**Today’s Catholic**

**Pope expresses respect for Muslims, pledges to continue dialogue**

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Meeting with Islamic ambassadors and representatives, Pope Benedict XVI expressed his deep respect for Muslims, pledged to continue dialogue, and said Islamic and Christian leaders should cooperate to curb violence.

“Faithful to the teachings of their own religious traditions, Christians and Muslims must learn to work together, as indeed they already do in many common undertakings, in order to guard against all forms of intolerance and to oppose all manifestations of violence,” the pope said.

“As for us, religious authorities and political leaders, we must guide and encourage them in this direction,” he said.

The unprecedented encounter at the pope’s summer residence Sept. 25 was designed to soothe Muslim resentment over a recent papal speech that cited a historic criticism of Islam and the concept of holy war. The pope later distanced himself from the quoted material and said he was sorry Muslims had been offended.

Addressing the Islamic representatives at Castel Gandolfo, the pope alluded only briefly to the earlier speech. Instead, he focused on assuring Muslim communities that his papacy was not backtracking on the dialogue opened by the Second Vatican Council and developed in large part by his predecessor, Pope John Paul II.

**NEW EVE, PAGE 20**

Rebecca Grubbs told Today’s Catholic that she, Rebecca Grubbs and C.C. Christopherson are all mothers of young children who would get together to study John Paul’s theology of the body. The women attended a day of the student-initiated Edith Stein Project conference at the University of Notre Dame last February because so many of the sessions related to the theology of the body. On the ride home, they decided they wanted to bring similar programs to young women in Fort Wayne.

“You learn something so beautiful, and you want to share,” said Beier, who formerly taught theology at Bishop Luers High School.

Grubbs and Beier approached Dominic Aquila, dean of the School of Liberal Arts at the University of Saint Francis, with their idea, and he responded enthusiastically. So, too, did Lisa Everett, co-director of the diocesan Office of Family Life. Aquila

**SISTER BIDS FAREWELL TO UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY**

Sister Geraldine Hartke, OSF, speaks with well-wisher Dr. Ann Hernandez at a reception in her honor at the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne. Before being called back to the Mishawaka motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, Sister Geraldine served the university community as sacristan and campus ministry assistant and enjoyed great rapport with students, faculty and staff.

**New Eve Project promotes dignity and vocation of women**

FORT WAYNE — A new initiative emphasizing the dignity and vocation of women will be launched in Fort Wayne on Oct. 4 with a talk by theologian Pia de Solenni. She will speak on “The Personalism of Pope John Paul II and the Dignity and Vocation of Women.” The event, which is free and open to the public, will take place at 7 p.m. in room 156 of the Doermer Center on the campus of the University of Saint Francis.

De Solenni’s talk is the first in a new monthly series of lectures by women and geared toward women, especially young women. Called the New Eve Project, the initiative is a cooperative effort of a group of Fort Wayne women, the University of Saint Francis, the Office of Family Life of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and Redeemer Radio. The project’s mission statement is still a work in progress, but the organizers plan to tap into the wisdom of Pope John Paul II to help women realize their inherent value and dignity and exercise those attributes in a culture that often is at odds with this vision of women.

“We all feel very strongly that our culture needs to hear more about the new feminism” taught by Pope John Paul II, explained Ruth Beier, one of the founders of the New Eve Project.
Off to Donaldson for dedication of Catherine’s Cottage

The Poor Handmaid Sisters

They have been here for over 160 years, before northern Indiana was declared a diocese. They came first to Hessen Cassel, where they established a small, rural school. They later moved to Fort Wayne and founded St. Joseph Hospital. Within a few years they established foundations in the burgeoning city of Chicago. In this diocese, they have been involved in Catholic health care, education and pastoral ministry. They were the founders and builders of two great hospitals. Both are under the patronage of St. Joseph: one in Fort Wayne and one in Mishawaka. They staffed all the schools in Mishawaka, as well as Bishop Dwenger High School in its early days. In recent years, they have brought great love to their provincial headquarters located in Donaldson, Ind., where they staff Ancilla College.

This is a splendid congregation. It is always a joy to be among them. Thus it was on a cloudy Saturday afternoon when I drove to Donaldson to help dedicate Catherine’s Cottage. Like so many congregations, a key part of their ministry now is taking care of the extraordinary women who have served in this diocese and beyond in various apostolates and ministries. Also, several retired priest are living with them.

The new center, Catherine’s Cottage, and another called Catherine’s Memory Unit, are for those with memory loss and the concept of care is quite advanced and fits well with the charism of this beloved congregation. It is community centered and focused on the beauty of aging, not only the difficulties. It also helps in responding to difficulties. The Catherine referred to is Blessed Mary Catherine Kasper, the founder of this extraordinary congregation in Germany.

One of Blessed Mary Catherine’s spiritual sayings was as follows: “Love to be known and esteemed as nothing.” How foreign such a saying is to our culture, but it is also a joy to speak about with my good friend, St. Thomas More, the patron saint of lawyers, and, since, 2000, of statesmen and politicians. Also, he has been declared the “lawyer of the millennium.”

Afterward, I had a little time with Msgr. Charles Brown. Msgr. Brown is a graduate of Notre Dame who has served the Holy See for many years in the Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith. He has been given a sabbatical to complete his doctoral dissertation. Twelve months to be back at Notre Dame. How beautiful is that? I was impressed by the fact that he celebrates Mass each morning at 6 a.m. at Corby Hall and is resolved to be at the library at 7:30 a.m. when a security guard opens up. He has been provided a pleasant place in the library and studies there until 4:30 p.m. with a light break in early afternoon for lunch. Unlike your bishop, Msgr. Charles usually runs several miles in the late afternoon. He finds it joyful to be at Notre Dame, with no obligation except that of study and prayer. He told me how impressed he was with the community at Corby Hall, their prayerfulness and devotion to religious life; and, of course, his beloved Notre Dame.

What a wonderful thing to have 12 months to just study and pray and come up with something that will contribute to theological scholarship and the life of the church. I am very impressed with the topic of his dissertation. At the risk of not saying it accurately, Msgr. Brown’s study is concerned with the ancient concept of the bishop being wed to his diocese and the growth of this concept from the Council of Nicea onward, through the writings of the Fathers and church legislation of various councils. Some even forbid, in strong language, the idea of a bishop being transferred from one diocese to another. This is a fascinating topic and very much relates to the office of bishop as we find it in the liturgy of episcopal ordination.

Basilica of the Sacred Heart

North then to South Bend. After some meetings and watching the “game for the ages” on television, I was up the next morning to celebrate the Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. This was the Red Mass, the renewal of this medieval custom of inviting attorneys, public figures and members of bench and bar — a Mass of the Holy Spirit begging God’s grace upon all of them. It is always a joy to speak about with my good friend, St. Thomas More, the patron saint of lawyers, and, since 2000, of statesmen and politicians. Also, he has been declared the “lawyer of the millennium.”

Afterward, I had a little time with Msgr. Don Clemmer. It was for the profession of Sister Mary Beth Martin, a graduate of Marian High School in its early days. In this diocese, they have served in this diocese for several years.

Surely, it is appropriate to single out one jubilarian — Msgr. William Faber. He recently observed 70 years as a priest.

Jubilarians

What a joy to celebrate Mass with our priest jubilarians. About 40 priests were in attendance, and it was a beautiful moment in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Surely, it is appropriate to single out one jubilarian — Msgr. William Faber. He recently observed 70 years as a priest. Msgr. Bill, along with several other senior priests, resides at Saint Anne’s Home. He was pastor in Kendallville and also at Queen of Angels, Fort Wayne, where he was the founding pastor and where there is an activity center named after him. He is one of the most respected priests in our diocese, our senior priest. I consider him a good and dear friend.

At the dinner afterward, some beautiful words were delivered by Msgr. Faber (70 years); Father Bob Yast, with his wonderful sense of humor (50 years); and Father Cornelius Ryan, C.S.C. (40 years). Among our jubilarians there is over 600 years of service.

A game for the ages

Congratulations to Notre Dame for this extraordinary comeback. I have something to confess. When it was 37-14, I turned it over in order to sharpen my homily for the following day. I turned it on later and it was 37-34 and I saw the dramatic interception for the final touchdown. Surely, a game for the ages.

See you all next week.
St. Jude fosters interreligious understanding at home

BY DON CLEMMER

FORT WAYNE — Continuing to learn about the religious faith as an adult can be a challenge. Even if people are curious about God, Jesus, Scripture or the church, they may not be able to find exactly what they need, even in their own parish. For instance, someone might be interested in a book of Revelation, but that specific night of a Bible study, devotion or other activity just might not fit into the busy lives of many parishioners.

This is one area where Encountering Christ is a new diocesan committee that focuses on parishes to build and support ongoing religious education for Catholics. The program is designed to reach adults, and it provides a model that parishes can use to support adult education and spiritual growth — seeks to help parishes and adult education and spiritual growth — seeks to help parishes

Sahab Al-Saud, director of the Fort Wayne Islamic Council and the Fort Wayne Islamic Center, speaks at St. Jude Church on Sept. 25. Al-Saud discussed the beliefs of Islam and fielded numerous questions on topics including conversion to Islam, beliefs about life after death and conflicts in the Middle East.

“We worship, as Muslims, the same God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and all the prophets, including Jesus,” he noted.

Apart from holding that Jesus was a prophet and not a deity, Al-Saud noted that another difference between Muslim and Christian theologies is that there is no original sin. While they still believe that Adam and Eve did sin against God, he explained, it did not have the same ramifications in the view of Muslims.

“It was their sin, not the sin of their children and their children.”

Which, he said, leads to another doctrinal divide. “Since a person not believe in original sin, we do not believe in salvation through the blood of Jesus.”

Despite this difference, Al-Saud said that Jesus is highly revered by Muslims and that even Mary has a chapter dedicated to her in the Quran, known as Maryam. He also said, have distinctions that run deep in Muslim theology.

“We believe that God created Adam out of nothing. Then he created Eve from Adam. Then he created the first man who was barren and old, and then Jesus from a virgin, Mary. So Islam believes in the virgin birth of Jesus. That might surprise some of you.”

He went on to explain that Muslims also hold that the prophet Muhammad was an illiterate, so that, following this same pattern, the Quran was also divinely created.

Al-Saud also noted that one must understand Arabic to understand the Quran properly because Arabic grammar and Arabic meaning are often lost in translation.

Despite these theological differences, he also pointed out what some might have found to be a surprising tenet of Islam:

“We are forbidden to be critical of either our neighbors or community. A lively and often intense question-and-answer session followed Al-Saud’s talk, during which St. Jude’s Muslim worshippers and guests were granted “serene and peaceful lives.” When he finished, he was warmly applauded.

The meeting, arranged with unusual urgency by the Vatican, was a formal audience and not a closed-door exchange of opinions. In attendance were ambassadors from 22 predominantly Muslim countries and 19 other Islamic representatives based in Italy.

Before the meeting, the Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, said the encounter was a sign that dialogue was returning to normal after a period of misunderstanding.

“We hope the tension and suffering of the past days make every one of us feel the need to participate in a renewed dialogue that is positive, trustworthy, capable of looking at problems in depth, and ready for ‘self-criticism,’ as the pope said,” Father Lombardi said.

“If this happens, the speech in Rome on mutual understanding and courage ‘will have been fruitful, perhaps even providential,’” he said.
Catholic Schools Office announces enrollment figures for 2006-2007

BY VINCE LABARRERA

Total enrollment for all diocesan Catholic schools for the 2006-2007 school year amounts to 13,355 students, a decrease of 151 students compared to last year’s total-enrollment figure of 13,506 students according to figures released by the Catholic Schools Office.

The Schools Office reported, however, that when prekindergarten enrollment figures are included, the total enrollment for the diocese amounts to 14,208 students, or 853 additional students.

Enrollment in the four Catholic high schools of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend declined slightly from 3,249 students last year to 3,218 students this year. The high school enrollment figures are: Marian, Mishawaka, 801 students — a decrease of 14 students; Bishop Dwenger, Fort Wayne, 1,073 students — an increase of 14 students and Bishop Luers, Fort Wayne, 552 students — a decrease of 35 students.

Enrollment decreases. An additional $1,000 bonus was awarded to Bishop Dwenger for the highest percentage of freshman enrollment increase of 12.6 percent. Enrollment for the 40 Catholic elementary schools in the diocese was 10,137 students — a decrease of 120 students. The student enrollment at each Catholic elementary school (without prekindergarten students) is as follows:

**Fort Wayne Area (Allen County)**

Precious Blood, 142; Queen of Angels, 258; St. Charles Borromeo, 746; St. John the Baptist, 299; St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, 482; St. Jude, 542; St. Therese, 154; St. Vincent de Paul, 715; St. Aloysius (Yoder), 79; Benoit Academy, 82; St. John the Baptist (New Haven), 342; St. Joseph (Hessle Cassel), 119; St. Joseph (Monroeville), 48; and St. Louis (Besancon), 71.

The total Catholic elementary enrollment for all of Allen County is 4,079 students.

Outlying Fort Wayne Area Schools:

- Noble County: St. Mary (Avilla), 126
- DeKalb County: St. Joseph (Garrett), 102
- Adams County: St. Joseph (Decatur), 285
- Huntington County: Huntington Catholic (Huntington), 159
- Wabash County: St. Bernard (Wabash), 80
- Kosciusko County: Sacred Heart (Warsaw), 156
- The total enrollment for all Fort Wayne area and outlying Catholic elementary schools is 4,987.

**South Bend Area (St. Joseph County)**

Christ the King, 520; Corpus Christi, 383; Holy Cross, 323; Holy Family, 404; Our Lady of Hungary, 92; St. Adalbert, 135; St. Anthony de Padua, 439; St. John the Baptist, 176; St. Joseph, 446; St. Jude, 193; and St. Matthew, 385. In Mishawaka — Queen of Peace, 191; St. Bavo, 179; St. Joseph, 186; St. Monica, 190 and St. Patrick (Walkerton), 42.

The total Catholic elementary enrollment for all of St. Joseph County is 4,284 students.

Elkhart County:

- St. Thomas, 421
- St. Vincent de Paul, 135
- St. John the Evangelist (Goshen), 114
- Marshall County:
  - St. Michael (Plymouth), 196
- The total enrollment for all South Bend Area Catholic elementary schools is 5,150.

The total Catholic elementary enrollment for all of the diocese amounts to 14,208 students, or 853 additional students. The student enrollment figure of 13,506 students compared to last year's total enrollment figures is 12.6 percent.

**New rectory dubbed ‘house that SCRIP built’**

**BY BONNIE ELBERSON**

FORT WAYNE — St. Charles Parish is justifiably proud of the latest addition to its parish campus, a brand new rectory for its resident priests and deacon. Recently, says pastor Msgr. John Suelzer, the old rectory had been doing double duty by providing living quarters and housing parish offices. It was much like “living in the store,” he says with a chuckle.

Now those offices in the former rectory are under renovation as well and he, Msgr. Peter Kumaraksi and Deacon Tony Steinacker are enjoying comfy new digs.

Best of all, says Msgr. Suelzer, the money didn’t come from parish coffers, but from proceeds from the SCRIP program. We call it “the store that SCRIP built,” he says. “I’m so pleased with all those people in our parish (who helped).”

St. Charles SCRIP program, which dates back to 1996, has been an extremely successful fund raiser for the parish community, explains Berniee Williams, SCRIP coordinator.

An acronym for Substitute Credit Reimbursement Program, SCRIP works like this: A parish representative personally approaches local businesses or works with a broker in the case of large national chains. Their goal is to enlist the support of that business to sell gift cards for store merchandise to the parish at a discount. Then, parishioners buy the prepaid cards at full price and the business donates the difference back to St. Charles Parish, with half of that amount going for parish use and half to the individual who bought the card. And each store is different, Williams points out, with some businesses returning as much as 20 percent of the gift card amount.

The parish’s share of the proceeds may be used for “any need anywhere on the parish campus,” says Msgr. Suelzer. The St. Charles staff, including priests, the school principal, music director, youth minister, pastoral associate and finance director, makes decisions for its use.

Individuals who purchase the cards receive credit vouchers from the parish, which may be used toward tuition expense at St. Charles School, Bishop Dwenger High School or even college. Many parishioners enlist the help of friends, neighbors and other family members to reduce the cost of their children’s schooling. Other parishioners with no children or grandchildren in school may elect to donate their credit back to the parish.

“It’s a win-win situation,” says Williams, who has coordinated the program for the past seven years.

The SCRIP program, which originated at a parish in California, put down roots at St. Charles Parish in 1996. Early on, the money went toward choir robes, song books and fencing for the athletic field. It provided partial funding for the

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

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**Tim Johnson**

The new St. Charles Parish rectory, built with SCRIP money, shows what a parish can achieve through the use of the program.
Catherine’s Cottage concentrates on what residents can do

BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

DONALDSON — Catherine’s Cottage and Catherine’s Memory Unit are less about what residents can’t do. Rather, they’re more about what residents can do, and, even more than that, what they can do in community.

On Saturday, Sept. 23, Bishop John M. D’Arcy said a blessing over and dedicated Catherine’s Cottage and Catherine’s Memory Unit, ministries of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ (PHJC) in Donaldson.

Catherine’s Cottage is a new convent for PHJC sisters who are experiencing the early stages of memory loss, according to Sister Joisie May, coordinator of Catherine’s Cottage.

Along with sisters experiencing early memory loss, said Sister May, will be sisters who will help support those experiencing a cognitive decline in which the sisters can continue to perform the same functions they would otherwise perform, Sister May said.

“This is a unique model of person-centered care,” Sister May said before the start of the dedication and blessing ceremony.

The 8,000-square-foot cottage allows the sisters experiencing memory loss to live the best life possible and keep daily activities they would normal do and help each other with any limited abilities, Sister May said.

“We wanted to make it as home-like as possible,” Sister May said.

Indeed, according to Dodd Kattman, a partner with Morrison Kattman Menze, Inc., the architectural firm out of Fort Wayne hired to design Catherine's Cottage and Catherine’s Memory Unit, the concept for the cottage is based around the home model.

He said it’s been proven that placing those with memory loss in large institutions with large numbers of people does not do them. Instead, living in a homelike setting with just a few people is more beneficial.

To that end, the cottage, which has entertained residents now for about two months and was built for a maximum of 13 residents, is organized like a home for a large family.

“It’s organized in three-bed-room hallways,” Kattman said, just like the homes of the typical family.

“The sense of community played a big role in the concept,” she said. “And we made it look like a cottage.”

Part of that cottage feel includes a large fireplace the sisters can gather around quietly by themselves or in groups.

Phase II of the entire project is Catherine’s Memory Unit, with 5,000 square feet.

Catherine’s Memory Unit is a closed unit for both sisters and lay people in the community with advanced stages of memory loss, said Sister May.

The Memory Unit — which was and still is a wing of the residential Catherine Kasper Home — should be completed within a month, according to Kattman. The maximum number of residents in that unit is nine, and it is built around the same homelike concept that Catherine’s Cottage is.

Sister May said the memory unit is designed to secure comfort, safety and dignity for those in the advanced stages of memory loss.

Christopher Mueller, director of Catherine’s Memory Unit, called memory loss and dementia a process that an estimated 70 percent of people in skilled facilities are suffering from. Therefore, he said, there are key elements to the care of those who will live in the Memory Unit.

First is staying focused on what the residents can do; minimizing stressors; consistency of staff and planned activities available daily; and, last, treating residents with dignity.

Mueller said, “I take that very seriously.”

With 2,625 parish families, a significant amount of money was raised and the newly constructed rectory was able to be completed in late summer. The home’s recent open house was successful, and parishioners were anxious to view the results of their efforts, says Msgr. Suelzer.

Williams is elated with SCRIP’s success but would love to see it escalate to 50 percent parish participation. She points out that gift cards are conveniently available at the school as well as at the church and service could not be more in line with the congregation’s focus on promoting nonviolence throughout the world.

SOUTH BEND Mayor Steve Luecke and representatives of local groups that promote nonviolence and peace participated.

Among those present were people from the Juvenile Justice Center, YMCA’s Urban Youth Services, Mommies Against Violence, the NAACP, Robinson Community Learning Center, Urban League, CeaseFire and the Jewish Federation of Shalom. Also represented were members of local churches and the On-site Prayer Ministry, an ecumenical group of individuals who gather to pray with families of homicide victims at the scenes of their deaths in South Bend.

In his comments at the conclusion of the service, Mayor Luecke reminded the assembly that it was 100 years ago that very day when Gandhi began his peace movement in South Africa. The mayor thanked the sisters and the others present for their prayers for him and for all who work for peace in South Bend. He also asked that they continue to pray.

In her comments at the conclusion of the service, Sr. Mary Luecke reminded the assembly that it was 100 years ago that very day when Gandhi began his peace movement in South Africa. The mayor thanked the sisters and the others present for their prayers for him and for all who work for peace in South Bend. He also asked that they continue to pray.

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EARLIER in the day, departments of Saint Mary’s College — Campus Ministry, Intercultural Studies and Justice Education Studies — observed the International Day of Peace by sponsoring 10 minutes of prayer on the Alumnae Green in front of the Student Center.

Students, staff and faculty came together at noon to hear readings on peace from various faith traditions and to pray in silence.

NOTRE DAME — The Sisters of the Holy Cross and members of Saint Mary’s College community, as well as people from the local Michiana area gathered Sept. 21 in the Church of Our Lady of Loreto for a blessing ceremony performed by the Sisters of the Holy Cross in observance of the United Nations International Day of Peace.

The prayer service concluded a day of prayer that began at 7 a.m.

“We are all aware of the violence in Iraq, Gaza, Afghanistan, Uganda, and many other places where wars are occurring and innocent peoples’ lives are being lost,” wrote the organizers in an invitation to the public. “We are also aware that violence has no borders: violent crimes are occurring with alarming frequency here in Michiana as well.”

In response to the surge of local homicides and other violent crimes, and at the prompting of Sister Gabriella Doran, CSC, who promoted the day-long vigil, the special intention was peace in South Bend and the surrounding area, and in particular for the victims as well as their families.

Organizers asked the participants, “We are not powerless; we can add our prayers for peace and nonviolence to support the efforts of our city officials and the number of local groups working every-day to make South Bend a peaceful, safe city in which to live.”

Sister Ruth Marie Nickerson, a member of the leadership team of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, welcomed all present in the name of Sister Joy O’Grady, president of the congregation. She said the service could not be more in line with the congregation’s focus on promoting nonviolence throughout the world.

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VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Recent ordinations made without papal approval have placed Zambian Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo and the four prelates he recruited in an uncertain legal excommunication, the Vatican said.

Starting with his “attempted marriage” in 2001 until his Sept. 24 ordination of four bishops in Washington, Archbishop Milingo’s actions have led to “a complete and irreversible progressive breach in communion with the church,” said a written statement from the Vatican press office.

Various church officials tried “in vain” to contact the retired archbishop of Lusaka, Zambia, and “dis accuse him from continuing acts that provoke scan- dal,” the Sept. 26 press statement said. It said that despite the “patent vision” shown by the Vatican and Pope Benedict XVI in hoping the retired archbishop would return to full communion with the church, the archbishop’s Sept. 24 ordinations “have dashed such hopes.” Because of the unapprov ed ordinations, “both Archbishop Milingo and the four ordained men are ecclesiastically sen tences” excommunication, according to Canon 1382 of the Code of Canon Law,” the state- ment said. A bishop who cre- ates a bishop without a pontifi ca mandate and the person who receives the consecration from him automatically incur the penal- ty of excommunication.

Historian says archives erase claims church did not oppose Nazism

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Documents now available from the Vatican Secret Archives will allow scholars to rewrite history and erase claims the church was not a staunch opponent of Nazism, fascism and other forms of totali- tarianism, said a Jesuit historian.

Jesuit Father Giovanni Sale, histo- rian of the Jesuit journal, La Civiltà Cattolica, said documents relating to the 1922-1939 pontifi- cate of Pope Pius XI will have an impact on political and religious history. What emerges is an even clearer picture of the church as being “steadfast in the fight against fascism, against Nazism, against fascism, against Nazism, but also against communism,” he said in a Sept. 18 interview with Vatican Radio. After years of preparation, the Vatican archive office Sept. 18 opened to researchers the microfilm documentation from Pope Pius’ pre-World War II pontificate. An official at the Vatican archives told Catholic News Service that in the first week after the 1922-1939 archives were opened, between 55 and 60 scholars from around the world went through the documents each day.

Three Catholic men executed in Indonesia, triggering riots

JAKARTA, Indonesia (CNS) — The three Catholic men convicted of murdering 200 Muslims during sectarian riots in Central Sulawesi province in 2000 were executed by firing squad Sept. 22, trigger- ing riots in other provinces. Father Jimmy Tumbelaka, spiritual counselor for Fabianus Tibo, 60, Dominggus da Silva, 39, and Marinus Riwu, 48, said Sept. 22 the three “were executed this morning at about 1:30 a.m.” The priest spoke to UCA News, an Asian church news agency based in Thailand, by phone from Pala, the capital of Central Sulawesi province. For the execution, he said, the men were handcuffed and tied to chairs. Da Silva and Tibo allowed themselves to be blindfolded, but Riwu refused, added Father Tumbelaka, parish priest in Poso, the town where the 200 riots occurred. Father Tumbelaka said police and prose- cutors rejected the men’s last request, that their bodies be taken to St. Mary Church in Pala for a Mass to be said by Bishop Joseph Suwatan of Manado.

Catholic, Orthodox cite friendship, plan for 2007 dialogue meeting

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Catholic and Orthodox represen- tatives ended an important theo- logical meeting on a good note, citing a “spirit of friendship” and making plans for a follow-up encounter next year. A joint state- ment issued at the end of the Sept. 17-25 meeting in Belgrade, Serbia-Montenegro, said the approximately 60 participants had discussed in depth a draft docu- ment that touched on papal primacy and the role of Eastern Catholic churches. The draft document’s “carefully examined in a shared spirit of genuine commit- ment to the search for unity,” the statement said. A joint committee was appointed to revise the text in light of the many observations and comments made during the discus- sions. The revised text is expected to be taken up in a meet- ing hosted by the Catholic Church in 2007, the statement said. It was the first time the Catholic-Orthodox international dialogue commission had met since 2000, when talks were broken off over tensions related to the re-emer- gence of Eastern Catholic church- es in post-communist Eastern Europe.

Head of Opus Dei urges audience to transform ordinary life

MONTREAL (CNS) — The head of Opus Dei told a Montreal audi- ence to be faithful in the small things and to transform ordinary life into an ongoing conversation with God. Bishop Javier Echevarria Rodriguez said that people can come to Jesus in their ordinary lives by taking good care of little things. The bishop said before Jesus publicly ministered he also led an ordinary life. Bishop Echevarria spoke to a gathering of about 900 people in Montreal’s famed Saint Joseph Oratory. He is the ecclesiastical head of Opus Dei, a Catholic religious family founded by St. Josemaria Escriva de Balaguer in Spain.

Cardinal George Pell of Sydney, Australia, accepts and drinks a bowl of kava, a traditional Fijian drink, during the Aug. 7-11 meeting of Oceania’s Catholic bishops in Suva, Fiji.

The Australian Catholic Bishops’ Conference has released a social justice statement that highlights the need to preserve indigenous cultures.

Cardinal Drinks Traditional Drink in Fiji

Pope to visit Austria, Czech Republic in 2007, says church official

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) — A Czech bishops’ spokesman said Pope Benedict XVI will visit the Czech Republic and Austria in September 2007. The pope will travel to Austria Sept. 8, 2007, for the 850th anniversary of the Marian sanctuary of Maryzell and agreed to stop in Prague, the capi- tal of the Czech Republic — a country widely viewed as Europe’s least religious country, said Martin Horalek, spokesman for the Czech bishops’ conference.

“At a time when our church’s position has suffered, leaving it weak in numbers, this will be a great opportunity to rebuild the Catholic faith here,” Horalek told Catholic News Service in a tele- phone interview Sept. 20. Pope Benedict agreed to the Czech stop while meeting in Germany with Archbishop Diego Cauroso, nun- cio to the Czech Republic. An itin- erary will be discussed Oct. 9 when the bishops’ conferences meet, Horalek said.

Dalai Lama says world’s faiths must keep dialogueing, working together

BUFFALO, N.Y. (CNS) — As religious tension rises in some parts of the world, the Dalai Lama reminded 6,000 people gathered in Buffalo about the importance of continuing dialogue and promot- ing harmony among the world’s religions. “In one way, we need religious spirituality, but it also causes divisions,” he said during an interfaith service in the Alumni Arena at the University of Buffalo Sept. 18. He was joined by Catholic Bishop Edward U. Kmiec of Buffalo and several other local religious dignitaries representing other Christians as well as Muslims, Jews and Hindus. “To promote religious harmony like with this interfaith service is a wonderful experience. Please keep in your minds the importance of inner value,” said the spiritual leader of the Tibetan Buddhist people. “Religious teaching should be a part of daily life, (but) keep in mind that all the religious traditions carry the same message, and we must respect all traditions.”

Cardinal sees signs of hope for U.S. church despite challenges

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In the early 1960s, the future Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick was a young priest earning a doctorate in sociology at The Catholic University of America in Washington. Some societal trends from that time were still in place in the country and in the church nearly five decades later.

Washington Cardinal McCarrick said at a Sept. 20 conference on “The Catholic Church in America: 2006.” Cardinal McCarrick traced a decline in American Catholics living out and understanding their faith to the “ethos of the 1960s, which we have not yet overcome.”

In that era, he said, people adopt- ed an attitude of being “open to everything,” and people “opted out” of traditional values, ideas about family life, society and their faith. But in the second half of his lecture, Cardinal McCarrick addressed signs of hope he sees in the Catholic Church in the United States today.

“There’s so much hope in the Second Vatican Council. This really brought in the age of the laity,” he said.

Chinese officials release bishop who was taken by force

HONG KONG (CNS) — A young bishop whose episcopal ordina- tion is not recognized by the Chinese government was released five days after being arrested by plainclothes security officers who broke into the cathedral compound. After his Sept. 16 release, a Catholic news agency based in Thailand said Bishop Joseph Wu Qinjing of Beijing was released by plainclothes security officers. The agency based in Thailand. A church source close to the 38- year-old bishop said Bishop Wu was released Sept. 19 that before Bishop Wu’s release he was forced to write a statement saying his episcopal status was illegal. The statement said he was ordained without an elec- tion. It added that his management of diocese and finances and other local religious activities as bishop have violated the Chinese govern- ment’s religious affairs regula- tions. The church source added that Bishop Wu also was forced to promise in the statement that he would stop any bishop’s activities or appear as a bishop at large-scale church activities.
Tess Steffen joins Today’s Catholic staff

FORT WAYNE — Today’s Catholic welcomes Tess Steffen to the newspaper as an advertising sales representative. Steffen comes to Today’s Catholic with many years of marketing sales experience. As an advertising sales representative she will service current accounts and solicit new advertisers. “I want to use the experience and contacts that I have to promote and market the newspaper to our current and potential accounts,” Steffen says.

Steffen is a veteran and much sought after account executive from the paper industry. She worked for paper companies in Fort Wayne, Wichita, Kans., and Indianapolis. Recently, she has been involved in home-show sales and special events planning.

As an advertising sales representative, she will service current accounts and solicit new advertisers. Steffen’s community involvement includes being the wife of Mitch Steffen. The couple has two sons, ages 9 and 11 who attend St. John the Baptist School in Fort Wayne.

Notre Dame, Steffen has been involved in home-show sales and special events planning. Adding to her sales resume, Steffen has been involved in home-show sales and special events planning.

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Steffen to the readership of Today’s Catholic and uses this opportunity to introduce herself.

Father Jeffery Largent, pastor of St. Monica Parish, Mishawaka, adjusts his regular schedule to serve as crossing guard and playground arbiter twice a day for St. Monica School students. Each Tuesday he has religious instructions for all classes K-8. He considers contact with students one of his serious obligations and a most fulfilling experience. Since January, Father Largent has been the main celebrant at 72 funerals at St. Monica’s and other area parishes.

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Fort Wayne native takes solemn vows

CINCINNATI — Following in the footsteps of St. Francis, Brother Christopher Meyer, a native of Fort Wayne, made his solemn vows as a Franciscan friar on Aug. 12 in Cincinnati. He and fellow friar Brother Albert Mascia, S.F., took their vows before Father Fred Link, provincial minister of the Franciscans of St. John the Baptist Province, at St. Clement Church.

Brother Chris, 32, is working towards a religious studies degree at DePaul University in Chicago. He spent the last nine months of his formation in Jamaica, working as a missionary in the Diocese of Montego Bay.

“I was raised in a Franciscan environment," says Brother Chris, named artist-of-the-year by the International New Music Consortium at New York University for his work as a pianist, composer and educator. Throughout this academic year he will make concert tours of South Africa, Singapore, Indonesia and China. Jacob will also premiere “Celebration,” a new work for women’s choir, soprano and chamber ensemble. “Celebration” will be performed by the Saint Mary’s College Women’s Choir, faculty artist and soprano Laurel Thomas, and alumna Mary Nessinger, professor Nancy Menk conducts.

Saint Mary’s College alumna and mezzo soprano Mary Nessinger has performed in concert and recital halls throughout the United States and Europe. The performance venue, O’Laughlin Auditorium in the Moreau Center for the Arts, is where Helen Hayes read from Shakespeare’s “The Merchant of Venice” in 1956. She also said, in her own words: “There is no beauty that can be laid upon this brick and mortar as perfect as the love and harmony that has gone into its construction. Since these are the first words that an actress has delivered from this stage, I hope they may find their way into some of the corners and comers there.”

In addition to serving as a venue for gala events, dance and theater performances, the Moreau Center for the Arts is also the educational nexus for students pursuing majors in communications or the arts.

Tickets are $15 for adults; $14 for senior citizens; $13 for members of the Saint Mary’s-Notre Dame community; and $12 for students. Call the Moreau Center Box Office at (574) 284-4626 to reserve seats.

For a listing of the season events, visit MoreauCenter.com.

Around the Diocese

ST. MONICA PASTOR SERVES AS CROSSING GUARD

Moreau Center for the Arts celebrates golden anniversary

NOTRE DAME — Fifty years ago, accomplished Hollywood actress Helen Hayes was present when the cornerstone of the Moreau Center for the Arts was laid, and was the first to speak from Moreau’s O’Laughlin Auditorium stage. Fifty years later, the college prepares to celebrate the Moreau Center’s golden anniversary and its legacy of entertainment and education with a special musical performance on Tuesday, Oct. 3, at 7:30 p.m.

The evening features the combined talents of the New York Philharmonic Ensemble; the Saint Mary’s College Women’s Choir; renowned Latin American poet, artist and soprano Laurel Thomas; and composer, pianist, and Saint Mary’s music faculty artist Jeffrey Jacob.

The New York Philharmonic Ensemble is widely regarded as one of the top chamber groups of North America. Its yearly tours of the U.S. and Europe and subscription concerts at New York’s Merkin Concert Hall have earned it international acclaim. Among the distinguished musicians who have performed with the ensemble is the world-renowned cellist Yo Yo Ma. Jeffrey Jacob was recently named artist-of-the-year by the International New Music Consortium at New York University for his work as a pianist, composer and educator. Throughout this academic year he will make concert tours of South Africa, Singapore, Indonesia and China. Jacob will also premiere “Celebration,” a new work for women’s choir, soprano and chamber ensemble. “Celebration” will be performed by the Saint Mary’s College Women’s Choir, faculty artist and soprano Laurel Thomas, and alumna Mary Nessinger, professor Nancy Menk conducts.

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Bend, and totally dependent on the generosity of listeners, Redeemer Radio’s lineup includes a variety of programming of interest to a broad audience.

Daily, programming is in English during the day from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. and in Spanish overnight from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m.

The mission of Redeemer Radio is to evangelize the Catholic faith through radio in the diocese, under obedience to Bishop John M. D’Aryc.

Items stolen from The Franciscan Center

FORT WAYNE — The Franciscan Center recently discovered that over $2,000 worth of merchandise donated to raise funds at their annual Dinner and Auction on Oct. 21 was stolen from the organization’s headquarters on Gaywood Street.

“We were devastated that someone would take these items,” explains Sally Ley, founder and CEO. “We use the proceeds from our auction to help fund our programs and activities, including our Sack Lunch Ministry, Food Pantry and Medicine Closet. We are asking for prayers from the community to help locate these items.”

Contact The Franciscan Center at (260) 744-3977 for more information.

Redeemer Radio announces Internet streaming

FORT WAYNE — Redeemer Radio, Catholic Radio 1450 AM has announced it is streaming the Internet. Listeners may hear all of their favorite programs on Redeemer Radio by simply visiting the Web site at www.redeemerradio.com and clicking on the Internet link.

Internet streaming allows listeners to hear when they are at the lake cottage, traveling on business, or anywhere they have an Internet connection. Listeners may also be able to hear Redeemer Radio’s local broadcast of Bishop Luers or Bishop Dwenger football with family and friends across the nation or anywhere in the world.

Reeder Radio is a 501c3 nonprofit group of lay Catholics, financially separate from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, and totally dependent on the generosity of listeners.

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Leadership developed among Hispanics at ICLM institute

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

SOUTH BEND — Through the sacrament of baptism, each of us is called to serve God and God’s people, but we need the tools to do that. That is why Jesuit Father Tom Florek began ICLM — The Midwest Cultural Institute for Leadership.

Father Florek served as the director of Hispanic ministry for the Diocese of Gary for many years. Through his own experience, and that of other members of The Midwest Association for Hispanic Ministry, Father Florek realized how the need for a kind of an institute to develop Hispanic pastoral leadership in the church.

He decided to go back to school, and after receiving a doctorate in systematic theology from the Catholic Theological Union, Father Florek began what has been a very fruitful program to develop pastoral leadership for a model of church that is evangelizing, missionary and united in its diversity. ICLM was born.

When Enid Roman-DelJesus, coordinator for Hispanic ministry for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, and Father Paul Bueter, diocesan vicar for Hispanics, went to a workshop at Victory Noll to access the needs of the Hispanics in the diocese, they met Father Florek and learned about the institute. When he decided to go back to school and receive a doctorate in systematic theology, Father Florek began what has been a very fruitful program to develop pastoral leadership for a model of church that is evangelizing, missionary and united in its diversity. ICLM was born.

Father Florek spoke.

“When you give people the tools to know more about the church and what it stands for, with the good things and the things that are not that great, you have a better feeling about things that are not that great, you have a better feeling about the church and what it stands for, and you become part of the church and what it stands for, and you become part of the whole community and the United States in faith, hope and love,” he said.

Father Florek discussed the beginning of a mission, a mission rooted in the sacrament of baptism, each of us is called to serve God and God’s people, but we need the tools to do that. That is why Jesuit Father Tom Florek began ICLM — The Midwest Cultural Institute for Leadership.

The program has three phases. In the first phase, participants commit to visit their call, create a community who wants to learn more about the church, and discover who they are as a people of a cultural community on a journey.

The second phase of the institute focuses on the study of theology and the Latino culture. In the beginning ICLM comes to the various dioceses to teach and in the second year they train and support the candidates to be part of the institute. Each one will eventually create its own faculty and staff and won’t be dependent on them.

In the last phase of the institute each participant makes a pastoral plan and puts it into action in his or her parish. For example, Fernando Vela, who graduated with the first class, served in religious education for six months at St. John the Evangelist in Goshen. Others have done plans in youth and young adult ministry and other facets of parish life. Roman and other members of the diocese serve as mentors and supervisors for those implementing their pastoral plan.

It is no doubt that this Institute has and will continue to strengthen the Hispanic community in the Diocese. Graduate, Humberto Delgado recently became coordinator for Hispanic youth ministry for the diocese, and the others continue to be involved in their parishes.

Of the program, Roman says, “When you give people the tools to know more about the church and what it stands for, with the good things and the things that are not that great, you have a better feeling about who you are as Catholics and it is harder to shake their faith.”

At present the institute, which has been based at the University of Notre Dame for the past two years, works with the dioceses of Grand Rapids, Lansing and Detroit in Michigan, and Fort Wayne-South Bend and Lafayette in Indiana.

The Archdiocese of Detroit has three times the number of participants and graduates for the first class in the diocese. “Given the size it’s incredibly exciting,” he said. “Consider this. We already have youth, energy, faith, talent and an incredible amount of commitment.”

A reception was held following the Mass.

ICLM graduates begin a mission

BY DENISE FEDOROW

WARSAW — Over 20 graduates of the ICLM (Midwest Hispanic Leadership Institute) Program were honored with an evening graduation Mass on Sept. 24, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Warsaw.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy celebrated the Mass. “It’s a great joy to celebrate the Eucharist with all of you and the priests who work in our Hispanic ministries and to give certificates to those who completed his or her studies — especially in this church of Our Lady of Guadalupe,” Bishop D’Arcy said.

Bishop D’Arcy made mention of the five years it took to complete the church construction. “Sometimes we thought it would take another thousand,” he quipped, “but it didn’t, and here we are approximately one year after its consecration.”

The ICLM is a three-year program, which was started in 1998 in the Archdiocese of Detroit, the dioceses of Grand Rapids and Lansing, Mich., by Jesuit Father Tom Florek. The program soon spread to the Ohio dioceses of Toledo and Columbus.

It came to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese in 2002 after Enid Roman-DelJesus, coordinator for Hispanic ministry and Father Paul Bueter, diocesan vicar for Hispanics met Father Florek. The program soon spread to the Ohio dioceses of Toledo and Columbus.

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The 2006 graduating class of the ICLM program poses after a celebratory Mass held in their honor beside an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe at the church of her name in Warsaw on Sunday Sept. 24. Shown, from left, in front kneeling are Manuel Gutierrez, Valentina Gutierrez, Marco Medina, Naomi Vela, Tatyz Garcia, Joshua Garcia, Cristina Gomez and Maria Rodriguez; standing, from left, are Hugo Gutierrez, Irma Cantero, Elvia Patino, David Medina, Father Tom Florek, Ricardo Garcia, Santa E. Vela holding Cesar, Fernando Vela, Isela Hernandez, Bishop John M. D’Arcy, Rosa Hernandez, Jose Hernandez, Sister Joan Hastreiter, SSJ, pastoral minister at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Claudio Escobar, Miriam Bannon and Humberto Delgado.
The creative tension

BY LINDA FURGE

Opening prayer

Dear God, a cold north wind came in the night, blowing away heat first made warm while I slept. The first breath of crisp air raced through my blood like a goblet of fine wine. The cornfield, bedecked with brown, was still green, but the sound of wind rattling through resisting leaves proclaims “Growth is finished.”

Were those yellow leaves in the quince bushes yesterday? When did the tips of red appear in the ivy? Did growth cease abruptly... or has it come to a coasting halt without my notice? No matter, Lord. This morning I see the emptying shell of summer again interact with creative tension as winter and witness an entirely new kind of exchange. And next spring we’ll as a result of a dynamic something totally new and good... rather, it’s the creation of forces colliding for dominance or control; rather, it’s the creation of creative tension in human relationships on all levels. As individuals, we have basic needs of love, self-esteem, fun (or “re-creation”) and freedom. To be healthy, these four “legs” of our emotional chairs need to be balanced or held in creative tension, one to the others — or we become lopsided persons. The same goes with our personal relationships: husband-wife, parent-child, friend-friend... all these grow stronger as deeper bonds are created through the loving, kind interplay of differing styles and opinions.

Indeed, creative tension is important in our workplace, for our neighborhoods and communities, our country and our church. This kind of respectful tension can hold together differing views to create better human relationships, more productive teams and structures, and beneficial, more inclusive policies.

So too we experience creative tension in our faith life. We are taught from baptism that we are uniquely made and loved by God, that all the hairs on our heads are counted, that we are each more precious than a sparrow. We are to grow and develop, each according to our unique gifts and talents, to build up the kingdom of God on earth. At the same time, we want to be with others and be loved. We are to live in community with all humanity: rich, poor, good, bad, Christian, atheist, and everyone in between. Our baptism both sets us apart and calls us into relationship at the same time.

We created other kinds of spiritual tension as well: between where we are in our faith journeys — and where we should be... between who we are — and who we should become... between living in the world and setting ourselves apart from the world. Where’s the line between evangelization and proselytizing? Between tolerance and truth? How do we hold in equilibrium faith, hope and charity? These and many others are questions for practical living in our world.

As always, Jesus is our guide. He was in the world but set himself apart from his world, not so much by external appearance but by how he acted. He spent both time alone (praying) and time with crowds (preaching and healing). He invited into creative tension his disparate group of disciples, teaching them, loving them and challenging them to be more than they ever thought they could be. Throughout his life he prayed to know God’s will and to do it faithfully, even unto death. Out of the creative tension in the Garden of Gethsemane, “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me; yet not my will but yours be done” — Lk 22:42, came the greatest gift of all, our salvation. Jesus both loved God and loved his neighbor and, in the tension between these two ideals, showed us how to become new creations in Christ: “...to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.” — Eph 4: 1-5.

It is now up to each of us to appreciate and make the most of the creative tensions we discover in our lives and our world — just as Jesus did in his.

Reflection and closing prayer

(taken from “The Prophet” by Khalil Gibran)

Your soul is a battlefield upon which your reason and your judgment wage war against your passion and your appetite. For passion, ruling alone, is a force consuming; and passion, unattended, is a flame that burns to its own destruction. Therefore, let your soul exult your reason to the height of passion that it may sing; and let it direct your passion with reason, that your passion may live through its own daily resurrection and, like the phoenix, rise above its own ashes.

Amongst the hills, when you sit in the cool shade of the white poplars, sharing the peace and serenity of distant fields and meadows — then let your heart say in silence, “God rests in reason.” And when the storm comes, and the mighty wind shakes the forest, and the thunder and lightning proclaim the mastery of the sky — then let your heart say in awe, “God moves in passion.”

And since you are a breath in God’s sphere, and a leaf in God’s forest, you too should rest in reason and move in passion.

Evanalizing action challenge

Interior renewal

Reflect on where you find creative tension in your life, and give thanks for tension that encourages the best in our relationships and communities.

Reaching out to others

Tension can be destructive as well as creative. Reach out to bring about reconciliation, if possible, in these kinds of situations.

Transforming society

Become involved in healthy groups that utilize everyone’s gifts in bringing about God’s kingdom on earth.

Jubilee Pilgrim Cross

PROVIDED BY OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE AND SACRED HEART PARISHES

Representatives from Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish and Diocesan Shrine in Warsaw presented the traveling jubilee cross to parishioners of Sacred Heart Parish in early September.
Support for the culture of death declining

BY LISA EVERETT

The fifth anniversary of 9/11 was a painful reminder of the living hell that life becomes when innocent human lives are no longer considered inviolable. If an individual or group or whole society convinces itself that the end justifies the means, then that means inhuman human life is an option if it will advance a personal or professional or political agenda, then they have crossed the threshold into the culture of death.

Perhaps as a result of the agony of that ordeal, it has become easier for Americans to see that the evil of terrorism is essentially akin to the casual destruction of innocent human life that takes place daily in our nation in far less dramatic circumstances. Whether that destruction of innocent human beings occurs through surgical abortion, through embryonic stem-cell research, through the discarding of “spare” embryos during in vitro fertilization, or through pharmaceutical products like Plan B, the “logic” is always the same: innocent human lives may be sacrificed if their deaths serve some desired end short of fulfillment or scientific progress.

The good news is that more and more Americans seem to be rejecting this “logic.” Nowhere is this more obvious than in the declining support for abortion among young adults. "The Mysterious Disappearance of Young Pro-Choice Women." It lamented the dramatic decline in support for legal abortion among young women. In 2003, a CBS/New York Times poll found that only 35 percent of young women aged 18-29 thought that abortion should be available to anyone who wants it. In 1993, the same question got 50 percent support. The article went on to quote Alexander Sanger of Planned Parenthood. “I’ve seen the numbers and I find them unbelievably shocking. It’s not obvious that young women have to be at the forefront of fighting for their reproductive rights, because they’re the ones who need them.”

Even the staunchest abortion advocates seem to be picking up on the public’s discomfort with abortion and following suit in the way they market themselves. For example, Ramesh pointed out that the acronym NARAL used to stand for the “National Association for the Repeal of Abortion Laws.” Once abortion became legal, NARAL decided that its name stood for the “National Abortion Rights Action League.” In recent years, the organization simply goes by the name “NARAL Pro-Choice America,” in which the acronym NARAL no longer stands for anything at all. Ramesh commented on this telling trend by noting deftly: “Abortion has become the right that dare not speak its name.”

A notable and disturbing exception to this declining support for the culture of death is the erosion of opposition to embryonic stem-cell research. Several prominent members of Congress who have strong pro-life records nevertheless have become supporters of federally funding stem-cell research which involves the destruction of embryonic human beings.

In addition, according to a Newsweek poll conducted last summer, 48 percent of respondents favor federal funding for embryonic stem-cell research, while 40 percent oppose it. Of those who oppose it, almost half cite religious and moral concerns, while slightly more than half believe that such research is not a good use of government funds. We can only hope that if moral conviction does not turn the tide of this debate, the sheer lack of success will.

Ramesh pointed out that Arthur Kaplan, who is a strong proponent of embryonic stem-cell research, predicts that public opinion will probably turn against this research unless it produces significant results in the next few years. This scenario is not likely, since embryonic stem-cell research has not yet yielded a single successful treatment, while adult stem-cell research has yielded successful 72 treatments and counting.

This Respect Life Sunday, let us count ourselves blessed to belong to a church that stands so proudly and so firmly in defense of every innocent human being. Let us recommit ourselves to living this vision and lifting it up to our fellow Americans, that our nation will one day definitively cross the threshold into the culture of life.

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

Protecting children developing organs are not adults in dealing with pollution. This gives them more time to gress and, environmentally as asthma, learning disabled. It was once assumed that were protected from the the now that the placenta will not protect umbilical cord. Women dangerous chemicals and polluted mother encounters in the en. And, exposure to toxins is harm to our children.

The Annual Knights of Columbus RESPECT LIFE PROGRAM will be held on Sunday, January 14, 2007 at Santa Maria Council #553 at 533 East Washington, South Bend with the Right to Life March to St. Joseph’s Church.

Questions, call Bill Schmidt at (574) 232-6777
in their first environment, the womb

...as efficient as those of mutants. Many children are hazards at an early age, develop slowly — pro-
ting conditions such as might and certain cancers, or children in the womb outside environment. We
does not do much for children the disproportionate burdens of pollution.

Children living in poverty, disproportionately con-
sisting of black and Hispanic children, face multiple obstacles to their development, including rates of
lead poisoning and asthma-related hospitalizations and deaths higher than those of the general popula-
tion. Outdoor air pollution, unsafe and crowded hous-
ing, contaminated water and soil, and industrial waste are just a few of the environmental hazards that are
disproportionately concentrated in low-income, minority communities.

Some findings on mercury pollution

Addressing environmental health issues is chal-
 lenging. Often the science is not clear or conclusive. Such is the case with mercury, a known toxin that
can interfere with the nervous system and the develop-
ment of the human brain from early in pregnancy. According to a consumer advisory jointly issued by the
Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), women of
childbearing age, pregnant women, nursing mothers
and children under five are especially at risk from
unsafe levels of mercury. Researchers find that an infant’s rapidly develop-
ing brain and central nervous system are extremely
susceptible to damage because the placenta allows
the passage of methylmercury, the most toxic form of
mercury. Prenatal mercury exposure has been associ-
ated with toxic effects on the developing brain,
including adverse effects on fine motor skills, memo-
ry and learning ability.

Addressing mercury pollution

Power plants are the primary man-made source of
mercury. Over 1,100 coal-fired power plants, the
nation’s largest source of airborne mercury pollution,
send an estimated 48 tons of mercury into the atmos-
phere annually. Regulatory decisions concerning allowable levels
of emissions are made using a cost-benefit analysis.
Public health experts assert that the neurological
damage caused by mercury exposure in utero is irre-
versible. Should we not protect children from mercury toxicity,
and spread the cost of emissions
reduction throughout the public?

A growing challenge

While chemicals play a major role in improving the quality of
life for all Americans, many peer-
reviewed studies suggest that
some may pose serious long-term health risks, including cancer and childhood developmental dis-
abilities. The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) estimates that 25 percent of the developmental and
neurological deficits in children are due to the
interplay between chemicals and genetic factors, while 3 percent are caused by exposure to chemi-
cals alone.

The precautionary principle

We must protect God’s gift of creation to ensure our children’s “right to a healthy environment.” It
is not enough to demand policies and regulations
that address the unintended consequences of tech-
ological development.
The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) tracks mercury-related legisla-
tion as part of the Catholic Coalition for Children and a Safe Environment (CASE), working to
reduce emissions in order to protect the environ-
ment and human health, particularly in vulnerable populations.

Conclusion

As we highlight the Respect Life program and
celebrate the feast day of St. Francis, we should
reflect on our personal lifestyle, and also consider
how abuse of our environment threatens children’s
health and their ability to realize their full potential,
before as well as after birth.

Roxana Barillas is project administrator, Department of Social Development and World Peace, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

What can I do to help stop abortion?

Join others who are working to stop abortion.

In the Michiana area, St. Joseph County Right to Life has been
saving lives for more than 35 years by educating the community.
Our strength is in our numbers. Please join us.
Call today to find out how you can become a member.

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Celebrating 50 Years in Business
and a lifetime in the Catholic faith!

BY ANDREW RIVAS

L
 using a close family mem-
ber to murder is a tragedy of
unimaginable proportions. The
effects on the family, and on the
wider community, extend well
beyond the initial shock and tra-
matic. The common assumption in
this country is that families who
have suffered this kind of loss will
support the death penalty.

This assumption, of course, is
wrong. Many family members of
victims have argued forcefully
against the death penalty for their
loved one’s killer.

“We’ll see how four people
whose lives were touched by mur-
der unexpectedly became public
advocates against capital punish-
ment.”

Vicki Schieber

Vicki’s daughter Shannon was
23 years old in 1998, when she
was murdered by a serial rapist
in Philadelphia. In 2002 Troy Graves
pleaded guilty to assaulting, raping
and killing Shannon, and to 13
other sexual assaults.

The Schiebers raised their chil-
dren to oppose the killing of any-
one, including murderers, if
the killers could be imprisoned
for life without parole and so no longer
pose a danger to society.

No one should infer from her
opposition to the death penalty
that Vicki did not want Shannon’s
murderer caught, prosecuted and
put away for the rest of his life.

“We believe he is where he
belongs today, as he serves his
prison sentence, and we rest
assured that he will never again
perpetrate this sort of crime on any
other young women. But killing
this man would not bring our
daughter back. And it was very
clear to us that killing him would
have been partly dependent on our
complicity in having it done.”

Today Vicki serves on the
board of directors of Murder
Victims’ Families for Human
Rights (MVFFHR), a national non-
profit organization of people
who have lost a family member to
murder or to state execution.

David Kaczynski and Gary Wright

David Kaczynski is the brother
of Ted Kaczynski, “the
Unabomber,” a mentally-ill man
whose anti-technology bombings
over 17 years left three people
dead and 23 injured. When news-
papers printed the Unabomber’s
“manifesto,” David and his wife,
Linda, recognized similarities to
Ted’s ideas. David faced an almost
unimaginable dilemma — he
could turn in his brother knowing
that he might be executed, or he
could do nothing, knowing more
innocent people could be harmed.
David chose the path of life
and took steps to stop the violence.

Despite Ted’s history of mental
illness, federal prosecutors sought
the death penalty. It was only
through the work of highly-skilled
lawyers — an advantage often
unavailable to those facing capital
prosecutions — that Ted was
allowed to plead guilty and is now
serving a life sentence in a federal
penitentiary in Colorado.

Gary Wright was one of the
Unabomber’s victims. Gary, the
owner of a Salt Lake City comput-
er store, happened to pick up a
piece of wood behind his store in
1987. It turned out to be a bomb
placed there by Ted Kaczynski. It
was a miracle that Gary wasn’t
killed, but he had to endure three
years in and out of surgery, and a
slow, pain-filled process of
rebuilding his body and contem-
plating what had happened to him.

Five years later David became
the executive director of New
Yorker Againsts The Death Penalty,
a group headed by Albany Bishop
Howard Hubbard. Gary has joined
forces with David.

Gary, a practicing Catholic,
explains: “While he was being
executed, I was praying for the
people who were killing him. I thought, if that’s
the example Christ gave us while he was suffering on the cross, then
I had to think very seriously about
forgiveness in my own life.”

Kirk Bloodsworth

Kirk Bloodsworth, a retired
Marine from Maryland, was
wrongfully convicted of sexual
assault, rape and first-degree mur-
der, and was sentenced to death in
1985. The ruling was appealed a
year later, and evidence
was withheld at trial, and
Kirk received a new trial. He was
found guilty again, however,
and sentenced to two consecutive
life terms.

In June 1993, Kirk’s case
became the first capital conviction
in the United States to be over-
turned as a result of DNA testing.

By the time of his release, Kirk
had served almost nine years in
prison, including two on death
row, for a crime he did not com-
nit.

“In that time,” Kirk says, “my
life had been taken from me and
destroyed. The Catholic Church
provided me with essential support
in my time of need, and I convert-
ed to Catholicism in 1989, while I
was serving time behind bars. I am
a deeply spiritual person and con-
tinue to embrace the church. Its
values help to guide me as I travel
cross the country to tell my
story.”

Although Kirk was a retired
marine with no criminal record
who was nowhere near the scene
of the crime, he had nevertheless
been convicted and sentenced to
death for a crime he did not com-
nit. If it could happen to someone
like him, he reasoned, it could
happen to others. And it does.
Since 1973, more than 120 people
have been exonerated from death
row after being cleared of their
charges.

Today Kirk works for the
Justice Project’s Campaign for
Criminal Justice Reform and the
Criminal Justice Reform
Education Fund.

If these men and women can
overcome human hatred and bring
a Gospel of mercy and love to the
world, how can we sustain a right
demand the death of a killer to
“honor the victim” or to “win jus-
tice” for the victim’s family? We
cannot. To do so dishonors the
lives of all involved, making us
complicit in perpetuating violence
rather than ending it.

Andrew Rivas is executive director of the Texas Catholic Conference.
Human beings are not ‘things’ used at whim

October is Pro-Life month when we as Catholics focus on the great gift of life that God has given us and renew our awareness of the many threats to human life which our society supports and even encourages. We are all well aware of the clear threats to innocent human life such as abortion and euthanasia, which plague our society. However, there are even more hidden and insidious attacks on the dignity of human life, which have sprung up within the last decade — especially embryonic stem-cell research.

What makes embryonic stem-cell research so insidious is the façade of hope that it offers those who suffer with the most difficult of debilitating diseases — paralyzing spinal cord injuries, Muscular Dystrophy, Lou Gerig’s Disease, Alzheimer’s Disease and others. However, this façade covers the most ugly and evil of secrets — the intentional destruction of human beings. Human beings in embryonic form are intentionally destroyed in order to harvest their stem cells to be experimented upon. In addition to this, however, many cures or even the realistic hope of any cures have been derived from embryonic stem-cell research. Of course, we as Catholics could never support such barbaric and evil designs. However, some of us may be unknowingly doing just that when we give donations to groups that fund embryonic stem-cell research. Most certainly unknown to many, the following groups, among others, give money for embryonic stem-cell research: the Muscular Dystrophy Association, ALS (Lou Gerig’s Disease), and the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society.

In the combating of human disease, the church has always praised the work of scientists and physicians who are to be encouraged to use all ethical means necessary. Also, there is no question that the groups mentioned above and others have done enormous good in this area, but nothing justifies the intentional destruction of innocent human life even if in the name of searching for a cure for others. Human beings are not “things” to be used at whim.

Even if embryonic stem-cell research did offer any glimmer of hope for cures, would any one of us want to be cured from a disease if we knew that that cure came from the intentional destruction of another human being? If our answer is “yes,” then we are far from the Gospel. The spreading of the Gospel of Life demands that we as followers of Christ prophesy to the culture of death about the dignity of each and every human life. No cure, no matter how miraculous, should come by the destruction of human lives.

[Editors note: This story was written to coincide with Pro-Life month, an annual observance intended to raise awareness of the threats to human life, including embryonic stem-cell research.]
VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Two of Pope Benedict XVI's three foreign trips this year have generated interreligious incidents that quickly overshadowed the main message of the papal visits.

On both occasions, the pope was forced to explain himself and clarify misunderstandings after returning to Rome, in the hope that permanent relations — first with Jews, then with Muslims — would not be damaged.

After 17 months in office, Pope Benedict has discovered that the interreligious atmosphere of years of papal dialogue under Pope John Paul II are easily strained.

In fact, this reflects the reality of the contemporary world: Religious sensitivities are on edge, reactions are hair-trigger, and any perceived offense is amplified by the global media.

But it is also the result of the pope's long-standing penchant for speaking bluntly and provocatively on interreligious issues, to Catholics and to non-Christians.

"It is important that (interreligious) dialogue take place with much patience, much respect and, most of all, in total honesty," he said several years ago. For the pope, part of "total honesty" is the willingness to confront differences head-on.

In 2000, as head of the doctrinal congregation, the future pope underlined important limits on interreligious dialogue in the document "Dominus Jesus," which said other religions were in a "gravely deficient situation" in comparison with Christians.

Introducing the document to the press, then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger said that while the church teaches that good things can exist in other religions "one cannot close one's eyes to the errors and lack of truth which are also present" in those religions.

That prompted such sharp criticism from non-Christian leaders that Cardinal Ratzinger wrote an article in the Vatican newspaper, saying he was saddened and disappointed that people had misunderstood the true theme of the document. "Dominus Jesus," he said, was an invitation to Christians to strengthen their faith and not a critique of other religions.

Relations with Muslims have had their own ups and downs under Pope Benedict.

A week after his election, the pope told Muslim representatives that he would continue to build "bridges of friendship" with Islam and other faiths.

When the pope went to Cologne, Germany, four months later, he delivered a relatively tough speech asking Muslims, in effect, to keep better watch on Islamic extremist elements and make sure their young are educated in religious tolerance.

That text was revised at the last minute, however, with the insertion of a line acknowledging and thanking many Muslim leaders for publicly rejecting "any connection between your faith and terrorism." The revision ensured that an accurate reading was shared.

The church calls us all to real-life situations.

The pope went to the Muslim world, he says, not to bring up distant, outdated issues but to establish "bridges of friendship" with Muslims, a task made easier by the pope's own background as a theologian specializing in non-Christian religions.

The pope told Muslim representatives in Cologne that he was reassured in the four Gospels.

The story is told that when Cardinal Thomas Wolsey, archbishop of York in the days immediately prior to King Henry VIII's break with the church, and chancellor, or prime minister of England for many years, was dying, he said that if he had served God as diligently as he had served the king, he would not be afraid to die.

This worldly cardinal was hardly alone among humans in looking back upon life with regret. For that matter, Wolsey was hardly the only human approaching death to realize that he squandered time on earth by running after material rainbows. He finally saw that only the spiritual endures.

The church calls us all to realize that earthly achievements and gains one day will count for nothing. Only our nearness to God in this life will matter as we face our entries into the next life.

The readings also remind us that we are humans. We can be tempted. Temptations can be strong. We are limited. Our judgments are flawed. We need God.

The church remembers St. Martha on July 29.

The story is told that when Cardinal Thomas Wolsey, archbishop of York in the days immediately prior to King Henry VIII's break with the church, and chancellor, or prime minister of England for many years, was dying, he said that if he had served God as diligently as he had served the king, he would not be afraid to die.

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ANSWERS:

1. Martha was sister to this man:
   a. John
   b. The centurion
   c. Lazarus

2. Martha intercedes with Jesus to save her brother. Why?
   a. He had been arrested by the Romans.
   b. He had died.
   c. He had converted to Baalism.

3. How does Jesus answer her request?
   a. He says not to worry, the brother is better off.
   b. He brings the brother back to life.
   c. He saves the brother from a Roman prison.

4. According to John's Gospel how did Jesus relate to Martha and this brother?
   a. He knelted them and went around their town to avoid them.
   b. He was their nephew.
   c. He loved them, and visited them at least three times.

5. Where was Martha's house?
   a. Bethlehem
   b. Bethany
   c. Bethsaida

6. Who was Martha's sister?
   a. Mary
   b. Milagra
   c. Marla

7. What did Martha do when Jesus came to visit?
   a. She asked Jesus to talk to her sister.
   b. She hit her sister upside the head.
   c. She arranged for her sister to miss supper.

8. Why did Martha get upset with her sister?
   a. Her sister was not a believer.
   b. Her sister did not help her.
   c. Her sister betrayed Jesus.

9. What did Martha do to rectify this?
   a. She asked Jesus to talk to her sister.
   b. She hit her sister upside the head.
   c. She arranged for her sister to miss supper.

10. What happens then?
    a. Mary dies and Jesus has to bring her back to life.
    b. Mary ironically then gets admitted to the Last Supper instead.
    c. Jesus notes that Mary had chosen to love.

11. Based on the stories in the New Testament, what type of religious life is Martha often thought to represent?
    a. the active life
    b. the contemplative life
    c. the priestly life

12. What, in contrast, is her sister's choice seen as representing?
    a. the active life
    b. the contemplative life
    c. the priestly life

13. According to unsupported tradition, where did Martha move after the death and Resurrection of Jesus?
    a. Bethlehem
    b. Rome
    c. Jerusalem

14. With whom was Martha reported to have gone there?
    a. With Jesus and Mary Magdalene
    b. With Mary and Lazarus
    c. With John and Luke

15. Of which is Martha the patron saint?
    a. oil makers and hoteliers
    b. morticians and travel agents
    c. servants and cooks
Concerning the Sept. 3, That’s A Good Question, answer, “A person in a state of mortal sin would not receive holy Communion until they have repented and, generally speaking, have received the sacrament of reconciliation.” A mortal sin requires confession and holy Communion (so the sinner is not on a desert island without a priest). There is no generality involved, right? Anonymous

The phrase, “generally speaking,” was put into this answer because the church does envision some few circumstances in which Communion can be given before a person has received sacramental confession. Canon 990 gives us the direction on this: “A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to celebrate Mass or receive the body of the Lord without previously making provision for the sacrament of reconciliation.”

A few days after Pope Benedict XVI’s lecture on interreligious dialogue at Regensburg University, I was invited onto PBS’s “News Hour with Jim Lehrer” to discuss the ensuing controversy with Nihad Awad, executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR). During our exchange, Mr. Awad said that “the word ‘jihad’ does not mean holy war.” He suggested, had he been forced to become a Muslim, Equating “jihad” with “holy war,” he argued, was a “notion born within Christianity.”

Time constraints precluded my answering this directly, but on my return to my office in downtown Washington, I read an Associated Press story, which began with this suggestive lead: “Al-Qaida in Iraq has been misunderstood, must foster dialogue, Muqtada al-Sadr said.” It ended with Jim Lehrer’s statement that he and his aides were expecting. Twice the pope’s remarks. What Mr. Awad said is that critique can be found in some facts in the name of God can be pleasing to God — indeed can be commanded by God — if it advances the cause of Islam. Christians have developed, over the past centuries, a deep theological critique of past Christian attempts to advance Christianity coercively. The deepest target of that critique can be found in something Joseph Ratzinger wrote, in 1987: “God gives the Holy Spirit to people who are free.”

An interreligious dialogue, continued

THAT’S A GOOD QUESTION

comes to Mass with his or her parents with no opportunity to confess. If refraining from receiving Communion would betray to the parents the fact that the teenager committed a grave sin, this would be a grave reason to receive (if all the other conditions are met).

No one is obliged to betray the state of their soul to another outside of confession. Another example might be a priest who commits a mortal sin and who must celebrate Mass before he has the opportunity to confess. One could really think of innumerable examples of when this would apply, and so, “generally speaking,” that is, in mostly all cases, we are first obliged to confess; but there are a few legitimate cases that are exceptions.

By the way, the difference between a perfect act of contrition and an imperfect act of contrition is this: Perfect contrition is motivated by the love God and includes the resolution of confessing as soon as possible. Even though a person may be forced by God through an act of perfect contrition, there is still an obligation to go to confession because Christ wishes sins to be remitted through his church.

Choosing to do this would be another grave sin. Imperfect contrition is motivated by fear of punishment or deserving of reward. Imperfect contrition is sufficient for forgiveness of sins within sacramental confession.

Today’s Catholic welcomes questions from readers to pose to Father Richard Hire, Father Michael Heintz, Father Mark Gurtner and the Office of Worship. Please e-mail your questions to editor@tv.dioeceseweb.org or mail them to Today’s Catholic, That’s A Good Question, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46865. Include your name, city and an e-mail address or phone number so we can contact you if necessary. Anonymity will be preserved upon request.

Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, Fort Wayne, answered this week’s question. His e-mail is dwengerpriest@yahoo.com

The widespread Muslim indignation that followed clearly went beyond anything the pope or his aides were expecting. Twice the pope publicly expressed his regret that his words had offended Muslims, emphasizing that he did not share the assessment of Islam held today. The speech ignited the first real communications crisis of Pope Benedict’s pontificate. What alarmed some Vatican officials was that even the repair undertaken by papal diplomats did not seem to soothe tensions; that’s one reason the pope decided to speak personally with Muslim ambassadors. THE WIDE-OPEN PULPIT

letters

Continued from page 14

satory tone was not read into the pope’s remarks. Such a careful preview was apparently not made when the pope spoke at the University of Regensburg in Germany Sept. 12, quoting a medieval Byzantine emperor who said the prophet Mohammed had brought “things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith.”

George Weigel is a senior fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.
CARDEGLES FARE WELL IN CROSS COUNTRY MEETS

Coach Dan Kaufman reports that the Cardegle (St. Charles and St. Jude, Fort Wayne) cross country teams took first place at Huntington Catholic on Saturday, Sept. 16. For boys varsity, Andrew Eckrich led the pack with a team record time of 10:20. Phil Schroeder and Billy McManus followed. In the reserve meet, Chris Hamilton finished out front for the Cardegles. In the girls’ race, the varsity took the top three spots (Kate Kinley, Jenny Colone and Natalie Kicks) to top Canterbury. Karen Eckrich won the JV race. This past weekend at the Wabash Invitational, the boys finished eighth out of 24 teams. The girls were fifth out of 21 teams.

MISHAWAKA — In midseason, Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) soccer has been busy with games played at Marian High School’s fields. The following scores were posted on the ICCL soccer Web site:

Games played Sunday, Sept. 24:

**St. Matthew and Christ the King's goals were by**

- Matt Clark, with two, Greg Weaver, with two, and singles by
  - Alex Juarez, Juan Rangel, Skyler Abbott and Anthony Urbany

- St. Michael of Plymouth defeated Mishawaka Catholic 9-1.

- Scoring for St. Michael were
  - Zack Bridgman, with two, and singles by Mark Downs and David Bontrager.

- **The following scores were made by**
  - Henry, with three, Tyler Olkowski, with two, and singles by
  - Mark Downs and David Bontrager.

- **Mishawaka Catholic was Joey Hermann.**
  - **Christ the King defeated St. Jude 5-2.**
  - **Christ the King’s goals were scored by**
    - Tim Jeffers, Eric Blake, Thomas Adenson and Karl Paulitch. Scoring for Mishawaka Catholic was Joey Hermann.
  - **St. Jude defeated St. Matthew 6-1.**

- Scoring for St. Jude were
  - Tyler Sorocco, with two, and singles by
  - Connor Verteramo and Zack Bridge.

- **St. Joseph South Bend 8 defeated St. Anthony 7-1.**

- Scoring for St. Joseph South Bend 8 were
  - Gabe Vervynckt, with three, and singles by
  - Connor Verteramo and Kyle Wieschhaus.

- **Three, and singles by Connor Hermann.**

- **Mishawaka Catholic was Joey Hermann.**

- **Abbott and Anthony Urbany**

- **Weaver, with two, and singles by**

- **St. Jude defeated St. Anthony 7-1.**

- **Goals were scored by**

- **Michael Henry, with three, Tyler Olkowski, with two, and singles by**

- **Mark Downs and David Bontrager.**

- **ICCL soccer at the midway point of season**

- **Listen on the web!**

  www.redeemerradio.com

**A whole lot of football played** at Sts. JAT, St. Jude CYO game

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The opener last Sunday at the University of Saint Francis was the closest Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) football game of the day for week 5. Sts. JAT squeaked out a 20-19 win just in time for the game to kick off.

Niecey credited St. Jude with being a very good passing team. JAT took an impressive early lead, but St. Jude came alive with a passing attack that brought them within two. JAT’s defense line up came with some much needed quarterback sacks and a timely interception by Drew Morken late in the fourth quarter to seal St. Jude’s fate. For the game, JAT’s defense came from Dan Vanegriff, Dan Rodenbeck (2), and Matt Byrd on a nice pass.

**Matt Byrd on a nice pass**

Precious Blood, 38-0. Alex Strongeck had a big day through a 60-yard pass to Marquel Cooper, a 20-yard strike to James Knape, advancing a 30-yard TD pass from Knape and kicking 4 PATs. Knape also had a 20-yard touchdown run for the still undefeated Eagles.

The unstoppable Eagle defense has allowed their opponents just 22 points this season. In the final game of the day, St. Vincent downed Holy Cross 28-6. Russell Coonan had a 6-yard touchdown run, Greg German caught two passes for touchdowns and Evan Feichter scored on a 7-yard run (8 now for him). Conner Friesner was 2-4 kicking for the day. The Panther defense put out a great team effort and both Luke Tippman and Michael Karp had interceptions. St. Vincent improved their record to 4-1.

Records wins-losses

- St. John Fort Wayne 5-0
- St. John New Haven 4-1
- Sts. JAT 3-2
- St. Charles 2-3
- Holy Cross 1-4

Queen of Angels-Precious Blood

1-4

On the sixth-grade front, JAT (3-1) blanked PB/QA 28-0. Nick Dieser led the Knights with 2 long breakaway touchdowns, PB/QA put together a few impressive offensive drives, but it was not quite enough to punch one in. Sts. JAT’s Victory Union remain undefeated with a 3-0 record.

**Panthers maintain ICCL winning streak**

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — With Peter Gillis breaking loose on a 75-yard kickoff for a touchdown, the St. Anthony-St. Joseph’s football Panthers rolled to a 24-6 victory over Holy Family and maintained their first-place leadership in the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL).

It was the fourth straight victory for the undefeated Panthers who in recent years have been very competitive in the ICCL.

The Panthers added a touchdown on a 1-yard smash over center by Antonio Winn, and, late in the game, Matt Guntner snared a stray Holy Family pass for an interception and returned it 20 yards for a touchdown. Tyler Sorocco kicked all three extra points. Collin Skodinski scored on a 25-yard run for Holy Family.

**Holy Cross-Christ the King maintained its deadlock for sec- ond place by Mishawaka Catholic, 14-0, in a hard-fought defensive contest.**

Pat Knapke and Joey McCombs each tallied for the Crusaders on short plunges in the first and third quarters respectively, and A.J. Fitzpatrick added a two-point conversion.

**Fitzpatrick has been one of the ICCL’s most successful kickers in two-point conversions.**

The Crus . . .

- **The Corpus Christi Cougars romped over St. Matthew, 32-0, with Mario Navarrete leading the way with a pair of touchdowns on dashes of nine and 33 yards.**

Scott Coppa tossed a 35-yard scoring pass to Robbie Canul and later skyrocketed a 55-yard-scoring pass to Andy Klimek. Cody Weber booted all four conversions to set a single-game record.

In the B-team football division, Granger Catholic Civic and Ant}-{.-Anthony-St. Joseph skirrnished to a scoreless tie — the first of the season for the junior players. Mishawaka Catholic and Holy Cross-Cross the King fought to a 6-6 deadlock, and St. Matthew upended Corpus Christi 7-0.

**ICCL varsity standings**

Records wins-losses

- St. Anthony 4-0
- St. Joseph 3-1
- Holy Cross-Christ the King 3-1
- Corpus Christi 3-1
- Mishawaka Catholic 2-2
- St. Matthew 0-4
- Holy Family 0-4

**Listen on the web!**

www.redeemerradio.com

*CARDEGLES FARE WELL IN CROSS COUNTRY MEETS*
St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth volleyball Panthers 2-0

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In CYO volleyball action, the St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Panthers squeaked by St. Jude 24-25, 25-24, 25-15 in three thrillers at Hessen Cassel on Sept. 16. They also beat St. John New Haven 8 in two games 25-18 and 25-21 on Sept. 23. With 6 by the first weekend, the Panthers are now 2-0.

The eighth-grade team from St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth consists of 15 girls: 12 returning from last year and three new players. “We are off on a good start due to a lot of hard work and the summer open gym we had this past summer,” reports Coach Maryann Hyder, in her rookie season. “We brought in some high school college volleyball players to coach and work with the girls throughout the summer. Our girls really seemed to enjoy the conditioning and learning new drills along with learning the rotation format of the game.”

This year Stacy Callahan, teacher, was recruited by the players to coach and is a valuable asset to the team having played high school and club volleyball. Also coaching are parents Steve Gillie and Dan Quigley, in their second season.

Coach Hyder says the girls are a joy to coach and they work tremendously as a team and encourage each other on. “It’s amazing the growth and strength from last year to this year,” adds Hyder.

In the 2005 the Panthers finished around 500 and came in second place in the tournament losing to St. Joseph Decatur. This year Coach Hyder plans to “put a competitive team on the floor, show sportsmanship and teamwork at all times and be successful throughout the season and in the tournament.”

This year’s roster includes: Kailyn Baumgartner, Kasey Connolly, Alex Eagleson, Taylor Gillie, Kyle Harris, Cayley Hyder, Julia Lee, Danielle Maxson, Stefanie McClure, Anna McNemara, Kate Polchick, Colleen Quigley, Natalie Raugh, Brooke Slater and Holley Taylor.

Punt, Pass and Kick Competition draws young football enthusiasts

Benefits Catie B. Foundation for brain tumor research

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The Catie B. Foundation presented the NFL Pepsi Punt, Pass and Kick Competition held at Homestead High School in Fort Wayne on Sunday, Sept. 17. The Catie B. Foundation was started by NFL standout, Jason Baker, who was featured in the Aug. 13 issue of Today’s Catholic.

The event was provided completely free of charge to boys and girls ages 8-13 in the Fort Wayne area. Catie B. Foundation supplied two free buses to transport children from the Metro Football League and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Fort Wayne.

Baker, a punter for the Carolina Panthers, set up the Catie B. Foundation in honor of his sister, Catherine, who was diagnosed with a brain tumor in 1999. He plans to raise money through the foundation for various causes including brain tumor research. Over the years, Baker has supported the Boys and Girls Clubs of Fort Wayne and will continue to do so through the foundation.

Baker and his family are lifelong members of St. Therese Parish.

There were 130 contestants at this year’s event. Each participant was allowed one punt, one pass, and one place-kick as part of the competition. A participant’s final score was calculated for the three individual events. The winners in each division were:

- Boys 8-9 — David Bondarenko
- Boys 10-11 — Djon Walker
- Boys 12-13 — Kyle Miles
- Boys 14-15 — Cody Gerg
- Girls 8-9 — Camieka Leggett
- Girls 10-11 — Sara Tuttle
- Girls 12-13 — Shirel Richardson

This event was the first of many to be sponsored by the Catie B. Foundation in the community. Other events are currently being planned, including a very special event for 2007 that will again involve the NFL and be offered completely free of charge.

The Catie B. Foundation is currently beginning efforts to formulate a board of directors, hire an executive director and pursue donations daily to help support the mission of the Catie B. Foundation. For more information, please contact Sofia Rodriguez at sofia@visionsmkt.com or (260) 466-3600.

Bishop Luers cheerleaders got to the business of helping out the community on Sept. 9-10. On Saturday the Luers cheerleaders participated in the Easter Seals Walk With Me fundraiser to benefit the local ARC of Allen County and the Easter Seals Foundation, which benefits the disabled in our area. On Sunday the Luers cheerleaders worked at the 12th annual Leigh Ann Marie Palmer Memorial Golf Outing. This fundraiser benefits several children’s programs through out Fort Wayne including Erin’s House for grieving children and the Avalon Pool, along with several other organizations. This is all in keeping with their daughter Leigh Ann’s memory alive. Leigh Ann loved Bishop Luers cheerleading. One of the last pictures taken of her was in her little Luers cheerleading uniform.

Director of Pastoral Care

Catherine Kasper Life Center, Inc., in Donaldson, Indiana seeks a full-time Director of Pastoral Care to provide pastoral, spiritual and sacramental support to residents of our long-term care facility. This position is also responsible for providing residents, their families and staff with guidance to assist them through periods of transition, grief, loss and anxiety. Bachelor’s degree or greater in theology, religious studies, education or counseling required and a Clinical Pastoral Certification with experience in a healthcare setting preferred. To apply, please send or fax resume and cover letter to:

PHJC Ministry Center Attn: Human Resources
P.O. Box 1 Donaldson, Indiana 46513
Phone: 574-936-9936 Fax: 574935-1735
email: HR@poorhandmaids.org
EOE

Catsie B. Foundation

The Catie B. Foundation is the mission of the Catie B. Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization, to support children and families through the foundation for various causes including brain tumor research. The foundation was started by NFL standout, Jason Baker, and is a valued asset to the team having played high school and club volleyball.

This year Stacy Callahan, teacher, was recruited by the players to coach and is a valuable asset to the team having played high school and club volleyball. Also coaching are parents Steve Gillie and Dan Quigley, in their second season. Coach Hyder says the girls are a joy to coach and they work tremendously as a team and encourage each other on. “It’s amazing the growth and strength from last year to this year,” adds Hyder.

In the 2005 the Panthers finished around 500 and came in second place in the tournament losing to St. Joseph Decatur. This year Coach Hyder plans to “put a competitive team on the floor, show sportsmanship and teamwork at all times and be successful throughout the season and in the tournament.”

This year’s roster includes: Kailyn Baumgartner, Kasey Connolly, Alex Eagleson, Taylor Gillie, Kyle Harris, Cayley Hyder, Julia Lee, Danielle Maxson, Stefanie McClure, Anna McNemara, Kate Polchick, Colleen Quigley, Natalie Raugh, Brooke Slater and Holley Taylor.

Punt, Pass and Kick Competition draws young football enthusiasts

Benefits Catie B. Foundation for brain tumor research

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

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EOE
Refresh for the soul


By Mike Hayes

At last, retreats, when retreat properties are abound with colorful foliage, often are fodder for fine spiritual reflection. For those of us who are too caught up in the affairs of the world and unable to take that precious “Sabbath time” for retreat, three authors have provided a panacea. Each, in fact, covers different areas of Catholic life.

Mark Hart takes up the cause for young Catholics in their 20’s with "Blessed Are the Bored in Spirit: A Young Catholic’s Search for Meaning." Those in their college and post-college years will find Hart a meaningful and inspiring writer, who has struggled with his own spiritual demons and provides the reader with some helpful hints in overcoming their own.

For more committed Catholics, Benedictine Broen Benet Tvedten (who boasts of hosting Dorothy Day at his monastery), takes his readers on a trip through Benedict’s rule and its benefits for healthy and prayerful living in “How to Be a Monastic and Not Leave Your Day Job: An Invitation to Oblate Life.” Providing both personal examples from his own life as well as testimony from others, Brother Benet teaches the way to integrate the Benedictine life into everyday living.

Simple and yet profound, Brother Benet’s book encourages simplicity but also prods toward commitment. The book, in short, is an invitation for lay people to become oblates — lay monks, if you will, or people who have professed to follow St. Benedict’s way without becoming professional clerics. His testimony to the value of the laity in this regard is respectful both of the lay call and the call to priesthood and religious life. In short, Brother Benet has woven a fabulous tale of invitation to a life of deeper contemplation and a life of great spiritual integration.

Finally, “The Spiritual Spa: Getting Away Without Going Away” is Mary Sherry’s attempt to construct a metaphorical retreat house, or spa, within the pages of her book. Although the author may not have intended it, this book seems aimed at retirees looking for rejuvenation in their second half of life. Sherry herself has lived a rich life in which experience has taught her much and prayer has been at the heart of it.

An excellent chapter on “taking” is by far the deepest thought she offers and will stay with this reviewer for some time. Two small quibbles: The author often tries too hard to relate (and often hysterically funny) and convey sound teaching and wisdom about sexuality, a tacit approval that any sexual actions have consequences. Several racy sexual encounters, a tacit approval of promiscuous lifestyles, much rough and crude language, scattered profanity and brief drug content.

The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

MOVIE CAPSULES

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

“All the King’s Men” (Columbia)

Uneven remake of Robert Penn Warren’s 1946 Pulitzer-Prize winner set in the 1930s, about a rabble-rousing everyman (Sean Penn) who rises from obscurity, railing against political corruption, and is elected governor of Louisiana, only to be polluted by power once he’s in office; and the idealistic journalist (Jude Law) who falls under his spell. Written and directed by Steven Zaillian, the handsomely crafted morality tale — loosely based on the life of Depression-era Louisiana Gov. Huey P. Long — explores the means and ends of power, but Penn’s passionate and committed performance is undermined by an opaque script. A violent shooting, implied adultery, a suicide, a bedroom encounter with shadowy side nudity, some mildly crude language, profanity and racial slurs. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13.

“Thboys” (MGM)

Tracing the history of World War I action drama about a disparate group of young Americans (James Franco, Abdul Salis, Philip Winchester and Tyler Labine) who, before the United States’ entry in the war, volunteer for various reasons with a French air squadron — the Lafayette Escadrille — during the pioneer days of aviation combat and whose idealism is chilled by their experiences. Directed by Zellweger, the film’s young cast is a scene in a brothel, a suicide, some sexual innuendo, profanity and racial slurs. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13.

“The Last Kiss” (Paramount)

Uneven drama set in Wisconsin about four friends, each at emotional crossroads as they near 30, focusing mostly on an architect (Zach Braff) with commitment issues whose fling with a college student (Rachel Bilson) jeopardizes his relationship with his fiancée (Jordana Brewster), her parents’ (Blythe Danner and Tom Wilkinson) idealism is chilled by their experiences, and a woman (Zooey Deschanel) who gets laughingly spoon-fed toозооу. In holding up a mirror to postmodern love and its accompanying anxieties, director Gordon Goldwyn provides some modest observations about flawed humanity — especially the way we learn from our mistakes and how actions have consequences. Several racy sexual encounters, a tacit approval of promiscuous lifestyles, much rough and crude language, scattered profanity and brief drug content. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is L — limited adult audience, films whose problematic content may be unsuitable for pre-teens. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.
WHAT’S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today’s Catholic, PO. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46865; or e-mail: ftnogan@fsw.dioceseoffw.org. Events that require an admission charge or payment to participate will receive one free listing. For additional listings of that event, please call our advertising sales staff to purchase space.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Breakfast brunch on tap
Fort Wayne — St. Peter Church will have a breakfast brunch Sunday, Oct. 1, from 8 to 11 a.m. in the new pavilion at the corner of DeWald and Warsaw streets. Egg casserole, pancakes, sausage, fresh fruit, coffee, milk and juice will be served. Tickets are $5 for adults, ages 12 to 16 are $3 and under 12 are free.

Fall events at St. Therese
Fort Wayne — Sunday Sunday will commemorate St. Therese’s feast day and the 60th anniversary of the parish on Sunday, Oct. 1, from 2-4 p.m. Ice cream, cake and drinks will be served and the Amazing Grace Scavenger Hunt will take place. On the second of each month the parish will gather at 7 p.m. in the chapel to pray the rosary for those who have drifted from God. On Tuesday, Oct. 3, at 2:45 p.m. a blessing of animals to commemorate the feast day of St. Francis will take place. On Wednesday, Oct. 4, at 7 p.m. “Exploring Catholicism” begins. Every month Ed Strubel and Jennifer Engquist will host an evening of faith, fun and learning. The first topic will be “Women and the Priesthood.” On Friday, Oct. 6, at 5:45 p.m. Mass at 4 p.m. will be followed by a silent auction and music by “Main Street Jazz” at 5 p.m. and “Endgame” from 7-10 p.m. On Sunday, Mass at 11 a.m. will be followed by pulled pork dinner, food tents, beer/wine available, children’s games, bingo and music by L and L Karaoke from noon to 4 p.m. and “Poppie” at 4 p.m.

TODAY’S CATHOLIC Rosebud Church will host a tailgate party Friday, Oct. 6, outside of the Luers cafeterias from 5:30 to 7 p.m. All Bishop Luers alumni and their families are invited. Cost is $3 per person or $12 per family. Food and beverages will be available before the homecoming game against Elmhurst. Bring a lawn chair and a memory to share. The Bishop Luers class of 1981 will hold a reunion Saturday, Oct. 7, at Catahu Restaurant. Contact Jenny Andorfer at (260) 436-1493 for reservations. A chili and bratwurst dinner will be held Friday, Oct. 13, from 5 to 9 p.m. for Luers football fans as part of the Bishop Luers football game.

WHAT’S HAPPENING continues...
Birthright offers real help for women facing unplanned pregnancies

BY MONTE MACE

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (CNS) — Rachel was a graduate student when she found out she was pregnant. She was single, alone and unsure what to do, but today she feels her future is bright and that she owes it all to Birthright.

Birthright International helps any girl or woman regardless of age, race, creed, marital or economic status who feels distressed by an unplanned pregnancy. “I can definitely say (that) without Birthright,” Rachel said, “I wouldn’t have had my baby.”

Eight years earlier, Rachel was at a university far from home and needed only one more year to complete her master’s degree in business administration.

Then she met a young man and started dating.

“He was so sweet,” Rachel recalled, “in the beginning.”

But then Jim became “kind of crazy;” she told The Leaven, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Kansas City.

Between her master’s work and her job as a graduate assistant at the university, Rachel was meeting herself coming and going. But Jim constantly accused of her of cheating on him.

Although they were living in different cities, he showed up on campus one time, leaping out from the trash cans he had been hiding behind, to confront her about her supposed infidelities.

Things got worse. Jim grew verbally abusive and then began stalking her; Rachel feared that physical abuse was soon to follow. She started feeling sick to her stomach all the time, and was tense and fearful, even when Jim was supposedly out of town and she was at work or school.

Finally, she went to court to get a restraining order against him.

The restraining order was quickly granted, but she was stunned to learn shortly afterward that she was pregnant.

Her father urged her to come back home where they could take care of both her and the baby — and protect them from Jim. But she was close to finally getting the degree she had worked hard for and didn’t want to quit school.

Finally, she was seriously considering an abortion — even though she was a Catholic and it went against everything she had been raised to believe. What kind of home, she asked herself, would she be able to provide a child?

Eventually, Rachel decided to have an ultrasound and scraped together the $300 it cost for the test at a local hospital. She wanted to know how long she had been pregnant, but she also wondered why she was so sick to her stomach all the time.

She learned her overall health was fine and that she was two-and-a-half months pregnant. But then she “saw a little something,” she said, “I couldn’t see her well, but it was enough to change my mind. I really fell in love (with my unborn child) after the ultrasound.”

After she left the hospital that day, she immediately began looking for alternatives to abortion.

A couple of friends told her about Birthright.

“I thought everything was going wrong,” Rachel said. “But when I found Birthright, it gave me positive expectations for the future. They were very supportive and caring about my situation.”

“One of my concerns,” she continued, “was how I was going to support the baby when I couldn’t even support myself. But later (Birthright) even gave me financial help.”

Birthright arranged for Rachel to live with a foster couple rent-free for the remainder of her pregnancy. She delivered safely and named her new baby girl Sarah, which means “princess.”

Birthright continued to provide Rachel with assistance and to coordinate aid from other agencies and generous individuals.

Rachel graduated with her master’s in business administration this past May, and she feels her future is as bright as her baby’s name.

“I can definitely say (that) without Birthright, it gave me positive expectations for the future. They were very supportive and caring about my situation.”

Birthright offered real help for women facing unplanned pregnancies.

NEW EVE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

brought Redeemer Radio into the cause.

“It’s the perfect convergence of a community group and the interests of the University of Saint Francis,” Aquila told Today’s Catholic.

“It’s very divine how all this came together,” Grubbs agreed, explaining that Aquila and Everett both had thought of doing similar programming, but had not yet brought their ideas to fruition.

“It’s like the Holy Spirit intervening to bring all of us together,” Grubbs explained that the group wants to present topics that emphasize femininity and respect for self in a way that will appeal to young women. The result, she hopes, will help change the culture.

“Kids are hungrying for the truth, and they’re ready to hear it,” she said.

The Oct. 4 opening program coincides with the feast of St. Francis and the university’s week-long festivities celebrating the opening of the school’s Pope John Paul II Center classroom building. Thus, the New Eve Project’s theme of John Paul’s teachings on the dignity and vocation of women fits perfectly, Aquila said.

Girls and women attending the programs will be asked to fill out a survey card to help the New Eve Project planners determine what future programming would be attractive and helpful to girls and young women. New Eve Project planners also hope they can get some college-age women to contribute their ideas and talents to the initiative.

To date, two more lectures have been scheduled in Fort Worth, and at 7 p.m. in room 156 of the Doerner Center: On Nov. 9, Amy McInerny, an attorney and founder of the Women’s Injury Network (for women injured by abortion), will speak on “Abortion and Women: Rhetoric vs. Reality.” On Dec. 7, Lisa Marino, RCA director at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend, will speak on “Sex in the City of God.”

These two lectures also will take place in South Bend, according to Everett, who told Today’s Catholic that she hopes to make much of the programming available in South Bend when possible. McInerny will speak on Oct. 25, and Marino on Nov. 16, both at 7 p.m. in room 102 of DeBartolo Hall on the Notre Dame campus. The South Bend events are sponsored by the diocesan Office of Family Life and by Notre Dame’s Center for Ethics and Culture.

Contemplating with Mary the Face of Christ

“Contemplate with Mary the Face of Christ”

“Contemplate with Mary the Face of Christ”

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“Contemplate with Mary the Face of Christ”

“The rosary is a Christological prayer. The litany-like succession of Hail Marys becomes in itself an unceasing praise of Christ, who is the ultimate object both of the angel’s announcement and the greeting of Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist; Blessed is the fruit of your womb.”

— Apostolic Letter of Pope John Paul II on The Most Holy Rosary

To honor Mary and her son during this month dedicated to the rosary, the Cathedral Bookstore offers a 20% discount on all rosaries, rosary booklets and CD’s during the month of October. Many prayer cards and books on the rosary available.

Take the time during this month of October to pray with your families this richest of Catholic tradition and prayer.

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