Katrina’s challenges, chances for renewal linger, says Biloxi bishop

BY ANN CAREY

BILOXI, Miss. — Bishop Thomas J. Rodi of Biloxi said many people probably have mixed feelings about the first anniversary of Hurricane Katrina.

“There is some wisdom in wanting to get on with our lives and not giving attention to Aug. 29,” the day the hurricane made landfall in 2005, he wrote in the Aug. 18 issue of the Gulf Pine Catholic, Biloxi’s diocesan newspaper. “It may feel to some that we are giving the storm too much power over us if we recall and observe the day it hit.”

But he also noted that there is a need to “pause and to remember,” reflecting on all that was lost and destroyed by Katrina and remembering what was learned from the disaster.

He said the extensive losses from the storm caused many to reflect upon “what is truly important and what is truly lasting.”

“We have been reminded that people are more important than things. We have also been reminded how important it is to tell people we love them. We never know when we will be separated from them. Our priests and religious have been outstanding both in helping us to rebuild and to discern the greatest values in life,” he said.

The bishop also stressed that the hurricane demonstrated people’s compassion especially as volunteers arrived from across the world to help out.

“It has been difficult at times to be on the receiving end of this generosity, but it has been a blessing to see so many people who wish to lend a helping hand to others. We are fortunate to be able to see so much goodness in the world,” he added.

Bishop Rodi also noted that those directly impacted by the storm have had the opportunity to grow in faith even as they question why God would cause many to reflect upon “what is truly important and what is truly lasting.”

He appeared at Notre Dame at the invitation of law and theology professor Cathleen Kaveny while he was on a brief visit to the University of Notre Dame.

Latin isn’t dead,’ says pope’s Latin secretary at Notre Dame

BY ANN CAREY

NOTRE DAME — People of a certain age will recall that a year or two of studying Latin used to be required in Catholic high schools and sometimes in public high schools. Thus, many freshmen Latin students were known to express the maxim that “Latin is a dead, dead language, and it’s killing me.”

Carmelite Father Reginald Foster, a Latin scholar who is the Latin secretary for Pope Benedict XVI, is quick to refute that maxim, and he did so with wit and enthusiasm at an Aug. 24 talk at the University of Notre Dame.

“Latin is about as dead as a Bach or Handel concerto,” Father Foster told a standing-room-only audience of about 150 people in the courtroom of the Notre Dame School of Law. “Latin isn’t dead, and it isn’t going to die,” he insisted in his often-curmudgeonly style.

Father Foster has held the position of the pope’s Latin secretary for the past 37 years.

He appeared at Notre Dame at the invitation of law and theology professor Cathleen Kaveny while he was on a brief visit to the United States. His home monastery is at Holy Hill, Wis.

Latin is too important a part of our western civilization to die out, the priest said, explaining that our language, our culture and our mentality are all connected to the great thinkers and theologians who wrote in Latin. And, of course, since Latin is the official language of the Catholic Church, all of the important church documents are in Latin, he reminded the audience.

One must read the great geniuses of the Western world, such as Augustine and Erasmus, in the Latin language in which they wrote in order “to feel their thoughts and souls,” Father Foster said. “Translation doesn’t do it,” for attempting to translate such great ideas would be “like a piano teacher doing a Schubert sonata.”

The priest called Gregorian chant and the Gregorian Missal “great ideas would be “like a piano teacher doing a Schubert sonata.”

The Gregorian Missal and Divine Office followed, and Father foster explained the process and the opportunity to express the maxim that “Latin is a dead, dead language, and it’s killing me.”

He insisted in his often-curmudgeonly style.

“Latin isn’t dead,” says pope’s Latin secretary at Notre Dame

BAVARIA PREPARES FOR POPE BENEDICT’S VISIT

An altar is prepared in the Bavarian village of Altotting, Germany, Aug. 25, in advance of Pope Benedict XVI’s Sept. 11 visit. In a Sept. 9-14 homecoming visit, the pope will stop in the town where he was born, lecture at the university where he once taught and celebrate Mass in the city where he was a bishop.
Pastoral support brings success to the Annual Bishop’s Appeal

BISHOP JOHN M. O’ARCY

The 20th time

We have begun in earnest our 20th Annual Bishop’s Appeal. I think back with gratitude to those early days. In my early months here, several priests approached me. Father Robert Epping, CSC, at that time the pastor of Christ the King Parish, South Bend, had Father John Pfister, pastor of St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, expressed concern about the method of financing the diocese and how it needed to be reviewed. I was asked by a committee of 10 priests and six laity with Father Bill Schooler, at the time pastor of St. Paul of the Cross, Columbia City, as chair. I recall Father Gene Kazmierczak, now retired and still in great spirits, served on the committee, as did Art Decio of St. Thomas Parish, Elkhart. When I asked Art by telephone if he would help us, I said, “I understand you don’t like meetings.” He replied, “Bishop, I like meetings if something good happens.” Dick Rosenthal, a respected figure in both Fort Wayne and South Bend who served with distinction as athletic director at Notre Dame, was also on the committee and was the first South Bend chair of our Annual Bishop’s Appeal.

I received a full report and drove to a meeting of the committee in Warsaw telling them that I accepted the report. I only made one addition. The report said that the bishop needed to be out front and visible on this effort. I promised that I would, but I said that would not do it. What would ensure success was if the parish priest was out front. It is the priest who says the Sunday Mass, visits the school, goes to the grave to lead prayers for the deceased and visits the sick and the dying — if he supports the appeal and makes it his own, it will be successful.

We made many important decisions in the early days and then refined and improved it as we went on. We indicated that all funds over goal would be kept in the local parish. We consulted with priests during the early years. We later made changes that did not account into the pressure of parish schools. It was all very collaborative. Most of all, it relieved the pressure on parishes. There was always close communion between the diocese and the parish, and between the pastors and their people.

I recalled all this at our recent dinners, which our priests have forged with their communities, such as teachers and friends. This year, we accepted six students. This means that at the opening of the seminary year, we will have 19 students in formation for the priesthood.

Our new video

The new video put together by our partners from New Group Media and our communications director, Vince LaBarbera, is excellent and shows the progress of the past 20 years. It should all make us humble, not proud. It is God’s work. As we step away from the Legacy of Faith, we hope we can increase our total. Remember, everything over $4 million is returned to the parishes. Last year, we were able to return about $1 million to parishes. This year we hope that will increase significantly. John and Marjorie Bycroft, who are giving outstanding leadership as diocesan chairs, said they hope to make this the highest appeal ever, which means we will have to go over $5.6 million. We are also working hard to increase the number of donors. Everyone can give something. We never want it to become an appeal that is made up entirely of major givers. The significant increases in teachers’ salaries over five years would have been impossible without the appeal. Last year, we gave grants from the appeal to 30 parishes with schools and, of course, we gave $1.7 million every year divided among our four Catholic high schools.

These two dinners in each of our major cities were a joy.

This year, we accepted six students. This means that at the opening of the seminary year, we will have 19 students in formation for the priesthood.

Our mission completed

I have now visited with every one of our candidates for the priesthood. This is a summer task, which usually begins when I return from vacation in late July. Earlier in the spring, I visited with the new applicants after they had completed preliminary steps, which include interviews with Father Bernard Galic, director of the Office of Vocations, and reminding recommendations from the pastor and various other people, such as teachers and friends.

Most important, they had a series of psychological tests and interviews with Dr. Susan Steibe-Pasalich. Susan, a great friend, is director of the counseling services at Notre Dame and is a clinical psychologist. Several years ago, she and I agreed that she should go to St. Luke’s Institute in Maryland for further training so that she could be helped to find serious problems which, as you know, have caused the church so much anguish in recent years. I have all these reports compiled by Father Galic and his assistant, Mark Zysczynski. I read them carefully and then interview each candidate myself.

This year, we accepted six students. This means that at the opening of the seminary year, we will have 19 students in formation for the priesthood. This includes Deacon Anthony Steinacker, who is scheduled to be ordained to the priesthood at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Oct. 28. I believe this is the largest number in my 21 years as your bishop. I attribute it, under God’s grace, to two factors. The prayers of so many throughout the diocese, private prayers by individuals and parish prayers; rosary for vocations before Mass, and eucharistic adoration. The other factor is the example and inspiration of our parish priests, along with the devoted work of Father Galic.

The fostering of vocations to the priesthood is not easy. Many things must happen. Putting posters on walls or advertising does not do it. Here are some of the things that have to happen, which are ongoing in our diocese.

• Catechesis must be strengthened. There is need for strong religious education in schools and in religious education programs in parishes and in Catholic high schools.
• How can one give his life for the faith if he did not know it?
• There is need for effective programs of youth ministry in parishes, which include prayer, catechesis and service to those in need. Parents must be catechized about the priesthood. Pope John Paul II wrote, “The whole church needs to have clear and clearly in focus the meaning of the ministerial priesthood.”
• There must be efforts also for vocations to the consecrated life, especially among young women.
• There needs to be parish retreats and missions where the focus is on prayer and faith.
• We are encouraged by these good numbers and by the work being done for vocations in our parishes.

Speaking of vocations

What a joy and privilege to ordain four young Holy Cross religious to the diocesan last Sunday in the Chapel at Moreau Seminary. The previous day, they had offered their lives to God as religious with vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. Notre Dame was a factor in the decision of each to consider a priestly vocation in the Holy Cross Congregation. A special joy that one of the new deacons was a native of Christ the King Parish. Great blessings to Jim Gallagher, Gregory Haake, Stephen Koons, and Patrick Smolenich.

See you all next week.
FDA permission to sell Plan B over the counter called unacceptable

By Nancy Frazier O'Brien

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Food and Drug Administration’s Aug. 24 decision, with the apparent support of President George W. Bush, to allow over-the-counter sales of Plan B, the “morning-after pill,” to women 18 and older defies common sense and is “completely unacceptable,” according to a pro-life official of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Deirdre McQuade, director of planning and information for the bishops’ Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, urged pharmacists “not to confuse FDA approval with a right to access” and said they “must refuse to stock this potent drug for distribution on demand.”

Plan B uses large doses of birth-control pills to prevent conception up to 72 hours after unprotected sex. Over-the-counter sales of the drug were expected to begin before the end of the year.

In its Aug. 24 announcement the FDA said that, “when used as directed, Plan B effectively and safely prevents pregnancy.” But McQuade said that ignores the “potentially abortifacient” effects of the drug.

“While Plan B can prevent fertilization, the manufacturer admits it may also prevent a newly conceived embryo from implanting and surviving in the womb,” she said. “This is properly understood as causing an abortion.

“Without the benefit of a doctor’s supervision, many women will be unaware of this abortifacient action and the other risks posed by Plan B,” McQuade added.

The FDA said the drug would be made available “with a rigorous labeling, packaging, education, distribution and monitoring program called Convenient Access, Responsible Education, or CARE.”

McQuade said Plan B “is a powerful dose of the artificial hormone levonorgestrel — 40 times the amount found in comparable prescription-only birth-control pills.”

“Making the more potent dosage available to women upon request simply offends common sense, especially when the drug is not designed to treat disease or pathological condition,” she said.

In an Aug. 21 press conference, Bush said he supported whatever decision was made about Plan B by Dr. Andrew von Eschenbach, acting FDA commissioner, but he believes the drug ought to require a prescription for minors.

After the FDA decision was announced Aug. 24, White House spokeswoman Dana Perino said the president “appreciates that the FDA did an exhaustive review, that they recognize the critical distinction between minors and adults and the risks a drug like this can pose.”

“The FDA made clear that it will insist on stringent conditions and restrictions on access to reduce both health risks and opportunities for abuse, especially to protect minors,” Perino added. “I’m sure the FDA will follow through on that and make sure these important conditions are established and enforced.

“The FDA announced July 31 that it would work with Duramed, a subsidiary of Barr Pharmaceuticals that manufactures the drug marketed as Plan B, to develop a “framework for moving emergency contraception medication to over-the-counter status” for women 18 and older.

Barr Pharmaceuticals originally had sought approval for over-the-counter sales of Plan B to anyone 16 or over. Then-FDA Commissioner Lester M. Crawford announced in August 2005 that the agency would not grant such approval and set a 60-day period for comment. Crawford resigned his post that October.

Von Eschenbach said in a July 31 letter to Duramed that the agency had received approximately 47,000 comments, and “we concur with the overwhelming majority of the comments that it is not necessary to engage in rule-making to resolve the novel regulatory issues raised by your application.”

The Plan B emergency contraceptive is seen in an undated handout photo. The Food and Drug Administration’s Aug. 24 decision, with the apparent support of President George W. Bush, to allow over-the-counter sales of the “morning-after pill” to women 18 and older defies common sense and is “completely unacceptable,” according to an official of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

KATRINA

Continued from Page 1

allow bad things to happen.

“We have had the opportunity to learn that God is with us both in the good times and in the struggles of life,” she said. “We have also had the opportunity to learn that God can bring good even out of the worst of times.

“If we open our eyes we can see the hand of God guiding, helping and strengthening us,” he added. “We are not the same after Katrina, but we can each be better. God can lead us to grow in wisdom, compassion and faith because of all we have and are enduring.

The bishop pointed out that many parishes and schools are planting an oak tree to observe Katrina’s anniversary as a memorial to those who have died and a tangible sign of “our commitment to continue to grow and together build a new future for our beloved Mississippi.”

He said the trees will take time to grow, just as recovery takes time. “The road of recovery will be long and challenging,” Bishop Rodi wrote. “With neighbor helping neighbor, with the assistance we are receiving throughout our nation and our world, and with God’s help, we will rebuild wonderful communities, with a great sense of place and a wonderful quality of life.”

Collection for Catholic University set Sept. 9-10

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Next weekend, we will be joining with dioceses all over the country in taking part in the annual collection for the Catholic University of America, which was founded by the bishops of the United States and chartered by the Holy See over a century ago.

Catholic University is dedicated to forming leaders in the Catholic intellectual tradition for the purpose of serving the church and society in these troubled times. Many religious educators, theologians, priests, sisters and bishops in our country assumed their positions of leadership with the support of the education they received at Catholic University.

Today’s graduates go on to careers not just in the church but in the fields of government, architecture, law, health care and many others.

Catholic University’s School of Philosophy offers one of the oldest doctoral programs in the country and is known especially for its work in classical and medieval philosophy. The undergraduate program of its School of Nursing is ranked among the top 10 in the nation.

Besides being one of the premier Catholic universities in the country, Catholic University provides several unique contributions in service to the church in this country. Catholic University’s School of Canon Law is the only graduate school of canon law in the United States and its National Catholic School of Social Service is one of the most prestigious schools of its kind in the country.

The Center for Advancement of Catholic Education provides strategic planning related to Catholic schools for dioceses around the country, and the University’s Department of Education offers a graduate degree in Catholic school leadership that enables students to take their place as bishops, superintendents and presidents of Catholic elementary and high schools.

Finally, Catholic University’s Life Cycle Institute provides social science research to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on many church-related issues.

Catholic University depends greatly on the financial support of the Catholic faithful in this country. I ask you to be as generous as you can towards this collection which will be taken up next weekend. St. Augustine’s willingness to participate in a personal way to the mission of Catholic higher education in our country.

Sincerely yours in Our Lord,

John M. McVay

Most Rev. John M. D’Arcy

Pope: Worried parents should take heart in St. Augustine’s path

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI said parents worried about the waywardness of the children should take heart in the circuitous spiritual path of St. Augustine.

After a youth spent in pleasure-seeking and self-indulgence, St. Augustine embraced the faith and went on to become one of the most important figures in the development of Christianity, the pope said Aug. 27.

Much of the credit belongs to his mother, St. Monica, who despite her son’s “rebellious temperament” never gave up on him and accompanied him for years with “prayers and tears,” he said.

“As parents, we see there are today in family relations, and how many mothers are angered because their children take the wrong road,” he said.

“Monica, a wise woman and solid in her faith, invites them not to be discouraged, but to persevere in the mission of wife and mother, keeping firm trust in God and holding with perseverance to prayer,” he said.

He said St. Augustine, despite his selfish behavior in his early years, dedicated his life to the search for truth. The saint’s discovery of Christ came only after a long inner torment, he said.

The pope made the comments to several hundred pilgrims inside the courtyard of his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, Aug. 27. The pope said that parents worried about the waywardness of their children should take heart in the circuitous spiritual path of St. Augustine.

(© Photo/Donal Guillears)

Pope Benedict XVI waves to the faithful gathered for recitation of the Angelus at his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, Italy, Aug. 27. The pope said that parents worried about the waywardness of their children should take heart in the circuitous spiritual path of St. Augustine.

The pope made the comments to several hundred pilgrims inside the courtyard of his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, Italy. The church celebrates the feast days of St. Monica Aug. 27 and St. Augustine Aug. 28.
Pro-life official dismisses latest stem-cell announcement as a sham

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Highly touted research claiming that human embryonic stem-cells lines can be derived without harming the embryos is a sham, according to a pro-life official of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

“They didn’t do anything like what the headlines are saying they did,” said Richard Doerflinger, deputy director of the bishops’ Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities, in an Aug. 24 interview with Catholic News Service. “All they showed was that you can kill an embryo at an earlier stage than they did before.”

At the Vatican, Bishop Elio Sgreccia, president of the Pontifical Academy for Life, said the new technique did not remove ethical objections and may increase them.

Advanced Cell Technology Inc., based in Alameda, Calif., and Worcester, Mass., announced Aug. 23 that a team of its scientists had “successfully generated human embryonic stem cells using an approach that does not harm embryos.”

An article on the research was published Aug. 23 in the online edition of the science journal Nature.

The technique involves removal of a single cell from an early, eight-cell embryo called a blastomere. The researchers claimed that the method has been successfully used in more than 1,000 cases of preimplantation genetic diagnosis, in which one cell is removed to test for genetic disorders and the embryo is implanted if no disease is found.

Up to now, stem-cell research involving the destruction of human embryos has taken place when the embryo is made up of about 150 cells.

But no embryo survived the research carried out by the Advanced Cell Technology scientists, Doerflinger said. Sixteen embryos were killed to retrieve 91 blastomeres, from which two stem-cell lines were derived, the research showed.

The scientists postulated that the single-cell technique used in preimplantation genetic diagnosis would carry over to stem-cell research and that the technique doesn’t harm the embryos, “but we don’t know that either is true,” Doerflinger said.

It will take many years to determine whether children born following implantation after the single-cell removal technique are truly healthy, he added, noting that it was only after 1 million live births from in vitro fertilization that scientists felt they had a large enough sample size to test for abnormalities in those children.

Bishop Sgreccia told Vatican Radio Aug. 26 that removal of the single cell may damage the embryo. He said experimentation on animals was needed to exclude this possibility.

On a more general level, he said the new technique represents “another manipulation of the human embryo and is therefore unethical. It adds another layer of artificiality to an already artificial process, he said.

He said it was incomprehensible why scientists were continuing to focus on the production of embryos for stem cells, instead of using stem cells obtained from amniotic bands and other parts of the human body.

“One reason there is a big race to do these experiments on the human embryo is because funds are being made available. To obtain these funds, experiments are being exempted from ethical considerations, even when the outcome is uncertain and when, in my opinion, the ethical objections are multiplied,” he said.

In a press release, Dr. Robert Lanza, vice president of research and scientific development at Advanced Cell Technology and the study’s senior author, said the research “demonstrated, for the first time, that human embryonic stem cells can be generated without interfering with the embryo’s potential for life.”

William M. Caldwell IV, CEO of the company, said in the release that the research “should assuage the ethical concerns of many Americans.”

Ronald Green, director of the Ethics Institute at Dartmouth College in Hanover, N.H., and chairman of the company’s Ethics Advisory Board, said it “appears to be a way out of the current political impasse in this country and elsewhere.”

But Doerflinger disagreed, saying that even if the company had accomplished what it said it did there is no way to assure the embryos would not be harmed.

“Embryos deserve the same protection from being used solely for the benefit of others that we all do,” he said.

ed 14 years of Latin study.

Father Foster said that Popes Paul VI, John Paul II and Benedict XVI were skilled in Latin and took Latin for granted. However, he said, he does not believe any of those three popes realized that the Catholic people generally don’t have a knowledge of Latin.

Rather than just criticize this state of affairs, Father Foster, continued, he is out to “remedy” the situation, for knowledge of Latin “is just too precious to lose.”

Thus, Father Foster has taught an intensive Latin course in Rome for the past 25 summers in which he exposes his students to a range of works in Latin from B.C. 200 to the current writings of Pope Benedict XVI.

“If Latin suffers,” he said, “it’s because we’re not learning or teaching Latin.”

Father Foster’s unique teaching methods, which he says do not require memorizing the declensions and conjugations that most Latin students remember by heart, serve as a model for Latin programs in several American universities.

If the enthusiasm of his former students and the many young people who lined up to shake his hand after the lecture is any indication, Father Foster may just be onto the right prescription to keep Latin alive.

Father Foster may just be onto the right prescription to keep Latin alive.

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

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St. Vincent de Paul Society — a history of service throughout the world and South Bend

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

SOUTH BEND — It all began in May of 1833 with a challenge from a local newspaper to Frederick Ozanam in Europe.

“In former times, Christianity worked wonders. But what is it doing for humanity today? And you who pride yourselves on your Catholicity, what are you doing to show its vitality and efficacy, to prove the worth of your faith?” was the passage written in the newspaper.

A young law student at the University of Paris, Ozanam, heard these words and realized there was a great need for positive action in the name of the church and gathered six other dedicated Catholic men to create a charity that would add deeds to words and demonstrate the truth of their faith. The group was determined to go out to the poor thus creating the first conference of the organization. It was later co-dedicated to their Blessed Mother and to the patron of charity, St. Vincent de Paul.

“Do not be content to say: I am a Christian. But live in such a way that it may be said of you: we have seen a man who loves God with all his heart and keeps his commandments,” said St. Vincent de Paul.

“One of the principal acts of charity is to bear with our neighbor; and we must realize this undoubted truth, that the difficulties we have with our neighbor spring more from our own poorly mortified tempers than from anything else.”

This special society, dedicated to helping the poor in France, established the following aims:

• To bring together men of the same faith;
• To bear witness to their religion by showing that their faith is not from anything else.

In 1836, a conference was formed in Rome. The society expanded into England and Ireland in 1844.

The first conference in the United States was started in St. Louis, Mo., in 1845 and over 5,000 conferences exist in the United States today.

One hundred years of service in South Bend

It wasn’t until 1904 that South Bend saw its first St. Vincent de Paul Society conference emerge at St. Patrick Church. There were 70 men in the conference when it started.

Eventually, other Catholic churches began forming conferences within their parishes, creating a network of 19 conferences that work with the district council office.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society has been in the Michiana area for over 100 years. Through the district council office, Vincentians can get baskets of food and vouchers for free clothing and furniture to their clients. Needy people can also get financial assistance through the Emergency Assistance program at the district council office.

The society’s mission state: Inspired by Gospel values, the St. Vincent de Paul Society brings people together in prayer and person-to-person service to those who are in need and suffering — providing food, clothing and financial assistance to families in our community. Vincentians witness God’s love by embracing all works of charity and justice and collaborate with others who share this vision.

“We continue to respond to those who contact us because they and their families are hungry. Many work, or live on a fixed income, but with rising energy, housing and food costs they just don’t have the income to pay the bills and still put food on the table. The number of calls for emergency food assistance rises in the summer because children are at home and they don’t, or can’t, access food programs for lunch or breakfast. We, along with other emergency food providers in the area, are struggling to meet the need this summer and keep our food pantry stocked,” said Sean Wendlinder, current executive director of the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

“Along with helping people with food, we also provide free clothing and furniture through our thrift store, to families in need. Plus we continue to offer financial assistance for rent, utilities, medical expenses, etc., so those families in crisis keep their housing, their water, electricity and heat / air conditioning, or so they can get the medication they need. Our Vincentian volunteers make a home visit and work with families to help them access those items they need to make it through the day and find the services that might help them in the future.”

The society has seen a number of changes over the years.

We now offer free bread, through our Bread Basket, six days a week to people in need. We collaborate with several other service organizations in the community to provide free clothing for their clients or residents. We are trying to provide more service to our Vincentian volunteers — recruiting, training and consultation, so that we are a stronger society in the future. We are also developing a grassroots group to advocate for just social policies that seek the common good with a preferential option for those who are poor and suffering — a voice for those who don’t have as strong a voice in Indianapolis or Washington as those who are rich and powerful,” said Wendlinder.

The outlook is bright for the St. Vincent de Paul Society and they predict a prosperous future for the next 100 years.

“Looking to the next 100 years we hope to recruit even more new Vincentians for our work in the community. The society is a group of people who respond to those in need with compassion, and we need to train and form new leaders for the future who will live out their faith by their loving actions. We realize there will always be people who need our help, so we are working to cultivate the necessary resources and partners so that we will be able to respond when needed,” said Wendlinder.

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The St. Vincent de Paul Society is celebrating over 100 years of service in the Michiana community with a Legacy Luncheon on Thursday, Sept. 7, from 11:30 a.m. till 1 p.m. at the University of Notre Dame’s Joyce Athletic and Convocations Center. The special guest speaker for the event is Reverend Edward “Monk” Malloy, CSC, President Emeritus of the University of Notre Dame. Unique items will also be available at the silent auction. For more information call Sean Wendlinder at (574) 251-0900.

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Sister Mary Luke Tobin died; played role at Second Vatican Council

NERINX, Ky. (CNS) — Loretto Sister Mary Luke Tobin, who played a role in the renewal of religious life and was one of a handful of female observers at the Second Vatican Council, died at the Loretto motherhouse in Nerinx Aug. 24. She was 98 years old. Sister Tobin donated her body to science. A memorial service is to be held at the motherhouse Oct. 7. An ardent ecumenist and advocate of church renewal, peace, social justice and women’s rights in church and society, Sister Tobin was president of her order from 1958 to 1970 and was head of what is now the Leadership Conference of Women Religious during Vatican II. She was one of only 15 women worldwide invited to attend the council’s last two sessions as an auditor, and she was part of the commission that drafted “Gaudium et Spes,” the council’s Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World. Only two other women were members of commissions that drafted council documents. Born in Denver May 16, 1908, Ruth Marie Tobin joined the Loretto community and took the religious name Mary Luke when she professed her vows in 1927.

China releases underground bishop after 10 years in prison

ROME (CNS) — After 10 years in prison, an underground Chinese bishop has been released and has received government permission to carry out his pastoral duties without registering with the country’s state-sanctioned Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association. Chinese authorities freed 57-year-old Auxiliary Bishop Francis An Shuxiao of Baoding in Hebei province Aug. 24. The bishop had been arrested in 1996 following a government-ordered raid on the diocese’s underground seminary, which he headed. According to an Aug. 26 report by the Italian-based mission agency AsiaNews, Bishop An was released because he accepted government recognition for being a Catholic bishop in China. He did not have to become a member of the government-approved patriotic association, which registers and elects bishops without Vatican approval. The U.S.-based Cardinal Kung Fu-Ning in Hong Kong Aug. 24 said that the bishop now has a work permit to serve as a Catholic bishop and to carry out his pastoral duties in China.

Catholic peace group leaders say protests not helping terrorists

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Leaders of Catholic peace groups bristle when asked if their opposition to the Iraq War and their criticisms of the Bush administration’s war on terror are harming efforts to keep the U.S. safe. Saying that protesters help terrorists is a “bogus assertion,” said Dave Robinson, executive director of Pax Christi USA. Accusing protesters of helping the enemy “is always used in wartime by the war-makers against those who call for government accountability,” he said. Robinson and several other leaders of Catholic peace groups interviewed by Catholic News Service argued that President George W. Bush’s approach to fighting terrorism is counterproductive. They said it overemphasizes a military response that fails to deal with the underlying causes that seduce people to become terrorists. Robinson criticized the label “war on terror” as a “marketing ploy.” He preferred the phrase “war against terrorists” to describe what is needed. “Terrorists employ specific means to cause harm and spread terror among certain people. They have goals — to remove occupation troops, to change policies,” he said.

Lefebvrite bishop says no progress on reconciliation with Vatican

ROME (CNS) — A year after his meeting with Pope Benedict XVI, the head of the Society of St. Pius X, Bishop Bernard Fellay, said there had been no substantial progress on reconciliation with the Vatican. Bishop Fellay said that after the terms of a possible agreement were discussed by cardinals and Roman Curia officials in meetings last spring “there’s been no development” on the issue. “I think probably the pope would like things to go quicker, and he’s probably facing a lot of opposition from the cardinals, from within,” Bishop Fellay said Aug. 24. “Right now, it’s not much happening in either direction,” he said. Bishop Fellay spoke by phone to Catholic News Service from the society’s headquarters in Econe, Switzerland. In late August 2005, he and another official of his order met privately with the pope for 35 minutes, an encounter that prompted speculation about possible reconciliation. The society, which rejects many of the changes introduced by the Second Vatican Council, broke with the Vatican in 1988 when its late founder, French Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre, ordained four bishops against papal instructions. Bishop Fellay was one of those ordained.

Pope warns against environmental damage, says it burdens world’s poor

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI delivered a strong warning against environmental damage, saying it was aggravating the already heavy burden on the world’s poor. The pope, speaking at his summer villa outside Rome Aug. 27, expressed support for the Italian church’s first day dedicated to the promotion of creation, which was to be celebrated Sept. 1. The pope said the created world was a great gift of God but is presently “exposed to serious risks by life choices and lifestyles that can degrade it.” He added, “In particular, environmental degradation makes poor people’s existence intolerable.” The Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church says the world’s poor, who often live in polluted slums, are connect- ed to the environmental crisis. In cases of poverty and hunger, it is “virtually impossible” to avoid environmental exploitation, said the 2004 social doctrine. Pope Benedict said, “In dialogue with Christians of various churches, we need to commit ourselves to caring for the created world, without squandering its resources, and sharing them in a cooperative way.”

Austrian cardinal says Darwinism should be studied as science

RIMINI, Italy (CNS) — Austrian Cardinal Christoph Schönborn of Vienna said he thought Darwin’s theories on evolution deserve to be studied in schools, along with the scientific question marks that remain. It is right to teach “the science of Darwin, not ideological Darwinism,” Cardinal Schönborn said Aug. 23. He spoke at a meeting in Rimini sponsored by the Catholic lay movement Communion and Liberation, and his remarks were reported by Italian newspapers. In 2005, Cardinal Schönborn helped fuel the debate over evolution and intelligent design when he wrote in The New York Times that science offers “overwhelming evidence for design in biology.” He later said some scientists had turned Darwin’s teachings into an ideological “dogma” that admitted no possibility of a divine design in the created world. In Rimini, the cardinal said he did not regret writing The New York Times article, but that in retro- spect he might have been more nuanced. “Perhaps it was too much crafted with a hatchet,” he said.

Syro-Malabar Catholics call for more dioceses, end to restrictions

Sister Mary Luke Tobin praying at the tomb of Blessed Mother Teresa on what would have been her 96th birthday in Calcutta, India, Aug. 26. Mother Teresa, who died in 1997, was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 2003.

Missionaries of Charity pray at tomb of foundress

Missionaries of Charity nuns pray at the tomb of Blessed Mother Teresa on what would have been her 96th birthday in Calcutta, India, Aug. 26. Mother Teresa, who died in 1997, was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 2003.
Cancer survivors want to ‘sack’ breast cancer

SOUTH BEND — Nearly 20 local cancer survivors boarded a Transpo Trolley bus on Wednesday, Aug. 16, for the third annual Secret Sisters Society media tour, in an effort to raise awareness about how women can receive free mammograms.

The Secret Sisters Society, an arm of the Women’s Task Force of Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center (SJRMC), took to the streets of South Bend aboard the trolley to promote breast cancer awareness and style show. The Secret Sisters Society Luncheon & Style Show will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 20, at the University of Notre Dame’s Joyce Center at 12 p.m. The classic and festive event is organized by SJRMC’s Women’s Task Force (WTF), which is comprised completely of volunteers who are all cancer survivors.

“They are all a pink ‘sack pack,’ which is the official breast cancer color, because we want to ’sack’ breast cancer.”

The sack packs symbolize the Secret Sisters Society’s concern for other local women who are living-saving mammograms but cannot afford them. Michiana women are encouraged to take advantage of the many benefits offered by the upcoming Secret Sisters Society Luncheon & Style Show, as it raises funds to assist uninsured women, age 40-49, in receiving a free screening mammogram.

Women can order their mammograms at SJRMC/South Bend, S J R M C / M i s h a w a k a , SJRMC/Plymouth, Memorial Hospital of South Bend and Elkhart General Hospital.

Since March 2003, nearly 1,300 free mammograms have been provided or scheduled as a result of the Secret Sisters Society Luncheon & Style Show. The event celebrates survivors and survivors as a whole regarding the importance of early detection, and raises funds to ensure women seeking to be proactive and responsible for their health are able to receive a mammogram. All models in the event are cancer survivors themselves with uplifting stories.

The WTF is assisted in this event by community volunteers who share in their goal to provide opportunities for early detection. For ticket information on the Secret Sisters Society Luncheon & Style Show and for details on sponsorship opportunities, please call the Women’s Task Force of Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center at (574) 472-6095.

Remembering 9/11

FORT WAYNE — Bishop John M. D’Arcy will celebrate the 12:05 p.m. Mass in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Monday, Sept. 11, 2006, as a solemn memorial, the fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania. Bishop D’Arcy has also asked that parishes hold a similar memorial Mass.

“A holy memorial Mass is also asked that parishes hold a similar memorial Mass.”

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Cancer survivors promote free mammograms

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Junior high confirmation rally set Oct. 7

NORTH MANCHESTER — Manchester College will be the host site for the 2006 Junior High Retreat. This retreat is sponsored by the diocesan offices of catechesis and youth ministry. The theme of this confirmation preparatory retreat is “Catch the Spirit.”

The day will include the sacrament of reconciliation and other round-robin sessions. The event will also include a praise and worship concert, a keynote address with Apex Ministries and closing Mass with Bishop John M. D’Arcy.

Registration forms must be returned to Janice Martin, the Office of Catechesis by Friday, Sept. 22. For additional information, contact Martin at (260) 399-1441 or jmartin@fw.diocesefwsb.org. Visit the diocesan Web site at www.dio ceseweb.org/for information.

Three is a charm: Another “Best College” ranking for Saint Mary’s College

NOTRE DAME — The Princeton Review names Saint Mary’s College as a Best Midwest University College for 2007. This comes just on the heels of another top ranking by U.S. News & World Report and a Golf Digest ranking recognizing Saint Mary’s as the third best school for student-athletes interested in playing collegiate golf (Princeton and Yale ranked first and second, respectively). The Princeton Review’s rankings are based largely on student opinion data collected via survey and posted on their Web site.

ATTENTION! GRAND OPENING! COMING SOON!


Lecture series presents “Bringing Tradition to Life”

NOTRE DAME — The Saint Mary’s College Center for Spirituality presents three evening programs as part of its annual fall lecture series. This year’s theme is “Bringing Tradition to Life.” Admission is free and open to the public.

• Wednesday, Sept. 6 — Ana Maria Pinella from the theology department of Santa Clara University will deliver a talk titled “Welcoming the Stranger: Hospitality in the Christian Tradition.” It will address issues related to comprehensive and responsible immigration reform. Pinella has extensive experience in Hispanic ministry.

• Wednesday, Oct. 25 — Claire Wolffeich of Boston University’s School of Theology will discuss “Women, Spirituality and the Workplace.” In her talk, Wolffeich explores spirituality not only in terms of prayer and the interior life, but also in terms of work, family, community and public life.

• Monday, Nov. 6 — St. Catherine of Siena (as portrayed by actress Nancy Murray, OP) will talk about “Voices from the Past, Wisdom for Today, Hope for Tomorrow.” St. Catherine of Siena was a 14th century saint and advisor to princes and popes on social and political issues of the day. Sister Nancy Murray, who has portrayed St. Catherine hundreds of times, is the sister of comedian Bill Murray.

Leadership conference celebrates 50 years of service

SISTER MARY JO NELSON, OLVM

More than 800 leaders from across the country gathered in assembly and discussed key reli gious community issues. A special feature was the participation in part of the assembly of approximately 100 local Atlanta women leaders from various faiths and professions.

PROVIDED BY SAINT JOSEPH REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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Wirtner makes temporary incorporation to Missionaries of the Precious Blood

CARTHAGENA, Ohio — Fort Wayne native Vincent Wirtner was temporarily incorporated with the Missionaries of the Precious Blood on Aug. 13 during a liturgy at St. Charles Center in Carthagena, Ohio.

During the same ceremony, Brother Matthew Schaefer, CPPS, second from left, poses with CPPS candidates, from left, Vincent Wirtner, Kevin Scafl and Antonio Sison after a liturgy in which Brother Matthew was definitively incorporated into the Missionaries of the Precious Blood.

"My family and friends, St. Joseph Parish, Bishop Luers High School, priests and religious of the diocese have all played a significant part in my vocation. I am able to make this commitment only because God has spoken through the people in my life and each of these people were willing to share their faith journey with me," Wirtner said.

"It was a pep rally! In a way, it was — and a whole lot more. The second annual Catholic Eucharistic Congress brought together hundreds of Hispanic Catholics from area parishes to learn more about their faith and encourage their participation in the life of the church.

"The purpose is that people be converted and have a relationship with their church," said Lupita Zepeda, spokesperson for congress organizers. "Also, to be more available to the Eucharist and to know more about their religion and to be more devoted to our Blessed Mother, the Virgin Mary."

Held during the weekend of Aug. 12-13 at Memorial High School in Elkhart, the Congress alternated inspirational speakers with times of music and worship, including holy hour and a closing Mass.

Speakers included Deacon Eliu Casanova and his wife Marie of New Jersey, Miquel Aquino from the Charismatic Center in New York, Felipe Rocha of Fort Wayne, Father Phil DeVolder, pastor, Father Wilson Corzo, associate pastor, and Deacon Ramiro Reyes, all of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Elkhart. Felipe Rocha and Miguel Aquino also provided inspirational music.

"Of all the sacraments, the Eucharist is the most important," he said. "The reason is simple — we don't receive bread, we don't receive wine — we could go to Martin's or Kroger's for that!"

"Three years ago Deacon Reyes layperson Miguel Reyes had the idea to organize a congress," Zepeda explained. "Last year they made it a reality ... this year Miguel Reyes was the organizer with the support of our associate pastor Father Wilson Corzo and Deacon Ramiro."

The congress was sponsored by the Hispanic Pastoral Group of St. Vincent. More than 300 people attended the sessions, along with about 60 volunteers who helped organize and kept things running smoothly, Zepeda said.

Throughout the Congress, participants were taught, encouraged and challenged to live the life of Christ, and the response from the audience was overwhelmingly positive as they cheered and applauded, raised their hands in praise and passionately sang along with the music leaders.

The last speaker before the closing Mass, Father DeVolder started his reflection by apologizing for not speaking Spanish very well and then continued with a simple, heartfelt message for everyone present.

"We hope the Hispanic Catholic people get more involved and active in our church," Zepeda said. "We hope the Holy Spirit and our Blessed Mother will assist in growing the spirituality in the Hispanic community.

The Hispanic Congress will skip next year because of jubilee celebrations — but they'll be back the following year.

"There's always room for us," he concluded. "There's always room for us.

For more information on future congresses, contact Deacon Ramiro Reyes at (574) 389-9634.
Office of Spiritual Development and Evangelization

“Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.”

Lead us not into temptation

BY GINNY KOHRMAN

Opening prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, son of the living God, have mercy on me, a poor sinner. Amen

Scripture: Lk. 4: 1-13

Commentary

One of my greatest food temptations is ice cream... light, of course and especially if it is chucked full of chocolate and nuts. I have been known to say that “a day is not complete without a little ice cream... in a cone or bowl... summer, fall, winter and spring. Why do I eat ice cream? A temptation? Because this creamy, smooth, cold, yummy food entices me to eat too many carbohydrates calories that eventually end up on my hips. I am “over-attracted” to what might — by itself — be a delicious, good and somewhat nutritious food when eaten in moderation. Why does it seem that things that look, feel and taste so good have the potential to lead us into temptation and sometimes even sin? If ice cream is the only temptation on our spiritual journeys, life would be a whole lot easier, and I think we would all reach perfection a lot faster... but, unfortunately, it’s not.

Tempted?

Temptations seem to slither through our senses in so many ways in today’s world. It is difficult to know where to look or what to listen to without being led into temptation. Healthy, human interactions and touch are confused with the constant bombardment of inappropriate physical behaviors we see all around us. In some ways we have almost become numb to the cunningness of everyday temptations. But all is not doom and gloom.

Temptations can be allowed by God to help us to grow in Christ. For instance, Father Jean Nicolas Grou, a French Jesuit priest who wrote “The Spiritual Life” during the time of the French Revolution, says: “Temptations are the reward of your previous fidelity; and God allows them on purpose to make you still more agreeable in his eyes and consequently more holy and perfect.” — page 98.

Father Grou reminds us that in our spiritual journey we should really expect to be tried with every sort of temptation, particularly in the areas of our lives where we think we’re strongest. Father Grou asks, “What is a virtue which has never been exercised?” — page 99.

Father Grou reminds us that in our spiritual journey we should really expect to be tried with every sort of temptation, particularly in the areas of our lives where we think we’re strongest. Father Grou asks, “What is a virtue which has never been exercised?” — page 99.

If we are truly honest with ourselves about our temptations, we would probably admit that there are times when we like “playing with fire.” There is a bit of a “rush” in regretting unkind or impure, totally sensual thoughts and desires. Getting burned by playing too long — or too confidently — with temptations can be very painful and can affect our spiritual maturity and growth.

The sacred Scriptures reveal that Jesus, like us, was tempted, but that he never allowed the temptations to lead him to sin. Jesus, although both fully human and fully divine, demonstrates throughout his life on earth a virtuous self-discipline that we, too, can use to deal with our temptations. In the book “Deliver Me,” Richard Exley writes, “After a thorough study of the Gospels, I am convinced that the source of Jesus’ strength lay in the spiritual disciplines he practiced: prayer, study of the Scriptures, public worship and obedience to the Father’s will.” — page 108.

Temptations — just as it did for Jesus. Temptations are not allowed by God so that we might give into them but rather to help us grow in holiness and virtue by doing what is right and good with the help of God’s grace. Knowing that temptations are rampant in the world today, let us make good use of these spiritual disciplines so that we may be prepared when temptations do occur. Let us discipline ourselves so that we may live by God’s commandments rather than by our innately self-centered human nature. We can do our part to prepare, but it is also important to always remember, as Christ knew and Father Grou taught, that God is really and truly the source of our strength.

There was no “magic pill” for Jesus to take to help him overcome his human temptations. The consistent practice of these disciplines allowed Jesus to bring all of his thoughts, desires and actions into submission to his mission on earth.

If Jesus had to build habits and disciplines to overcome his temptations, aren’t we also called to do the same?

The key to dealing with temptations, as Richard Exley suggests, “... is in the way we live our lives before the temptations come...” — page 116.

Forming the habits of prayer, reading and study of the Scriptures; public worship and obedience will give us the foundation to fight our human temptations — just as it did for Jesus. Temptations are not allowed by God so that we might give into them but rather to help us grow in holiness and virtue by doing what is right and good with the help of God’s grace.

Reflection and action

For interior renewal

During your prayer time this week, reflect on the disciplines of Christ in the sacred Scriptures. Might I suggest: Mk 1:35; Mk 6:36; Lk 4:1-13; Lk 5:16; Lk 6:12; Lk 22:39-40; Lk 22:44; Jn 6:43; Jn 5:19; Ps 119.

Reaching out to others

Consider how you — or what you say and do — may lead others into temptation and the possibility of sin. How might you respond virtuously to the temptations introduced by others? How can you avoid being a temptation to someone else?

Transforming society

Dare to be radically different from mainstream America. Dress modestly; communicate with kindness and love; remain pure in thought and deed; proclaim the Gospel by your attitude, your habits and spiritual self-disciplines.

Closing Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven... lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

JUBILEE PILGRIM CROSS VISITS

ALBION PARISH

Jubilee Pilgrim Cross

Aug. 25-Sept. 1
Our Lady of Guadalupe
Wawash

Sept. 1-8
Sacred Heart
Wawash

Sept. 8-15
St. Bernard
Wabash

Sept. 15-22
St. Robert Bellarmine/
Manchester College
North Manchester

Sept. 22-29
St. Francis Xavier
Pierceton

Sept. 29-Oct. 6
St. Martin de Porres
Syracuse

Jubilee Pilgrim Cross

PRODUCED BY BLUFF SADDLE PASTOR

Blessed Sacrament Parish in Albion receives and processes the traveling Jubilee Pilgrim Cross in the LaGrange County community on Aug. 12.
Ercoline dedicated to providing break in the storm for those in need

BY KAY COZAD

SOUTH BEND — Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has been in the business of serving those in the community who struggle with the adversities of life since 1922. Services range from pregnancy, adoption and foster care programs to community services, including emergency food pantry, to immigration and retired volunteer programs. A nonprofit, church-affiliated agency, Catholic Charities assists individuals regardless of religious preference, age, or national origin. It takes dedicated, caring people to orchestrate these programs.

West Region Director Rob Ercoline, is one of those dedicated people. Ercoline, who holds a graduate degree in theology from the University of Notre Dame, has a passion for social justice. His work with the underprivileged began in the late 1980s as a teacher at Marian High School, Mishawaka. “I was teaching Scripture, church history and social justice. I began to realize I had a calling to not just teach about the struggles of the poor, but to work more hands-on with them,” he recalls.

Ercoline’s early volunteer work began at the Advocacy Center in South Bend and included spending overnights at the Center for the Homeless. He next found himself as pastoral associate at Little Flower Parish, where he and his wife Conni and their three children are currently members. There, as director of outreach ministries to the poor, he worked daily with volunteers, local social service and government agencies to meet the needs of the poor for the next 12 years. He worked as the director of adult faith formation at the parish as well.

Following the closure of the Michiana food bank in 1992, Ercoline stepped up to assist in the establishment of what is now the Food Bank of Northern Indiana. Currently, the food bank serves 11 counties in northwest Indiana, distributing five million pounds of food each year to 300-member food pantry agencies, one of which is located at the Miami Street Catholic Charities office site. He was also instrumental in opening and directing the food pantry at Little Flower Parish, which is located in a high need area of St. Joseph County and has served on the board of directors for the food bank since 1994.

Ercoline’s impressive resume includes spiritual direction at several sites, retreat planning, teaching, co-coordinating the St. Joseph County Crop Walk, sitting on several service agency boards and much more. But his main focus is meeting with Catholic Charities clients in his office on Miami Street in hopes of meeting their most desperate needs. There, since becoming director in 2003, he has been responsible for all departments in the west region, including budgeting, fundraising, supervision of employee staff and volunteers and coordinating the brief services program and food pantry.

His faith plays a large role in how he conducts business and is not only evident in his gentle, humble demeanor but radiates throughout his office. Scripture verses and framed Catholic art work grace the walls there along with action figures and other toys for the youngsters who accompany their parents to the office.

“My office is kid-friendly,” he says. “Experience has helped me recognize the stresses people are under when they come here.”

One may even encounter the sounds of Gregorian chant played softly in the background. All this intentionally creates the peaceful environment in which this man ministers to the poor.

“The artwork, and music are conversation starters. It gives them a break in the storm,” says Ercoline.

Ercoline’s formal training in spiritual direction has equipped him with the tools to guide his clients with the hard questions of life as he hopes many who seek emergency services at this faith-based organization will feel safe in sharing their burdens and worries.

“There are all types of poverty in the world — emotional, spiritual and financial,” he concedes. The training, he says, has helped him recognize from his own personal life experience, a deeper compassion and empathy for those he serves.

Meeting the needs of the poor has had a tremendous impact on his faith, but even he admits the stress can occasionally become overwhelming. “We see so many more than we can help,” he laments. In prayer and meditation, Ercoline finds a way to remember that “the responsibility is all of ours, but God will provide.”

Working with the staff of Catholic Charities helps. “Most of the staff is here because they want to be. They are mission and value driven,” he reports.

This faith-filled man is “pleased and proud to walk with Catholic Charities” and looks forward to additional growth in coming years. “The journey with the poor is a long-term journey,” he says, adding that he’s definitely in it for the long term. His work at Catholic Charities bears witness, he asserts, “to the connection between what we believe and how we live our lives.”

For more information on the programs at Catholic Charities visit their Web site at www.ccfswb.org

Rob Ercoline sits at his desk in his office at Catholic Charities in South Bend where he meets with clients with various needs. He intentionally creates a peaceful environment with artwork and music to provide a “break in the storm” for those in need. Ercoline is the West Region director for Catholic Charities since 2003.
Growing number of corporations have workplace chaplaincy programs

BY MARILYN LANFORD

SPRINGDALE, Ark. (CNS) — Across the United States and overseas, there is a growing trend in large corporations and smaller businesses to offer a workplace chaplaincy program. While chaplains have served hospitals, prisons and police departments for a while, having interfaith ministers in the corporate world is a relatively new concept. Companies are hiring or contracting with chaplains as a way to address employee issues, including mental health, retention rates, productivity and morale.

One of the largest American companies, Tyson Foods Inc., with corporate offices in northwest Arkansas, now has a chaplaincy program that serves employees in 81 plants and 161 locations. Tyson is the world’s largest processor and marketer of chicken, beef and pork.

Workplace chaplaincy programs also exist at Coca-Cola Bottling Co., the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other major employers. Some companies contract with organizations such as Corporate Chaplains of America of Wake Forest, N.C., and Marketplace Ministries of Dallas for chaplains.

The Tyson program is overseen by director Alan Tyson (no relation to the Tyson Food family), and managers of chaplain operations Charles White and Justo Gonzalez II. In addition to these full-time corporate Chaplains, there are 126 part-time chaplains available to employees at Tyson plants in the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Gonzalez, in charge of the western division, took the position in February after serving as clinical coordinator of the pastoral care program at All Children’s Hospital in St. Petersburg, Fla. White was a pastor in a Baptist church in Kentucky for 20 years.

“Tyson did a national search for this position and I saw their ad,” said Gonzalez, who has master’s degrees in divinity and pastoral ministry. “When I first saw it, I said this is me. It is a position where you recruit, train, supervise, provide pastoral ministry and walk alongside the hurting, the broken — and just offer some grace and love.”

An empathic and personable man, Gonzalez wears many hats and travels a great deal in covering his territory.

He said the chaplains are a diverse group, “not only in terms of faith traditions but in terms of cultures and linguistic abilities.”

Meyers presented a practical retirement planning seminar. Communities United has a wealth of information available online and in print. Some of it breaks down government budgets and applies them to local issues.

Economic prosperity issues include rising prices and minimum wage legislation. One issue that affects everyone these days is the price of gasoline. At a recent seminar, people spilled out of the office to check the air pressure in their tires. Every vehicle was low, which directly affects fuel efficiency.

IUSB provided the location for a June 24 forum on health care.
Faith and prayer abound at Redeemer Radio

BY KAY LOZAD

FORT WAYNE — With the advent of the new millennium, mass media was recognized as an important venue for the “new evangelization” of the world, as proclaimed by the late Pope John Paul II. Fort Wayne has been active in fulfilling that mandate with the premiere of its first all Catholic radio station, Redeemer Radio, WLYY 1450 AM, on January 1.

Redeemer Radio President Chris Langford appreciates the work environment at the station, saying, “It’s nice to work in a Catholic environment. I get to work with people who share a great zeal for the faith.”

Langford, a longtime member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, says even as a young adult he wanted to share the “precious gift” of his faith with others. His “day job” office at ITT is open to anyone who wishes to discuss the faith. “People at work know I’m Catholic and they ask questions,” he told Today’s Catholic.

Langford has participated for years in a weekly Bible study at ITT. He prays before and after the meeting.

As he has evangelized over the years, he became acquainted with Catholic radio. “I thought I could put my time into radio and reach more people,” says Langford. After receiving approval from Bishop John M. D’Arcy, he and friend Jim Roy raised funds to buy air time on Catholic radio. “I thought I could put my time into radio and reach more people,” says Langford. After receiving approval from Bishop John M. D’Arcy, he and friend Jim Roy raised funds to buy air time on Catholic radio. “I thought I could put my time into radio and reach more people,” says Langford.

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Langford, a longtime member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, says even as a young adult he wanted to share the “precious gift” of his faith with others.

His “day job” office at ITT is open to anyone who wishes to discuss the faith. “People at work know I’m Catholic and they ask questions,” he told Today’s Catholic.

The station is staffed mainly by volunteers with one paid position. Langford, who is a volunteer himself, finds the radio staff has an appreciation for their faith and “are willing to make sacrifices to bring the faith to others.”

The station is staffed mainly by volunteers with one paid position. Langford, who is a volunteer himself, finds the radio staff has an appreciation for their faith and “are willing to make sacrifices to bring the faith to others.”

His own faith has grown since the purchase of the station, he says. “We’ve encountered difficulties and challenges technically and it becomes clear that God makes this happen.”

There is a freedom to working in a Catholic workplace, says the president. “The staff can go to daily Mass or adoration when they can.”

The station has a policy that Catholic holy days are holidays for the staff. Prayer begins each meeting and the staff continually prays for the special intentions shared in the workplace.

Kris Billingsley, who holds the only paid position at the Catholic station, is executive director. She is responsible for fund raising, development, community engagement, marketing and volunteer coordination.

After working in the secular workplace she humbly says, “It’s a blessing to work here where you can be open with your faith.”

Prayer, she finds, is the key to her day.

“If I keep up regular devotions and daily holy hour, it’s amazing what my day is like. God orchestrates if you just give him your time,” says Billingsley, who is also a parishioner at St. Elizabeth Parish. She admits she prays about everything and feels God always answers her prayers.

The power of prayer is illustrated as she recalls the day the station was hit by lightning. “We immediately fell into prayer,” she says. The broadcast was up and running soon after.

Billingsley, like Langford, feels her faith continues to grow as she and the volunteers at Redeemer Radio are free to share their faith. “I see miracles all the time. I’m never disappointed in God.” The staff is encouraged by President Langford himself to spend time in prayer and the result, Billingsley says, is “no one panics when problems arise — they just go forth with peace and confidence.”

The outward mission of Redeemer Catholic Radio is to evangelize, bring active Catholics back to the church and make good Catholics better by sharing the fullness of the faith. At the foundings, Billingsley says, “It’s a joy and a blessing to work in a Catholic environment. It’s freeing. I can be myself and experience my faith — it’s a big part of who I am.”

Redeemer Radio provides Catholic programming 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including Spanish broadcasts and has recently added local broadcasting to its syndicated lineup.

It is a lay apostolate and is owned or sponsored by the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Marketing professor publishes ethics guide for job interviews

BY MARY HAMANN AND DENNIS BROWN

NOTRE DAME — Recent research shows that only one in 20 corporate recruiters includes ethics inquiries when interviewing job candidates.

In addition, recruiters report that a rising number of job applicants act unethically during the interview process, such as embellishing a résumé or reneging on a job offer.

Patrick Murphy, professor of marketing and co-director of the Institute for Ethical Business Worldwide at the University of Notre Dame, has written a brief ethics guide for the recruitment process to inform job seekers and recruiters.

The guide covers the benefits of ethical work environments, includes sample questions which recruiters and job seekers can pose during an interview, and lists unethical behaviors to be avoided.

“This guide will be widely used and valued by our organization in its recruiting efforts,” said Harold Tinker, chief ethics and compliance officer for Deloitte & Touche USA. “The clear, simple and professional approach for providing guidelines to both interviewers and interviewees will help us to more fully integrate ethical considerations into the interview process.”

The two-sided guide will be distributed to Notre Dame students as well as to recruiters through college and university career centers. It also is available online at www.ethicalbusiness.nd.edu and will be distributed more widely by the project’s cosponsors, the fellows program of the Ethics Resource Center and the Business Roundtable Institute for Corporate Ethics.

Founded in 1922 and based in Washington, D.C., the Ethics Resource Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of organizational ethics through research and the measurement of ethics and compliance programs in corporations.

The Business Roundtable Institute for Corporate Ethics is an independent entity established in partnership with Business Roundtable — an association of 160 chief executive officers from leading companies. Based in Charlottesville, Va., the institute brings together leaders from business and academia to fulfill its mission to enhance the link between ethical behavior and business success through executive education programs, practitioner-focused research and outreach.

Notre Dame’s Institute for Ethical Business Worldwide, founded in 2001, brings business leaders to campus, holds an annual ethical dimensions in research conference, and encourages dialogue among students, faculty, alumni and business executives to promote ethical business behavior.
EDITORIAL

Provision of ethics to young is encouraging

It is encouraging to see the various new initiatives by the University of Notre Dame to teach and encourage ethical behavior in young people and adults.

We were heartened to see in Our Aug. 13 issue about a new program originate with Notre Dame psychologist Clark Power to motivate children and their parents to view youth sports as recreational play that develops virtue and Christian behavior. Power, director of Notre Dame’s Center for Ethical Education, teaches that one should be motivated to play sports primarily for the joy of the activity, with respect for rules, self and opponent.

Thus, winning should be a secondary goal, and rude and offensive behavior should be out of bounds for spectators as well as participants.

In this week’s special section on Faith in the Workplace, we report on another Notre Dame initiative created by Patrick Murphy, professor of marketing and co-director of Notre Dame’s Institute for Ethical Business Worldwide. Murphy has written a guide on ethics in job seeking and recruiting, in which he identifies unethical behaviors and points out the benefits of an ethical work environment.

Since our culture glorifies personalities from the sports and entertainment industries who often act unethically and immorally, it is essential to stress the importance of ethical behavior and to teach these values to children and young adults. The Notre Dame program attempts to do this, but these programs alone can’t do the job.

The responsibility for teaching ethical behavior to young people and encouraging it among other adults rests on every one of us, and should begin today.

For example, if children see their parents steal products from their job sites, this sends the message that stealing is appropriate if it is done discreetly. If children see adults accept excessive change from a cash register, they may believe this is the expected change for such an error. If children see adults lie their way out of sticky situations, they will learn to do the same thing. And if children see adults take credit for someone else’s work, they will perceive this as the easy way out.

If we want our children’s heroes and heroines to be the everyday people who act with honor in the difficult situations of day-to-day life, we must continually model ethical behavior ourselves and praise it in other people. Then, our children’s sports heroes will become the everyday people who act heroically, like the cash-strapped young mother who returns the wallet full of money she finds, or the struggling student who rejects a chance to cheat on a test.

And their role models will be the everyday people who act heroically, like the like the mouthy athletes who get television time because they behave egotistically.

Plan B poses risks and ethical concerns

We are dismayed to see that the Food and Drug Administration has approved over-the-counter sale of the Plan B “morning after pill” to women 16 and older. The fact that this medication will cause an abortion if a woman is pregnant is reason enough to object to this decision, but there are plenty of other reasons, too.

It will be impossible to keep minors from obtaining the drug, for teens can easily get other adult products like alcohol from complicit parents who have already, it will push to have the age limit lowered, further eroding the role of parents in medical decisions affecting their children.

Furthermore, the lack of medical supervision for any female taking this powerful drug, apparently as frequently as she pleases, presents great health risks. The easy availability of this drug also facilitates coercive behavior by sexual partners who reject the responsibilities of contraception and parenthood.

We are also concerned about the pressure already put on pharmacies to dispense the drug, even if they have a conscientious objection because of its abortifacient qualities.

This is a harmful decision that should not stand.

Real steps must be taken toward Mideast peace

When will we have enough killing and rampaging? When will all countries of our world realize that terrorism and war benefit none of us.

We, as members of the General Council of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary of the Woods, add our voice to those of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious, a national organization of 850 leaders of communities of Catholic sisters; in calling for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire by the Israeli army and the Hezbollah militia currently involved in violent combat in Lebanon, Israel and Gaza.

Each day when we open our newspapers, or watch television news, attacks in the Middle East seem to be extremely brutal, randomly killing dozens and dozens of innocent civilians each day. There is a feeling desperately to flee from harm’s way.

If we raise our voices loud enough, perhaps Hezbollah will hear the condemnation of their deliberate invasion of Israel’s borders, abduction of two Israeli soldiers and the targeting of Israeli citizens.

The Hezbollah militia, which does not act on behalf of the Lebanese government, has gravely endangered the citizens of Lebanon, the fragile democracy of that nation and the infrastructure that supports the country.

If we raise our voices simultaneously in a different direction, perhaps Israel will hear our condemnation of disproportionate response, killing and wounding hundreds of civilians of Lebanon, and inflicting massive damage on the essential infrastructure of that country.

If we raise our voices in unison to President George W. Bush and our lawmakers, perhaps his administration will stop its obstructionist postures and delaying tactics at the United Nations and within the international community.

The deliberate postponements of any efforts to bring violence to an immediate halt before beginning diplomatic negotiations will provoke a terrible suffering of the Lebanese and Israeli peoples and worsen an already horrific humanitarian crisis. We call upon members of the United States Congress to act decisively and immediately mandate that

United States join with the international community to end the violence now.

As the killing continues, humanitarian efforts are limited. Food and medical supplies are in critically short supply. Vehicles carrying food and medicine are often mistaken or misidentified for military transport vehicles, therefore becoming targets for attack.

We commit ourselves along with those from other religious communes to exercise all of our rights and duties as citizens to urge our leaders to act as responsible members of the world community. We join our prayer with religious people of all faiths who long for peace, who believe in a God of peace, and who are working to make God’s dream for a world at peace a reality. Let peace prevail!

Sincerely in Providence,

[Signature]

TODAY’S CATHOLIC welcomes letters from readers. All letters must be signed and include a phone number and address for verification.

TODAY’S CATHOLIC reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. Address letters to: Today’s Catholic • PO Box 11169 • Fort Wayne, IN 46856-1169 or e-mail to: editor@tdw Диодисалвб.org

COMMENTARY

Drawing peace closer

I t Dec. 8 is the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, one of the most important days in the liturgical calendar, preceding Christmas, and the most important jubilee date, the Holy Year of the Jubilee, is Jan. 11, 2000. We are almost ready to celebrate the禧arter of Peace in the Holy Year.

After telling the three children at Fatima that if her requests were not heeded, the world would be shown its true nature, including the reality of God. And having promised beforehand to the children that they would be shown the “sight which was the composition of the rosary at that time in 1917. Now there are the mysteries of light added by Pope John Paul II, but only five decades were ever indicated by Mary to be prayed daily.

Other requests were sacrifices “for poor sinners” (Mary’s own words) so they wouldn’t go to hell, the vision of which the three children were shown briefly, to their utter distress. Lucy said: “This sight lasted only a moment, and we must thank Our Lady for having promised beforehand to take us to heaven, or I believe we would have died of fright and horror.”

And, in a later apparition to Lucy in 1925, receiving Communion on the first Saturdays, at least by the first days of the month, is Mary, of the joyful, the sorrowful or the glorious mysteries — which was the Portuguese meaning “a third,” in Portuguese “terceiro” so they wouldn’t go to hell, the vision of which the three children were shown briefly, to their utter distress. Lucy said: “This sight lasted only a moment, and we must thank Our Lady for having promised beforehand to take us to heaven, or I believe we would have died of fright and horror.”

And, in a later apparition to Lucy in 1925, receiving Communion on the first Saturdays of each month, promising “at the hour of death, with the graces needed for their salvation, all those who on the first Saturday of five consecutive months shall confess and receive holy Communion, receive five decades of the rosary, and, besides, keep me company for 15 minutes while meditating on the mysteries of the rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me.” The “confess” part has been interpreted as meaning within eight days before or after.

The “period of peace” awaits — the world. The gap between then and now can be shortened — by alert elect.

Father William Peil is a retired priest of the Diocese of Gary. He resides in Fort Wayne.

BY FATHER WILLIAM PEIL
Photographs and memories: Moving a piece of ecumenical history

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A piece of ecumenical history is making a move this summer.

After more than a half century at its labyrinthine office on Via dell’Erba, the Vatican’s Pontifical Council for Christian Unity is relocating to the Tiber River, a few hundred yards farther down the road from Vatican City State.

Throughout August, curious tourists watched as movers stacked boxes of documents marked “presidente” and “segretario” on the sidewalk leading to St. Peter’s Square.

Moving cars borrowed from the Vatican supermarket were loaded with books and files and wheeled to moving vans. Inside the old office, giant rolls of bubble wrap stood at the ready, and walls bore the ghost images of photographs and icons removed for the transfer.

Moving an entire office is unusual at the Vatican, where turf is generally protected down to the last square centimeter. But church officials wanted the council’s sprawling third-floor space for a transfer.

By 1988, the cardinals wanted the council’s transfer.

The new quarters, after remodeling, will provide living space, a common kitchen and dining area, and a community life, Vatican sources said.

The Christian unity council was offered space in another building that the Vatican purchased a few years ago. Packing began in earnest during August, and the 23-person staff was expected to be moved in and ready for business by early September.

“It’s goodbye to an era,” Bishop Brian Farrell, secretary of the council, said as he stood amid the packing crates and disassembled computers.

The era began in 1960, when Blessed Pope John XXIII created the Secretariat for Christian Unity as part of the preparations for the Second Vatican Council. By 1963, it had pretty much taken its present form, with two sections dealing with Eastern and Western ecumenical affairs. In 1974 the secretariat added a subcommission for relations with Jews. It was renamed a council in 1988.

From the beginning, the office at Via dell’Erba was an ecumenical crossroads. Symposia in what was once a state-of-the-art conference room brought together experts from various churches. Plenary sessions of the council’s approximately 35 cardinal and bishop members mapped out ecumenical strategies.

Official delegations from other churches came to visit the council’s offices and often left behind gifts.

“They all passed through here, patriarchs and heads of churches, Reformed and Orthodox,” said

THE VATICAN LETTER

JOHN THAVIS

THE VATICAN LETTER

JOHN THAVIS

Jesus is God, speaking as the lawyer

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN E. CAMPION

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mt 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23.

The Book of Deuteronomy is the source of this week’s readings. Deuteronomy is from the Pentateuch, the collection of five books that comprise the Old Testament, the first five books of the Bible, the Law of Moses.

In this reading, Moses submits the law to the people. He tells them that they must obey this law when they enter into their land. It is important to note that the law, coming from God, reveals the best of wisdom and logic. It offers the ideal path for a society to follow. Harmony and accord necessarily, inevitably, will follow.

Since God authors the law, nature is not the Hebrews will realize the awesomeness of the Hebrews’ God.

Thus, the Apostle to James provides the second reading. James occurs only rarely among the readings at Mass. The author of this epistle is not known for certain, since four men with this name appear in the New Testament. Several would have had credentials in the early church. James, the son of Zebedee and brother of John; James, the son of Alphaeus, “the Less”; and James, the kinsman of Jesus. Then, the father of Judas Iscariot was James. Stronger arguments as to authorship apply to one or the other of these persons than to all.

Important in this reading is the revelation that God wills us to live. In the broader Christian context, as after all this is from the New Testament, this means eternal life. All will live, but God will live, but God has given us the way to life.

Also important is the reminder that by serving orphans and widows, we purify ourselves so that we can stand before God.

In reality, the words of Jesus reaffirm the law. He does not dismiss the law but rather goes to the kernel of the law. The essence of the law is wholeheartedly to love God, and in this love to trust in, and to obey, God.

Finally, these discussions reveal the identity of Jesus. Moses was merely the human instrument by which God spoke. The Law of Moses actually was the law of God. Jesus defined and applied the law because Jesus was God, speaking as the lawyer.

This identity was hardly overlooked by the Pharisees and other religious scholars of the time. They understood that by addressing the law as Jesus addressed it indicated that Jesus claimed to be God.

Reflection

The first reading contains a thought that human invariably dismiss. The thought simply is that, because of human limitations and shortcomings, people often put themselves in unfortunate situations. Indeed, they can doom themselves. God, however, lovingly rescues them, not simply by drawing them from the quicksand, but by leading them away from the quicksand.

He leads us away from the quicksand by giving us the law, or the roadmap to life. God gives us this path to life. He does not force us to walk along this path. We must follow God, by following God’s Son. It is as simple as that. Discipleship is voluntary, but it is the only way to eternal life. It is the only logical choice to make in choosing a path through earthly life.

CATEQUIZEM

By Dominick Campion

As events in the Lebanon unfold, this quiz looks at that nation in the Bible and in Christianity.

1. The name Lebanon is thought to have derived from a color associated with its snowy peaks and limestone mountains. What color?
   a. Red
   b. Blue
   c. White

2. Lebanon was famous for its trees, specifically these trees:
   a. Redwoods
   b. Cedars
   c. Oaks

3. What were the trees mainly used for?
   a. building material
   b. fuel
   c. making statues of JHWH

4. But Hosa tells us of another property they possess:
   a. Their narcotic qualities
   b. Their fragrance
   c. Their toxicity

5. According to the Song of Songs, these two animals are to be found in the Lebanon, at least at that time:
   a. Lions and leopards
   b. Hyenas and camels
   c. Rabbits and platypuses

6. Solomon used wood from Lebanon for this building whose name is a dead giveaway:
   a. Rome Depot from Tyre
   b. Palace of the forests of Lebanon
   c. Beirut Banquet Hall

7. Solomon also used the services of Huram, a bronze worker from this Lebanese city:
   a. Ankara
   b. Corinth
   c. Tyre

8. This coastal city was home to these people, one of whom Jesus had at least one documented conversion:
   a. Hittites
   b. Thilofoss
   c. Phoenicians (Syria Phoenicians)

9. This infamous biblical woman was also Lebanon, of a Tyrian family:
   a. Mary Magdalene
   b. Bezebel
   c. Salome

10. Although Lebanon is home to a great variety of religious groups, this Catholic group is generally associated with Lebanon more than anywhere else:
    a. The Rastafarians
    b. The Copts
    c. The Maronites

11. Their name, and claimed origin, goes back to this friend of St. John Chrysostom:
    a. Marion Son of Morris
    b. St. Marco
    c. Marco of the Super Mario brothers

12. His disciples, after his death, founded a monastery on this river:
    a. The Orontes
    b. The Jordan
    c. The Litany (Litani)

13. Maronites are unusual amongst the Eastern (Unia) churches because they do not have, and never had, one of these:
    a. A priesthood
    b. An orthodox (non-Catholic) counterpart or equivalent
    c. A liturgy

14. Their church is headed by a leader based in Lebanon with this title:
    a. Patriarch
    b. Grand Poohbah
    c. Archimandrite

15. Nowadays Maronites are found:
    a. only in Syria and the Middle East due to travel restrictions.
    b. all over the world, notably in the USA and South America.
    c. in nations except Israel, where they are barred as Arabs.

ANSWERS:
1. c, 2. b, 3. a, 4. b, 5. c, 6. b, 7. a, 8. b, 9. c, 10. c, 11. c, 12. c, 13. c, 14. c, 15. b
Catholics have been given the greatest of treasures in the Mass

I belong to a parish where a large percentage of the parishioners are in the upper economic scale. My observation is that the majority have few children, mostly two. I should not be judgmental, but common sense says that birth control is being practiced. Should they be reminded that abortion is a mortal sin? — J.C., South Bend

In order for a person to commit a mortal sin, three things must be present. First, the action must be grave matter. God's word, which comes to us through Scripture and the tradition of the church, tells us those things that are grave matter. Second, one must have sufficient knowledge that a particular action is grave. Finally, a person must be free in choosing that action.

With this being said, it is certainly true that the use of artificial birth control in order to render a couple sterile is grave matter. Thus, if a person chooses contraception, having sufficient knowledge that that contraception is grave matter and having freely chosen that action, the person has committed a mortal sin, that is, that person has separated himself from God. A person who chooses contraception should never receive holy Communion until they have repented and openly speaking have received the sacrament of reconciliation.

I believe, then, that there are two separate inquirers about our question. First, are many Catholic married couples using contraception? You may open the answer to yes, and I think that this is not an unreasonable assumption.

However, it must be kept in mind also that there are a good number of Catholic couples who would like to have more children but carry the fear of infertility. Second, this is a question that cannot be answered because from the outside one cannot judge whether a person is in a state of mortal sin. Only God knows the person's true knowledge of an evil action.

This does highlight the need for the church continually to proclaim that God judges that person has chosen to commit an evil act, and with which a person acted. Therefore, for all these reasons you are right in implying that we should not be judgmental.

All of which is by way of grumpy introduction to something splendid: a wonderful new book, “Heavenly City: The Architectural Tradition of Catholic Church.” The text, by Denis McNamara of Chicago’s Mundelein Seminary, explains how Catholics built magnificent urban churches, once upon a time, and why those churches are decorated the way they are; James Morris’s stunning photographs bring the results to light for those unfortunate enough not to spend enough time in the Great City. “Heavenly City” is so beautifully illustrated that I can imagine using it as a source of prayer—as many Catholics pray with icons today. It is fascinating to pick a favorite from the riches that McNamara and Morris lay before the reader. Suffice it to say that they offer almost 70 examples of churches, built in various style; it is the key to their beauty, the key to their builders’ belief that the church is the “domus Dei et porta coeli” (“the house of God and the gateway to heaven”). It is not simply the “domus ecclesiae” (“the house of the church”). And that, I suggest, is the key to understanding the demise of church architecture in our time: like much else that has gone away with the once-bright promise of mid-century liturgical renewal (which was rarely taken more seriously as an transformation of the church than we do today). We as Catholics, though, are held responsible because we do have access to what God has given us in order to save the faithful of the Christian life. We should recall Christ’s words from Luke 12:48, “Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more.”

The Ethics and Public Policy Commission of the National Catholic Welfare Conference has given the greatest of treasures in the Mass, and God wishes this gift to bear great fruit in our lives.

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

**LETTER**

Continued from page 14

Paola Fabrizi, who has worked at the council since 1969.

Like many at the council, Fabrizi is ambivalent about the move.

“Naturally, there’s an emotional attachment to the place,” she said. “But because they are a reminder of all that’s been accomplished. But the new office is also beautiful, and it’s good to turn the page,” she said.

Some of the most precious memories were those photos that have long hung on the walls of the council’s office: sessions of Vatican II, Pope Paul VI’s historic meeting with Orthodox Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras, and then Pope John Paul II seated with his holds...
New Haven CYO team opens with ‘family affair’

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) volleyball coaches are excited about the new season and the teams they are working with.

Coach Joe Wharton is pleased with his team's preparation and plans for the upcoming season. "We're experienced, lack a little in size, but have great team speed," Wharton said before the season opener against Holy Cross.

The project, which has been coordinated in Donaldson, was started after Sister Germaine Hustedde, a Poor Handmaids sister and coordinator of the PHJC Ministry, mentioned the lack of toys who work and volunteer with the Friends and families of those who work and volunteer with the Poor Handmaids donated approximately 300 balls. To offer assistance call Sister Mary Jo Shingler, PHJC development director at (574) 935-1737.

St. Rose-St. Louis CYO volleyball team has high expectations

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The 2005 St. Rose-St. Louis Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) volleyball team had an impressive 21-3 finish in what was predicted to be a "rebuilding year." They won the blue league (small school) CYO tournament for the second year in a row. And they lost just two eighth graders.

This year, in her rookie season as varsity coach, Lori Wagner has "very high expectations." The Twins return five eighth graders: Abby Gerardot and Katie Kayser who will play middle; Elizabeth Sywyart, setter; and outside setters, Jenna Scott and Madison Smith. Rounding out the lineup will be seventh-grade-setter Alisha Gerardot. The rest of the roster includes seventh graders: Alyssa Bosler (who played as a sixth grader), Tessa Kayser, Abby Heimann, Katie Griebel, Madeline Jacquant and Kristina Lay. With practices just underway for the 2006 season, Coach Wagner is looking to her eighth graders for leadership. She hopes to "work the bugs out of the rotation" before the games officially begin.

Wagner has coached with Laura Gerardot at the fifth-and-sixth grade level for the past eight years. Gerardot’s daughters have moved on to the college and high school levels now, so Wagner has moved up with her daughters and is adjusting to the more competitive style of varsity play. Wagner says she has been used to the "learning" league at the fifth-and-sixth grade level. This year, Wagner has 12 players on her team. She says, "It is going to be a challenge. Not everyone will get as much playing time as they would like but that is what has to happen in order for us to stay competitive and be a good season." Wagner’s daughter, Ashleigh Gerardot, will assist her while Tina Voos has taken on the fifth-and-sixth grade spot.

The project, which has been coordinated in Donaldson, was started after Sister Germaine Hustedde, a Poor Handmaids sister who ministers at the St. Francis of Assisi School in Mintunguu, Kenya, mentioned the lack of toys available to her students.

The older children use the few balls they do have and the younger children have nothing," Sister Germaine told Susie Black, the coordinator of the PHJC Ministry Services during a recent visit. The African school, which is private, has approximately 250 students, 80 of which are boarders and the others are day students. Many of the boarders are orphans whose parents have died of AIDS. The school is kindergarten through eighth grade and includes both boys and girls.

Friends and families of those who work and volunteer with the Poor Handmaids donated approximately 300 balls. To offer assistance call Sister Mary Jo Shingler, PHJC development director at (574) 935-1737.

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The project, which has been coordinated in Donaldson, was started after Sister Germaine Hustedde, a Poor Handmaids sister who ministers at the St. Francis of Assisi School in Mintunguu, Kenya, mentioned the lack of toys available to her students.

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Keeping kids safe on the Internet — at school or away

By Michelle Donaghey

It’s back to school time — a time when online safety is foremost in many parents’ minds. Kids today are exposed to communication regularly with their friends, online. They also may enjoy talking to other people besides their classmates at school, and they may enjoy expressing themselves without par- ents watching over their shoulders whenever possible.

While you want your kids to have freedom and fun, don’t want to worry that an Internet predator is just around the corner waiting for your child to make the wrong move.

Mary Keef er. At Bishop Luers, she points out that the schools takes measures to keep kids safe.

“We are very careful with the blocking software that we use that could be unsafe for our students. No student may use our school computers for any e-mailing of kids,” says Keef er. She adds that they have had “no problems with the issue (use of Internet) in house. Our handbook tells parents and stu- dents of our rules, regulations and concerns.”

Keef er says she has simple words of wisdom that parents should take to heart when allowing their children unlimited use of the computer at home: “Our advice is always the same. Parents must be tuned in to what their children are doing on the computer. They must inform their young people of the dangers of placing personal infor- mation into cyberspace for anyone and everyone to see.”

“We tell students that once you post a blog on myspace.com, it is in cyberspace forever,” says Saint Joseph’s High School Principal and Director of Student Life, Susan Richter. “Students should not know who may read it — we tell them never to give physical address, description, address, phone num- ber. We also used ‘Learn the Four-Rs of Internet Safety’ from www.isafe.org.”

Saint Joseph’s also held an assembly with Commander Mitchell Kajzer (High Tech Crimes Unit) who could not know who may read it — we tell them never to give physical address, description, address, phone num- ber. We also used ‘Learn the Four-Rs of Internet Safety’ from www.isafe.org.”

While using the Web site, MySpace notes that kids “should not lie about how old they are. MySpace members must be 14 years of age or older,” says MySpace, and notes that they take special precautions to protect younger members and are “not able to do so if they do not iden- tify themselves as such. MySpace will delete users whom we find to be younger than 14, or those mis- representing their age.”

Kids, because of their open- ness, often say things that adults would never consider saying. But it can be a safety deterrent that they should be reminded about. Parents should always remind their children not to post anything that could embarrass them later or expose them to any danger. Although MySpace is public, teens sometimes think that adults can’t see what they post. Tell them that they shouldn’t post photos or any other information about themselves.

• Teens are more trusting than adults as well. Remind them that people aren’t always who they say they are, so they should be careful when adding “strangers to their friends list. It’s fun to connect with new MySpace friends from all over the world, but members should be cautious when communicating with people they don’t know. Teens should talk to parents if they want to meet an on line friend in person, and if the parent thinks it is safe, a meeting should take place in public and with friends or a trusted adult present, notes MySpace.com’s safety tips.

• If your child does encounter a problems with harassment, hate speech or inap- propriate content, it should be reported. “They should report it to MySpace or to the authorities,” says MySpace Safety Tips.

Are you worried?

What Are Signs That Your Child Might Be At Risk On-line?

• Your child spends large amounts of time on-line, especial- ly at night.

• You find pornography on your child’s computer.

• Your child receives phone calls from men you don’t know or is making calls, sometimes long distance, to numbers you don’t recognize.

• Your child receives mail, gifts, or packages from someone you don’t know.

• Your child turns the comput- er monitor off or quickly changes the screen on the monitor when you come into the room.

• Your child becomes with- drawn from the family.

• Your child is using an online account belonging to someone else.


Cutting off Internet use not always the best idea

While many parents wonder whether it is worth the risk letting their child online by themselves or if there are special sites that they should block, the F.B.I notes that “sex offenders have contact- ed children via most of the major online services and the Internet. The most important factors in keeping your child safe online are the utilization of appropriate blocking software and/or parental controls, along with open, honest discussions with your child, mon- itoring his or her online activity, and following the tips (in this pamphlet).”

“Forbidden child totally is not the answer says the F.B.I. There are dangers in every part of our society. By educating your children to these dangers and tak- ing appropriate steps to protect them, they can benefit from the wealth of information now avail- able on line.”

Change Your Life...by changing Theirs

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

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

Call Share Foundation at 219-778-2585 or email share@sharefoundation.org

Sales Representative

Today’s Catholic, the official publication of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, seeks an experienced sales person, who is a practicing Catholic, to sell advertising space in this newspaper to established accounts, and to develop new accounts in the lower half of the diocese. Qualifications include good communication skills, the ability to work a minimum of twenty hours per week and experience with email and Microsoft Office.

To apply, send cover letter and resume to:

Kathy Denice, Business Manager
Today’s Catholic
P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46856
Book explores bringing Christian values into business

BY YOUNG

A nyone serious about living their faith will look to the Lord and the church for guidance and direction, especially so when difficulties arise, whether in the area of personal relationships, illness, financial problems or even the workplace. The last of that list is the focus of “Doing the Right Thing at Work,” by James L. Nolan (St. Anthony Messenger Press, $12.95).

What are your core values? How do you implement those in the workplace? How do you treat others fairly — Christianly, if you will — when business is not going well?

The questions and answers put forth by Nolan concerning the meshing of faith, business and ethics in Catholic living are adequate, but are targeted at too small a demographic.

St. Anthony Messenger has done a number of pages over the past several years releasing spiritual books into Catholic living are adequate, but are targeted at too small a demographic.

As Christians in the world of business, few of us are not going to connect very well with problems of corporate politics or making sure ethics are followed during million-dollar deals. We just want to know how to get along with our coworkers, confront situations in a Christlike manner or fight for rights of employees (often ourselves) in the correct fashion.

To be fair, Nolan contributes a few good suggestions. For example: “As Christians in the world of work we are called by God to contribute to the sanctification of the world. This is a heavy-duty assignment. This is the mission to build the kingdom of Christ.” Nolan, however, just a paragraph before that quote, recounted Pope John Paul II’s teaching, which could have made Nolan look foolish:

“Christians charged with responsibility in the business world are challenged to combine the legitimate pursuit of profit with a deeper concern for the spread of solidarity and elimination of the scourge of poverty which would affect so many members of the human family.”

Oh, that our business leaders of the world would take that command to heart. As I write this, the news is reporting that three of the major oil companies made more than $5 billion in profits for the second quarter of 2006. While the working poor continues to try to make ends meet as their transportation expenses increase, it would seem the pursuit of profit has passed the legitimate stage in the oil-industry world.

With the revelation of corruption in major corporations to effect such as Enron, World.com, etc., it’d be nice if we got wind of some of the bigwigs doing the right thing.

Curious George’ premieres Sept. 4, PBS

NEW YORK (CNS) — “Faith and Doubt” examines the question of spirituality and evil in the aftermath of the horrific attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

The program, to be rerun Monday, Sept. 10, 10 p.m. — midnight EDT on PBS (check local listings), explores the challenges confronted by believers and nonbelievers as they try to cope with the difficult questions of good and evil, God’s power in the face of malevolence and the potential for darkness within religion itself.

As with a lot of programs, special and media coverage of Sept. 11, “Faith and Doubt” subjects its viewers to the dreadful images of the day: the twin towers sliced by planes then collapsing in a cloud of blinding debris and dust; the confusion and chaos as people, covered in a thick layer of dust, flee to safety; and the tear-stained faces of family and friends desperate to know about their missing loved ones. This initial part of the film is difficult to watch, naturally, but it serves to set up the circumstances for the program’s central theme. 

The program grapples with the questions of religion and faith through the reactions of a variety of people from survivors to the widow of a firefighter; from priests and rabbis to security guards and opera divas; from Christians and Jews to Buddhists, Muslims and atheists. Those interviewed speak with an unexpected candor about the challenges the horrible acts of Sept. 11 have placed on their faith.

A woman who lost her mother on Sept. 11 says she has turned to her faith to the ripple effect of evil of this magnitude. This topic of faith is a difficult one — defining it, explaining it. Is it the afterlife? “Faith and Doubt” manages to be thought-provoking and balanced in its presentation. Dave Steffen says his job is to help people live with the mystery of God, not unravel it, which seems close to the program’s conclusion that there are no easy answers when it comes to faith.

Given graphic images and frank discussion about faith, religion and evil, parents should consider carefully whether their adolescent children will be able to handle watching the program.

Anne Navarro is a former staff member of the Office for Film & Broadcasting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.
What’s Happening?

St. Therese Fall Festival
Fort Wayne — St. Therese Parish, 2304 Lower Huntington Rd., will have a fall festival on Saturday, Sept. 9, from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Children’s games and food booths open until 4:30 p.m. Madeline’s Toybox will perform at noon and 3:30 p.m. Auction at 1 p.m. and bingo from noon to 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. Finals and raffle to follow. Dinner served. Donation of $4 and tickets available at the door. Bring your own cards.

Fort Wayne — The Bishop Dwenger Music Boosters will have openings for the craft bazaar to be held on Saturday, Nov. 11. Call Terry Luebbe at (260) 483-5750 for information.

Mishawaka
Susan L. Artusi, 59, St. Joseph
South Bend
Erema R. Gassensmith, 75, St. Anthony de Padua
Helen M. Majewski, 81, St. Adalbert
Charles P. McDaniel, 85, St. Anthony de Padua

On the 40th Annual Labor Day Chicken Barbecue & Festival, the following will be served:

• Games
• Raffles
• Fun for everyone!

“JUSTUS 3” (Richard Loucks) playing (All proceeds to St. Mary Parish)
Premed student collects supplies for mission trip

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Overwhelming health and medical needs both here and abroad make it difficult for any one person to know how to help those under served on the international scene. But one premed student, Jennifer Royal, has found a way to help.

This October, Royal, a sophomore at DePauw University in Greencastle, will be volunteering, along with 11 other students and 20 area medical doctors, on a mission trip to Quito, Ecuador.

The trip has been organized by the DePauw chapter of the Timmy Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides health care and relevant medical and educational resources to specific international areas.

The volunteer-supported foundation partners with medical facilities in countries such as Ecuador, Haiti, Honduras and others, to assist medically under-served children.

DePauw, newly invested in the Timmy Foundation and their work, sent its first group of volunteers to Ecuador last year during fall break. Royal was able to learn about that trip through pictures and stories relayed at the meeting.

"Though the children in the photos were living in poverty, they were still smiling," Royal says. "I had never been exposed to this. After hearing Dr. Chuck (Dietzen, founder of the Timmy Foundation) and seeing the slides I was deeply touched. I knew I had to go," she adds. And the wheels were put in motion.

Beginning this summer, Royal worked a summer job and did some babysitting to earn her fare for the mission trip. She has raised the students at St. Vincent Bishop Dwenger and lifelong member of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne, has always been interested in medicine.

While adjusting to coursework in her biochemistry major last year at DePauw, newly invested in the Timmy Foundation and their work, Royal was able to learn about that trip through pictures and stories relayed at the meeting.

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