Pope Benedict XVI attends a prayer service for peace in the Middle East at the parish church in Rhemes-Saint-Georges in northern Italy July 23. The pope led an international day of prayer for peace in the Middle East and called for an immediate cease-fire and the delivery of humanitarian aid to Lebanon.

The pope expressed his concern for all those who live in northern Israel and are forced to live in shelters as well as for “the great multitude of Lebanese who, once more, are seeing their country destroyed and had to leave everything behind to seek safety elsewhere,” he said on a day dedicated to prayer for an end to the Middle East conflict.

Before praying the Angelus July 23, the pope called on people to pray for the “beloved people of the Middle East” so that they may be able to “abandon the path of armed confrontation and build, with the bravery of dialogue, a just and lasting peace.”

The pope had declared July 23 to be a day dedicated to prayer and penance, asking God to help bring about a peaceable solution to the war devastat ing the Middle East.

In his July 23 address to some 5,000 pilgrims near his Alpine vacation retreat, the pope repeated his calls to all sides in the conflict to establish an immediate cease-fire, to allow the flow of humanitarian aid into the region, and, “with the support of the international community, to seek ways to begin negotiations.”

He also reiterated the rights of Lebanon to have its sovereignty and borders respected, “of the Israelis to live in peace in their nation, and of the Palestinians to have a free and sovereign homeland.”

The pope prayed that people’s hopes for peace
INDIANAPOLIS — When Blessed Mother Theodore Guérin came as a missionary sister from France to the Indiana frontier in 1840, she soon came to love the state, calling it “my Indian home.”

Now, as her Oct. 15 canonization at St. Peter’s Square in Rome approaches, Indiana is returning that love. A sign of that esteem was shown on July 21 as a portrait of Blessed Mother Theodore was hung on the south wall of the office of Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels at the Statehouse in Indianapolis as part of its Hoosier Heritage Portrait Collection.

“Today, we honor a person of immense historical importance to the state of Indiana,” Daniels said, “Mother Theodore Guérin, who … bravely, from nothing, built an order and eventually the sisters that we know as Saint Mary-of-the-Woods (College).”

The Oct. 15 canonization will mark the culmination of a nearly century-long process, which included Blessed Mother Theodore’s 1998 beatification, during which her life, writings and possible miracles attributed to her intercession were investigated.

With several members of the Sisters of Providence gathered around him, Daniels also praised the congregation “who carry on in (Blessed Mother Theodore’s) tradition, a magnificent positive mark on the life of our state and the lives of countless individuals.”

Following the governor’s remarks, Providence Sister Ann Casper spoke about the place of Blessed Mother Theodore in Indiana history, describing her as a “moving force” in the state.

“Mother Theodore was indeed that kind of person that brought quality education to thousands and thousands of Hoosier children throughout the state,” said Sister Ann, the executive director of the Office of Congregational Advancement at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

“From Madison and Jasper and Evansville to Fort Wayne, Richmond, to Terre Haute and the Wabash Valley, her legacy of serving others, of absolute trust in God’s providence and her zeal for God’s mission continues today in the lives and ministries of more than 400 Sisters of Providence.”

With reporters from across the state looking on, the portrait was carefully hung by members of the governor’s staff.

“Take your time,” Daniels told them. “The canonization took a whole century. It’s better to get it right.”

After the hanging of the portrait was met with applause, the governor took questions from reporters.

“If anyone has the nerve to dishonor this occasion with a hostile question, I’ll be very surprised,” he said, jokingly.

He was asked how long Blessed Mother Theodore’s portrait would hang in his office.

“I think it’s probably going to be there in perpetuity,” Daniels said. “I can see a lot of opportunity for improvement just simply being watched over by Mother Theodore. She obviously came as near to perfection as human can. And as someone who is so tragically short of her standards, I think she ought to be up there for a long time.”

Present for the occasion were several students from Blessed Theodore Guérin High School in Noblesville, in the Lafayette Diocese. Msgr. Frederick Eaton, archdiocesan vicar for clergy, and Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel, archdiocesan vicar general, also attended the ceremony.

Msgr. Schaedel said the portrait’s presence in the governor’s office was a “wonderful thing” that shows how “religion plays a big part in the history of our state.”

“I think it’s a great source of pride as somebody taught by the Sisters of Providence, as a Catholic from the archdiocese,” he said.

“And it’s a great source of pride to see a prominent Hoosier woman on the wall. It’s a great day for women, too.”

Daniels, who is Presbyterian, said that he wished he could attend the canonization but wouldn’t be able to. He expressed his hope to participate in commemorations of the event that are scheduled in the state.

On Oct. 14, an evening prayer service in honor of Blessed Mother Theodore will be held at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. A Mass of Thanksgiving for the canonization will be celebrated there on Oct. 16. Finally, on the order’s founder’s day, Oct. 22, a gala celebration, including a Mass, will also honor the canonization.

No times for these events have been set.

Sister Ann, who grew up near Fort Wayne, the home of one of the first schools established by Blessed Mother Theodore, spoke after the ceremony about its meaning for her and her community.

“I think it’s just a great honor,” she said. “Certainly for H.S. Providence, because we’re really humbled by the thought that this has occurred and that among all of these great people of the state of Indiana, she will be in this office and will be made known.”

For more information about the canonization cause of Blessed Theodore Guérin, go to www.archindy.org/guerin or www.spsmsw.org.

Reprinted with permission from The Criterion, Archdiocese of Indianapolis.

Blessed Mother Theodore Guérin portrait hung in office

BY SEAN GALLAGHER

Re-membering program welcomes returning Catholics

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — According to statistics, of the 300 million people who live in the United States, 25 percent are Catholic. Many who were baptized into the faith are non-practicing due to a myriad of personal reasons. As these non-practicing Catholics age, some have found a renewed interest in the church. A little known program in two parishes in Fort Wayne has been quietly ministering to those who are seeking reconciliation with their faith.

“Re-membering Church” at St. Jude Parish began 15 years ago in partnership with the existing Kite of Christiation Initiation for Adults (RCIA) program there. As couples of non-practicing and non-Catholic members married and began to get their children into the church, it became apparent that the issues facing each were different.

To serve both the returning Catholic and the non-Catholic, Mary Pohlman, pastoral associate there, initiated separate classes to be held on the same night. Pohlman, who participated in facilitator training for Re-membering Church, reports it stems from the same RCIA process. “There is a catechetical dimension in class,” she says. “It is an opportunity to look at your faith at an adult level.”

St. Jude offers weekly, one-and-a-half hour Re-membering classes Saturdays from September to May. Each group consists of eight to 12 participants of various ages, who, Pohlman says, come looking to fill the gap between the time they left the church and when they returned. Many left with little understanding of the traditions and doctrines of the church, some before the changes that took place following Vatican II.

Each session includes teachings of the Catholic Church and discussion. “We focus on the topics they are struggling with and in specific areas like sacramental rites and Church Dogma,” says Pohlman. The goal of the program is recommitment and conversion, she says, adding, “Conversion is the opening of the door. It’s a great opportunity for self-improvement.”

“If anyone has the nerve to dishonor this occasion with a hostile question, I’ll be very surprised,” he said, jokingly.

He was asked how long Blessed Mother Theodore’s portrait would hang in his office.

“I think it’s probably going to be there in perpetuity,” Daniels said. “I can see a lot of opportunity for improvement just simply being watched over by Mother Theodore. She obviously came as near to perfection as human can. And as someone who is so tragically short of her standards, I think she ought to be up there for a long time.”

Present for the occasion were several students from Blessed Theodore Guérin High School in Noblesville, in the Lafayette Diocese. Msgr. Frederick Eaton, archdiocesan vicar for clergy, and Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel, archdiocesan vicar general, also attended the ceremony.

Msgr. Schaedel said the portrait’s presence in the governor’s office was a “wonderful thing” that shows how “religion plays a big part in the history of our state.”

“I think it’s a great source of pride as somebody taught by the Sisters of Providence, as a Catholic from the archdiocese,” he said.

“And it’s a great source of pride to see a prominent Hoosier woman on the wall. It’s a great day for women, too.”

Daniels, who is Presbyterian, said that he wished he could attend the canonization but wouldn’t be able to. He expressed his hope to participate in commemorations of the event that are scheduled in the state.

On Oct. 14, an evening prayer service in honor of Blessed Mother Theodore will be held at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. A Mass of Thanksgiving for the canonization will be celebrated there on Oct. 16. Finally, on the order’s founder’s day, Oct. 22, a gala celebration, including a Mass, will also honor the canonization.

No times for these events have been set.

Sister Ann, who grew up near Fort Wayne, the home of one of the first schools established by Blessed Mother Theodore, spoke after the ceremony about its meaning for her and her community.

“I think it’s just a great honor,” she said. “Certainly for H.S. Providence, because we’re really humbled by the thought that this has occurred and that among all of these great people of the state of Indiana, she will be in this office and will be made known.”

For more information about the canonization cause of Blessed Theodore Guérin, go to www.archindy.org/guerin or www.spsmsw.org.

Reprinted with permission from The Criterion, Archdiocese of Indianapolis.
Methods adopt Catholic-Lutheran declaration on justification

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Methodist,Roman Catholic and Lutheran leaders said their communities will be able to work more closely in proclaiming the Gospel and salvation after the World Methodist Conference adopted the Catholic-Lutheran joint declaration on justification.

“This is a historic day. This is a gift of God. We can be grateful for it,” Cardinal Walter Kasper, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity, said at the July 23 signing ceremony in Seoul, South Korea.

The agreement on justification — how people are made just in the eyes of God and saved by Jesus Christ — “provides a basis for a more profound common witness before the world,” said the cardinal.

Delegates to the World Methodist Conference voted unanimously July 18 to adopt the declaration, which was approved in 1999 by the Vatican and the Lutheran World Federation.

Cardinal Kasper’s office at the Vatican released his statement and other texts from the signing ceremony in Seoul.

The Methodists’ resolution said the 1999 agreement “expresses a far-reaching consensus in regard to the theological controversy which was a major cause of the split in Western churches in the 16th century... over salvation by grace alone or by grace and good works.”

The 1999 declaration said, “By grace alone, in faith in Christ, man is saved. Not because of any merit on our part, but by faith we receive the grace of God in Christ. Works of piety and works of mercy are fruits of the Spirit in the lives of those who follow Jesus,” it said.

The Rev. Michael Noko, general secretary of the Lutheran World Federation, also participated in the signing ceremony in Seoul.

He called the Methodist resolution “a new ecumenical landmark which grows out of the Anglican-Catholic Church, has always understood itself as deeply indebted to biblical teaching on justification as it was understood by (Martin) Luther and the other reformers,” the resolution said. “But it has also always embraced elements of the doctrine of justification which belong to the Catholic tradition of the early church.”

In the Methodist understanding, it said, human beings cannot cure the effects of original sin and corruption. It said the fact “people are able to respond to God’s call is due only to God’s prior work” of grace that helps people accept salvation in Jesus.

Accepting salvation leads to healing and love, the Methodist statement said. “Faith working through love is seen as the root of all good, which results from the lives of those who believe in Jesus Christ. Works of piety and works of mercy are fruits of the Spirit in the lives of those who follow Jesus.”

By grace alone, in faith in Christ, man is saved. Not because of any merit on our part, but by faith we receive the grace of God in Christ. Works of piety and works of mercy are fruits of the Spirit in the lives of those who follow Jesus,” it said.

The 1999 agreement said, “The Methodist Movement,” which grew out of the Anglican Church, “has always understood itself as deeply indebted to biblical teaching on justification as it was understood by (Martin) Luther and the other reformers,” the resolution said. “But it has also always embraced elements of the doctrine of justification which belong to the Catholic tradition of the early church.”

In the Methodist understanding, it said, human beings cannot cure the effects of original sin and corruption. It said the fact “people are able to respond to God’s call is due only to God’s prior work” of grace that helps people accept salvation in Jesus.

Accepting salvation leads to healing and love, the Methodist statement said. “Faith working through love is seen as the root of all good, which results from the lives of those who believe in Jesus Christ. Works of piety and works of mercy are fruits of the Spirit in the lives of those who follow Jesus,” it said.

Methodists adopt Catholic-Lutheran declaration on justification
Embryonic stem-cell bill called ‘eminently worthy’ of Bush’s first veto

BY NANCY FRAZIER O’BRIEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Surrounded by children who were once frozen embryos and the families who adopted them, President George W. Bush announced July 19 that he had used the first veto of his five- and a-half-year administration on a bill that would have required federal funding of embryonic stem-cell research.

“Science brings us closer to unlocking the secrets of human biology, but it also offers temptations to manipulate human life and violate human dignity,” Bush said. “Our conscience and history as a nation demand that we resist this temptation.”

If the Stem-Cell Research Enhancement Act had become law, “for the first time in our history we would have been forced to fund the deliberate destruction of human embryos, and I’m not going to do it,” he said.

Among the Catholic leaders praising the veto was Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson of the Knights of Columbus, who said the stem-cell bill was “eminently worthy of President Bush’s first veto.”

“Every human life, no matter how small, should be protected in law,” Anderson said in a statement. “Unfortunately in America, the destruction of unborn human life, a scientifically, whether in a laboratory or in an abortion clinic.”

The vetoed legislation would have added “insult to injury by forcing the taxpayers to pay for science that can only do harm” and ethics that can only do harm to our families, to our state and to our nation,” Anderson said.

“The children ‘remind us of the ‘snowflake’ babies’ — had been frozen embryos created for in vitro fertilization but donated by their biological parents for implantation in the ‘snowflake’ mothers.”

“The children ‘remind us of what is lost when embryos are destroyed in the name of research,’ Bush said. ‘They remind us that we all begin our lives as a small collection of cells. And they remind us that in our zeal for new treatments and cures, America must never abandon our fundamental morals.’

“Also in the East Room were Americans who had undergone successful treatments using adult stem cells. Bush called them ‘living proof that effective medical science can also be ethical.’”

Doerflinger said their presence and that of the “snowflake” families “dramatized the need to uphold all human lives equally, not destroy some in the quest to help others.”

The president said the expansion of stem-cell research that kills human embryos would present “a conflict between science and ethics that can only do harm to both and to our nation as a whole.”

“Among those present in the East Room of the White House for Bush’s announcement were 18 families whose children — known as ‘snowflake’ babies — had been frozen embryos created for in vitro fertilization but donated by their biological parents for implantation in the ‘snowflake’ mothers.”

“Discussing the veto, the pope said, ‘Deliver us from evil and grant us peace, Lord, not tomorrow or the day after, grant us peace today.”

The pope had invited all people to take part in the day of prayer and fasting, but he told journalists July 21 the invitation was directed “above all to Muslims and Jews.”

He also said the Vatican will leave diplomatic bargaining to other nations “because we do not get involved in politics even if we do everything for peace.”

“Peace is not an empty phrase, and we support everything that can facilitate and lead to peace,” he said, just days before Rome was to host July 26 an international summit on the Israel-Lebanon conflict. Representatives of many Western and Arab nations were to attend.

The pope, who has been vacationing since July 11 in Les Combes, a mountain village in northern Italy, told reporters that being in the midst of such peace and natural beauty makes “the suffering of so many others hit me even more.”

The pope’s charity arm, the Pontifical Council Cor Unum, announced July 22 that it was sending immediate aid in the pope’s name to public sector employees on the latest violence in Lebanon and Israel.

“Money collected will be directed toward purchasing bedding, water, food kits and medicine for those displaced by the conflict.”
Priests of the Congregation of the Holy Cross celebrate anniversaries

Father Walter L. McNichol, CSC, 70 years
Birth Date: Feb. 23, 1906
Ordained: June 24, 1936

Father James B. Gillis, CSC, 50 years
Birth Date: Feb. 15, 1925
Ordained: June 6, 1956

Father Paul G. Wendel, CSC, 50 years
Birth Date: Sept. 29, 1921
Ordained: Nov. 9, 1955

Father Leon J. Mertensotto, CSC, 50 years
Birth Date: Oct. 8, 1930
Ordained: Oct. 28, 1956
Assignments in the area: 1961-present University of Notre Dame Currently resides at Corby Hall, Notre Dame

Father William J. Neidhart, CSC, 50 years
Birth Date: Jan. 3, 1924
Ordained: June 6, 1956

Father Robert J. Nogosek, CSC, 50 years
Birth Date: July 2, 1930
Ordained: Oct. 28, 1956

Father Timothy R. Scully, SCJ, 25 years
Birth Date: Jan. 18, 1954
Ordained: April 25, 1979

Come Experience OUR LADY OF HUNGARY SCHOOL

- Small Class Sizes
- Individualized Attention
- High ISTEP Scores
- Resource Teachers and Tutors
- Diverse Environment
- After School Care
- Full or Half Day Preschool
- Financial Aid Available

Parishioner Rate for 1 child: $2,175.00 Discounts for multiple child enrollments $100.00 discount for new students

Call 574-289-3272 for details or visit ourladyofhungary.com

PROVENA Sacred Heart Home

Our experienced and professional staff is dedicated to providing the highest quality of nursing care.
- Daily Mass
- Skilled Care • Intermediate Care
- Medicare Certified
- Secured Units for Alzheimer Care
- Physical, Occupational, & Speech Therapies
- Assisted Living Apartments
- Independent Living Patio Homes on Campus

For Information, Call: (260) 897-2841
515 N. Main Street, Avilla, Indiana 46710

Provena Health, a Catholic health system, builds communities of healing and hope by compassionately responding to human need in the spirit of Jesus Christ.
translations. The congregation must approve translations adopted by a national bishops’ conference before they can be used in parishes. Archbishop Hughes said Vox Clara spent a significant amount of time on the translation approved in June by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops because it was the only conference to have approved the text with amendments and adaptations.

Cardinal Keuler urges Senate to pass Child Custody Protection Act

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore urged the U.S. Senate July 19 to pass the Child Custody Protection Act. The legislation would prohibit someone who is not the parent or guardian from transporting a minor across state lines for an abortion if the minor’s home state has a law requiring parental notification or consent before the minor can obtain an abortion. Most states have such laws, although some have been blocked in court. The bill would permit criminal prosecution of the person who transported the minor, with penalties including up to a year in prison, and civil action by the parent whose rights were violated. “Many states have wisely chosen to protect parents’ rights in this area, and the intent of their protective laws should not be thwarted,” said Cardinal Keeler, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee for Pro-Life Activities.

Hong Kong bishop predicts China will stop ordaining bishops illicitly

SEOUL, South Korea (CNS) — Hong Kong Auxiliary Bishop John Tong Hon predicted China will stop ordaining bishops illicitly and spoke of positive changes in relations between the mainland’s open and underground Catholic communities. “The Chinese government wants to dialogue with the Holy See. (So) it will have more illegitimate ordinations; the illegitimate ordinations will stop,” Bishop Tong told 35 bishops, priests, religious and laypeople at a July 18-20 seminar just south of Seoul. His remarks were reported by UCA News, an Asian church news agency based in Thailand. The seminar, “The Search for Christian Unity: Where We Stand Today,” was organized by the Council for Promoting Christian Unity and the Federation of Asian Catholic Societies. In China ordained two bishops without papal approval earlier this year: Bishop Joseph Ma Yinglin of Kunming Diocese, April 30, and Father Joseph Liu Xinhong of Anhui Diocese, May 3.

Indonesian Catholics work to help victims of July tsunami

JAKARTA, Indonesia (CNS) — As the death toll from a mid-July earthquake and tsunami increased, Indonesian Catholics worked to provide aid to the victims. Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Tasikmalaya has a mission station in Pangandaran, a town in the worst-hit area of West Java province. Father Andreas Sudarman, pastor of Sacred Heart Church, said his assistant pastor and four laypeople would travel to the mission area to assess the needs of the victims and open an aid center to distribute goods such as medication. Many aid organizations had also sent aid to Tasikmalaya have contributed. “Meanwhile, we are collecting other things from this parish as well as from Bandung Diocese and Jakarta Archdiocese,” Father Sudarman added. The Indonesian bishops’ crisis center also was sending aid. A magnitude-7.7 earthquake triggered a tsunami on the southern coast of Java Island July 17, killing at least 340 people, displacing 54,000 and leaving hundreds missing, the Indonesian Health Ministry said July 18.

Spanish cardinal, known for pastoral charity, dies

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Retired Spanish Cardinal Angel Suquia Gonzoccecha of Madrid died July 13 at the age of 89. In a telegram to Cardinal Antonio Rocco Varela of Madrid, Pope Benedict XVI praised the late cardinal “who served his people with great pastoral charity” and zeal. The pope wrote that Cardinal Suquia’s “generous and intense” pastoral ministry showed his great dedication to the Gospel and his “deep love for the church.” The telegram was released by the Vatican July 14. Born in 1916 in the Basque region in the San Sebastian Diocese, he became archbishop of Madrid in 1983. He was named a cardinal in 1985 and elected president of the Spanish bishops’ conference in 1987. Under his leadership, the conference stepped up its criticism of socialist government policies on abortion, sex education in public schools and the church’s role in public life.

African archbishop rebuked for seeking change to celibacy rule

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Zambian Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo, whose 2001 marriage to a Korean acupuncturist capped a long series of controversial actions, announced July 12 in Washington that he wants to change the Roman Catholic discipline on celibacy and “reconcile” an estimated 150,000 married priests worldwide with the church to allow them to resume priestly ministry. Archbishop Milingo’s announcement drew a sharp rebuke from church officials on both sides of the Atlantic. “The Holy See has not yet received previous consent to (the) visit to the United States of Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo, formerly archbishop of Lasaka, Zambia,” said a July 13 statement from the Vatican press office. “In any cases, if the declarations that have been attributed to him about ecclesiastical celibacy turn out to be true, the only possibility would be to deplore them (the declarations), given the fact that the discipline of the church in this regard is quite clear,” it said.

Father Aidan Kavanagh, liturgical theologian, dies

HAMDEN, Conn. (CNS) — Benedictine Father Aidan Kavanagh, a noted liturgical theologian, died at his home in Hamden July 9. He was 77. His funeral was to be celebrated July 14 at St. Meinrad Abchabbey, his home monastery in St. Meinrad, with burial in the church cemetery. Father Kavanagh was the author of several influential books, including “On Liturgical Things” in which he underscored the importance of liturgy as the church’s “primordial” theology. His “Theology of the Eucharist: A Handbook of Liturgical Style,” remains a study guide for Catholic priests and ministers of other faiths seeking to understand the liturgy effectively. In “Elements of Rite,” he wrote that “the liturgy, like the feast, exists not to educate but to seduce people into participating in common activity of the highest order, where one is free to learn things which cannot be taught.”

Pope accepts resignation of Vatican spokesman, Navarro-Valls

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI accepted the resignation of longtime Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls July 11 and named Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi to replace him as head of the Vatican press office. Navarro-Valls, who turns 70 in November, had been appointed to the post after spending the past 22 years as director of what turned into one of the Vatican’s most visible jobs. The Spanish journalist and medical doctor said in a statement that he was pleased the pope had accepted his “not-prepared readiness” to step down and that he felt he received much more than he had been able to give. That appointment of 63-year-old Father Lombardi not only puts a religious journalist to the helm of the Vatican press office; it also marks another reorganization of Vatican offices under Pope Benedict. The Italian also deploys the new director of Vatican Radio and the Vatican Television Center as he heads the press office, thereby merging the leadership and coordination of these three media outlets.

Carmelites' national shrine in Wisconsin designated a basilica

HUBERTUS, Wis. (CNS) — As the Discalced Carmelites celebrate the 100th anniversary of their presence at the National Shrine of Mary, Help of Christians, they expect Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan praise their century of ministry and place the hilltop shrine — which met July 17-21 at the Milwaukee archdiocesan newspaper — as the usual practice that concluded, “It cannot be

Catholic News Service Pope Benedict XVI plays with Saint Bernard dogs July 18 at the famous kennel operated by the Augustinians in the mountains of Switzerland. For over three centuries, the Augustinians have raised the dogs and trained them to assist in mountain rescues.
USF football poster earned a No. 2 for the second year in a row and the Basketball Media Guide” was selected for No. 1 — Division Guide” was No. 1 — Division Guide” was selected for No. 1 in Nashville. SIDA/CoSIDA Workshop in for two national sports information awards recently at the annual workshop. University of Saint Francis (USF) NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Cougars Combined specialized at the annual NAIA-SIDA certifications, at the annual NAIA- and six top-10 NAIA-SIDA certifications, national top-5 CoSIDA certificates, received 10 national publication awards recently at the annual workshop. Sports information department of St. Mary Magdalen Parish in 2000. Since 2000, he has been pastor of St. Mary Magdalen Parish in Hazel Park, Mich. Bremen ready for golf BREMEN — The St. Dominic Knights of Columbus is getting ready for their second annual golf outing on Sunday, Aug. 27, at 1:30 p.m. at the Sprig O’Mint Golf Course in Bremen. The cost is $50 per player and gifts and prizes will be drawn. A trophy will also be awarded to the winning team. Get your teams together and sign up for this exciting outing. For more information call at (574) 773-2680 or e-mail r.espinoza@mchsi.com. All proceeds go to help families and organizations in the Michiana community.

USF athletic guides earn No. 1 awards NASVILLE, Tenn. — The University of Saint Francis (USF) sports information department received 10 national publication awards recently at the annual workshops. The national sports information organizations. Bill Scott, USF sports information director, was awarded four national top-5 COSIDA certificates, and six top-10 NAIA-SIDA certificates at the annual NAIA-SIDA/COSSDA Workshop in Nashville. “The 2005 USF Football Media Guide” was awarded best cover in the NAIA-SIDA contest. The “USF Football Media Guide” was No. 2 Division C in COSSDA competition for the second year in a row and the USF football poster earned a No. 2 certificate. Other NAIA-SIDA awards included No. 2 in the Web site competition and No. 8 in season preview writing competition. USF has been honored 28 times in the last eight years for its athletic publications including 27 top-5 placings in the two organizations combined. USF athletic publications are written and produced by Scott along with graduate assistant David G. Bokhart, photographers Donnell Johnson, Greg Papagiannis and John Wolf, as well as the USF coaching staff. Matthew 25 seeks volunteers for quilting bee FORT WAYNE — Matthew 25 Health and Dental Clinic, in partnership with Glenda Whitten and Cindi Layne Fabrics, Inc., was looking for “a few good quilters” during the Three Rivers Quilt Festival, held July 20-22 at the Grand Wayne Center. Approximately 30-35 volunteers are needed for an old-fashioned quilting bee to be held Aug. 10 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Cindi Layne Fabrics, Inc. in Grabill. The purpose of the quilting bee is to stitch together 20 quilts that volunteers from around the community have created for Matthew 25 in honor of its year-long $2.9 capital campaign called “Fabric of the Community.” Completed quilts will be displayed in the exam rooms of the expanded Matthew 25 facility. For more information or to participate in the quilting bee, contact Whitten at (260) 627-6990. Cindi Layne Fabrics, Inc. is located at 15327 Main St., Grabill. Matthew 25 Health and Dental Clinic is the full-time, full-service clinic of its kind in the region. With a staff of over 400 healthcare and lay volunteers, Matthew 25 provides free medical, dental and vision services to the uninsured, low-income residents of Allen County. To learn more, visit matthew25online.org. Poppel and Frankie take stage at Summerfest YODER — Teens in middle and high school are invited to an evening of contemporary Christian music and games as St. Aloysius, Yoder, kicks off its Summerfest activities Friday evening, Aug. 11, at 7 p.m. Poppel offers a blend of acoustic rock and humor for the soul. They have performed at the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend’s FaithFest and travel throughout the nation. The band, known for its humorous live shows and strong Christian message, appeared throughout the summer at various Catholic Heart Work Camp locations as well as many other day and weekend events across the country. Their second album, “Pulled in Both Directions,” was recently released. Visit the Poppel Web site at www.poppel.us for more information. Opening the concert will be Frankie and the Holy Rollers. The group of 14 singer-musicians originates from St. Vincent de Paul Parish’s highly successful LifeTeen program and Masses. Both groups will provide a strong Catholic message. The program will begin at 7 p.m. with the concert at 7:30 p.m. Doors close at 11 p.m. Chaperones will be present. Refreshments and snacks will be available. The Brew Ha Espresso Cafe from Ossian will serve slushes. Pre-sale tickets at $5 each are available, with a limited number of t-shirts to the first 200 callers, by contacting Christy Gunel at (260) 638-4960 or Tracy Miller at (260) 622-4176. Tickets will also be available at the door for $6. Summerfest will be held on Saturday, Aug. 12. A family day with games and activities for all ages, food, drinks, softball, country store, flea market, silent auction, Gator Gallop 5K race and walk, pork barbecue lunch and barbecue chicken dinner are available during the Saturday day celebration. The evening will include a Texas Hold ‘em Tournament beginning at 7 p.m. for adults 21 and older. For information about the Texas Hold ‘em tournament, contact Blaine Imel at (260) 824-8678. The softball tournament will conclude Sunday, Aug. 13. St. Aloysius is located south of I-469, exit 6, at 14623 Bluffton Road (State Road 1), Yoder.

Trip to witness Mother Theodore Guerin canonization plans set SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS — Pope Benedict XVI will canonize Blessed Mother Theodore Guerin, foundress of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the- Woods during a celebratory eucharistic liturgy Oct. 15 at the Vatican. The Sisters of Providence are planning a weekend pilgrimage trip to Rome that is open to the public. The trip package will include the vespers service the night before the canonization, tickets to the canonization ceremony and the Mass of Thanksgiving on the day after the canonization. Also included will be an audience with the pope and papal blessing at St. Peter’s Square, tours of ancient Rome, the catacombs, the Appian Way, the Sistine Chapel, Vatican museums and the private chapel of the popes. The trips will be from Oct. 11-18 or Oct. 12-19. Detailed information is available by visiting www.spsp.org or by calling the Office of Congregational Advancement at (812) 353-2806. Details about celebrations at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods will be announced at a later date.

Franciscan Sister Dorothy Schlaeger celebrates golden jubilee MISHAWAKA — Sister Dorothy Schlaeger, a member of the Sisters of Saint Francis of Perpetual Adoration, celebrates 50 years as a Franciscan Sister. The golden jubilee celebration took place at the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration Western Motherhouse in Colorado Springs, Colo. Sister Dorothy has resided since 1986. The event included a formal religious celebration honoring her and fellow jubilarians, a banquet for close relatives and friends, as well as a Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Sister Dorothy entered her Franciscan Order’s Eastern Province in Mishawaka in 1956. She received her bachelor’s degree in biology magna cum laude from St. Francis College in Fort Wayne, Ind. During her education at the University of Notre Dame, she obtained both her masters degree (1969) and doctorate (1973) degrees in Biology.

From 1973 until 1986 she was a professor of biology and biochemistry at St. Francis College. During summers she performed postdoctoral research at the University of Northern Colorado.

In 1986 she transferred to her Franciscan Order’s Western Province headquartered in Colorado Springs. In addition to pursuing her religious vocation, she continued her scientific research and taught biochemistry at the University of Colorado in Colorado Springs.

Sister Dorothy became executive editor of the Pike’s Peak Justice and Peace Commission in 1999, a position she held until 2006. She assists in her order’s Health Services Department providing care for Western Province’s Health Services of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration.

Friends wishing to contact Sister Dorothy Schlaeger may do so by writing to her at 7600 Assisi Heights, Colorado Springs, Colo. 80919.
Rock-n-Soul Festival slated for Michigan City

MICHIGAN CITY — Question: What do you get when you combine one hip-hop priest, a popular Catholic funk band, and the desire for confession and eucharistic adoration, and about a thousand young people? Answer: The first annual Rock-n-Soul Festival — an all-day Catholic concert event for everyone from age 3 to 103, to be held Aug. 19 at Michigan City Marquette High School’s Scholl Center.

This is the first-ever event of its kind in northern Indiana. The Amare Vitam Promotions team has been working … and praying … tirelessly for the past year putting together what is now known as “Rock-n-Soul Fest.” They credit one anonymous donor for helping them get things started, and the subsequent efforts of numerous volunteers and businesses who want to see this concert happen.

“It’s about the desire to help our kids appreciate the beauty of their faith,” stated the Amare Vitam Promotions spokesperson, “We baptize them, we raise them … then shortly after confirmation we start to lose them. Catholicism is not a boring faith just for older people. It’s a young faith and always will be. Our kids just need to see it.”

Headlining Rock-n-Soul Fest is Franciscan Father Stan Fortuna, a priest known nationally for his ability to relate with today’s young people, as well as his devotion to the late pope, John Paul II. “John Paul II began to challenge priests in the 1980s to take the gospel into the streets,” Father Stan, who began to make his own beats, targeting the youth with his brand of Catholic rap music. “That for me was the breakthrough. “It’s about the desire to help our kids appreciate the beauty of their faith,” stated the Amare Vitam Promotions spokesperson, “We baptize them, we raise them … then shortly after confirmation we start to lose them. Catholicism is not a boring faith just for older people. It’s a young faith and always will be. Our kids just need to see it.”

In addition to the various musicians and talks, area priests will be on hand to hear confessions and eucharistic adoration will take place throughout the 12-hour event. “Someone is already signed up to be present each hour,” explained Amare Vitam Promotions spokesperson, “and everyone is welcome to drop by the chapel to make their own visit before our Lord at any time during the day.”

Tickets are $10 per person in advance, $15 at the door. Children age 3-11 are $5 in advance and $10 at the door. All religious are admitted free of charge. For tickets or more information, log on to www.catholiclyn.com or call Rachel Szilagyi at (574) 232-7047, home, (574) 210-3104 cell.

Local student wins science award

NOTRE DAME, — Mishawaka resident and 2006 Saint Mary’s College graduate Lindsey Stillson won the Raymond Cable Award for best undergraduate presentation at the 58th annual Midwestern Conference of Parasitologists. The conference was held in June at Winona State University in Minnesota.

Stillson’s presentation, “The effect of crowding on the intraspecific variation of ‘Echinostoma caproni’ in ICR mice,” was based on her senior research paper at Saint Mary’s.

Financial peace taught at St. Vincent de Paul Parish

BY KRISTI WARD

ELKHART — Money isn’t a dirty word — but with the average American family carrying $5,800 in credit card debt from month to month and 40 percent of families spending more than they earn, money can be a subject no one wants to discuss. That’s not the case at the Financial Peace University (FPU) classes held at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Elkhart.

“Financial Peace University is a 13-week program that focuses on all aspects of financial life to help people improve their financial life,” said class facilitator Molly Prime. Prime is a long-time fan of personal finance and FPU founder Dave Ramsey — and just as important, she knows from personal experience the FPU principles work. She wanted to help others discover the same principles, and with the help of friend Mary Elyn Donnell started FPU at St. Vincent.

The FPU program teaches how to become debt-free, how to save more and how to eventually give more, Prime explained. FPU principles include “seven baby steps” to get your finances in order, plus in-depth coverage of financial issues from understanding insurance to tips on handling family money discussions.

Classes consist of a DVD presentation by Ramsey, group discussion and workbook exercises designed to put the principles into use at home. And according to members of the St. Vincent class, the principles really work.

“It’s really terrific — it really gets you programmed,” said participant Ann Koch. “The whole thing is wants and needs and they really discourage credit cards.”

Ramsey’s Web site states that the average family pays off $5,300 in debt and saves over $2,700 in the first 91 days after beginning FPU — and is completely out of debt except for the mortgage in 18 to 24 months. The 13-week series costs just $100 — St. Vincent participants say the classes more than pay for themselves and the lessons learned work wonders in every financial situation.

“It’s not just for people who are in trouble,” said participant Eric Sommers. “There’s a cross section here. Some of the class are retired, some of them have kids, some people who just want to get their financial act together and be ready for retirement.”

During a recent class discussion, Prime asked her class to complete the sentence “This program has been a blessing in my life because …” Responses ranged from “disciplined me” to “educated and encouraged me.” One participant also gave some words to think about for anyone considering joining the next series of classes.

“I would tell somebody to open it to at least give it a try,” said Mary Sommers. “There’s so many get-rich things
WALKERTON — As St. Patrick Catholic Parish in Walkerton turned 150 years old this year, parishioners celebrated the milestone for three days on July 1, 2 and 3.

The town and parish were founded in the same year — 1856 — and have been tied since.

On July 1, a parade and bed race marked the celebration of the church and town, while the church celebrated an anniversary Mass and dinner at the church.

On July 2, parishioners met for a professional from the original church site on Spruce Road to the site of the church today at 801 Tyler St.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy celebrated Mass outside, and a parish picnic followed.

And on July 3, the parish sponsored a Kids Fun Fair.

Dennis Allsop, who attended St. Patrick School in the early 1960s, said he came to the alumni banquet, “because my wife forced me to. She thought it would be nice to come back and see people I went to school with here.”

He said there are certain people he’d like to see again.

“I came for the food and fellowship, and it’s just a plus if her son, Brandon, is a second grader at the school. "I’ve grown up with it all my life,” Kogiones said.

And she called the 150th birthday of the parish “exciting. It’s been a big part of the town for a long time.”

Ron Truhler attended the school from the late 1970s to the early 1980s, and his parents and many friends still live in Walkerton, though he and his family now live in South Bend.

He said if his family lived in Walkerton, their children would go to school at St. Patrick. His children attend St. Anthony School now.

He said he came to the alumni banquet to see his classmates and support the school, “since it had a hard time staying open.”

Of the 50th anniversary of the school, Truhler said, “I think it’s great.”

Tamura Haney said her daughter Samantha, 7, gets a “terrific education at St. Patrick,” which is why she wanted to bring her and her brother, Alex, 4, to the Kids Fun Fair to help support the school.

Even people who are not Catholic, she said, “would be nice to come back and visit. Because my wife forced me to.”

Haney said she thought something about it might speak to the families.

She said simply having the option of being able to give kids a Christian education is a “big asset to have in Walkerton.”

“Everyone knows about St. Patrick.

It’s so important to everyone even if they’re not Catholic.”

TAMARA HANEY

By Jennifer Ochstein

Walkerton’s 150-year history shows a community commitment to the faith

BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

WALKERTON — The first Mass in the Devery cabin at 801 Tyler St.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy celebrated Mass outside, and a parish picnic followed.

And on July 3, the parish sponsored a Kids Fun Fair.

Dennis Allsop, who attended St. Patrick School in the early 1960s, said he came to the alumni banquet, “because my wife forced me to. She thought it would be nice to come back and see people I went to school with here.”

He said there are certain people he’d like to see again.

“I came for the food and fellowship, and it’s just a plus if her son, Brandon, is a second grader at the school. “I’ve grown up with it all my life,” Kogiones said.

And she called the 150th birthday of the parish “exciting. It’s been a big part of the town for a long time.”

Ron Truhler attended the school from the late 1970s to the early 1980s, and his parents and many friends still live in Walkerton, though he and his family now live in South Bend.

He said if his family lived in Walkerton, their children would go to school at St. Patrick. His children attend St. Anthony School now.

He said he came to the alumni banquet to see his classmates and support the school, “since it had a hard time staying open.”

Of the 50th anniversary of the school, Truhler said, “I think it’s great.”

Tamura Haney said her daughter Samantha, 7, gets a “terrific education at St. Patrick,” which is why she wanted to bring her and her brother, Alex, 4, to the Kids Fun Fair to help support the school.

Even people who are not Catholic, she said, “would be nice to come back and visit. Because my wife forced me to.”

Haney said she thought something about it might speak to the families.

She said simply having the option of being able to give kids a Christian education is a “big asset to have in Walkerton.”

“Everyone knows about St. Patrick.

It’s so important to everyone even if they’re not Catholic.”

TAMARA HANEY

By Jennifer Ochstein

Walkerton’s 150-year history shows a community commitment to the faith

BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

WALKERTON — The first Mass in Walkerton in 1856 in the log cabin home of Kyrann and Ellen Devery was the start of the St. Patrick Catholic Church and parish in Walkerton.

It was the same year that Walkerton, in the southwest corner of St. Joseph County, became a town.

And this year, the two are celebrating their 150th anniversary.

“The town and the parish grew up together,” says Father Chris Young, pastor of St. Patrick.

“They’re inseparable, really.”

And like many Catholic parishes, the history centers around service of the priests who were appointed to St. Patrick.

The first Mass in the Devery cabin was performed in early June by Father Paul Gillen, a Holy Cross priest from Notre Dame, according to the history of the St. Patrick sesquicentennial history booklet.

It wasn’t until around 1870 that a church was built to accommodate the 19 Catholic families in Walkerton. The 45-foot by 22-foot church, originally known as St. Henry, cost $800 to build.

Because of the Irish descent of the parishioners the name was changed to St. Patrick, according to the parish history.

A Consecration rite was added in 1895, a choir loft added in 1896 as well as an organ, and between 1895 and 1897, a belfry and bell were installed, and stained glass windows were donated.

Father Henry Kappel was the first priest to take up residence at St. Patrick after 1895.

He purchased the rectory from Michael and Ellen Quirk, the daughter and son-in-law of the first priest to take up residence at St. Patrick.

When Father Joseph Abel became pastor of St. Patrick in 1902 until 1924, he added onto the church so that it could accommodate up to 150 people. He also made repairs to the church, paid off the church’s debt, started a Rosary Society and Sacred Heart Society.

The church underwent further changes in 1924 when a basement was dug beneath it, while at the same time a wing was added to the rectory and the belfry, and the front of the church was remodeled, according to the parish history.

But one of the parish’s most well-loved pastors showed up on the scene in 1942.

While most of the pastors had served at St. Patrick for a year or two, Father Anthony Letko served for 42 years at St. Patrick.

His interest in children prompted him to organize a softball team, basketball team and religion classes for high school students.

Eventually, he built a school for the parish. It was completed in 1956, making this the 50th anniversary for the school as well. But before a school could be built, Father Letko remodeled a four-room convent that had been used for catechists. By the time he was done, the convent had 11 rooms. The convent would now house four Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis from South Bend, who promised to come teach the children at the school.

The school, which cost $125,000 to build, had four classrooms, assembly hall and kitchen.

On top of his interest in children, Father Letko worked to increase church membership from 25 to 130 by 1956.

When the school was opened, according to the parish history, it offered first through eighth grade and enrolled 135 students. But when the John Glenn School Corporation formed a middle school in 1999, the seventh and eighth grades were dropped and a kindergarten was added.

Father Letko, who retired in 1988, “left a big impression,” said Father Young. “He did a lot of wonderful things for this parish.”

And while the parish continues on, the school built by Father Letko has struggled with high operational costs and lower enrollment. After the possibility of having to close down in 2005 because of financial restraints, the community rallied to keep the school afloat. So far, parishioner support has kept the school open.

Since Father Letko’s retirement, a number of priests have served St. Patrick, including Father Robert Yast, Father Gene Kazmierczak, Father Michael Winkowski and most recently Father Young.
Walkerton marked with a spirit of persistence

By Jennifer Ochstein

WALKERTON — From 19 families when the church was built in 1870 to today’s 328 families, St. Patrick Parish has maintained its small town atmosphere as it has matured over the past 150 years with Walkerton.

Along with the town, St. Patrick Parish is celebrating its sesquicentennial, and the parish school has reached its 50th anniversary. Father Chris Young, who’s been pastoring at the parish since July 2005, says that since he’s been at the parish the best description he can give of parishioners is “small town hospitality and warmth. Everyone knows everyone. It’s kind of like Mayberry, though the people are not simple by any means. They are professionals” who’ve chosen to live in a small town.

“This community is built upon generations of family,” Father Young says. “Everything revolves around the school and church — the way it’s supposed to be.” Despite their hospitality, parishioners also seem to have a spirit of persistence.

Last year after financial troubles, debt and low enrollment threatened to close St. Patrick School, parishioners rallied. Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese Bishop John M. D’Arcy allowed the school to stay open after parishioner pleas to keep it. Bishop D’Arcy simply told them they would have to get behind the school financially and increase enrollment. They did.

The school is now solvent, Father Young says, and was even able to give $76,000 in financial aid to families for last school year, and the school is on track to be able to do the same next school year.

He says the parish has never made a distinction between parishioner or nonparishioner regarding who can attend St. Patrick School. And finances, he says, shouldn’t keep parents who want their children to have a Catholic education from getting exactly that. “Because it’s the focal point of their everyday lives, so many of them want the school here,” Father Young says. “They value family and traditions, and they appreciate the Catholic education.”

He says many parishioners got their education at St. Patrick School and want that same education for their children and grandchildren. It would be sad, he laments, for the community if the school is closed down.

And parishioners’ commitment to the school seems to have breathed new life into the parish, he said.

“It was shock for people when they heard the school would be closed,” Father Young says. “They didn’t realize the finances had slid. Many took for granted that the school would just always be here.”

So they made the decision that the school is worth the money it would need to keep it solvent despite low enrollment, which is what the school is facing now, he says.

But with leadership and staff changes as well as their commitment to the school, “people are hopeful now,” Father Young says. According to Linda Holland, president of the St. Patrick School Board, last year the focus was on finances. This year, she says, they will focus on enrollment, which stems from the low number of children in the parish.

People are having fewer children now than what they use to.

She says she sees how people rallying behind the school and keeping it open has brought new life into the parish because of people’s willingness to volunteer. “But we have to keep that up 365 days per year,” Holland says. “We need to continue that and increase that.”

And while she did not attend St. Patrick School as a child, her husband did and she, too, sees the value of a Christian education.

“It’s important to help children grow in all ways — academically, socially and in values,” she said. While her family has always prayed together, Holland says she thinks it’s important for children to be able to pray and have values training throughout their entire day at school.

Despite so much revolving around the school, Father Young says he sees the parish and parishioners continuing to build toward the future. In the next year, he says he wants to work on deepening the holiness of the parish community and strengthening their ties to the church.

“I see a real potential there,” Father Young says.

The Walkerton community celebrated the 150th anniversary of St. Patrick Parish, July 1-3. Above, the parish walks from the site of the first Mass to the church. At left, the parish had a float in the Walkerton parade and celebrated Mass under a tent.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN RUDECKI

Alex Haney, 4, slides down a giant inflatable slide at the Kids Fun Fair, part of the sesquicentennial celebration at St. Patrick Parish, Walkerton.

Dennis Holland
Holland Plumbing and Heating
in Walkerton extend
Congratulations & Best Wishes
to everyone at
SAINT PATRICK PARISH
as they celebrate 150 years
of Faith and Community
in Walkerton

JENNIFER OCHSTEIN
The early colonists came for many reasons but mostly in search of new lands, prosperity and religious freedom. The Mayflower Compact in Massachusetts, Roger Williams’ Baptist colony in Providence, R.I., and the Anglicanism of Virginia reflected the impact that Protestant Christianity has made upon the American scene.

The results of the “Great Awakenings” helped shape the religious and political character of the nation. The Protestant denominations, which dominated the American landscape, interpreted America’s Manifest Destiny to be a result of God’s providential plan. America’s providential destiny continues to be a powerful force that drives the imagination and affirms the conviction that this is the land of opportunity, freedom and democracy.

From the beginning, American Catholics were considered outsiders in the midst of a predominately Protestant culture. Catholics were suspect because of their perceived loyalty to a foreign power, the papacy, which had implications not only in religious expression but also in politics. Suspicion of Catholic intentions resulted in periodic displays of anti-Catholicism.

Many questioned whether Catholics could be loyal to the democratic experiment on which the country had been founded. However, Catholics also had arrived seeking religious freedom and the political and economic advantages that the New World offered. They believed that they shared in America’s providential destiny.

In contrast with their Protestant neighbors, Catholics could boast of their contributions to America’s beginnings and growth. They had explored the continent, founded missions and established settlements. Catholics labored in the task of nation building as farmers, laborers and soldiers. Therefore, what had once been considered a predominately Protestant nation was soon challenged by the presence of a sizeable Catholic population who began to place their imprint on the landscape of contemporary American life.

Catholic patriot

John Francis Noll played an instrumen-
Archbishop Noll’s good works had national scope

By the time Father John Noll was ordained bishop of Fort Wayne on June 30, 1925, he was already well versed in the national and international issues of the times. Because of this, he immediately became influential among U.S. prelates. Here are some of the many ways he made his presence known on the national scene:

**Victory Noll sisters**

Bishop Noll’s first public act after he became bishop was the dedication of the new motherhouse for the Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Victory. In the early 1920s, then-Father Noll asked Father John Sigstein, a young Chicago hospital chaplain who had begun a group of men and women to aid the missions and later recruited the first two members of a Society of Missionary Catechists to instruct Mexican children in the Southwest, if he would consider moving the order to Huntington, Ind. On Dec. 7, 1924, Father Sigstein, nine catechists and a probationer (postulant) arrived on the train from Gary, Ind. Father Sigstein decided to call the motherhouse Victory Noll, in honor of both Our Lady and the priest who was to become their greatest benefactor.

The society grew and received canonical recognition as a religious institute in 1932, changing its name to Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Victory to reflect their status as a full religious institute in the Church. For the rest of his life, Bishop Noll had a special place in his heart for the sisters, choosing to be buried at their motherhouse instead of at the Fort Wayne cathedral.

**NCWC**

At the beginning of World War I, under the influence of Cardinal James Gibbons and the direction of Msgr. John J. Burke, a National Catholic War Council, made up of all the bishops of the United States, was established to consolidate the contribution of American Catholics to the war effort. After the war, the council was renamed, and the W stood for “wartime.” Today, its work is carried on through the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. (See story on Page 5.)

Bishop Noll strolled into his first meeting of the NCWC in 1925, but no sooner was he seated than he noticed Cardinal O’Connell of Boston signaling him to come to the rostrum.

Knowing the new bishop’s prolific journalistic output, he whispered to Noll, “Sit here, we need you to be the secretary.” At that same meeting, Bishop Noll was elected treasurer of the American Board of Catholic Missions. In his role with the bishops’ conference, Bishop Noll demonstrated his foresight about the coming information age, helping to launch the Catholic News Service and the Catholic Hour on NBC radio.

**National shrine**

During the early part of the century, Catholics had been enthusiastic about building a national shrine to Our Lady under the title of the Immaculate Conception. With the advent of the Great Depression and World War II, the project languished.

Then, in 1953, Bishop Noll joined with Archbishop Patrick O’Boyle to revive it once more. The bishop often wrote of this project in the pages of Our Sunday Visitor and enlisted the schoolchildren of his own diocese to collect their pennies for the shrine. Through these efforts, he was able to raise about $7 million.

He used his influence with his fellow bishops to get them to pledge their support to secure the funds required for completion of the Great Upper Church. Sadly, this portion of the project was not dedicated until after Bishop Noll’s death.

**The Light of the World**

In 1936, Mrs. Marjorie Russell of Topeka, Kan., sent Bishop Noll a $1 bill with a note suggesting that OSV begin a drive to erect a huge statue of Christ as “Light of the World” in the nation’s capital. Her dollar was to be considered the first donation.

She believed that since Washington had statues of many famous people, one should be there to represent the greatest human benefactor who ever lived. The idea appealed to Bishop Noll, and he published the letter in the paper.

The idea obviously appealed to the readers as well. Soon, donations for the project totaled over $150,000.

Knowing that the National Catholic Welfare Conference needed new headquarters, Bishop Noll suggested to the board that the donations he had collected be used to help defray the cost of the facade on the new headquarters building, as long as it was made to show off the statue.

**The Legion of Decency and the NODL**

Bishop Noll was named to a team of four bishops responsible for starting the National Organization for Decency in Literature (NODL) in 1933 and began his own diocesan drive against lewd magazines in 1937. Thereafter, the bishops took up the drive nationally and named Bishop Noll chairman.

He was also a board member of the Legion of Decency that classified motion pictures in terms of their moral values.
In fighting bigotry, Father Noll found his calling

By Ann Ball

Father John F. Noll always remained concerned with combating prejudice against the Church. During the early 1900s, the great waves of immigrants, many of whom were Catholic, had incited a xenophobic reaction in many native Americans.

In particular, many Americans saw the Catholic Church as “foreign.” To counter this, Father Noll, then a young priest serving small parishes in rural Indiana, saw the great importance of a well-informed laity. Long before the directives of the Second Vatican Council, he realized they had a special mission of education:

Many people who are steeped in prejudice would become disposed to embrace the Catholic faith if they were approached with charity and kindness, and if the Church were given a chance to speak for itself. That is why every Catholic should be an apostle, representing his Church credibly before neighbors and the people among whom he works.

Knack for publishing

Studying how to achieve a better-informed laity, Father Noll hit on the idea of periodical literature. He received a 32-page monthly magazine called Truth, put out by Father Thomas Price. Father Noll hit on the idea of taking off the cover, adding four or eight pages of local parish news and a new cover, and calling it The Parish Monthly.

By the end of the first year, Father Noll discovered his own talent for writing and began producing the magazine himself. Some neighboring pastors asked for copies and the circulation began to grow. Father Noll then sent copies to the pastors of large parishes throughout the country, explaining his system and suggesting they could sell local advertisements to bring in enough revenue to support the production. Soon, more than 50 parishes were subscribing to the center of this magazine, adding their own material and cover. Most of the subscribing parishes, however, preferred Father Noll to handle the printing of the entire magazine.

By 1910, Father Noll had begun to receive national recognition as a Catholic publicist. In order to allow him more time for his writing and editing efforts, Fort Wayne Bishop Herman Alerding appointed him pastor of St. Mary’s Parish in Huntington, giving him an assistant to share the work. A local printer offered to sell Noll a nearby state-of-the-art print shop he no longer needed. Father Noll bought the shop and hired a team to print The Parish Monthly.

Our Sunday Visitor

Between 1909 and 1912, a virulent form of socialism came to America. It was opposed to religion, morality and private ownership. Around 1911, one socialist organization began to publish The Menace, a periodical devoted to propaganda against religion in general and the Catholic Church in particular. The paper became a veritable cash cow for its promoters, and many imitators sprang up. A wave of bigotry began to lash the country. The tricky charlatans who toured the country gave enormously profitable lectures. Often speaking under the auspices of some gullible Protestant congregation who felt for the socialist line of “equality for all,” the speakers took up collections and promoted subscriptions to their inflammatory papers.

Father Noll decided that a weekly publication was needed to defend the Church and to provide catechesis for the adult laity. He had his printers copy a few pages of The Menace and mailed it to priests throughout the country with a letter asking if they would support the publication of a national Catholic paper to combat it. The paper, costing 1 cent per issue, would be delivered to the parish to be distributed free to the congregation on Sunday morning.

On May 5, 1912, the first issues of the paper named Our Sunday Visitor rolled off the presses in Huntington and began to spread throughout the United States with an initial press run of 35,000. At its peak in 1961, the paper reached a million copies in circulation and Our Sunday Visitor, Inc. became one of the world’s largest Catholic publishers. Although today diocesan newspapers have taken over much of the work of Our Sunday Visitor, the publication remains the largest national Catholic weekly.

By the books

In addition to periodicals, Father Noll also began to write and publish books and pamphlets devoted to teaching the faith. Recognizing there was often a need for short articles to clarify some phase of Catholic doctrine, he began to produce a flood of these short, easily read, and popular pamphlets that could be distributed from racks in church foyers.

By the early 1920s, he began to publish works by other Catholic authors who shared his vision of educating the laity through the use of modern media. Today, Our Sunday Visitor Books is one of the largest Catholic publishing houses in the world.

Exposing frauds

Meanwhile, Father Noll’s crusade against the hate-mongers continued. Often many of the speakers still pretended to be

Story continued on Page 14

Contributing to betterment of U.S. Church

Our Sunday Visitor Institute: As circulation of his Catholic publications grew, Father John Noll’s publishing operation began doing contract publishing for other groups. He retained the ownership until he liquidated the debt incurred in purchasing the equipment; then, in 1915, he formed a corporation under the Indiana charitable laws.

Thereafter, all profits were distributed by Our Sunday Visitor to support various Catholic causes. In 1976, the system of organized giving became Our Sunday Visitor Institute. Last year, the institute allocated $2.6 million to organizations.

Offering envelopes: In 1916, most Catholic parishes were funded by pew rents as well as weekly and monthly collections. Always quick to adapt good ideas to his own situation, Father Noll read a press release from the National Council of the Churches of Christ in America that advocated giving members a box of envelopes for their weekly donations to support both the Church and the missions.

He experimented with the idea in his own parish. Soon a new division was added to his presses. Today, the OSV offering envelope division is the largest of its kind in the world.
Helping out dioceses

On Jan. 3, 1926, just six months after his installation as bishop of Fort Wayne, Bishop John F. Noll launched his diocesan newspaper as the local edition of Our Sunday Visitor. OSV also took on the job of printing newspapers for several other dioceses. Here is the list:

- Archdiocese of New Orleans
- Diocese of Amarillo, Texas
- Diocese of Baton Rouge
- Diocese of Buffalo, N.Y.
- Diocese of Charleston, S.C.
- Diocese of Covington, Ky.
- Florida Catholic (several dioceses)
- Diocese of Gallup, N.M.
- Diocese of Gary, Ind.
- Diocese of Jefferson City, Mo.
- Diocese of Kansas City
- Diocese of Lafayette, Ind.
- Diocese of Marquette, Mich.
- Diocese of Ogdensburg, N.Y.
- Diocese of Raleigh, N.C.
- Diocese of Rockford, Ill.
- Diocese of St. Cloud, Minn.
- Diocese of Springfield, Ill.

In Focus: Archbishop John F. Noll

INTERVIEW

Getting to know Church’s ‘unsung hero’

Biographer says she had not previously realized the wide range of archbishop’s contributions

Ann Ball: The enormous impact he had on the American church in his own time and still has today. Before I began working on the book, I knew only a little about him, basically just that he started Our Sunday Visitor. But the more I read and studied about him, the more I realized he had been involved with practically every major Catholic undertaking in his time, in addition to the huge amount of work he did in his own diocese and with Our Sunday Visitor.

From my study of the new Mexican martyrs, I did know Archbishop Noll was one of the few who tried to make the people of the United States aware of the situation in Mexico in the 1920s and 30s. And I knew the story of the Church’s Light of the World statue. But I had never realized that without him the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception might not have been completed, or that the weekly donation envelopes Catholics use were an idea that Archbishop Noll adapted. I realized the anti-Catholicism of earlier days, but hadn’t understood that Archbishop Noll was the one who led the most effective fight against this prejudice and gave American Catholics their own identity.

OSV: What is one of the most important things you think readers should take away from the book?

Ball: An appreciation and gratitude for the work of one of the greatest of the “unsung heroes” of the Catholics of America. I also hope readers see a glimpse of the happy, humble, good priest Archbishop Noll was.

OSV: What was Archbishop Noll’s greatest contribution to the Catholic Church in America?

Ball: The founding of Our Sunday Visitor — the paper and the press, both of which accomplished and still accomplish his wish to educate both Catholics and non-Catholics about the faith in an attractive manner and using language everyone can understand.

Although the envelope division and the foundation are both great extensions of his work, it is the paper and the books that accomplish what he set out to do in explaining the Catholic Church to everyone.

OSV: In your study of Archbishop John F. Noll, how did you find him to be?

Ball: A kindly and loving person. Above all, I think he was a model, especially for priests and Christian educators and parents.

OSV: What was his biggest contribution to the Catholic Church in America?

Ball: The how-to Book of Sacramentals and “Young Faces of Holiness,” has vast knowledge of Catholic saints, heritage and traditions.


She spoke recently with OSV about Archbishop Noll’s contributions and some of the surprises she found in her research of the man that family and friends called “The Bish.”

Our Sunday Visitor: What was the most surprising thing you learned about Archbishop John Noll while doing this book?

Ann Ball: That his biggest contribution to the Catholic Church in America was his biggest contribution to the Catholic Church in America!

Ball: The founding of Our Sunday Visitor — the paper and the press, both of which accomplished and still accomplish his wish to educate both Catholics and non-Catholics about the faith in an attractive manner and using language everyone can understand.

Although the envelope division and the foundation are both great extensions of his work, it is the paper and the books that accomplish what he set out to do in explaining the Catholic Church to everyone.

OSV: What is one of the most important things you think readers should take away from the book?

Ball: An appreciation and gratitude for the work of one of the greatest of the “unsung heroes” of the Catholics of America. I also hope readers see a glimpse of the happy, humble, good priest Archbishop Noll was.

OSV: What was his biggest contribution to the Catholic Church in America?

Ball: The how-to Book of Sacramentals and “Young Faces of Holiness,” has vast knowledge of Catholic saints, heritage and traditions.


She spoke recently with OSV about Archbishop Noll’s contributions and some of the surprises she found in her research of the man that family and friends called “The Bish.”

Our Sunday Visitor: What was the most surprising thing you learned about Archbishop John Noll while doing this book?

Ann Ball: That his biggest contribution to the Catholic Church in America was his biggest contribution to the Catholic Church in America!

Ball: The founding of Our Sunday Visitor — the paper and the press, both of which accomplished and still accomplish his wish to educate both Catholics and non-Catholics about the faith in an attractive manner and using language everyone can understand.

Although the envelope division and the foundation are both great extensions of his work, it is the paper and the books that accomplish what he set out to do in explaining the Catholic Church to everyone.

OSV: What is one of the most important things you think readers should take away from the book?

Ball: An appreciation and gratitude for the work of one of the greatest of the “unsung heroes” of the Catholics of America. I also hope readers see a glimpse of the happy, humble, good priest Archbishop Noll was.

OSV: What was his biggest contribution to the Catholic Church in America?

Ball: The how-to Book of Sacramentals and “Young Faces of Holiness,” has vast knowledge of Catholic saints, heritage and traditions.


She spoke recently with OSV about Archbishop Noll’s contributions and some of the surprises she found in her research of the man that family and friends called “The Bish.”

Our Sunday Visitor: What was the most surprising thing you learned about Archbishop John Noll while doing this book?

Ann Ball: That his biggest contribution to the Catholic Church in America was his biggest contribution to the Catholic Church in America!

Ball: The founding of Our Sunday Visitor — the paper and the press, both of which accomplished and still accomplish his wish to educate both Catholics and non-Catholics about the faith in an attractive manner and using language everyone can understand.

Although the envelope division and the foundation are both great extensions of his work, it is the paper and the books that accomplish what he set out to do in explaining the Catholic Church to everyone.

OSV: What is one of the most important things you think readers should take away from the book?

Ball: An appreciation and gratitude for the work of one of the greatest of the “unsung heroes” of the Catholics of America. I also hope readers see a glimpse of the happy, humble, good priest Archbishop Noll was.

OSV: What was his biggest contribution to the Catholic Church in America?

Ball: The how-to Book of Sacramentals and “Young Faces of Holiness,” has vast knowledge of Catholic saints, heritage and traditions.


She spoke recently with OSV about Archbishop Noll’s contributions and some of the surprises she found in her research of the man that family and friends called “The Bish.”

Our Sunday Visitor: What was the most surprising thing you learned about Archbishop John Noll while doing this book?

Ann Ball: That his biggest contribution to the Catholic Church in America was his biggest contribution to the Catholic Church in America!

Ball: The founding of Our Sunday Visitor — the paper and the press, both of which accomplished and still accomplish his wish to educate both Catholics and non-Catholics about the faith in an attractive manner and using language everyone can understand.

Although the envelope division and the foundation are both great extensions of his work, it is the paper and the books that accomplish what he set out to do in explaining the Catholic Church to everyone.

OSV: What is one of the most important things you think readers should take away from the book?

Ball: An appreciation and gratitude for the work of one of the greatest of the “unsung heroes” of the Catholics of America. I also hope readers see a glimpse of the happy, humble, good priest Archbishop Noll was.

OSV: What was his biggest contribution to the Catholic Church in America?
An identity crisis of sorts

So many times at Today’s Catholic, we hear people call us “Our Sunday Visitor.” Yes, it is true that the founder of the diocesan newspaper, Archbishop John F. Noll, was also the founder of Our Sunday Visitor in Huntington, a national publication started in 1912. It is also true that the diocesan newspaper was called Our Sunday Visitor (the diocesan edition started in 1926) for many years, then the Harmonizers, before the name was changed by Bishop John M. D’Arcy to Today’s Catholic.

But today, Our Sunday Visitor and Today’s Catholic are two distinct entities. Our Sunday Visitor still publishes a very fine national weekly newspaper. They operate out of offices in Huntington and also publish books, several Catholic magazines, pamphlets, bulletin inserts and church resource materials. Our Sunday Visitor also prints offering envelopes. Today’s Catholic, on the other hand, is the official publication of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. We have our own editorial, composition, advertising and business staff and operate in the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center in downtown Fort Wayne.

It gets to be a bit confusing when a subscriber calls and says, “I would like to renew my Sunday Visitor.” We always clarify, “Are you wanting to renew the Today’s Catholic or the national newspaper, Our Sunday Visitor?”

One of our office staff was on a bus trip and explained to everyone that we operate in Fort Wayne. At the end of the trip, some of fellow travelers told us “to have a safe trip back to Huntington.” We laughed about that one back at the office.

Occasionally, this week’s issue of Today’s Catholic, you will see articles that were provided by Our Sunday Visitor. The two newspapers do interact with one another. For instance, Msgr. Owen Campion, associate publisher of Our Sunday Visitor, writes the Sunday Gospel column that appears in Today’s Catholic and other newspapers nationwide. Several staff and writers of Our Sunday Visitor serve on the Today’s Catholic advisory board. A few of our writers, Ann Carey and York Young, also write or work at Our Sunday Visitor. Today’s Catholic considers Our Sunday Visitor as the “big brother” or “godfather” to our publication. So, yes, we work together, but no, we are not the same.

A pope of peace — now more than ever

Shortly after his election, Pope Benedict XVI announced that peace would be the program of his pontificate, taking his cue from Benedict XV, another pope who ruled for a short time and advocated peace in a troubled and war-torn world.

As Benedict XVI said at his first general audience, “I want to place my pontificate in the service of reconciliation and harmony among individuals and peoples, deeply convinced that the great good of peace is, first of all, a gift of God, a fragile and precious good of peace is, first of all, a gift of God, a fragile and precious gift to invoke, safeguard and build day after day with the help of everyone.”

It is ironic, then, that when the new pope of peace goes on his vacation that violence would erupt and quickly escalate in the Middle East. Added to the ongoing occupation of Iraq, genocide in Darfur, armed insurgents in Afghanistan and nuclear weapons development on North Korea and Iran, this latest onslaught of violence brings into sharp focus that Benedict’s making peace his mission was more than timely.

When the pope has remained on vacation during this time, he was quick to respond, calling for a ceasefire, as well as prayer, and if history is any indicator, Pope Benedict is doing the best thing he can for the situation — speaking out.

In the last century, popes have had a significant impact on world events simply by crying out like the proverbial voice in the desert. John Paul II brought about the fall of communism in Poland. In the 1960s, the entire world was spared nuclear annihilation when Pope John XXIII spoke out in the midst of the Cuban missile crisis, providing an voice for peace and humanity both Kennedy and Kruschev could respect. And on the flip side, the fiercest attack on the holiest of holy — Pius XII over the Holocaust — have alleged, however accurately or not, that he said too little.

And so Pope Benedict comes into his own, speaking out and being the voice of conscience. Of course, the image of Benedict’s Catholic Church is one that has proven very effective. May he continue to be articulate and animated by the Holy Spirit as he pursues his goal of peace. And may he, may we, attain it.
Jesus provides everlasting life

For its second reading, the church presents a passage from the Epistle to the Ephesians. It is a moving appeal to the Christians of Ephesus to bear with each other, to be patient with each other, and to love each other. It also warns that adversity often awakens the faithful believer. This reading finally states that the faithful compose one body. One Spirit gives to all, life and strength. They are not a collection of individuals, ships passing silently in the night, but they are united in a great and holy unity.

St. John’s Gospel supplies the last reading. It is one of the best known, and best loved, sections of the New Testament. It is the story of the multiplication of the barley loaves and fishes. Important in this reading is the fact that Jesus can supply all things. The apostles and the crowd are helpless. To stretch the point, without the Lord they would starve. They certainly would be hungry.

Not only do they have no food, but also they have no funds to buy food. Earthly assets are worthless. They fail. They cannot supply the need.

By contrast, Jesus supplies for the people. He first gives thanks over the sparse food at hand. It is an obvious implication of the Eucharist, and in Greek, “eucharistia” means “giving thanks.”

As a sidebar, Philip does not understand that Jesus is asking him for a testimony of Philip’s own faith. Even the apostles are limited in their ability to perceive.


eucharistia” means “giving thanks.”

A. By Dominic Camplisson

ANSWERS:
1. a. was highly educated
2. a. from a town called Magdala
3. c. was a maid of honor at a wedding.
4. a. Some sources say it refers to having curly hair, symbolic of a dissolute life.
5. a. She was a Jew raised in a predominantly Gentile area of Galilee.
6. b. She was taught Jewish law.
7. b. Not Jewish.
8. a. was less, less wild, but again without evidence, assumed to be a. the sister of Lazarus and Martha.
9. a. a former singer in the temple.
10. “Magdalenes” were an order of nuns who had this commonality: a. early Roman talk shows
b. supported by Gospel evidence (Mk 15), we do know that Mary Magdalen was c. a former singer in the temple.
11. a. laundry service (Magdalene Laundries)
12. a. early Roman talk shows
b. gnostic gospels
c. treatise on medicine
13. a. Overland, on an early bicycle (first Tour de France)
b. by car, train, plane and helicopter.
14. a. Overland, on an early bicycle (first Tour de France)

By the Second Books of Kings almost always have important aspect of life, and living values. Religion was the most united nation of Israel. The Hebrew Scriptures always had as central figure is not a king, but...
Preferable to translate good shepherd as ‘model’ or ‘noble’

Why did the figure of Jesus as the good shepherd become so popular? J. R., Fort Wayne

Jesus called himself the good shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep, according to the Gospel of John. The New American Bible, however, says the normal Greek word for good (agathos) does not occur here. Were not the expression “good shepherd” so traditional, it might be preferable to translate it “model” or “noble” shepherd.

Nevertheless, the shepherd and shepherds were a familiar part of the landscape in the ancient world. The sheep were often seen as a symbol of God’s people, who were to be led and looked after by the shepherd. The sheep symbolize a harmless, docile, and helpless creature, the most likely to fall prey to the wolf. The male sheep, the ram, however, is a symbol of strength, vitality, and unwavering determination.

The shepherd had to protect the sheep from wild beasts, like wolves, lions, and bears. There were many more wild animals running around loose in the ancient world than there are today, when we keep them sequestered in zoos and national parks. The shepherd defended the sheep from lions with his staff and bare hands. Even the young David in the Old Testament defended his flock of sheep from the lion, the bear, and the wolf. And Samson, too, wrestled a young lion. Sometimes the shepherd died trying to defend the sheep. Jesus is pictured in ancient statues carrying a ram on his shoulders. Father McKenzie says that the figure of Jesus as the good shepherd was a favorite in the early Christian centuries, and perhaps the earliest artistic representations of Jesus show him as the good shepherd carrying the lamb on his shoulders.

The shepherd also had to protect the sheep from inclement weather, so the shepherds were sheltered in folds or caves. Sheep need to be led and often dogs would help direct the sheep. I visited a sheep farm in Queenstown, New Zealand, and I was amazed at how the incessant yapping of these little dogs forced even the bulky rams down to their pen.

The shepherd even had to protect the sheep from theft or bandits. Sheep are helpless and naive, so if a sheep strayed, the shepherd went to great trouble to find it. If the sheep was ill or injured, the shepherd carried it on his shoulders. The Greek god Hermes was called the shepherd god or carrier of rams (cycnochos) and is pictured in ancient statues carrying a ram on his shoulders. The figure of Jesus as the good shepherd was a favorite in the early Christian centuries, and perhaps the earliest artistic representations of Jesus show him as the good shepherd carrying the lamb on his shoulders.

Jesus is fittingly pictured as the good shepherd, since he wants to take care of his people and he actually did die on a cross to clear the way for us to sin and death, so we could become holy and enter heaven. Jesus also established a church whereby we would receive his word and the grace of God through the sacraments.

Thus the officers of this church are called shepherds or pastors in Latin. These are the pope, the bishop and the parish priests. The Latin word “pastor” or “herdsman” actually comes from the past participle of the verb “pasture,” meaning “to feed.” Thus a pastor is a spiritual overseer.

Father John McKenzie mentions that shepherds were one of the chief supports for pastoral people in the ancient world. The shepherd furnished clothing in the form of wool, which provided warmth, clothing, and food. Goats, too, were a main support, furnishing milk and meat, and the goat skin was used for water bottles, tent cloth and garments.

Palestine offered abundant good pasture country for sheep and so the sheep became large. The shepherd could live off a light grass cover and so could be pastured in the desert itself when the winter rains brought growth. The sheep would only have to be watered once a day. The shepherd’s staff had to lead the sheep to the water.

Hans Biedermann notes that “sheep are by nature a harmless or even stupid, creature, the most likely to fall prey to the wolf. The male sheep, the ram, however, is a symbol of strength, vitality, and unwavering determination.” The shepherd had to protect the sheep from wild beasts, like wolves, lions, and bears. There were more wild animals running around loose in the ancient world than there are today, when we keep them sequestered in zoos and national parks. The shepherd defended the sheep from lions with his staff and bare hands. Even the young David in the Old Testament defended his flock of sheep from the lion, the bear, and the wolf. And Samson, too, wrestled a young lion. Sometimes the shepherd died trying to defend the sheep. Jesus is pictured in ancient statues carrying a ram on his shoulders. Father McKenzie says that the figure of Jesus as the good shepherd was a favorite in the early Christian centuries, and perhaps the earliest artistic representations of Jesus show him as the good shepherd carrying the lamb on his shoulders.

The shepherd also had to protect the sheep from inclement weather, so the shepherds were sheltered in folds or caves. Sheep need to be led and often dogs would help direct the sheep. I visited a sheep farm in Queenstown, New Zealand, and I was amazed at how the incessant yapping of these little dogs forced even the bulky rams down to their pen. The shepherd even had to protect the sheep from theft or bandits. Sheep are helpless and naive, so if a sheep strayed, the shepherd went to great trouble to find it. If the sheep was ill or injured, the shepherd carried it on his shoulders. The Greek god Hermes was called the shepherd god or carrier of rams (cycnochos) and is pictured in ancient statues carrying a ram on his shoulders. The figure of Jesus as the good shepherd was a favorite in the early Christian centuries, and perhaps the earliest artistic representations of Jesus show him as the good shepherd carrying the lamb on his shoulders.

Jesus is fittingly pictured as the good shepherd, since he wants to take care of his people and he actually did die on a cross to clear the way for us to sin and death, so we could become holy and enter heaven. Jesus also established a church whereby we would receive his word and the grace of God through the sacraments. Thus the officers of this church are called shepherds or pastors in Latin. These are the pope, the bishop and the parish priests. The Latin word “pastor” or “herdsman” actually comes from the past participle of the verb “pasture,” meaning “to feed.” Thus a pastor is a spiritual overseer.

Today’s Catholic welcomes questions from readers to pose to Father Richard Hare, Father Michael Heinitz, Father Mark Gurtner and the Office of Worship. Please e-mail your questions to editor@fwdiocese-fsw.com or mail them to Today’s Catholic, 50 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60601. Include your name, city and e-mail address.

 prefers to translate the good shepherd as ‘model’ or ‘noble’ in the New American Bible.

Not in a series of talks and interviews surrounding the announcement of his retirement as archbishop of Washington, Cardinal Theodore McCarrick frequently told his favorite John Paul II story: the story of the pope walking up the center aisle of Newark cathedral in October 1995, touching people on all sides. This, Cardinal McCarrick suggested, was how priests and bishops ought to act — sticking to the “middle,” in order to be in touch with everyone.

Or, as he told National Public Radio, “if a priest always forces you to the middle... We’ve got to be in the middle so that we can’t be on the left or the right get lost.”

I have other memories of events in Newman’s magnificent Sacred Heart Cathedral that evening, of what led up to them, and of what followed.

The pope had rather brazenly informed the Holy See that the pope would meet the pope at the door and escort Cardinal McCarrick up the aisle of the cathedral. The Holy See politely replied that the pope would enter the cathedral the way he entered in every other church in the world — without the guidance of politicians. The Holy See prevailed, and John Paul did indeed touch some of the many people reaching out to him as he walked to the sanctuary to preside over Evening Prayer. At the end of the service, two people walked down the aisle of Sacred Heart Cathedral, craftily shaking hands on all sides: President and Mrs. Clinton. John Paul II departed by a side door in order to pray at the Blessed Sacrament chapel. New Jersey public television juxtaposed these simultaneous events on a split screen: the politicians doing their thing, the priest and bishop doing their thing.

It was a striking, and telling, difference.

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

A Good Question

George Weigel

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

Truth at the 50-yard line?

In a series of talks and interviews surrounding the announcement of his retirement as archbishop of Washington, Cardinal Theodore McCarrick frequently told his favorite John Paul II story: the story of the pope walking up the center aisle of Newark cathedral in October 1995, touching people on all sides. This, Cardinal McCarrick suggested, was how priests and bishops ought to act — sticking to the “middle,” in order to be in touch with everyone. Or, as he told National Public Radio, ‘‘if a priest always forces you to the middle... We’ve got to be in the middle so that we can’t be on the left or the right get lost.’’

I have other memories of events in Newman’s magnificent Sacred Heart Cathedral that evening, of what led up to them, and of what followed.

The pope had rather brazenly informed the Holy See that the pope would meet the pope at the door and escort Cardinal McCarrick up the aisle of the cathedral. The Holy See politely replied that the pope would enter the cathedral the way he entered in every other church in the world — without the guidance of politicians. The Holy See prevailed, and John Paul did indeed touch some of the many people reaching out to him as he walked to the sanctuary to preside over Evening Prayer. At the end of the service, two people walked down the aisle of Sacred Heart Cathedral, craftily shaking hands on all sides: President and Mrs. Clinton. John Paul II departed by a side door in order to pray at the Blessed Sacrament chapel. New Jersey public television juxtaposed these simultaneous events on a split screen: the politicians doing their thing, the priest and bishop doing their thing. It was a striking, and telling, difference.

It’s not easy to know what Cardinal McCarrick means by his oft-repeated and significant devotion to moderation. He certainly wasn’t moderate — he wasn’t ready to split the difference at the 50-yard line, so to speak — when things he believed in were at stake. To take one example: students from impoverished Latvia in Washington, D.C., can use tax-funded vouchers to attend Catholic and a devout Muslim; a Sri Lankan Jesuit whose Asian-inflected theology of Christ and the church has little room for the ancient doctrine of transubstantiation was preserved by Rome; the president of a Benedictine college in Manila who has no qualms about celebrating Mass without a priest.

Then there are questions of doctrine. Shortly before the Holy See announced that Pope Benedict had accepted Cardinal McCarrick’s retirement, R. Scott Appleby wrote in the Washington Post about three Catholics, representatives of a ‘‘people’s church,’’ which Dr. Appleby described as mind and heart with people in the 21st century: ‘‘a Jakarta nun who describes herself as both a devout Catholic and a devout Muslim; a Sri Lankan Jesuit whose Asian-inflected theology of Christ and the church has little room for the ancient doctrine of transubstantiation was preserved by Rome; the president of a Benedictine college in Manila who has no qualms about celebrating Mass without a priest.’’

Is this the 50-yard line? Or, to put it another way, is this the middle, in thinking and acting as if every diversity of theological and political opinion were a football field on which truth lies at the 50-yard line and no one gets there?

Confusion. Is a truth that according to the Catholic Church whereby we would become holy and enter heaven actually did die on a cross to save us from death and sin. To his? It’s hard to believe that Cardinal McCarrick would have wanted his archdiocesan vocational director to stand in the center of the aisle on that one.

The fact is that the priests and bishops must be able to minister to people across the spectrum of reasonable theological and political opinion. The Eucharist must be able to minister to people across the spectrum of reasonable theological and political opinion. The Eucharist must be able to minister to people across the spectrum of reasonable theological and political opinion. The Eucharist must be able to minister to people across the spectrum of reasonable theological and political opinion.

I hope it’s clear. I hope that priests and bishops can be true ministers of the Gospel by thinking and acting as if every question were a football field on which truth lies at the 50-yard line and no one gets there. The differences at the 50-yard line is another matter entirely; see Revelation 3:16.
May we recommend for your dining pleasure...

**MAURY'S Bar's Pub**

RESTAURANT & LOUNGE
Featuring hand-cut steaks - signature pork chops and a variety of seafood. Serving lunch and dinner.
RESERVATIONS: 269-8282
901 West 4th Street • Mishawaka

**THE GALLEY**

Famous Fish & Seafood
Chicken & Steaks
Banquet Facilities
Open 7 Days a Week!

622 North 13th Street • Decatur • (260) 724-8181

**For your out-of-town guests**

**Our hotel guests enjoy...**

• 77 CHEF SELECT DINNER
• Airport Courtesy Van • Continental Breakfast
• New Fitness Center
• Lounge with Entertainment Tues. - Sat.
• Indoor/Outdoor Pools
• Banquet and Meeting Rooms
• Group Rates • Weekend Packages

1313 West Washington Center Road
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46825
(260) 489-2524 • (800) 348-1999
www.donhalls.com

**HIGHTECH SIGNS**

Need A Solution, Sign With Us.
Stan Abramowski, President
www.hightech-signs.com
888-484-2600
Fort Wayne • Indianapolis • Grand Rapids
Free Delivery • Design Assistance

---

**CASA**

Voted “Best” Italian since 1977
- FORT WAYNE -
Casa D'Angelo
260-745-7200
3402 Fairfield Avenue
Casa’s Ristorante
260-436-2272
7545 W. Jefferson Blvd.
Casa Mare
260-483-0202
4111 Parnell Avenue
Casa Grille
260-490-4745
511 East Dupont
Casa Grille Ristorante Italiano
260-969-4700
6340 Stellhorn Road

---

**NOON & DINNER SPECIALS**

Steaks • Chicken • Bar-B-Que Ribs • Lobster • Fish • Prime Rib

(Tuesday thru Saturday) HOURS:
Mon. - Thurs. 7AM - 10PM
Friday-Saturday 7AM - 11PM
Banquet rooms for up to 90 people

897-2114
204 East Albion Street • Avilla
WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

Legacy luncheon held
South Bend — The St. Vincent de Paul Society will celebrate its 100th anniversary with a Legacy Luncheon to be held at the University of Notre Dame Joyce Athletic and Convocation Center on Thursday, Sept. 7, from 11:30 a.m. till 1 p.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. Edward ‘Monk’ Malloy, CSC, President Emeritus of the University of Notre Dame. Unique items will be available at a silent auction. For information contact Sean Wendlinger at (574) 251-4908.

Living the Faith Series
Fort Wayne — Young adults of the cathedral, St. John the Baptist, and St. Joseph will host an event at the Cathedral Center on Sunday, July 30, at 6:30 p.m. Come at 6 p.m. (after the 5 p.m. Mass) and enjoy food and refreshments. The speaker this month will begin at 6:30 p.m. Meg Hanlon, mother of four and high school religion teacher, will talk about how to raise children in the faith. For information contact Susan Silver at (260) 423-2466.

Raffle and euchre event
South Bend — St. Vincent de Paul will host a raffle and euchre event at the South Bend Catholic Center, 410 S. Bluff St., on Friday, Sept. 15, from 7 to 10:30 p.m. Donation is $10 per person (no partner needed.) Adults 21 and over only. For tickets call David Faulkner (574) 246-1933. A family celebration will be held Saturday, Aug. 6, beginning with an outdoor Mass at 4:30 p.m. followed by a hog roast — meat provided by the parish. Potluck in the gym. Raffle drawing at 8 p.m. For raffle tickets call Kevin Sandor (574) 277-8471.

Welcome the world to diocesan schools
South Bend/Mishawaka — Catholic host families are sought for international High School exchange students who will attend Saint Joseph’s and Marian High Schools. A $350 monthly stipend is offered to families that open their homes and hearts to students. Students take care of their own tuition and have their own spending money and health insurance. The love of a home, a place to sleep and study and meals at home are the primary requirements. Families of all types are invited to inquire. Hosting such a student contributes to local diocesan schools. Hosting can be a mission/mentoring opportunity and an educational experience for the entire family. Contact Warren at (260) 423-2466 to learn more.

First Sunday rosary for families
Fort Wayne — The First Sunday rosary for families will be at MacDougal Chapel on Sunday, Aug. 6, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. with Father Tom Kodakassery from St. John, New Haven, and Sister Rita Musante from Victory Noll.

Hog roast fund raiser
South Bend — Sacred Heart of Jesus, Lakeville, will have a hog roast on Sunday, Aug. 13, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sacred Heart of Jesus Church is located at 63686 U.S. 31. Call the parish office for tickets at (574) 291-2826. Adults and carry-out $8. Children age 6-12 $3. Children 5 and under free. Tickets also available at the door.

Rummage sale planned for August
Kendallville — Incarnation Conception Parish, on Oak and Diamond streets, will have a rummage sale on Friday, Aug. 11, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and on Saturday, Aug. 12, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. $1.50 bag sale on Saturday.

Hannah’s House announces ND football ticket raffle
Mishawaka — Hannah’s House will raffle off a pair of 2006 Notre Dame football season tickets through Aug. 31. Tickets are $5, for $10 or $7 for $20. Call (574) 254-5309 to purchase tickets or for more information.

100 Club kicks seeks membership
Mishawaka — St. Rose Church is accepting memberships to the 100 Club for 2006-07. A $100 donation should be sent to St. Rose, 1890 Mishawaka Rd. Additional information is available through phone or email.

South Bend — Erin’s House offers support for young adults ages 3 to 25. Erin’s House for Grieving Children at (260) 423-2466 to schedule an appointment.

DIOCESE DIES

Msgr. John C. Witte of Gary Diocese dies
LAPORTE — Msgr. John C. Witte, 87, of Laporte, died Sunday, July 9, at his residence. Born Oct. 1, 1918, in Fort Wayne, he was the son of the late John C. and Gladys Witte. He lived in LaPorte for 32 years, coming from North Judson, St. Joseph and Methodius (1986-1991). He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church and was senior priest at St. Joseph Catholic Church in La Porte from 1992 to 2006. He attended St. Patrick and St. Jude grade schools in Fort Wayne. He completed high school and junior college at St. Lawrence Seminary, Mt. Calvary, Wis. From 1941 to 1945, he attended St. Mary Seminary for theology and was ordained to the priesthood on Feb. 2, 1945 by Bishop John F. Noll. He is survived by his brother, Paul Witte of Fort Wayne, and 14 nieces and nephews. He was also preceded in death by his brothers, Lester and Norbert. Mass of Christian Burial was at St. Joseph Catholic Church, La Porte.

Today's Catholic
in this photo. Windows of St. Anthony de Padua South Bend are shown in this photo.

I

n 1936, when Our Lady of Hungary Parish in South Bend celebrated an anniversary year and published a bilingual parish history in Hungarian and English, six Masses were celebrated on Sundays. At 7 and 10 a.m., the sermon was said in Hungarian; at 8, 9, and 11 a.m., it was in English, and at 6 p.m., the Mass and Gospel was read in both languages.

Notwithstanding the Hungarian influence, 11 nationalities were represented in the parish, the school enrollment was 400 with a faculty of 12 Daughters of Divine Charity, whose motherhouse was in Staten Island, N.Y. There was a single telephone in the rectory and another in the school; number 3-0947.

Ninety years have made quite a difference, but a parish festival announcement inviting guests to enjoy Hungarian goulash, Langalo (fried bread) and cabbage noodles still draws a big crowd.

Officially, the parish began in 1921, but its roots were set in 1916 when several Hungarian members of St. Stephen Parish met with the pastor, Father Lawrence Horváth to discuss the possibility of a Catholic Hungarian parish on the south side of South Bend.

This idea bore fruit and a small mission church was built on a spot, which eventually would become the site of a Studebaker foundry. Parish records were kept at St. Stephen, and Father Paul Miller, CSC, came from Notre Dame to say Mass.

In December 1921, with the south side experiencing rapid growth, Bishop Herman Alerding, in Fort Wayne, eager to bring the mission church to a regular parish status, invited Father Géza Györfy, recently from Hungary and serving as an assistant pastor at St. Stephen Parish in Toledo, to take charge of the new parish.

Rapid growth followed and in 1923 a new site for the church at West Calvert and South Chapin was purchased and the little church was moved up the hill and somewhat remodeled.

First services for the present church were held at Christmas 1949. The main celebrant was pastor Msgr. John S. Sabo assisted by Father Martin Horvath, deacon and Father Raymond Balzer, sub-deacon.

The original church located on Catalpa Street. The building was moved in 1923 to West Calvert Street and replaced in 1949 by the present church.

Stephen, and Father Paul Miller, CSC, came from Notre Dame to say Mass.

In December 1921, with the south side experiencing rapid growth, Bishop Herman Alerding, in Fort Wayne, eager to bring the mission church to a regular parish status, invited Father Géza Györfy, recently from Hungary and serving as an assistant pastor at St. Stephen Parish in Toledo, to take charge of the new parish.

Rapid growth followed and in 1923 a new site for the church at West Calvert and South Chapin was purchased and the little church was moved up the hill and somewhat remodeled.

First services for the present church were held at Christmas 1949. The main celebrant was pastor Msgr. John S. Sabo assisted by Father Martin Horvath, deacon and Father Raymond Balzer, sub-deacon.

The main altar of Our Lady of Hungary displays triptych art, a traditional form found in Hungarian churches in the 14th, 15th and 16th centuries. This was done by Father Peter Prokop, a Hungarian refugee priest who survived a concentration camp and was able to resume his study of art.

Our Lady of Hungary, South Bend, Est. 1921

Before the term space-age design achieved currency, the Studebaker automobile plant in South Bend, retooling at the end of WW II, began producing cars with a radical and popular space-age design causing a surge in prosperity and growth for the area. In Fort Wayne, Bishop John F. Noll saw this growth as the need for a new parish in South Bend.

On the world scene, Pope Pius XII and Harry S. Truman were names in the news on Sunday, May 1, 1949, when shovels sliced into the earth at 2310 East Jefferson Blvd. in South Bend, breaking ground for a grade school that would include an all-purpose room, which would serve as a temporary church.

The new parish would honor the name of a short, corpulent Portuguese whose personal magnetism and persuasive style of preaching made him greatly beloved. In 1946, Pope Pius XII would name him a doctor of the church. He was St. Anthony of Padua.

With an enrollment of 96 in the first three grades, the school opened in the fall of 1950 taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St.

St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend, Est. 1949

Francis, Sister M. Albina was principal. By 1953, the west half of the school was completed, providing classrooms for all eight grades. The church was moved to this new wing.

In 1956, a separate building, De Padua Hall was built on the six-acre parish site. The new facility allowed for expansion of programs in physical education and music instruction and provided rooms for meetings and parish social activities. Once again, the church was moved, this time to the auditorium of the new building. De Padua Hall was dedicated on Oct. 21, 1956 by Bishop Leo Parsley.

Ten years after he had been notified by Bishop Noll to organize the parish of St. Anthony de Padua, Father Jerome R. Bonk, with appropriate aura provided by the parish choir and visiting clergy, was able to break ground for the church on Easter Sunday, 1959.

St. Anthony de Padua School, with an enrollment of 450 in eight grades, has a children’s choir, a bell choir and school liturgies with participation of students from all grades.

St. Anthony Parish now serves 1,600 families. Father John Cramer, ordained in 2004, is a former parishioner.

Windows of St. Anthony de Padua South Bend are shown in this photo.