1966.

He humbly adds, “It means everything to me. I was always involved in the sacraments, especially the Eucharist. I believe priests are ordained for the preference of the people.”

A special recognition dinner was held by the Knights of Columbus for Msgr. Faber’s jubilee on April 27, where he was presented with a certificate of appreciation for 70 years in the priesthood.

Msgr. William Faber

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Msgr. William Faber
Students find comfort with canine counselor

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — The school counselor must be exceptionally creative when working with the issues that plague today’s students. Use of puppets, talk and play therapy are all viable ways to guide students to problem resolution. But occasionally, it takes a little more.

Beth Keen, school counselor for St. Joseph–St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton School in Fort Wayne, knows that all too well and has found a unique and somewhat furry solution. Keen’s dog, Annika, accompanies her to school each day. She is a certified therapy dog.

Annika was a year old when she came to the Keen family as a pet six years ago. “She had been bred as a show dog, but her shoulders were too narrow,” says Keen. But that doesn’t seem to matter to this school counselor who is quick to point out how much she and her family love the dog. Following a lengthy interview process and two meetings with the breeder, Annika was soon home with Keen, husband Bob and 16-year-old son Brendan, who welcomed Annika wholeheartedly to their existing animal menagerie, which includes a cat and a horse.

Though Annika was well trained as a show dog, Keen felt an obedience class would be fun to participate in. The Whippet did so well that she moved up to the advanced class and earned her good canine citizenship award from Mike Rowland, owner and trainer of Animal Training and Development Center. Rowland liked what he saw in Annika and encouraged Keen to enroll Annika in therapy dog training. “We look for stability of temperament, a curiosity by nature and calmness,” says Rowland of the dogs he recommends for therapy training. The dogs can then be used in a variety of settings including nursing home visits, hospitals and schools.

The eight-week training Annika received at the center involved desensitization to anxiety, learning to be leashed on either side of the owner and using a paw or nose as directed. “We also help people see and appreciate the gift in the dog and how to use it,” reports Rowland.

Upon earning certification, Keen and her therapy dog began making nursing home visits where Annika became a comforting presence. The following year, in 2001, Keen was hired for the three-day-a-week school counseling position at St. Joseph–St. Elizabeth School and she immediately approached then-principal Mary Schreiber about the use of her dog. Schreiber welcomed the dog and the rest is history.

Annika is a Whippet, considered the middle-sized canine of the Greyhound family. She weighs in at 23 pounds, which her owner says is a good weight for her build. Her sleek coat is “orange brindle,” which is the most common color of the breed. Bred for speed, these agile dogs have been clocked running at 23 miles per hour. Annika, reports Keen, “is a nice weight for her build.”

Keen, who notes that research indicates the benefit on blood pressure rates during interaction with animals. She also uses the dog as an ice breaker to establish rapport with new students and parents who visit with concerns. Keen has become known as the “dog person” among the students and feels Annika has made her more accessible. “The dog gives them an excuse to come down to see me if they really need to talk,” says Keen. The dog accompanies Keen to retreats for children as well.

Annika and her owner are housed in a small office located in the lower level of St. Joseph School. Her bed, a large stuffed pillow, is located near the window by the hall where the students can stop by or wave to the counseling duo. On work days Annika accompanies Keen in the hallways at the end of the school day, where the departing throngs will stop to give her one last pet. “Though she’s very calm, she prefers one or two kids at a time,” says Keen. “Sometimes in the crowds she shakes and puts her head down. I tease the kids she’ll get an academic award for her acting. They love it.”

For more information on therapy dog training contact Mike Rowland at Animal Training and Development Center at (260) 432-3999 or visit their Web site at www.animaltrainingdev.com
S for this series we have focused on the Christian vision of marriage, sexuality and procreation, the meaning of responsible parenthood and the morality of the various means which can be used to avoid pregnancy. As we turn now to the topic of infertility, we will see how many of the moral principles we have already considered also apply to issues in this area.

The first principle, which puts this whole question into perspective, is the affirmation that a child is always a gift, never a right. While marriage gives spouses the right to express their love for each other through the language of the body that sex is supposed to be, we do not have a “right” to a child. A child is, rather, a gift from God which was eloquently expressed in the paragraph from “Donum Vitae,” which was issued by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith under Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger after being approved by Pope John Paul II:

“A true and proper right to a child, the child’s d[...]

Notice that this paragraph begins by affirming that a child is not a right and only by affirming the rights of the child. The first of these rights is the right to be conceived through an act of sexual love between his or her parents. This brings us to the second principle, which the church teaches, regarding the treatment of infertility: the sexual union of spouses is the only setting worthy of the “coming to be” of a new human person.

This principle is crucially important because what is at stake is the sacredness of the gift of sex as God designed it and the dignity of the child. We have seen that the love-giving and life-giving meanings of sex are intimately linked because they image the inner life of God, in which the love between the Father and the Son is literally personified in the Holy Spirit. God designed sex so that the moment in which the two become one flesh is the means by which the two become one flesh in the person of their child. In other words, the church is saying that the act that expresses most intimately the mutual gift of self between husband and wife is the way in which God wants to give spouses the gift of a child.

If we reflect on our own experience, we can easily see that some settings are not suitable for the giving of priceless gifts. Suppose that your parents have a precious family heirloom that they would like to pass on to you. Imagine them making reservations at a nice restaurant, or perhaps inviting you into their home to present the gift. Whatever setting they choose, you can be sure that it will be commensurate with the specialness of the occasion and the value they place on the gift. Somehow, passing on a priceless family heirloom in the parking lot of a convenience store just wouldn’t seem to fit. Well, in a similar way, the church is saying that the setting in which the gift of a child is given matters greatly, and the only place worthy of the passing on of that priceless gift is the mutual love of husband and wife expressed in the act of sexual union. This goes way beyond what is simply ideal to what is morally required: a child must never be simply the product of a technical procedure.

Notice also, however, that the setting in which the gift is passed on does not change or diminish the value of the gift. A family heirloom passed on in the parking lot of a convenience store is no less precious than if it were formally presented in a fancy restaurant. In the same way, a child conceived outside the setting of the sexual union of spouses is still a priceless gift from God. This brings us to the second right of the child affirmed in the paragraph from “Donum Vitae” previously quoted: regardless of the way in which a pregnancy is achieved, a child has the right to be respected as a person from the moment of his or her conception.

As we have seen before, these principles reflect a profound reverence for the holy ground that we are standing on when it comes to marriage, sexuality and procreation. This reverence also determines the essential moral difference between scientific technologies which are acceptable in treating infertility and those which are not. The principle, which the church teaches in this regard, can be stated like this: technologies which assist sexual union between spouses to achieve conception are acceptable, while technologies which substitute for sexual union are not. “Donum Vitae” describes the difference in these words: “If the technical means facilitates the conjugal act or helps it to reach its natural objective, it can be morally acceptable. If, on the other hand, the procedure were to replace the conjugal act, it is morally illicit.”

Next time we will apply this principle to the various reproductive technologies available today.

Moral principles involved in treating infertility

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL PRESENTS SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

St. Joseph School in Decatur recently announced scholarship winners for the 2006-2007 academic year. They include, front row, from left, Scott Alberding, Katlyn Cook, Vincent Faurote, Zach Fitzgerald; second row, Brock Weber, Emily Pierce, Abby Stimpson and Gabby Weaver; and third row, Principal Karla Hormann, guidance counselor Frank Whitaure and pastor Father David Voors.

DECATURED — St. Joseph School presented scholarships and awards to several returning students based on their Christian attitude on May 12. St. Joseph students received from the St. Vincent de Paul Society three $200 awards in memory of past member Dick Callow. Because of their Christian attitude, third grader Vincent Faurote, seventh grader Emily Pierce and sixth grader Brock Weber were chosen as the recipients.

Three additional students received a $1,000 Dan Klepper Memorial Scholarship. The Klepper’s established this fund in memory of their son Dan Klepper who was killed in a car-train accident over 30 years ago. This scholarship has been awarded to three St. Joseph School students who demonstrate outstanding Christian attitude for the past three years. The $1,000 scholarships cover part of the students’ tuition and the staff of St. Joseph School nominated the candidates for this award. This year’s winners are Abby Stimpson, Zach Fitzgerald and Katlyn Cook.

In addition, this was the first year for the All American Award. This award is in memory of Al Lindahl who was very active both at the church and the school. All American Award winners were based on not only academic excellence but also Christian attitude and an interest in athletics. The first time winners were Gabby Weaver and Scott Alberding. Each of these students will also receive $200 towards next year’s tuition.
St. John the Baptist
South Bend
1956-2006
A brief history

SOUTH BEND — Fifty years have seen St. John the Baptist Parish in South Bend remain steady.

And this year, the parish is celebrating its jubilee. Like most churches, there have been downs — like when a fire gutted the church in 1969. But there are always ups — like when the St. John School opened in 1957.

St. John became official June 8, 1956, according to Rose Gullifor, who is helping to work on the memory book for the 50th jubilee celebration.

Gullifor is no longer a parishioner since her family moved out of the parish, she was parish secretary for over 17 years for the parish’s first priest, Father Joseph A. Jacobs, and her family was part of the parish for about 30 years. She’s seen those good times and bad, and even though she’s now a part of another parish, she said Father James Seculoff, who is now pastor at St. John, calls her his “honorary member.”

When the church opened, there were about 437 parishioners. Gullifor said, and another count was taken sometime around Oct. 1957. At that time, St. John had about 508 parishioners, but it seems that the church was a growing and thriving one, with 626 just a year later in 1958.

Today, St. John sits at just over 500 parishioners.

Though he wasn’t a parishioner at the time, Bill Sorukas said he remembers when St. John was being built. He knew some guys his age, who had vandalized and burglarized the newly built church, and the police came to talk to him about the suspects, who were later arrested. Sorukas said he found out about the suspects, who were later arrested. Sorukas was transferred to Fort Wayne. He knew Father Jacobs retired in 1991 and was replaced by Father Terry Place, who was replaced by Father Lourdino Fernandez in 2002, who was replaced by Father Seculoff in April 2004, Gullifor said.

Three priests were also ordained at St. John, Gullifor said. Father Joseph Rudi was ordained in 1992, Father Donald Woznicki in 2002 and Father Bradley Metz, CSC, in 2002, she said.

But the parish has also lost one of their most beloved figures, Father Jacobs died July 4, 2003.

According to Gullifor, Father Jacobs still found time to help around St. John the Baptist — named for Father Jacobs’ father’s patron saint — even though he was at St. Joseph Parish in Mishawaka.

He was at St. John so often helping out that “we took for granted” all he did, Gullifor said. “We were use to seeing him.”

Services for Father Jacobs, she said, were held at St. John and many of his colleagues — about 20 priests — came to pay their respects along with parishioners.

In 2005, the St. John social room was renovated with new light, a drop ceiling and air conditioning, and it was renamed Father Jacobs Hall in memory of the founder of St. John, according to Gullifor.

Parishioners remember Father Jacobs with fondness, including Joseph Radecki, who said Father Jacobs was always about his duties and that he holds good memories of the parish members working together.

“It was a happy group,” Radecki remembered.

And he likens Father Seculoff to Father Jacobs.

“Father Seculoff is just fantastic,” Radecki said. “He’s another Father Jacobs.”

And Sorukas remembers of Father Jacobs that he was quick with a Mass.

“People would come all over to hear Father Jacobs 20 to 25 minute Mass,” Sorukas joked. “He was known for his quick Mass — especially if it was a warm summer morning.”

The church didn’t have air conditioning at the time.

Because of the growth of the church early on, a school with four grades — with a double first grade — was built in 1957, with an enrollment of about 185. Sister Clarice, OSF, was the first principal, Gullifor said.

Because of increased enrollment over the years, grades were continually added until a kindergarten was added in 1978. Now the school boasts kindergarten through eighth grades, with a full-day of kindergarten instituted during the 1992-93 school year.

Gullifor said the first lay principal, Janet Wrobleski, was hired in the fall of 2003.

Despite the growth of the church and school, one moment in the church’s history seems to stand out.

On April 23, 1969, a flash fire gutted the church after school let out. It was caused by a faulty motor in a fan at the church, which sustained $288,000 worth of damage.

And everyone in the parish worked together to rebuild the church. That fact alone attracted the attention of the local community, and the South Bend Tribune wrote an article about the volunteer effort to rebuild the church.

Gullifor said the original church was built as a gymnasium with the hopes that one day the parish would build a new church. But when the fire tore through, the original church was simply rebuilt.

Radecki sees that as a mistake now since the church could use more room for a social hall. Right now two classrooms, he said, are used for the social hall and only about 100 people can fit into it.

Despite having to rebuild the church, it has gone through relatively little renovation over the years.
What’s in store
St. John parishioners look to the future with steady confidence

BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

SOUTH BEND — As much as things change, they certainly stay the same.
“We’ve not really changed much,” said Bill Sorukas, who has been with the St. John the Baptist Parish nearly has long as it’s been around and who has served in nearly every leadership position of the church including parish council and the finance committee.

It seems that over the years, St. John the Baptist Parish nearly has long as it’s been around and who has served in nearly every leadership position of the church including parish council and the finance committee. It seems that over the years, St. John the Baptist Church in April of 1969. First Communion was held outside that year; the rebuilt church was dedicated in 1970.

A flash fire caused by a faulty motor in a fan gutted St. John the Baptist Church in April of 1969. First Communion was held outside that year; the rebuilt church was dedicated in 1970.

Jubilee events are planned for St. John

SOUTH BEND — St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, in South Bend, is celebrating its 50th jubilee with the following events:

• June 8: Opening festivities with adoration and benediction at 7 p.m. followed by social hour.

• June 10: School open house-ice cream social for all alumni and teachers from 2 to 4:30 p.m. All parishioners are welcome.

• June 11: Mass with Bishop John M. D’Arcy at 11 a.m. followed by a banquet at Holy Family Hall at 2 p.m. Cost for the dinner is $12 for adults and $6 for children 12 and under, with a cash bar. For reservation, call Pat at (574) 291-7077, Carol at (574) 232-3186, John at (574) 232-5913 or Joe at (574) 234-5820. Tickets will be sold after all Masses on the weekends of May 27-28 and June 3-4.

Also, after Mass on June 11, coffee and doughnuts will be available in Father Jacob’s Hall.

Younger people now, he said, are far busier. And the neighborhood around St. John, Radecki said, is getting older and older, though Father Seculoff is working to attract younger families.

“He has so much charisma,” Radecki said of Father Seculoff. Despite some downturn, Radecki said he doesn’t think this is all happening only at St. John.

“I think a lot of parishes have that problem,” Radecki said, though he did admit that there seems to be a small, younger group of parishioners who are really working hard at the church.

But it seems the one thing that is making the parish stand up and take notice is what their priest is doing at the church.

One of the things that Radecki likes about Father Seculoff is that Father Seculoff has instituted a Latin Mass early Sunday mornings.

“It’s the only one in the area” to his knowledge, Radecki said. St. John students are taught theology by Father Seculoff, and he makes sure they’re in church everyday, Radecki said.

“There’s nothing he doesn’t go to,” he said of Father Seculoff. “He’s on the go all the time. Everybody just loves him.”

Sorukas said the future for St. John the Baptist Parish is one in which they will be looking for ways to increase enrollment at the school.

“Father Seculoff is determined to keep it open,” Sorukas said.

And the parish is going to continue to work on getting new blood into the church.

“We’re going to continue to try to attract more and more young families,” he said.
SOUTH BEND — “I cannot type, but I can serve as a receptionist and also do other handy jobs around the office.”

That was the message of Pauline Meryhart, a member of St. John the Baptist Parish, to the director of Forever Learning Institute 27 years ago to volunteer her services.

Today, one could say that “volunteering” is Pauline’s middle name. For at the eighth annual Michiana 55Plus award dinner sponsored by Teachers Credit Union at Windsor Park in Mishawaka, Pauline not only won the prestigious volunteer award for education, but the top overall award as the best volunteer in St. Joseph County.

At the golden age of 87, this mother of six children has been a standout volunteer at FLI. She has words of wisdom for the retired and elderly.

“ Remain active as much as possible; keep learning because you are never too old to learn, and share your life and creativity with others.”

She has been active with FLI, having taken classes for 27 years that range from creative arts programs to religion and ancient history.

In addition, Pauline is vice president of membership for the South Bend Serra Club whose primary focus is on hoping to promote religious vocations to the priesthood, brotherhood and sisterhood. Pauline came to the United States at the age of six with her family from Austria. She grew up in South Bend with a family that was devoted to the Catholic Church.

She has always a gifted volunteer at the family church, thanks to a family that encouraged such devotion.

When classes start at FLI this fall, she will be among the first to enroll for the 27th year.

“I will take a class I have never had before, because I love the challenge of always being willing to learn,” she says.

Today, one could say that “volunteering” is Pauline’s middle name. For at the eighth annual Michiana 55Plus award dinner sponsored by Teachers Credit Union at Windsor Park in Mishawaka, Pauline not only won the prestigious volunteer award for education, but the top overall award as the best volunteer in St. Joseph County.

At the golden age of 87, this mother of six children has been a standout volunteer at FLI. She has words of wisdom for the retired and elderly.

“ Remain active as much as possible; keep learning because you are never too old to learn, and share your life and creativity with others.”

She has been active with FLI, having taken classes for 27 years that range from creative arts programs to religion and ancient history.

In addition, Pauline is vice president of membership for the South Bend Serra Club whose primary focus is on hoping to promote religious vocations to the priesthood, brotherhood and sisterhood. Pauline came to the United States at the age of six with her family from Austria. She grew up in South Bend with a family that was devoted to the Catholic Church.

She has always a gifted volunteer at the family church, thanks to a family that encouraged such devotion.

When classes start at FLI this fall, she will be among the first to enroll for the 27th year.

“I will take a class I have never had before, because I love the challenge of always being willing to learn,” she says.

The art of charitable planning

Just as the artist creates his/her masterpiece, the philanthropist designs his/her charitable legacy. The artist uses tools such as an easel, canvas, brushes and paint to convey his/her thoughts into a portrait. The donor’s instruments though are quite different. The donor reflects upon personal, financial and philanthropic goals, reviews assets and property, and contemplates planning techniques to create a significant gift that will make the world a better place.

What do you want to do?

As the donor, what do you feel passionate about? Perhaps you grew up and have lived in the same parish community your entire life. You remember the many pastors who have ministered to God’s word at that parish. You recall the people who were/were a part of the parish family. You reminisce about the special events which your family celebrated such as the sacraments of baptism, holy Eucharist and matrimony.

Perhaps you or your children attended a Catholic grade or high school. You have fond memories of the religious and lay teachers who inspired you, believed in you, encouraged you. You take into account the strong academic programs and Catholic culture.

Through careful charitable planning, you can make a difference in someone’s future.

What do you want to give?

The type of property you own determines what you will give. And different tax results occur from giving different types of property. For instance, if you make a gift of appreciated securities, which have increased in value for more than one year, you will receive a charitable income tax deduction for the fair market value of the securities on the date of the gift. In addition, you avoid any capital gains taxes on the appreciation upon the sale of those securities.

Moreover, assets that carry income tax consequences such as U.S. savings bonds or retirement plan assets and which are left to charity at death allow heirs to avoid income and death taxes.

How do you want to give?

Bequests through wills or revocable trusts are the most common type of planned gift and are revocable. Bequests can be made to your parish, school or other organization by a specific dollar bequest, a percentage bequest, or a specific property bequest.

Another type of gift is a lifetime income gift. This can be in the form of a charitable gift annuity (CGA) or a charitable remainder trust (C RT). With a CGA, the annuitant enjoys a fixed annuity for life in which a portion of the payout is tax-free and receives an immediate income tax deduction.

The CRT provides for the donor or heirs a payout for either a term of years or for lifetime while also making available a current charitable deduction to the donor.

When do you want to give?

Some donors prefer making charitable gifts during lifetime in order to take advantage of special income tax deductions. This is often accomplished at year-end or in a year when a donor has a large influx of income from a bonus, sale of a business, or withdrawal from an IRA or retirement plan asset.

Many donors prefer making deferred gifts from their estate plans. This may include naming the charity as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy. Or perhaps gifting a remainder interest in your personal residence or farm, but retaining a life estate whereby you continue to live in and/or have the right to use the property during your lifetime.

Who’s Helping You Plan For Retirement?

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Students at St. Matthew School in South Bend participated in the annual May Procession on May 19. Students processed from the church to the cathedral. The eighth grade boys stood in the center aisle as the eighth grade girls walked down carrying a flower to place on Mary’s altar. They were followed by Angela Watkins, the May Queen, who crowned Mary with a crown of flowers. After the crowning, the eighth grade lead the Memorare, followed by Emilie Vlahos.

Huntington Catholic secretary bids farewell after 27 years of service

BY KAY COZAD

HUNTINGTON — The bright sun warmed the morning of Friday, May 19, in Huntington after several dark and rainy days. But even if it hadn’t, those who gathered at Sts. Peter and Paul Church for 8 a.m. Mass wouldn’t have noticed. They had joyfully come to worship together and to honor one of their own.

Margaret Schnepp was honored for 27 years of service as secretary in the primary building of Huntington Catholic Schools. She and her husband David, along with their six children and families were among the congregation there to hear Father Ron Rieder, OFM Cap., celebrate the Mass. Father Rieder opened with congratulatory words and remarked at the appropriateness of the Gospel in honoring Schnepp’s “27 years of love giving to the school community.” He went on to describe her as a “source of unity and security across the years.”

“She has made many sacrifices and made Huntington Catholic much better because of her service. Her legacy will live for a long time,” he said of Schnepp after working along side her for 22 years at Sts. Peter and Paul.

Following the Mass celebration this devoted secretary was brought to the front of the sanctuary to receive gifts and messages of love and thanks from each grade and the staff of her beloved school. Among the gifts were a memory book, gift cards and a beautiful handmade quilt depicting all that Schnepp meant to her community. The final gift, presented by Principal Jason Wooldard, was a special clock bearing the inscription, “To happy endings and new beginnings.”

An all-school reception was held in Schnepp’s honor from a tradition replete with black and gold balloons, punch and cake. The guest of honor welcomed throngs of well-wishers who showered her with hugs and words of gratitude. The students, staff and visitors were in high spirits as they celebrated Schnepp’s beloved secretary.

Margaret Schnepp’s Catholic roots are well planted in Huntington. “My mother attended Sts. Peter and Paul School, my siblings and I went there and I sent my six children there, too,” she reports. She and husband David were married in 1955 and after the children began to arrive, Schnepp became a stay-at-home mom. And though her career as secretary in the primary building at Ss. Peter and Paul began in 1978, she was a fixture there 10 years before as office volunteer, room mother and playground monitor.

The job was very different in the early days, recalls Schnepp. “Then I had to answer the phone and smiled at visitors. Now I do all the bookkeeping for the school, along with lunch count, phones, reading forms, tours and textbook ordering.” She has also been the voice of reason for teachers in need of advice and nursery aid to two generations of students.

Those students have much love for their jack-of-all-trades secretary. Sixth-graders Kaitlyn Winters, Kayleigh Hutson and Katlyn Stebbings agree that Schnepp was always available with a kind word where “just her voice makes you feel better.”

First-grader Justin Schoeff adds, “She’s nice. She helps me.” Andy Zay, parent, remarks that Schnepp is a steady influence in the school community.” He adds, “She’s nice. She helps me.”

On a personal note, first-grade teacher Rita Disher feels, “She is very professional, but like our mom, too. She’s a diehard, very special. It’s going to be hard to replace her.”

Principal Wooldard appreciates the help and dedication he received from Schnepp. “She has a quiet strength about her,” he says. Martha Bickel, secretary of the middle school building has worked with Schnepp these 27 years and knows her as a wonderful friend. “You can depend on her. She’s very strong and has helped hold the school together. I’ll miss her terribly.”

Husband David, who is recovering from recent bypass surgery, along with their children Mike, Cathy, Dick, Bob, Donna and Mari, were proud to usher in this new era of retirement with Schnepp who was surprised by all the festivities. She was delighted that all six children and families, including son Dick, who arrived from Florida to escort her up the aisle for Mass, were present to join the celebration. The family agreed with daughter Donna when she said, “It’s just awesome.”

The Schnepp family also includes 17 grandchildren and three great grandchildren. One grandson who shared in the festivities, Brian Herber, is a Marine preparing to join the troops in Iraq soon. Of his grandmother he says, “I went to Huntington Catholic and it was cool to have my grandma there at school.”

This humble, yet spirited volunteer project director notes, “This is one charity helping another, and we are proud to have raffled this beautiful quilt.”

The quilt has been traveling throughout St. Joseph County since February and the drawing took place May 11 in Fort Wayne at the main office of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Inc. Proceeds from the quilt raffle support the volunteers and programs of RSVP of St. Joseph County, the RSVP, including Busy Hands, the Miracle Mailers and the RSVP Mentoring Program. In 2005, 413 RSVP volunteers contributed $4,709 hours of volunteer service to the St. Joseph County community.

RSVP would also like to thank all the volunteers who helped sell raffle tickets, and all those who purchased a raffle ticket that made Quilt Raffle 2006 such a success. Over $2,400 was raised to support the programs of RSVP and Busy Hands.

RSVP of St. Joseph County offers free volunteer placement to people 55 and older to meet community needs and enrich the life of the volunteer. For more information contact Pam Claeys at (574) 234-3111, ext. 24. RSVP is funded in part by a grant from the Corporation for National & Community Service (CNCS) and is sponsored locally by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Inc.
In vitro fertilization is a Catholic no-no

Perhaps you have read or heard about a Wisconsin Catholic school teacher, Kelly Romeneskos, who had been fired from her job at a Catholic school after she announced that her child was conceived through in vitro fertilization.

The in vitro fertilization procedure violates Catholic teaching and violated Romeneskos’ teaching contract at the Catholic school.

We won’t debate whether Romeneskos should have been fired. What is a concern is a comment she made on ABC’s “Good Morning America” on May 12: “I did not know what the Catholic doctrine stated against in vitro fertilization. Yes, I signed a contract, but the contract was vague in my opinion. I didn’t know what I was doing as far as in vitro goes that went against doctrine. My understanding was it was the Ten Commandments, Romeneskos said.

The church has not been outspoken about its teaching on in vitro fertilization. You may also recall bioethicist Father Tad Pacholczyk’s column, Making Sense of Bioethics. In the Feb 26 issue, Father Tad begins, “When I give talks about in vitro fertilization (IVF), I usually ask my audience the following question: ‘How many of you know a baby born by IVF, or know a couple who has tried to get pregnant this way?’ Usually about half the hands in the room go up. Then I ask them to raise their hands if the couple was Catholic. Virtually all the same hands go up a second time.

“I have the sense that Catholics are making use of IVF at about the same rate as non-Catholics, and that most of them are only vaguely aware of the church’s position on making test tube babies.

“When asked why IVF might be immoral, people will usually mention the extra embryos that are frozen or discarded. Such embryos are certainly a serious concern, but they are not the primary reason the church insists the procedure is immoral.”

Pacholczyk’s column, Making Sense of Bioethics. In the Feb 26

Our goal is to make the issue less vague, to also explain the moral or immoral implications. Please note the Making Sense of Bioethics and the Faith and Fertility columns as fine guides to help readers understand the church teaching on bioethical and fertility issues.

As a general rule, as focused in this week’s Faith and Fertility column, written by Lisa Everett from the diocesan Office of Family Life, Catholics can use this distinction: “Technologies which assist sexual union between spouses to achieve conception are acceptable, while technologies which substitute for sexual union are not.”

More importantly, if a couple is unsure of the church’s teaching on all fertility treatments, they need to contact their parish priest.

Because of the delicacy of the issue, most Catholics probably will not hear about fertility treatments from the pulpits, but that still calls for every Catholic’s duty to learn the teaching of the church. One can always refer to the Catechism of the Catholic Church as a source. This topic is also another plank to the value of a Catholic newspaper in your home — these are issues that have been discussed through bioethicists and the Office of Family Life commentaries.

Housekeeping

The valedictorian and salutatorian from Bishop Dwenger High School were interchanged last week in the special graduation issue. Claire Ensign is the Bishop Dwenger valedictorian for the class of 2006. Her honorable distinction is part of the genetic pool in her family. Her mother and grandmother were also both valedictorians of their high school classes.

Claire Ensley is the Bishop Dwenger valedictorian for the class of 2006. To all the high school and college graduates, named and unmentioned, be assured of our prayers to wish you a life of blessing.

Tim Johnson, Vince LaBarbera and Msgr. J. William Lester.

When ‘me’ + ‘me’ does not equal ‘we’

By Theresa Notare

Just when you thought you’d heard the re-definition of marriage, a new mutation is born. Apparently, some many were heard the importance of no-fault divorce, blended families, cohabitation, same-sex marriage and polygamy, a new creature was forming and quietly growing: LATs — Living-Apart-Together.

LATs are relationships where two people claim to love each other, may have an exclusive sexual relationship, may share some financial expenses, but deliberately do not live together.

The bottom line is that LAT couples want independence, and don’t want to share themselves or their possessions unconditionally with each other.

The number of people in LAT relationships is on the rise in Europe and the United States. Sociologists are at a loss to explain what is causing this trend. Some say it is a reaction to divorce, both from an emotional and economic perspective — “My kids would never get along with him” or “Why bother joining households and lose a great city apartment?” Some point to advantages older LAT couples might have in avoiding the complicated inheritance issues that would arise if they were to marry. Others say it is just a harmless lifestyle alternative for both young and old. Still, insightful people are worried that it may be simply autonomy run amok.

This last point was starkly highlighted in a New York Times article (May 4, 2006) which featured interviews with couples in LAT relationships. Most spoke about their need for “alone time,” or “personal space,” or said they didn’t want to “wait on” the other person. In each case, the couples had a fiercely narrow view of personal freedom as freedom from the inconvenience of others. It is a warped understanding of freedom where the individual has absolutely no legitimate ties to another. According to Jennifer Roback Morse, author of “Smart

Today’s Catholic welcomes letters from readers. All letters must be signed and include a phone number and address for verification.

Today’s Catholic reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. Address letters to: Today’s Catholic • P.O. Box 1116 • Fort Wayne, IN 46856-1116 or e-mail to: editor@tdcatholicwv.org

Catholics who oppose abortion also oppose death penalty

There is a rather widespread myth that Catholics are not consistent in their thinking about life issues. It is often said that those who are pro-life in their opposition to abortion are quite willing to endorse the death penalty, and that those who are pro-life in opposing the death penalty tend to be pro-choice when it comes to abortion.

My latest national survey challenges this myth. With support from the Institute for Church Life at the University of Notre Dame, I asked a cross-section of American Catholics to respond to the following statement: “I am pro-life, and I would oppose abortion.” Fifty-six percent of Catholics agreed, 39 percent disagreed, and 5 percent did not answer. I asked the same 1,100 people to respond to another statement: “I am pro-life, and I would oppose the death penalty.” Fifty-eight percent disagreed, 34 percent agreed, and 8 percent did not answer.

The distributions on the two items were remarkably similar, but was there a correlation between the two? The answer is “yes.” A correlation of .33 indicates that Catholics who agreed with one statement also tended to agree with the other. More often than not, the response to one statement predicted the response to the other. The correlation was not perfect, but the answers to the two items clearly overlapped.

What factors contribute most to Catholics’ views on these two issues? How much effect do demographics factors such as generation and gender have, compared to religious factors such as whether one is a registered parishioner or a weekly churchgoer? Demographic factors do not have much impact. I examined the differences between four generations: pre-Vatican II Catholics (born in or before 1940), Vatican II Catholics (born 1941-1960), post-Vatican II Catholics (born 1961-1982), and millennial Catholics (born 1983 to the present). The generational differences are quite small. Sixty-six percent of pre-Vatican II Catholics oppose abortion, but there are very few differences between Vatican II Catholics (54 percent), post-Vatican II Catholics (53 percent), and millennial Catholics (58 percent). With regard to the death penalty, the range of answers is even smaller. At the high end, 60 percent of post-Vatican II Catholics say the church is right in opposing the death penalty. At the low end, 55 percent of post-Vatican II Catholics agree with that statement. Women are somewhat more pro-life on the abortion item (68 percent vs 55 percent of men).

Researchers for the Church

James D. Davidson

Reflection

Celebrating the Ascension of the Lord in the form of a special liturgical feast day is very revered in the church. However, seemingly, in its origins, it was celebrated together with Pentecost. For 17 centuries, however, it has been a feast of its own. Such is proper. The Ascension revealed much about Jesus, as does the response of the apostles. Fitzingly, the Eastern Church sees in the Ascension a particularly meaningful revelation for Christians.

Many lessons come from this feast. An important message for us today is that we are not alone. Christ did not leave us. He lives with us, and teaches us still, through the apostles and the structures and sacraments of the church they formed in the Lord’s name and at the Lord’s command.

Whatever comes against us, the power of God will prevent us from facing everlasting death.
If Jesus is truly the Son of God, then he can rise from the dead.

The Catholic Church offers a number of reasons why we believe that Jesus rose from the dead. The first reason is the fact of the empty tomb. After Jesus was taken down from the cross, he was buried in a new tomb from the rock with the help of Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus and the holy women. When the women went back to the tomb to anoint the body of Jesus, they expected to find the body there, but it was gone. They told the apostles, and Peter and John ran to the tomb to see for themselves, and they also saw that the body was not there.

A second reason for believing that Jesus rose from the dead is the fact that Jesus appeared to people in his risen state. Many scholars do not recognize Jesus at first and thought he was the gardener. Jesus appeared to his apostles along the road to Emmaus, and they did not at first recognize him until he broke bread with them. In the upper room in Jerusalem Jesus appeared to his apostles, and St. Thomas put his finger into the nailmarks on Jesus’ hands and his hand into the gash in Jesus’ side from which blood and water flowed out from the piercing of the soldier’s lance. St. Thomas then believed in the resurrection and proclaimed: “My Lord and My God.”

Jesus also appeared to some of the apostles at the Sea of Galilee where he ate fish with them. On another occasion he appeared to 500 of his followers at once. These many appearances lasted for 40 days until Jesus finally ascended into heaven.

A third reason for believing in the resurrection of Jesus is the very existence and spread of the church. The apostles were scared to death at the crucifixion of Jesus. They fled the scene, except for the youngest Apostle John. The apostles hid themselves in the upper room, where they re-started and then ran up on the cross. Jesus may have felt all was lost and may have wondered if they had wasted three years of their life following Jesus. But when they saw Jesus alive, they completely changed and became brave and courageous.

They gave up their whole life going to the ends of the earth preaching the Gospel and even shed their blood suffering a martyr’s death. Similarly, St. Paul who was persecuting the Christians, saw a vision of the risen Christ on the road to Damascus in Syria. He was blinded and fell off his horse. He suddenly turned around 180 degrees, became a Christian, and went on missionary journeys proclaiming the Gospel of Christ. We also see the remarkable spread of the early Christian church. In the popular persecutions by the Roman empire, where many saints were martyred for their faith in Christ. It is noted that Jesus said that he has brought in of the would-be martyrs who narrowly escaped death, because of the cessation of the persecutions, and they were said to die for Christ because they believed he was God, thus showing their faith in his resurrection.

A fourth reason for belief in the resurrection of Christ is that Jesus is not just a figure of history from 2,000 years ago, but rather the power of the risen Christ has been living and active throughout the history of the church and still is with us today through the grace of the seven sacraments that Jesus himself instituted. Because of the power of the risen Christ, many men and women have become great saints and lived lives of holiness. Because of the power of Christ, many miracles have been worked throughout the history of the church and even today. If Jesus is truly the Son of God, then he can rise from the dead. We have a true inbreed of the divine into human history.

Today’s Catholic welcomes questions from readers to pose to Father Richard Hire, Father Michael Heinitz, Father Mark Gurtner and the Office of the Bishop. Please e-mail questions to editors@tw.diocecese.org or mail them to Today’s Catholic, That’s A Good Question, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46856. Include your name, city and an e-mail address or phone number so we can contact you if necessary. Anonymity will be preserved upon request.

Church’s prominent face in campaign a reflection of 40 years ago

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Headline-grabbing civil rights marches that coincided with holidays of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Ascension in Spanish Catholic parishes top lists of speakers at rallies. Priests take up the church’s social justice-based philosophy and voices of this year’s immigrants rights campaign can have come straight out of the farmworker rights efforts led a generation earlier by labor organizer Cesar Chavez.

Chavez, a Catholic well-versed in the church’s social justice teachings, drew on Scripture, papal encyclicals and the teachings of St. Francis of Assisi as well as the non-violent strategies of Gandhi and the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. to seek justice for farmworkers.

One of Chavez’s first successful large-scale events was what he called the Delano onion strike in 1965-66, a volatile May 1967 strike at a Delano ranch was turned into more of a peaceful prayer vigil, when Chavez asked his brother to quickly construct a portable shrine in the back of a pickup truck, at which both strikers and strikebreakers prayed. When Chavez stopped eating for 25 days in 1968, in pursuit of calming violence, he didn’t call it a hunger strike but a fast, the term associated with a form of prayer, and broke it only with a few beverages and the Eucharist.

Gabriel Espinosa, a professor of philosophy and religious studies at Claremont McKenna College in Claremont, Calif., told journalists in a May 9 teleconference that as in the civil rights campaigns of the 1960s, many leaders of today’s immigration campaign have been shaped by their religious faith.

"Whether by design or coincidence, much of the rhetoric of the campaign for comprehensive immigration legislation "could almost overlap with the rhetoric of the 1960s," Espinosa said.

With the current battle to pass comprehensive immigration legislation, "a lot of attention has been a conspicuous voice amid the hundreds of grassroots, community, business and religious organizations in one of the most diverse coalitions ever united behind one cause."

A year ago the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops launched its Justice for Immigrants campaign, seeking to educate everyday Catholics and politicians about the church’s social-justice-based philosophy of the rights of immigrants. Its materials are now in use in parishes and dioceses across the country.

With its programs of legal aid, refugee resettlement and other services, the Catholic Church has long been involved in trying to shape immigration policy. But that role has largely gone unnoticed among the majority of American Catholics, not to mention the general public. But, the gender difference on the death penalty is small, with 60 percent of women and 56 percent of men agreeing with the church’s efforts.

Religious leaders have much more impact. For example, 62 percent of registered Catholics are opposed to abortion versus only 29 percent of Catholics who seldom or never go to Mass.

A study released in May by the Pew Research Center, conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates International, notes that while 69 percent of Catholics who attend every week support the church’s opposition to the death penalty, compared to only 42 percent of those who never or almost never go to Mass. In short, contrary to what one might hear on the streets or read in some publications, Catholics tend to be consistent in their views on these life issues, and the church deserves a lot of credit for bringing about that situation. The more Catholics are involved in the church, the more pro-life they tend to be.

James D. Davidson is professor of sociology at Purdue University in West Lafayette.

DAVIDSON CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

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Who were the ancient Philistines that battled the Israelites?

Philistia was an ancient country in southern Palestine, now Israel, on the Mediterranean seaboard about 50 miles in length and 16 miles at its widest. Its five chief towns or city-kings were Gaza, Ashkelon and Ashdod on the coast and Ekron and Gath inland.

Father John McKenzie says the coastal plain of Philistia is rolling pasture that stretches south of Tel Aviv with a deep-water harbor. G. Freeman says the city of Ashkelon means "wet sponge," and birds. A. O'Neill feels the city of Ashkelon was situated above an underground salt lake and it covers 160 acres. This rich agriculture was an attraction to the Israelites. Father McKenzie suggests the garden of Gethsemane is on the outskirts of Jerusalem and was an olive grove that provided food and oil for the city. The Philistines in Palestine endured as a power until the Roman domination. Jerome Murphy-O'Connor says that the Philistines were a military organization with chieftains possibly modeled on Greek rulers. The ancient city of Ashkelon means "wet sponge," and birds.

The Philistines became Palestine force

The Philistines became Palestine force

The Philistines became Palestine force

Fetal farming and the new slavery

"Slippery slope" arguments in bioethics are fairly popular, reminding us how initial ethical violations have a way of leading to further trespass, and ultimately to undesirable places. Once you “give away the principle” and start sliding, it becomes difficult to return to the point from which you started. What is genuinely striking is how far down the bioethical slopes we have already come. In the 1960s, contraception, or sex without babies, became widely accepted and practiced. Assaults on the rights of embryos in vitro fertilization (IVF) arrived on the scene with the birth of the first IVF baby, Louise Brown, in England in 1978. Human embryos were created in the laboratory and implanted in women. Today, we are being told that embryos in the deep freeze, to the point of nearly a half-million humans “trapped” just in the United States (and still more being produced and frozen each hour), as an assembly line, at fertility clinics around the country.

The destruction of innocent human life in the womb also became commonplace after the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, and the late 1980s researchers began to test embryos derived from abortions to try to treat Parkinson’s patients, with minimal public outcry or reaction, so that today abortion clinics have few qualms about offering freely to scientists at large universities or biotech companies.

In 1998, the next step was to sacrifice some of the previously frozen human embryos to procure their embryonic stem cells. Right on the heels of this development came previously frozen human embryos to procure their embryonic stem cells. Whole organs—such as a kidney or a heart—are exceedingly complex structures with many different interacting cell types. There are numerous unknown steps along the pathway of making a kidney, say, a kidney from a stem cell. Years, or even decades, clearly lie ahead before whole organs are ready for human transplant to become widely available.

In a convenient shortcut may be possible. Instead of destroying a cloned, five-day-old human embryo to get his or her stem cells, why not simply implant that embryo, allow him or her to grow into a fetus, and schedule an abortion a little while before the baby’s due date? Then mother nature will already have done all the hard work of making two kidneys, ready to be harvested from the aborted child, thus saving the cells. In the meantime, these cells could be used to treat the ailing hearts of other mice.

So today we sanction the production of a five-day-old human life to destroy it, harvesting it as little more than raw material, a commodity, for exploitation. The confluence of these various ethical violations points to the next twist down the slippery and well-greased slopes of modern biotechnology. Although perhaps ominous sounding today, the prospect of fetal farming looms large, and may likewise become routine in our future if we continue to acquiesce to the corrosive of our moral sensibilities around these important bioethical questions.

Fetal farming is a method to obtain whole organs or other complex tissues. Currently, researchers speak about using stem cells as the ideal, flexible cells that will let us make tissues and organs and body period detail of time and trouble in terms of scientific research. These kinds of “fetal farming” experiments have already been done in mice and in cattle, and they provide usable tissues and organs. Scientists at a biotechnology company called Advanced Cell Technologies in Worcester, Mass., have published papers where, in one instance, stem cells were obtained by implanting the cloned mouse embryo and gestating it until the human equivalent of the fifth or sixth month. Then the feline embryo was destroyed to procure its organs, which were used to treat the ailing hearts of other mice.

Today we sanction the production of a five-day-old human life to destroy it. Tomorrow it’s a three-month-old, then an eight-month-old fetus. How far is it, really, from a five-day-old embryo to fetal farming—manufacturing fetal humans to harvest their parts? Not very far, when one recognizes how well the slippery slopes have already been greased. This is why we must safeguard human life from its earliest beginnings, if we wish to avoid its destruction at any later stage.

As Charles Krauthammer, M.D., a syndicated columnist and member of the President’s Council on Bioethics has put it, “If we will, slowly and by the most circuitous, we have gone from stem cells to embryo farms to factories with fetuses hanging (metaphorically) on meat hooks waiting to be cut open and used by the already born.” Or, as Richard Doerrlinger has perceptively noted, this is all about a new slavery, with biotech companies as the plantation owners.

Unless we take legal steps to assure that the rich, the powerful and the self-interested are not allowed to run roughshod over embryonic and fetal humans, we will never be worthy of the claim that ours is a civilized society. Only if we are bold enough to challenge and alert our fellow Americans to the dangers of biotechnology without ethics can we avoid transitioning from the slippery slopes to outright downhill skiing. Before ending up in an irreparable heap at the bottom of the hill, we would do well to respond decisively to those threats that arise whenever science becomes detached from a strong and robust moral vision.

Fetal Tadeusz Pachelczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuro-science from Yale and did postdoctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia. See www.ncbcenter.org

By Father Tad Pachelczyk

Meet The Priest

Father Ron Rieder, OFM Cap.
Ordained to the priesthood: April 20, 1963
Pastor, Sts. Peter and Paul, Huntington

What was the primary influence on your decision to become a priest?
I really don’t know. I knew I would be a priest from the time I was in second grade.

Why do you like being a priest? Being able to make a real difference in the world and in individuals is an opportunity a priest has, rather than more other professions.

Do you have a special interest or hobby?
I have been wood-carving for 18 years.

What is your favorite prayer or devotional?
I love the works of David McCullough. I also read everything written by Ken Follett.

What do you think is the best part of being Catholic?
Without doubt, holy Communion and confession, all the sacraments, and belonging to a united, universal church going back to the apostles.

What is your favorite prayer or Scriptural passage?
“Don’t break the bruised reed or quench the flickering wick.” The passage of Jesus walking through the standing grain with his apostles and eating the barley in the desert while the people of the Sabbath because they were hungry. And Jesus weeping at Lazurus’ tomb.

How do you prefer to be addressed by the laity?
Father Ron

Father Ron Rieder, OFM Cap.

Ordained to the priesthood: April 20, 1963
Pastor, Sts. Peter and Paul, Huntington

Meet The Priest

Jerome Murphy-O’Connor says Ashkelon has no spring, but is rich in wells. It was in second grade. It was in second grade. I knew I would be a priest from the time I was in second grade.

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CYO City Meet results

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In a steady rain, athletes from all over the city competed in the 2006 Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) track meet at Bishop Luers on Saturday, May 13. At the city meet, teams are allowed to enter their top two individuals in each event. The top six finishers earn points for their team (10, 8, 6, 4, 2, 1).

Of the nine boys' teams represented in the CYO this year, St. Jude came out on top scoring 115 points. St. John New Haven (NH) came in second place with 73 points, while St. John-Benoit finished with 66 points for third place.

St. Jude took top honors in 10 (points) in six different events out of 12. They even grabbed two spots in seven events dominated by scoring individuals in every event but one. Lake Monper was a triple winner taking first place in the mile, half mile and in running a leg of the 4x200 relay along with Dylan Ng, Michael Farrell and Zach Welklin. His times in all three events were lower than his best seeded time today.

In the girls' Slowdown, St. John NH outscored the rest of the field with 115 points. St. Jude finished with 83 for second place and St. Joe-St. Elizabeth took home third honors with 53. The Raiders won both relays and the girls 800 meter run scoring a red or white ribbon in every event. Emily Lahrman of St. John NH, St. Vincent's Chris Widness and St. John's Anne Marie Shank brought home two blue ribbons each.

Eighth grader, Lauren Palmer was a triple winner for St. Jude taking first place in all of her individual events (100, 200 and long jumps). She also anchored the 4x100 relay which came in second to the foursome from St. John NH who won with a time of 1:06.93.

Among individuals in every event but one. Emily Lahrman of St. John NH, St. Vincent’s Chris Widness and St. John’s Anne Marie Shank brought home two blue ribbons each.

The Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) held the 2006 ICCL girls track meet on May 20. Eleven-year-old Maria Tomlinson from St. Joseph School, Mishawaka, proved that hard work and dedication pays off. Last year the school was runner-up in the shot put, but losing in the city by a half inch put her on a mission. This year Maria broke the ICCL class-C all-conference record of 25-feet-8-inches by putting her name into the record books with a 28-feet-5 3/4-inch throw.

ST. JOSEPH STUDENT SETS ICCL TRACK RECORD

The Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) held the 2006 ICCL girls track meet on May 20. Eleven-year-old Maria Tomlinson from St. Joseph School, Mishawaka, proved that hard work and dedication pays off. Last year the school was runner-up in the shot put, but losing in the city by a half inch put her on a mission. This year Maria broke the ICCL class-C all-conference record of 25-feet-8-inches by putting her name into the record books with a 28-feet-5 3/4-inch throw.

The Corpus Christi (Red) team finished with the Inter-City Catholic League’s best record, 8-0, and won the Martin De Porres Division championship. The team includes the following: front row, from left, Jimmy Reagan, Billy Kinney, Dan Hill, Mario Aversa, David Borntrager, Clayton Brunttz; back row, from left, head coach Dick McManion, assistant coach Todd Lukens, Tyler Lukens, Dylan McManion, Tyler Rogers, Andy Kinlack, Joe Ryal, Cody Weber, Scott Coppa and assistant coach Kip Klute.

Christ the King, Corpus Christi Red snare division

SOUTH BEND — The weatherman raised havoc with makeup games in the final weeks of the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL), but it did not deter unbeaten Christ the King from winning the John Bosco Division and Corpus Christi Red from snaring the Martin De Porres Division.

Unbeaten Christ the King scored two victories in as many days, beating St. Anthony, 7-1, and then polishing off St. Jude 11-7, thus finishing up with a perfect 6-0. Corpus Christi Red unleashes a 15-hit attack to overpower St. Anthony, 11-0, and end the regular season with a 8-0 mark.

The two division champions will have a chance to play each other in the post season tournament since both are in opposite brackets.

The ICCL, for the first time, launched a second chance post season tournament for each of the four teams that finished in the lower half of each division.

In first-round games, St. Anthony defeated Mishawaka Catholic, 22-2; St. Thomas of Elkhart blanked St. Adalbert, 7-0; St. Anthony downed St. Matthew, 15-3; St. Joseph-St. John the Baptist-Os Lady of Hungary beat Corpus Christi, 11-0.
Coach Kevin Downey finds teamwork on field and classrooms of Saint Joseph’s

BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND — Teaching and coaching revolve around certain fundamental principles that are entwined, commingled and are the cornerstones of learning and performance in the classroom as well as on the field.

Saint Joseph’s High School head football coach Kevin Downey and IEP/504 coordinator uses his teaching skills in the classroom and funnels them into life lessons to pass on to another generation of Indian football players.

“My job as special needs coordinator is to teach as well as act as an administrator and guidance counselor and strive to give variety of students,” explained Downey. “I have interactions with parents and teachers while being an advocate for our students.

“Our special needs program started in the late ’70s and has grown based upon the requirements for our every changing student body,” continued Downey. “We are a college prep school so we must structure our program into changing curriculum and help teach our students to help themselves.

“I work with two very dedicated teachers in my department in Nancy Drucci and Josh Comeau,” remarked Downey. “We are a team that works together everyday to give our student the opportunity to succeed.”

Coach Downey credits his academic accomplishments to special mentors that have deep roots in Saint Joseph’s High School lore.

“I have three coaches that I have been very fortunate to have and those are coach Phil Teegarden and then got my coaching start under coach Frank Amato here and I was an assistant coach under Andy Strati.

“All of the coaches had a positive impact on my life that I try to pass on to our players and the future Indian football players,” added Downey. “Though a part of each of those coaches is in me, Father Bly has been the constant steady force in our program for more than 30 years.”

“Father Bly has been instrumental in our football program, more than anyone else at any school in the state,” Downey said. “Having played and graduated from Saint Joe and being surrounded by my mentors, to be honest, this is my dream job.”

To keep the traditions alive at Saint Joe isn’t easy, and has many behind the scenes activities to make a team successful in the fall.

“We have had the most productive off-season since I have been here,” explained Downey. “This is the first time we’ve shown gains and have been unified in doing things that are important.”

“We’ve opened up our conditioning with crossover athletes and have started the Indian Iron Club that takes into account three parts; attendance, intensity (how hard they work) and leadership (how they help others to be better)” explained Downey.

“We’ve worked to redo our weight room so the kids are proud to work out in a great setting,” continued Downey. “The staff has put the time in and the kids are following.”

Another important part of the off-season work is tied up into the students that are attending the feeder schools of Saint Joseph’s.

“Great things are happening with all the diocesan schools,” commented Downey. “I respect what the Inter-City Catholic League coaches do with the kids and appreciate how they spread the love of the game.”

“Coach Reggie Glon of Mishawaka Marian and I have worked well together in promoting football,” said Downey. “The better we work together the stronger both schools will become.

“We have seen a constant growth in the Saint Joe summer football camp numbers,” added Downey. “Last year we had players from 19 different schools represented in our camp, my long time connection with Saint Joe helps me to describe to the kids and the parents how great our school is.”

While the Indians have put in a solid off-season, the program is continuing to get better under the tutelage of Coach Downey.

“He and his staff have improved every game,” stated Eric Gohlke, Saint Joseph’s athletic director. “He will continue to get stronger as a coach and mentor as he defines and refines his game.”

“Coach Downey does a great job relating to the players,” continued Gohlke. “He has the best interests of the students as well as the school when he’s coaching.”

“With everything that you’re passionate about, there is sacrifice,” explained Downey. “Both my wife, Kathy (Kloka) who is a Marian gradate, and I are committed to Catholic education.

“Sometimes I put pressure on myself because it’s my alma mater.”

Downey added “I will get calls from guys I played with after a game or I’ll see them around town and they will ask me how their program is heating.”

While the ship that is Saint Joe football is on a steady and reliable course, the coach that has worn and lives and dies Columbia Blue and White still has more to give to the students, parents and alumni.

“Consistency over time is the one way you and your program can be judged,” remarked Downey. “Passing on Saint Joe traditions and life knowledge to the young men and women of this school is another way to access your contributions.”

The Indian High School Athletic Association for the first time in the 53-year history of the school.

The Indians won only two events, the 400 meter dash by Kaneth Kamanda, and the 1600 relay with the foursome of Kyle Magyar, Connor Krugel, Taylor Summerlin and Kaneth Kamanda nipping Mishawaka, 96-94, and also ending 19 consecutive years of victories by Penn, which finished third. Mishawaka Marian was fourth.

The winning team points came half an hour after all but one event was completed. Then Dustin Lauer finished sixth in the 300 meter intermediate hurdles, and teammate Wes Chamblee finished eighth to account for the most valuable points that made history for the Indians.

Winning coach Mike McCarthy of the Indians said, “This was one of those track meets where every point meant a lot.”

The Second Annual Bishop’s Cup was played at Marian High School in Mishawaka on May 20. The participants featured teams from Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, Bishop Noll Institute in Hammond, Andrean High School in Merrillville and host Marian High School. The ceremony celebrated Marian’s 30 years of softball. Andrean won in the championship game against Marian 4-0. Father Mike Heintz is shown blessing the new field.

Director of Communications

The Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana seeks a Director of Communications who will serve as editor-in-chief of its 27,500 circulation weekly diocesan newspaper, The Catholic Moment, will coordinate diocesan communication projects, and serve as public relations officer. This person will be a member of the Curia and be responsible directly to the Bishop.

This person will have overall responsibility for the content and quality of the weekly newspaper, and will manage the business affairs of the publication. The Bishop of the diocese has published this newspaper for 60 years. Selected content may be reviewed at www.thecatholicmoment.org. The Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana is located in 24 counties of Northcentral Indiana and has 63 parishes with 100,000 Catholics.

At least 5 years publication management desired. Website development and maintenance experience a plus. Salary negotiable, commensurate with experience and expertise. Benefit package included. Practicing Catholic.

Please send resume, samples of published writing, editorial publications and references by June 30, 2006 to: Human Resources Department Diocese of Lafayette in Indiana P.O. Box 260 • Lafayette IN 47902 www.dioceseoflafayette.org

Associate Director of Music

Vibrant suburban parish of 2600 families, known for excellence in liturgy and music, seeks a full-time associate Director of Music. ADM must work collaboratively with Director and Assistant Director of Liturgy and Music. Responsibilities include assisting Director with 7 Sunday Liturgies, Holy Days, funerals, and weddings; directing children’s choir, assisting Director with bell and adult choirs. Requirements include keyboard, pipe organ, and choral skills, ability to work with other instrumentalists, and a degree in music or equivalent. Salary is commensurate with experience and degree. Please send resume with references to: Director of Liturgy and Music Saint Pius X Roman Catholic Church 52553 Fir Road • Granger, IN 46530 Phone: 574 272 8462 ext 28 Email:jhoy@stpius.net
If you’re looking for Catholic writing with clear understanding and a conversational tone, yet filled with theological depth that will knock your socks off, pick up anything by Father Richard John Neuhaus. Even pick up his journal First Things, which does focus on some highbrow theological issues, and thumb past the pages until you get to “The Public Square,” his thoughts for the month on any-thing and what may seem like everything related to religion and civic discourse.

His most recently bound volume of reflections is “Catholic Matters” (Basic Books, $25), which takes a look at much of what is current about the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church, as well as why it is the “Church” (yes, with an upper-case C) that all Christians are ultimately called to. As a convert, he writes as one of the called, but also explains how the truths of the church call us all to more fully live as Christ invites us.

Although many may read political motives into much of what Father Neuhaus is expositing on — a New Republic magazine dia-triebute attributes everything about Father Neuhaus to politics — it’s the faith components that hold readers captive. The background of Neuhaus’ upbringing, in the opening chapter, is most edifying. In fact, it sets the tone for the book and gives hints of how the young man from Pembroke, Ontario, Canada — raised a Lutheran and later a minister of that denomina-tion — found his way into Catholicism and a year later ordi-nation.

Those who want to look at Father Neuhaus’ prose through the political lens will focus on his description of how the church changed during the tumultuous 1960s and as a result of the overzealousness of those foment-ing change after the Second Vatican Council. The problem here, though, is that those pushing for change did undertake their efforts for political, or pseudo-political, reasons, when the focus should have been on what could be done to better impart the faith during those turbulent times.

Father Neuhaus does spend a few chapters referring to this unfortunate chain of events, but never in a fashion that praises con-servatives (there’s a political word) again. For example, when he talks about what many would consider the regrettable decision by the U.S. bishops in the 1960s to do away with the abstinence measures relat-ed to meat on Fridays and fasting during Lent, he doesn’t cast it in political tones of a battle between liberals and conservatives in the church. He explains, in faith terms: “There was also a powerful link between fasting and a Catholic sense of being dislocated in ordi-nary space and time. Fasting reminds Christians that they are people of the cross, and is, how-ever inadequately, an acted-out statement of solidarity with the poor and hungry of the world.”

By using that example, some will charge this reviewer with a myopic view of what is impor-tant about the faith. But that decision may have been the beginning of a downward slide that minimizes the faith as merely one of many char-acteristics that we each pos-sess. Being a follower of Christ, who found the one church, should be the core of who we are, not merely an affectation.

Father Neuhaus focus-es on that core, which has contributed to making him one of the best writers on church matters today.
Fort Wayne — German Mass on Sunday, June 4, will be the celebrant at St. Peter Church Germanfest kicks off with Mass.

St. Peter Church follows by the 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph's. Communion will be celebrated at the Our Lady of Hungary Recitation at convent.

At Home and At Play — Senior Support Services, LLC

Are you a senior who wants to maintain your independence in your home, but need a little non-medical assistance? Then AT HOME AND AT PLAY can help! We provide non-medical assistance to seniors in the comfort of their homes with warm, caring, bonded and insured SITTERS and COMPANIONS. We provide: Personal Care Meal Preparation & Planning - Errands - Reprieve Care - Light Housekeeping - Medical Reminders. Please call for your free personal consultation at 260-760-2867, or visit our website at www.AtHomeandATPLAY.com.

REST IN PEACE

What’s Happening?

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

Concert presented at St. Matthew Cathedral

South Bend — St. Matthew Cathedral will present Cantus Cathedrales (Cathedral Chant) in concert on Sunday, June 4, at 7:30 p.m. Cantus Cathedrales concentrates on works from the 16th century. The group aspires to bring the Catholic Church in Michiganian historic liturgical art music, sung at the highest possible level. Admission is free.

Quilt raffle benefits Hannah’s House

Quilt raffle will be held on Wednesday, May 31, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to showcase the newly renovated Good Shepherd Memory Care Community at St. Paul’s Retirement Community, 3620 S. Ironwood Dr.

Port-a-Pit chicken and ribs on menu

Port-a-Pit chicken and rib sale sponsored by the Our Lady of Hungary Holy Name Society will be held at Ritter’s Frozen Custard, 4540 Miami Rd., on Saturday, June 3, at 10 a.m. Tickets guaranteed until 1 p.m. Chicken — $5 day of sale or $4.50 presale; ribs — $6.50 day of sale or $6 presale. Presale tickets may be purchased before or after Sunday Masses or at the Our Lady of Hungary rec. center (574) 287-1700.

Annulments: Get the facts

Notre Dame — Rev. John P. Riley, CSC, pastor of Sacred Heart Parish will discuss the legal aspects of the marriage tri- bunal and Father Paul Doyle, CSC, associate rector of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart will discuss the pastoral aspects of the annulment process on Tuesday, June 6, at 7 p.m. in the Sacred Heart Parish Center.

Memory care unit to open at St. Paul’s Retirement

South Bend — An open house will be held on Wednesday, May 31, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to showcase the newly renovated Good Shepherd Memory Care Community at St. Paul’s Retirement Community, 3620 S. Ironwood Dr.

DEVOTIONS

Secular Franciscans open house

Mishawaka — The Secular Franciscan Order fraternity is hosting a “come and see” open house on Sunday, June 4, from 2 to 4 p.m. at St. Francis Convent, across from Marian High School on Dragon Trail. Learn about this order for laypeople pursuing the Gospel path in the footsteps of St. Francis. Relaxing setting, video, conversation, prayer. RSVP to Bill Schmitt at (574) 232-6777.

Day of reflection at convent

Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held 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.

Family rosary held

Fort Wayne — First Sunday Rosary for families will be held on Sunday, June 4, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at MacDugal Chapel. Father Daryl Rybicki of St. John and Sister Jolene Heiden from the Diocesan Office of Spiritual Development will be attending.

Little Flower Holy Hour

Fort Wayne — Deacon Jason Freiberg will celebrate the Holy Hour at MacDugal Chapel on Tuesday, June 6, at 7:15 p.m. Following the Holy Hour, Seminarian, Terry Coonan will give a brief talk.

GARAGE SALES

Garage sale benefits St. Patrick Closet

Fort Wayne — A garage sale will be held on Friday, June 2, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, June 3, from 8 a.m. to noon, at 6214 Cathedr Ave. on the northwest side of town. All proceeds bene- fit St. Patrick’s Closet.

Garage sale to support Christ Child Society

Fort Wayne — A garage sale will be held on Friday, June 9, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday, June 10, from 8 a.m. to noon at Queen of Angels Activity Center, 1500 W. State Blvd.

Garage sale at Corpus Christi

South Bend — A garage sale is planned at Corpus Christi Parish on Saturday, May 27, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Held inside the school if raining.

At Home and At Play — Senior Support Services, LLC

The Diocesan Office of Spiritual Development will be attending.

Cathedral Radio

1450 AM

To contact us or to provide financial support: redeemerradio.com or Redeemer Radio, PO Box 5636, Fort Wayne, IN 46895

DRIVE TO WORK WITH “FATHER CORAPI”

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TV MASS GUIDE FOR JUNE

DATE FEAST CHANNEL 33 - WISE 10:30 A.M.
June 4 Pentecost Father Dom Carbonneau (Yoder) St. Aloysius
June 11 Holy Trinity Father David Voors St. Mary of the Assumption Decatur 6:30 a.m.
June 18 Corpus Christi Father Chris Smith St. Charles Borromeo Fort Wayne 6 a.m.
June 25 12 Sunday of Ordinary Time Father Tom Shoemaker St. Jude Fort Wayne

FORT WAYNE

SOUTH BEND

10:30 A.M.

10:30 A.M.

“Catholic Comment” airs Sundays at 7:05 a.m. on WTOV and 11:00 A.M. in Fort Wayne and at 7:30 a.m. on WOF 960 AM in South Bend.

“Radio Rosary” airs M-F at 11 a.m. Saturday and Sunday at 7:30 a.m. on Redemer Radio WWVY 1450 AM
Sacred Heart Church, established in 1898, on inner city, Bishop Leo Pursley suggested that due to the migration of families from South Bend's church. all but one of the stained glass windows in the parishioner Madelyn Dowinski, who also designed a rosary. This statue was designed by a parishioner Madelyn Dowinski, who also designed all but one of the stained glass windows in the church.

Corpus Christi Parish came to be in 1960, when due to the migration of families from South Bend's inner city, Bishop Leo Pursley suggested that Sacred Heart Church, established in 1898, on Thomas Street, be closed and reestablished as Corpus Christi Parish on the northwest side of the city. Msgr. Elmer Peterson found the location and the diocese bought a 29 acre farm.

At a present level of 800 families, Corpus Christi is considered young, with most activities centered around its school, which has eight grades and preschool for 3- and 4-year olds and all-day kindergarten. At this stage in its history, the parish may average one funeral per month.

Corpus Christi Chapel, seen through a wall of glass from the main body of the church, and has a separate outside entrance, becomes a cry room on Sunday mornings. On weekdays it is open from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. and on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament exposed. Responsibility for opening the chapel each morning and lockup at night is assigned to various parishioners. The diligence with which this task is performed is testimony to the fact that Corpus Christi church has been called The House That Prayer Built.

Symbolizing the name of the parish, this window appears left of the main altar in Corpus Christi Church. It was designed by parishioner Madelyn Dowinski.

In a stirring procession with four men carrying a canopy over the Divine Presence in a monstrance borne by their pastor, parishioners of Corpus Christi Church in South Bend celebrate that patronal feast day with a walk through the neighborhood, which includes a street called Corpus Christi Drive. The procession stops in front of four selected homes and prays one decade of the rosary. They then move on to the parish grounds and recite the final decade at a statue of the Blessed Mother encircled by a rosary. This statue was designed by a parishioner Madelyn Dowinski, who also designed all but one of the stained glass windows in the church.

In 1845, Mass was said in Mishawaka once a month by priests of the Holy Cross in private homes. In December 1848, a house not yet completed, became the first Catholic church in Mishawaka under the name of Holy Guardian Angels, later, Holy Angels.

The first name listed on the baptismal register was a convert, 36-year-old Samuel Black. By August, he was dead and became the first name on the death register of the new parish.

Just how the Mishawaka parish was transferred from the Holy Cross priests to the secular clergy is unclear; the principle reason seems to be that a German-speaking priest was needed, and Father Sorin had none to send.

Strangely enough, the priest who filled this requirement, German-born Henry Koenig, had his seminary training in Ireland. Things went well for the first 14 months of his pastorate until his church was destroyed by fire with arson suspected.

Before a new church could be built, there was disagreement about its location. Farmers who had to cross a marsh and a hill on bad roads, insisted on a more favorable spot. A compromise was reached, with two lots purchased at Third and Spring streets. Meanwhile, Mass was celebrated in an old corn crib at the northwest corner of Main and Fourth streets.

In 1885, it was well enough along to hold a fair inside the nearly completed church. Big prizes were offered: a $600 piano, two horses, two plows, a cow, a saddle and a suite of bedroom furniture. The fair brought in $3,124.28.

Although there was never an official connection, one of the most significant steps in the development of the city of Mishawaka, the founding of St. Joseph Hospital, came about through the efforts of Father Louis A. Moench, who as pastor of St. Joseph Parish, was a matchmaker between the nursing order of the Poor Handmaids and the Physicians Club of Mishawaka and who, by his endorsement of the hospital project, brought about a successful public fund drive from individuals, business and industry.

St. Joseph’s also became the mother church for other Mishawaka parishes — St. Bavo, St. Monica and Queen of Peace. Thus, thousands of the faithful who have passed, first through the doorway of the tiny frame house known as Holy Angels and its descendant churches finally reached the mansion of many rooms.