Indiana’s first saint to be canonized Sunday in Rome

Mother Theodore had impact on Catholic school history in Fort Wayne

By Tim Johnson

FORT WAYNE — When Mother Theodore Guérin is canonized on Sunday, Oct. 15, in Rome, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will be celebrating a part of its educational history.

Mother Theodore is considered the foundress of the first Catholic school in Fort Wayne. St. Augustine, in 1846, with St. Augustine pastor, Father Julian Benoit. St. Augustine Church would become the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. St. Augustine Academy was located on the corner of Calhoun and Jefferson streets. Today, the site is the diocesan chancery.

“Fort Wayne, there is a vast amount of good to be done here,” are the words written by Mother Theodore, in the chapter from the “History of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods,” a book published in 1949 and written by Sister Mary Borromeo Brown.

Having been in correspondence with Father Benoit, Mother Theodore affirmed plans in 1846 that the Sisters of Providence would make Fort Wayne a mission. Father Benoit had already built a brick structure that would function as their school and convent.

While some of the sisters’ mission establishments across the states of Indiana and Illinois were meager — almost impoverished — Father Benoit furnished the house, provided the necessary cooking utensils, land and a school waiting to open.

The foundresses of St. Augustine included Sister Mary Magdalen, Sister Catherine and Sister Caroline. They left Saint Mary-of-the-Woods on Aug. 24.

Mother Theodore and Sister Basilide accompanied the missionaries across the states of Indiana and Illinois were meager — almost impoverished — Father Benoit furnished the house, provided the necessary cooking utensils, land and a school waiting to open.

In her remarks, President Carol Ann Mooney said that it was a “time of looking forward to and hope for the future.” Even so, she reminded those gathered that it was important not to forget Saint Mary’s heritage, in particular, the four Sisters of the Holy Cross who started the college and past presidents like Mother Pauline and Sister Madeleva. She said that they valued high quality education and would “approve of what we are doing here today.”

Jill Vithelac, acting vice president and dean of faculty, described the new facility and called it a building for the 21st century. It will have all the newest technology and enable interaction between faculty and students outside the classroom. Bishop D’Arcy, with his Irish wit, said “As someone technologically challenged, I don’t think I could hack it in this building!”

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Bishop participates in collegiate events across the diocese

Who was this man?

Maybe 50 years from now from on the campus of the University of Saint Francis, some young freshmen will ask, as they see the writings of Pope John Paul II across the walls of the beautiful new Pope John Paul II Center. The building was to be dedicated this center made possible by the generosity of many, including the Sisters of Saint Francis of Perpetual Adoration of Mishawaka. A group of 50 people from all over the world, including the bishop, came to pray and to be involved in the dedication of this new building.

Sister Elise Kriss, OSF, and the student council administration have accomplished these last 10 or 15 years at the University of Saint Francis. How wonderful that this new center of learning was dedicated to Pope John Paul II, who was himself a longtime university professor, and took great joy in this. I cited his words found in “Fides et Ratio,” a brilliant encyclical he wrote on the unity between faith and reason.

At Manchester College with our young people

I was on a beautiful Saturday to be at Manchester College with 1,000 junior high students. Recent church documents on pedagogy and catechesis emphasize the importance of this particular age. It is true. Many things in modern culture have brought to the minds and hearts of our young people and elements both positive and negative. While growing in the ability on matters technologically they are also bombarded with matters opposed to human dignity as young men and women.

So, for the last five or six years, we have had half a day for those in our junior high who are preparing for confirmation. As always, my heart and mind turned to our priests. Twenty-three priests came from across the diocese. I bless the Lee and Jim Vann Library, which is centered there. To many, Saint Francis is known for their routine success coming across the continent, it is an outstanding academic institution with a widely-known art department, and I blessed the Stations of the Cross in that new building, done by Art Cislo, a professor of art at the university.

One has to be grateful for what Sister Eliette Kriss, OSF, and the student council administration. By the time you read this, I will be winging over the ocean to Off to Rome. The area of American business.

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NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D’ARCY

by the time you read this, i will be winging over the ocean with some priests and others from our diocese to be present at the canonization of Mother Theodore Guerin.

three days with our priests

Some years ago, in consultation with our presbytery council, we considered strengthening the element of continuing education for our priests. Last year, I attended a meeting of the theology department of the University of Notre Dame, Professor John Cavadini, Gary Anderson, and David Fagerberg of the Notre Dame faculty of theology. Our diocese has always been blessed by great institutions of higher learning. It was a privilege to be at three events in the same week.

After three wonderful days with our priests in a continuing education seminar, I stopped at Saint Mary’s College in South Bend for the dedication of their new academic center. Here, one has to think of the Sisters of Saint Francis and the Holy Cross who came here 160 years ago. Although they came as domestics, they quickly turned to education and brought their wisdom to the floods of immigrants coming to this country. It remains an extraordinary institution of higher learning. It was a joy to say a prayer of blessing for this new building.

In the evening, I was at the University of Notre Dame with a group of bishops, constituting a special ad hoc committee working with theologians on a pastoral initiative on marriage. Their effort is to deepen and enrich the knowledge of our people on the mystery of Christian marriage, and to do this with full awareness of those things in the culture which are opposed to the values of marriage; such as, fidelity, chastity and marriage as a union of life and love. Excellent presentations were given by Professors John Cavadini, Gary Anderson, and David Fagerberg of the Notre Dame faculty of theology.

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Mother Theodore Guérin’s life, sainthood seen as summons to holiness

BY NANCY MARTINAGEL

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The vice postulator for the sainthood cause of Mother Theodore Guérin, foundress of the Sisters of Providence, had her idea for a biography of the 19th-century French saint come to her during a fall 2004 visit to Louisiana.

In the middle of a weeklong retreat in a New Orleans hotel, Sister Marie Kevin, the postulator, said she had a dream of the saint in which she was standing at the door to one of the Sisters of Providence buildings.

“I think I heard her say, ‘You have the job of telling the story of the life of Mother Theodore,’” Sister Marie Kevin said.

When she woke up from the dream, she said, “I was so inspired that I felt that I had to write this story.”

The result was the 2006 book “Mother Theodore: Called to Holiness,” which was based on extensive research and is considered the most complete account of Mother Theodore’s life.

Sister Marie Kevin said the book was inspired by a “summons to holiness” that Mother Theodore experienced early in life. It gained momentum as the saint’s cause advanced, and in 2015 the Vatican accepted the miracle attributed to her — the healing of a 20-year-old woman with smallpox.


In this excerpt from the book, the author describes some of the key moments in Mother Theodore’s life that led to her sainthood.

There were two events, early in her life, that are primary to that theme in the Second Vatican Council’s Dogmatic Constitution on the Church.

The first was her early marriage, and the second was her decision to enter religious life.

As Anne-Therese Guérin, Mother Theodore was born in the small town of Angers, France, on Oct. 2, 1798.

Anne-Therese was the third of 11 children. Her father, a captain in Napoleon’s navy, was killed by bandits in 1813 while returning home from duty.

Her mother, who taught the young Anne-Therese at home, never quite got over the loss of her husband and became an invalid.

At age 20 Anne-Therese wanted to enter religious life, but her mother refused permission. Five years later, with the support of her religious superior, she directed a school in Rennes.

But at that time comprised all an industrial town, then was still a village.

Sister St. Theodore, she made her profession, and became a postulant, and the treatment she received for it was believed to have damaged her digestive system.

Despite much hardship, the six sisters opened their first school in a barn and continued their mission. They eventually received for it was believed to have damaged her digestive system.

But, after a period of prayer and discernment, she sailed from France with two other sisters and three novices July 27, 1840. They landed in New York Sept. 7, and arrived Oct. 22 at the forest clearing already named Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

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Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

The Second Vatican Council has a chapter on the universal call to holiness.

The sisters highlighted this call to holiness by living their vows.

Bninient among them was Mother Theodore Guérin. In all her life here, this woman suffered greatly and knew suffering in her physical health and in being misinterpreted and misunderstood, often by those in authority.

Saints are given to us so that we may learn from them. While we translate it into our own personality and our own life, we must listen to what they said. Here are the words of Mother Theodore Guérin as she lived in New York with her sisters after a terrible trip of 40 days across the great ocean.

Mother Theodore’s remains had been in a tomb under the floor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception at the motherhouse in St. Mary-of-the-Woods. On her feast day Oct. 3, her remains were transferred to a coffin built by staff carpenters for placement adjacent to the church’s altar. With Mother Theodore’s intercession, the congregation felt the new resting place would allow for better visita-

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Sister Marie Kevin said she also hoped “that other young women would be touched by the story of the life of Mother Theodore and respond to God’s call as women religious in our congregation.”

The mission of the Sisters of Providence today is “to promote God’s providence by works of love, mercy and justice,” she said.

From that first academy, their teaching ministry spread across Indiana, and extended to Illinois, Massachusetts, California, Florida, Texas and Oklahoma.

They were the first U.S. women’s congregation to establish a mission in China, and currently they serve in Taiwan, China and the Philippines.

About 125 members of the community were to travel to Rome for the canonization; the congregation also will celebrate Mother Theodore’s sainthood Oct. 21 at St. Mary-of-the-Woods.

Details are provided on the sisters’ Web site, www.spsmw.org.

“On Monday, we will have the opportunity of going to confession and on Tuesday, the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin, receiving the Eucharist,” said Supreme Knight Carl A. Anderson, who will be declared a saint.

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The group we are bringing is small — priests who have served in parishes where the Sisters of Providence served, and a few laity. We promise to pray for this diocese in Rome and offer Mass for all of you at St. Peter’s. I promise to pray for more vocations to the consecrated life and the priesthood.

Roma — Bishop Rafael Guizar Valencia (1878-1938), who will be canonized in Rome on Oct. 15 by Pope Benedict XVI, will become the seventh Knight of Columbus to be declared a saint.

While in Cuba, he was consecrated Bishop of Veracruz, Mexico. The end of the revolution enabled him to return to Mexico in January 1920, and he joined Knights of Columbus Council 2311 in Jalapa, Veracruz on Aug. 16, 1923.

Bishop Guizar Valencia was formed in the Mexican Church, especially because of the powerful lobbying by the Knights of Columbus.

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Pope adds explanatory note to remarks on Islam

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has added an explanatory note to his controversial remarks on Islam, saying the text provoked misinterpretation and “understandable indignation” among Muslims.

The explanation appeared Oct. 9 in a footnote in the Vatican’s online version of the speech on faith and reason given by the pope in Regensburg, Germany, in mid-September.

In his speech, the pope spoke briefly about religion and violence, quoting the 14th-century Byzantine Emperor Manuel II Paleologus, who said: “Show me just what Mohammed brought that was new, and there you will find the evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he taught.”

In the new footnote, the pope re-emphasized a point he has made several times since delivering the speech — that he did not share the emperor’s views on Islam.

“In the Muslim world, this quotation has unfortunately been taken as an expression of my personal position, thus raising understandable indignation,” the note said.

“I hope that the reader of my text can see immediately that this sentence does not express my personal view of the Quran, for which I have the respect due to the holy book of a great religion,” the pope said.

“In quoting the text of the Emperor Manuel II, I intended solely to draw out the essential relationship between faith and reason. On this point I am in agreement with Koplev, who published a translation of it in 1992, but without endorsing his polemic,” he said.

Part of the text of the papal speech has been retranslated in English and other languages.

Originally the text opened the quotation by noting that Emperor Manuel spoke “somewhat brusquely” about Islam. That was changed to “with a startling brusqueness, a brusqueness that we find unacceptable.”

The pope has several times expressed regret that his words had caused Muslims to take offense, and he conveyed Muslim representatives and diplomats to offer a personal explanation.

While many Muslim leaders have said they consider the issue closed, other groups have insisted that the pope offer a full apology. Vatican officials have pointed out that in his original speech the pope had been arguing in favor of religious values in modern cultures — a position which they say should be welcomed by Muslims.

Mother Theodore artifacts on display at museum

INDIANAPOLIS — Organized religion played a significant role in shaping the Hoosier character during the pioneer period.

In honor of Mother Theodore Guérin’s canonization on Oct. 15, the Indiana State Museum will include artifacts on loan from the Sisters of Providence archives in the museum’s second floor core gallery, The Hoosier Way. The items on display include a rosary of St. Anne, sometimes referred to as St. Anne’s chaplet; shoes worn by Mother Theodore Hoosier Way; a hand-painted times referred to as St. Anne’s rosary of St. Anne, some- shoes worn by Mother Theodore artifacts on display at museum

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — To hope that babies who die without being baptized will go to heaven makes more sense than the idea that they go to limbo, says a group of papally appointed theologians.

“What we are trying to do is to say, ‘What does the church say when confronted with the situation of an infant who has died without being baptized?’ That and that alone is what prompted our document.

“The answer is not a simplis- tic, ‘Oh, don’t worry; everything is fine,’” but rather that God’s endless mercy, his love poured out in Jesus Christ and his desire to save all persons gives a solid basis for hoping those children will be saved despite not having been baptized.

The commission began formal studies of the question in 2004 when Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict, was president of the advisory body and prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Pope Benedict celebrated Mass Oct. 6 with the commission members; in his homily, he spoke about the role of theologians as listeners to the word of God in order to help other’s hear the good news.

Father McPartlan said the commission began considering the question because priests and bishops around the world had asked Cardinal Ratzinger for “an updated Catholic statement in response to the distressing human situation” of the loss of a baby before baptism.

The commission also hoped to be able to respond to questions raised by those mourning the lives of babies lost through abortion. Because the Catholic Church teaches that human life begins at conception, the question applies to those babies as well, Father McPartlan said.

He also said the theologians felt called to articulate a Catholic expression of hope in a world where hope is often lacking and lives are often laid to waste by war and violence.

Realizing some people could misinterpret the statement as saying that baptism is unnecessary for infants because they are incapable of sinning, the document re-affirms church teaching about the necessity of original sin.

The church believes that with the exception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Jesus, every human being is born marked with the stain of original sin, which distances them from God.

As the Catechism of the Catholic Church explained: “Born with a fallen human nature and tainted by original sin, children also have need of the new birth in baptism to be freed from the power of darkness and brought into the realm of the freedom of the children of God, to which all men are called.”

But the catechism, published in 1992, did not mention limbo.

In fact, regarding the fate of children who die without the grace of baptism, it said, the church entrusts them to the mercy of God.

Presenting the commission’s work to Pope Benedict last year, Cardinal William J. Levada, prefect of the doctrinal congregation and president of the commission, said the statement was important because “the number of babies not having been baptized has increased considerably,” and the church knows that salvation “is only reachable in Christ through the Holy Spirit.”

He also told the pope last year that he hoped the statement would be a conscious consideration by parents.

Father McPartlan said there were “no hiccups” in the drafting process, but the commission’s work takes time.

In the 1985 book-length interview, “The Ratzinger Report,” and in the 2000 book, “God and the World,” the future Pope Benedict said focusing on hope made more sense theologically than upholding the idea of limbo, where unbaptized babies would enjoy “natural happiness” for eternity, but would not be in the presence of God.

Limbo, he pointed out, was never a defined article of Catholic faith, but rather was a hypothesis formed on the basis of the church’s belief in the need for baptism.
**Conference calls for Christian response to the death penalty**

**B Y G E R O G E P . M A T Y S E K J R**

EMMITSBURG, Md. (CNS) — When Shannon Schieber was 18 months old, she already knew the alphabet. By the time she was 3, she was reading better than most 6-year-olds.

With perfect grades in school, Shannon was the president of her high school and president of her freshman class at Duke University, where she graduated in three years with a triple major in mathematics, economics and philosophy.

Vicki Schieber, Shannon’s proud mother, described her daughter as “a gift beyond anything you could possibly believe,” a young woman who lived her Catholic faith in every way.

That’s what made May 7, 1998, such a terrible day in the Schieber family.

It was on that day when Shannon was raped and murdered in her apartment near the end of her first year of graduate school on the Duke University campus.

Despite her overwhelming loss, Schieber, a Catholic, said she has forgiven the man who took her daughter’s life. Not only that, she taught her that we could not hate anyone even those who were responsible for such terrible things.

“Taking another life is not going to ever happen to the Schiebers,” she said.

Shannon was raped and murdered in her apartment near the end of her first year of graduate school on the Duke University campus.

Shriver, who lives in the Washington Archdiocese, was one of several death penalty opponents who spoke Sept. 30 at Mount St. Mary’s University in Emmitsburg for a conference called “Witness and Action: Christian Responses to the Death Penalty in Maryland.”

About 100 people attended the daylong event, which was designed to raise awareness within the religious community about the death penalty.

Schieber said she believes all life is sacred. When the state has the ability to protect other lives by applying life sentences without parole, it must do so, she said.

“All of Shannon’s life, we taught her that we could not hate and have revenge,” said Schieber.

“Sister Margie Lavonis, CSC,”

SPRINTAL GROWTH FOR WOMEN

**BY G E R O G E P . M A T Y S E K J R**

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**CONFERENCE CALLS FOR CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO THE DEATH PENALTY**

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[Caption for the image of the conference call participants]
Cardinal injured, priest killed in weekend car accident in Italy

BALTIMORE (CNS) — Cardinal William H. Keeler of Baltimore suffered a broken ankle and a retired priest of the Diocese of Harrisburg, Pa., was killed in an Oct. 5 automobile accident in Italy. Another Harrisburg diocesan priest, Msgr. Thomas H. Smith, who was driving the vehicle through the city of Terni, broke several ribs. Information about the accident was not released until Oct. 9 so that relatives of the deceased priest, Father Bernard Quinn, 78, could be notified. Cardinal Keeler and Msgr. Smith, pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Lancaster, Pa., were hospitalized in Italy. According to an Associated Press report, Father Quinn was in the back seat of the vehicle and Cardinal Keeler in the front passenger seat when a car struck the passenger side. Baltimore archdiocesan communications director Sean Cane said the three priests were friends and vacationed together often.

Pope schedules 2008 Synod of Bishops on Bible in life of church

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has scheduled a meeting of the world Synod of Bishops for 2008 and has decided the synod will focus on the Bible in the life of the church. A brief announcement issued Oct. 6 said bishops from around the world were elected to represent their peers will meet at the Vatican Oct. 5-26, 2008, to discuss themes, including the “Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church.” During the last synod, the 2005 gathering focused on the Bible as the Word of God and the council will prepare an outline and list of questions to be treated; the importance of the Bible was one of the most popular topics. The synod council will prepare an outline and list of questions for bishops’ conferences and individual bishops to consider, then use the responses in drafting a working document for the 2008 meeting.

Questions remain about Foley's claim of abuse nearly 40 years ago

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Much remains unclear about former Rep. Mark Foley’s allegation through an attorney Oct. 3 that he was abused by a member of the clergy when he was a young teen. Foley, a Republican who had represented Florida’s 16th district in Congress since 1994, resigned his seat Oct. 6 amid allegations that during a 30-minute private meeting the pope and president also discussed “themes of particular importance in today’s global context, such as the promotion of dialogue between cultures and religions particularly between Christianity and Islam,” and the need to condemn terrorism.

Turkish Christian hijacks plane, asks pope’s help

ROMA (CNS) — A man claiming he was discriminated against as a Christian in Turkey forced a Turkish airplane with 113 people on board to fly to Italy, where he hoped Pope Benedict XVI would help him obtain asylum. The alleged hijacker, identified as Hakon Ekinci, surrendered about two hours after the plane landed Oct. 3 at the Rome-Fiumicino airport. Ekinci apparently was unarmad and no one on board was hurt. Initial reports from Turkish television — widely rebroadcast, but denied by both Italian and Turkish authorities — immediately after Ekinci surrendered identified the hijacker as a Turkish Muslim protesting Pope Benedict’s plans to visit Turkey in November. Even before it was clear that Ekinci was not protesting the papal trip, the Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, told Catholic News Service that the incident had not prompted reconsideration of the trip scheduled for Nov. 28-Dec. 1.

U.S.-anti-terrorism focus said to hinder work of Catholic aid groups

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Two leaders of Catholic aid organizations warned Congress in late September that the “war on terror” is having unintended consequences on the poorest of the poor around the world. Ken Hackett, president of Catholic Relief Services, told a House International Relations subcommittee Sept. 28 that the government’s narrow focus on anti-terrorism is diverting resources from long-term efforts to address the root causes of poverty and hunger, which can themselves contribute to political instability. Jesuit Father Ken Gavin, director of Jesuit Refugee Service USA, testified Sept. 27 before a Senate Judiciary subcommittee that his organization’s work with refugee populations facing political or religious persecution was being compromised by a rigid interpretation of what constitutes “materi- al support to a terrorist organization” under U.S. law.

Cardinal: Chinese Catholics are united in ‘fundamentally one’ church

LONDON (CNS) — Catholics in China are united in “fundamentally one” church despite government attempts to create divisions, said Cardinal Joseph Zen Ze-kin of Hong Kong. Cardinal Zen called the division between Catholics loyal to the communist state and those loyal to the pope artificial. During a Sept. 29 press conference in London, Cardinal Zen said the Catholic Church in China had not been separated by “theological differences” but by the response of its own members to decades of persecution by athe- istic communists. “The Catholic Church in China is fundamentally one,” Cardinal Zen said. “They’re separate ... but just in front of the policies of the government. The patriotic official church exists on its own, not on the pope’s ‘state,’” he said. When the state changes, church divisions will disappear, he added. Cardinal Zen said his talks with the Vatican were not fruitless. The event was sponsored by Aid to the Church in Need, a Catholic charity that assists poor and persecuted churches.

Russell, editor of diocesan paper in Lafayette, dies at age 59

LAFAYETTE (CNS) — Thomas A. Russell, 59, editor of The Catholic Moment, Lafayette’s diocesan newspaper, died Sept. 30 at Home Hospital in Lafayette. He had been in ill health the past year. A Funeral Mass was to be celebrated Oct. 4 at St. Ann Church in Lafayette, with burial at St. Mary Cemetery in Lafayette. Russell, a member of St. Ann Parish in Lafayette, was also the longtime director of the diocesan Pastoral Office for Planning and Communications. Before beginning his tenure there, Russell was the Sunday editor at the Messenger-Inquirer daily newspaper in Owensboro, Ky. He relocated to Lafayette, where he was employed with the Journal and Courier daily newspaper as a reporter, copy editor, local news editor and copy desk chief. He was named editor of The Catholic Moment (then called The Sunday Visitor) by Lafayette Bishop William L. Higgin both the Shrine next year, adding that the German-born founder of the Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus was beatified May 13 in the Netherlands. She founded many children’s homes, including one in East Chicago, which is in the Diocese of Gary.

Bishop Dale J. Meleczyk of Gary, venerates a relic of Blessed Mother Maria Tauscher of St. Joseph during a celebration of Mother Maria’s beatification at Holy Trinity Church in East Chicago, Oct. 7. Carmelite nuns from Michigan, Wisconsin, St. Louis and Texas joined the Indiana nuns to celebrate the event. The German-born founder of the Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus was beatified May 13 in the Netherlands.
Bishop D’Arcy, local guests on Redeemer Radio Sharathon, Nov. 1-3

FORT WAYNE — Redeemer Radio, Catholic Radio 1450 AM, will be airing its fall pledge drive on Wednesday through Friday, Nov. 1-3, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. Known as “Fall Sharathon 2006,” the event features an array of local and national on-air guests. The preliminary schedule of local guests, headlined by Bishop John M. D’Arcy of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, has been announced as follows:

- Bishop John M. D’Arcy, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Friday, 3 p.m.
- Father Bob Schulte, Diocesan Chancellor/Vicar General, Wednesday, 3 p.m.
- Father Jim Shafer, advisor to Redeemer Radio and pastor of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Friday, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.
- Father Mark Gurtner, advisor to Redeemer Radio, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, and chaplain at Bishop Dwenger High School, Friday noon.
- Deacon Tony Steinacker, who will be ordained a priest on Oct. 28, Wednesday, noon.
- Fred Tone and Mary Keefer, principals of Bishop Dwenger and Bishop Luers high schools, respectively, Thursday, 2 p.m.
- Cindy Black, Diocesan Youth Director, Thursday, noon.
- John John and Kathy Denice, Today’s Catholic editor and business manager, respectively, Thursday, 2 p.m.
- Dr. Dominic Aquila, Dean of the school of Liberal Arts at the University of Saint Francis, Wednesday, 1 p.m.
- John Tippmann Sr., Advisor to Redeemer Radio and Chairman of the Tippmann Group, Thursday, 9 a.m.
- Dr. Andrew Landrigan and Ann Koehl, Women’s Care Center president and executive director, respectively, Friday, 2 p.m.
- Bruce Summerfield, local artist, Wednesday, 11 a.m. and Friday, 8 a.m.
- Dorothy Sherman and Tracy Sines, St. Vincent Parish pastoral associate and youth minister, respectively, Wednesday, 10 a.m.
- Greg Doss, Knights of Columbus, state chair for Right to Life, Wednesday, 11 a.m.
- Doug Snowball, Opus Dei, Wednesday, 2 p.m.
- Jim Anderson, director of Fort Wayne Children’s Zoo, Thursday, 6 a.m.
- Jenny Murray and Liz Sanders, Encountering Christ ecumenical associate and committee member, respectively, Thursday, 11 a.m.
- Nick Gray and Tom Kaough, Sierra Club current and past presidents, Thursday, 1 p.m.
- Deb Meeks and Dave Gongwer, recent convert and RCIA candidate, respectively, from St. Therese Parish, Friday, 10 a.m.
- Frankkie Strelecki, XLT leader, Thursday, noon.

Fall Sharathon 2006 will be hosted by Jerry Usher at the studio of Redeemer Radio. Usher is the national host of Catholic radio’s most popular program, “Catholic Answers Live,” heard on Redeemer Radio weekdays from 6 to 8 o’clock, mornings and evenings. Local co-hosts will include Mary Collins, morning television anchor for Fort Wayne’s Indiana News Center, and Bob Hartenstein from the Knights of Columbus.

The pledge drive, along with Redeemer Radio’s regular programming, can be heard on the Internet at redeemerradio.com. Redeemer Radio is a 501c3 non-profit group of lay Catholics, financially separate from the diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, and dependent on the generosity of listeners.

Bishop Luers offers scholarship exam

FORT WAYNE — The 12th Annual Bishop Luers High School (BLHS) Scholarship/Placement Exam will be held on Saturday, Nov. 4. Registration begins at 8 a.m. The exam will be completed by 12 p.m. The test will be given in the school cafeteria.

Students are asked to bring $10 to take the test and two #2 pencils. All eighth-grade students are welcome to attend. The test is to determine placement for the 2007-2008 school year and to test students on academic merit in order to award financial scholarships. There will be a parent-to-parent meeting from 8 to 9 a.m. on Nov. 4 with coffee and doughnuts in the library for any parents interested. The makeup date for the test will be Dec. 2, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. There will be no parent meeting on Dec. 2. Please call the BLHS development office at (260) 456-1261 for more information.

EARTHWORKS RECEIVES DONATED QUILT FOR BAZAAR

NOTRE DAME — For many Saint Mary’s College students, fall break is not a time to go home and sleep late. It is a week of learning, reflection, and — in some cases — hard physical labor. Regardless of the endeavor, these students are working to improve themselves and the lives of others.

About 15 Saint Mary’s students and three faculty members will take a van to St. Tammany Parish in Louisiana to work with the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity on their “100 houses in 1 year” project. One of the faculty members going is Karen Chambers, a psychology professor who was stranded in New Orleans during the hurricane last year.

Now in its fifth year, the fall break Catalyst Trip raises money together for the Saint Mary’s and Michiana communities for an educational weeklong experience aimed at enlightening their thinking and supporting their leadership.

Throughout the Catalyst Trip, there will be various workshops and discussions on topics such as racism and privilege, community organizing and development and poverty.

Five Saint Mary’s students and one student from the University of Notre Dame will go to Louisiana to work with the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity on their “100 houses in 1 year” project. One of the faculty members going is Karen

Sally Gerstbauer is shown with her hand-quilted queen-sized quilt donated to Earthworks for their Whole House Christmas bazaar. The sixth annual bazaar will be held on Nov. 17-19 at Earthworks House across from Ancilla college and convent in Donaldson.

CLASS REUNION RAISES $4,500 FOR SOUP KITCHEN

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Fall “break” for Saint Mary’s students means service and learning

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St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School partners with Boys and Girls Clubs of Fort Wayne to expand the horizons of stewardship, service

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Visit the Boys and Girls Clubs of Fort Wayne on Fairfield Avenue this fall and you will see smiles on the faces of the children there. Those smiles are shining in part because of the newly formed partnership the club has made with St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School (SJSE). What began as a simple volunteer mission has snowballed into a stewardship network that has already begun to benefit these underprivileged youth of Fort Wayne.

This past summer, Alex and Kris Andorfer, both students at Bishop Luers High School, volunteered their time at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Fort Wayne, where their aunt, Denise Andorfer, is executive director. During conversations with their parents, Mark and Jenny Andorfer, they spoke of the needs of the children at the club and the family wanted to do more to help.

The Andorfers’ involvement with parents and teachers at SJSE School, where their two youngest children, Kaitlyn and Julia attend, led them to the idea of partnership with the club.

“We have very generous families at school and I thought that if we matched that generosity with a needy organization, then it would be a win-win situation for both,” said Jenny Andorfer. After speaking with the club’s director, she approached SJSE School Principal Lois Widner with a “list of needed items” for the club.

Widner’s excitement about the project led to a school-wide project that includes giving to the club. The students are part of the broader community and helping to give back, she says. She adds that “it’s a big deal at SJSE School to use the gifts and talents to help other kids.”

The generous stewardship of the students and sponsors at SJSE School has indeed snowballed into a beneficial partnership with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Fort Wayne. And it seems there’s more to come.

For more information on how you or your school can help, contact Denise Andorfer at (260) 744-0998.

CROSS TRAVELS TO LIGONIER

The traveling Jubilee Cross arrived at St. Patrick Catholic Church on Sunday, Aug. 20, and served as a reminder of the great love Jesus had for all of us. After a week of celebrating this great love with special services, the cross was delivered to Our Lady of Guadalupe in Warsaw on Aug. 26 by St. Patrick parishioners.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY DENISE ANDORFER

Boys and Girls Clubs of Fort Wayne board member Kevin Burns stands behind St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth students (from left) Kaitlyn Andorfer, Addie Reimbold and Julia Andorfer holding donated items for the children of the club. These students are participating in a partnership with the Boys and Girls Club in which they collected items of need for the club in addition to volunteering after school to assist the children with homework and reading. The club is located at 2609 Fairfield Ave.

Sponsor’s photo: The traveling Jubilee Cross arrived at St. Patrick Catholic Church on Sunday, Aug. 20, and served as a reminder of the great love Jesus had for all of us. After a week of celebrating this great love with special services, the cross was delivered to Our Lady of Guadalupe in Warsaw on Aug. 26 by St. Patrick parishioners.
Students, alumni and staff pay tribute to Saint Joseph’s teacher

BY LISA KOCANOWSKI

SOUTH BEND — “California Dreamin’,” ‘Yesterday,’ ‘Blowin’ In the Wind’ — all popular songs that could be heard countless times from the basement of Saint Joseph’s High School over the past years will not be played during the passing periods this year. Sadly, the sound of silence will be heard in room 11 for some time,” wrote Susan Richter, principal at Saint Joseph’s High School in South Bend to the student body and their families in the September newsletter.

“Tom A. Gerencher, a veteran teacher for 34 years, passed away on Aug. 14. The Joe Staff community suffered a tremendous loss on that day. Mr. Gerencher was a special teacher, a special person who made a difference in the lives of his students. He loved to teach, to challenge his students to achieve excellence and to make the world a better place in which to live. Tom lived his faith on a daily basis and helped his students to see Christ in others,” added Richter.

Gerencher, and three other teachers, walked each day on the track at Saint Joseph’s High School. During his usual morning walk, Gerencher unexpectedly died of a heart attack leaving behind a legacy at his alma mater that is unmatched.

Gerencher taught American literature and media for 34 years at Saint Joseph’s High School. He was a teacher that students will never forget. He not only taught his students how to write, he taught them how to learn. He encouraged the students to be motivated, enthusiastic, persuaded, realistic, and most importantly to embrage the idea of learning, “live to learn and learn to live.”

He demanded excellence from his students and rejoiced in the success of those whom he achieved his or her dreams because he or she rose to that challenge. Gerencher’s passions were teaching, reading and collecting great literature.

“The number of e-mails and letters received by the school serves as a testament to the impact that Mr. Gerencher had on so many of his students. He embodied everything that is good about Saint Joseph’s,” stated Richter in her newsletter.

Senior Maggie Morrow was a student of Gerencher’s and also sang at his funeral mass.

“I remember having my first after-school meeting with Mr. Gerencher. He sat on his blue swivel chair behind his podium, and I was terrified. It seems so silly now that I could have been scared of such a loving person, but his class’s reputation of being tough frightened me. I was considering dropping one of my four honors classes, and it was between chemistry or American literature. Mr. Gerencher told me to pray to the baby Jesus for help. I do not know exactly what I thought as deeply as he believed. Here was an inspirational teacher inspired and led by the Holy Ghost. And in that inspiration, there is a kind of in-breathing in students that cannot affect but be passed on, even as Tom himself no longer breathes,” wrote Van Engen.

“I learned to write under Tom’s guidance — I and so many others. And now when we write, we cannot help but make something of Tom’s passing wake, the words stirred a little differently for having passed beneath his care. Such words then carry on. They affect their readers and future writers who have read them and on and on. Like the McDonald’s ticker that kept spinning them and on and on. Like the Beatles blasting from the stereos, they affect their readers and so I believe that Tom has not stopped, turns to Tom with a smile, in the bright light of a person who ran and left and left and left. The intimidation I felt at first time he taught at Saint Joe and what a good fortune that was for me,” wrote alumnus Mary Pat Sapp in a condolence note to the school.

“Mr. Gerencher was my teacher, but, more importantly, he was my mentor and my friend. I could talk to him about anything. He was always there to listen, whatever it was for me to joke or to rant. The intimidation I felt at the beginning of my junior year turned quickly into admiration. I established a friendship with Mr. Gerencher — something I feel I did with each of his students. This relationship was something that I will always treasure,” said Sechowski.

The school received numerous e-mails and letters from parents, current students and past students that all talked about the lasting impact Gerencher made on their lives.

“I was in his class the first year he taught at Saint Joe and what a good fortune that was for me,” wrote alumnus Mary Pat Sapp in a condolence note to the high school. “I still remember one of those 66,000 essays and am grateful for the challenge.”

Graduate Abram Van Engen wrote a letter to the school that talked about his personal experiences with Gerencher, and how it affected his life.

“But then, of course, there is the greatest impressing of all — the spiritual difference a person makes in another’s life. Tom taught students not only how to write but also how to think; and in thinking, he taught us that faith and thought are not opposed. Here was a man who

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St. Michael parishioner donates hair to Locks of Love

BY IDA CHIPMAN

PLYMOUTH — “It was kinda hard to part with,” Maggie Morrow, 12, said, when her long, wavy dark-brown hair lay in ten and a half inch pigtails on her lap. After all, she’d been growing her it long since the fourth grade. And now she was about to enter the seventh grade at Lincoln Junior High — with an entirely changed look.

“Actually,” her mom, Chris Morrow, said, “we’d been talking about making an appointment since June, But Maggie just wasn’t ready to have it done yet.”

She’d even toyed with the idea of cutting it off just before this year’s annual Relay for Life. But then — it wasn’t time yet. It’s like giving up something that is a part of you.

And it is.

Maggie’d already made the commitment to donate her hair. Ever since Mary Ann Hickman, an agent in her dad’s insurance company had been diagnosed with cancer and lost her hair after chemotherapy, Maggie had decided to donate her own hair to Locks of Love.

“She was my inspiration,” she said.

An honor student, Maggie is very much involved in sports. She plays basketball, soccer, softball and runs cross country. She’s used to having her full pony tail bouncing around behind her.

No more. Rick Hafke, the hairstylist at Alena Renee’s Salon in downtown Plymouth, first washed and dried Maggie’s long hair. She separated it into two pigtails and cut them off — one-by-one.

The scissors made a strange, heavy sound.

“This is the first Locks of Love I’ve done in Plymouth,” Rio, a recent resident who, moving here from New Jersey, said. The tresses will be carefully placed in a plastic bag, sealed and put into a padded envelope for shipment by Maggie’s mom.

“Locks of Love will fashion the donated hair into wigs for children,” she said.

As a special reward for her generosity, Gerencher is taking her daughter out for a pedicure.

Maggie, whose neck feels nothing if it a little, naked, smiled.

A member of the Angels Girls’ Club of St. Michael Church, she is definitely following their tenets.

“I’ll do it again,” she said, happy with her new look. “As soon as it grows out long enough.”

“My name is Maggie Morrow, 12, has her hair cut for the first time since she was in the fourth grade. She is donating her pony tails to Locks of Love. Rio Hafke, a hairstylist at Alena Renee’s Salon in downtown Plymouth, is doing the deed. Maggie is very much involved in sports. She plays basketball, soccer, softball and runs cross country. She’s used to having her full pony tail bouncing around behind her.

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St. Michael parishioner donates hair to Locks of Love

Maggie Morrow, 12, has her hair cut for the first time since she was in the fourth grade. She is donating her pony tails to Locks of Love. Rio Hafke, a hairstylist at Alena Renee’s Salon in downtown Plymouth, is doing the deed.
GREGORIAN SCHOLA DEBUTS AT NOTRE DAME

The Notre Dame Gregorian Schola made its debut recently at a Mass in the chapel of Alumni Hall. The schola, which will chant at a monthly Mass throughout the school year, was formed by Notre Dame students interested in Gregorian chant. Pictured in the back row, left to right, are schola members Joseph Caudle, class of ‘09; Philip Carl Smith, class of ‘08 and director of the schola; Raymond Hain, graduate student; and Joseph Zepeda, graduate student. Garrett Smith, a graduate student and other schola member is not pictured. Celebrating the novus ordo Latin Mass was Jesuit Father Brian Daley, a Notre Dame theology professor, center front row. The servers were Victor Saenz, class of ’09, left front; and John Sikorski, class of ‘07, right front.

JUBILEE CROSS AWES PRESCHOOL CHILDREN

Students in St. Dominic Parish preschool class taught by Kathy Aschenbrenner and Erin Eberle gaze in awe at the traveling Jubilee Cross. The religious education classes held a special service before the 10:30 Mass on Sunday, Oct. 8, with all grades participating. The cross now travels to St. Michael in Plymouth.

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3rd Annual Christian Marriage Conference for Married Couples with Fred & Lisa Everett

Saturday, November 18
Lindenwood Retreat Center

The conference will run from 9 AM to 5 PM, with registration beginning at 8:30. The fee for the day, including lunch and materials, is $40 per couple. Call the Office of Family Life (OFL) or send the application below by November 6. Upon acceptance of your application, a confirmation card with directions will be sent. For more information, call Helen, the OFL administrative assistant, at (574) 234-0687 or email her at haustgen@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

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Dr. Patrick Holly on NaPro Technology

Wednesday, October 18, 7 pm, in the Cathedral Hall, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne. All are invited. Refreshments served.

Dr. Patrick Holly, M.D., a member of St. Vincent’s Parish, will lecture on the benefits and ethics of this technology, which treats fertility problems in women.
Catholics unite in prayer for Amish community

BY JEN REED

HARRISBURG, Pa. (CNS) — In a demonstration of support for the local Amish community, Catholics in the Harrisburg Diocese filled St. Catherine of Siena Church in Quarryville and the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg Oct. 5 for prayer three days after the shootings at the Amish schoolhouse.

The Mass at St. Catherine’s and the prayer service at the Keeler Center took place the same day the Amish community buried four of the girls shot in the schoolhouse. Burial of the fifth child was Oct. 6.

According to state police, 32-year-old Charles Carl Roberts IV entered a one-room Amish schoolhouse in West Nickel Mines Oct. 2 and shot 10 girls before taking his own life. As of Oct. 6, the five who survived remained in serious condition.

St. Catherine of Siena Church is located just seven miles from the scene of the tragedy. The Oct. 5 Mass was celebrated by Harrisburg Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and concelebrated by several diocesan priests. It drew an overflow crowd.

“As a Catholic community of faith, we pray for our beloved Amish neighbors, our brothers and sisters in the Christian faith. We pray for the children who have died, so precious in the sight of the Lord,” Bishop Rhoades said, praying also for the girls who remained hospitalized, for the victims’ families, and for Roberts and his family.

“This past weekend, the Catholic Church throughout the United States celebrated Respect Life Sunday,” the bishop remarked. “We affirmed and celebrated that all human life is a sacred and priceless gift from God. ... Our lives and the lives of all our children and of the Amish children whose death we mourn are a gift of God’s love.

“We must learn to treasure that gift even more” in the aftermath of the school tragedy, he said.

The bishop said the readings for the Mass about God wiping away people’s tears and Christ’s resurrection making all things new should “strengthen our faith in God during this time of tragedy and mourning.”

“None of the evil, suffering or pain experienced in this world will find its way into the new world, the heavenly Jerusalem,” he added.

The bishop also prayed that God would “bestow his healing grace and comfort to this community united as his children in faith, hope and love.”

As Bishop Rhoades celebrated Mass in Quarryville, several hundred people filled the Cardinal Keeler Center in Harrisburg for a holy hour of prayer with eucharistic adoration and benediction to pray for the Amish community, the safety of children and an end to violence.

Father James Lyons, diocesan vicar general and celebrant and homilist at the center service, said the presence of so many Catholics demonstrated the respect and concern for the Amish and for the families whose lives were so profoundly affected by the tragedy.

“I think it’s a great sign of the presence of the church, in the sense that people of the church come together in prayer,” Father Lyons told The Catholic Witness, diocesan newspaper of Harrisburg.

“It’s almost instinctual for Catholics, and people who practice their faith, to want to come together in prayer to comfort each other but also to pray to God for strength and healing,” he said.

NOTRE DAME — Four years after Melissa Cook was killed by falling scaffolding from the John Hancock Center, her family has donated $3 million to the University of Notre Dame to build a softball stadium in her name.

The money comes from a lawsuit settlement reached in February. Four women died, and at least six people were injured in the 2002 scaffolding accident. Victims and family members received a combined $75.2 million from the owner of the skyscraper, makers and operators of the scaffolding and other companies. The plaintiffs have declined to say how the settlement was split.

Cook’s mother and stepfather, Linda and Paul Demo, decided to give the bulk of their proceeds to educational causes, especially those that call to mind their daughter’s days at Notre Dame and her love of learning.

Speaking publicly for one of the few times since the accident, the Demos said they also plan to donate several million dollars to send students from Northwestern Indiana to college.

“From the beginning of the lawsuit, we didn’t think that money belonged to us. Melissa paid the ultimate price for that money and that money actually belonged to her,” said Cook’s mother, Linda Demo, of Palm Harbor, Fla. “We wanted her memory to live on. We tried to think of ways that would do the most good.”

They are in the beginning stages of setting up the Melissa Cook Memorial Foundation, which will direct college scholarship money to needy students from Lake County. The first scholarships are expected to be given out in fall 2007, said McMahon, a foundation co-director.

Cook’s family also asked Notre Dame officials about the university’s plans to build a softball stadium. They learned that a stadium was ranked 94th on a list of building priorities, according to Paul Demo.

“We knew the girls were not going to have a stadium in our lifetime. We decided that is what Melissa wanted,” said Paul Demo.

“You can imagine,” Paul Demo said that Cook was sensitive to inequities between men and women, including that Notre Dame baseball players had a high-end stadium while the softball team played on a field and changed clothes in the equivalent of a storage room.

Since Cook’s death, Linda and Paul Demo have stayed close with her friends from Notre Dame. They attended softball games and had dinner with the team. The stadium will be named the Melissa Cook Stadium.

Last month, Cook was remembered at the university cemetery, which had been reserved for Notre Dame faculty and staff members. University officials said they will soon start a program, called “Coming Home,” allowing alumni to purchase plots, said Dennis Brown, a university spokesman.

McMahon said her friend would be honored to be buried there and to have a facility named in her honor, but that she also would be embarrassed by the attention.

The stadium will be built on the southeast corner of campus. University officials said they’ve raised an additional $500,000, and construction won’t begin until the project, estimated to cost $4.8 million, is fully funded.

Coach Deanna Gumpf said a new stadium, named after Cook, will inspire future athletes.

“Melissa loved Notre Dame and loved playing softball,” said Gumpf, the women’s head softball coach. “Being here at Notre Dame was such a special place for her, and her parents realized that. Every time someone walks through the Melissa Cook Stadium, they will know her name and learn her story.”

Look for upcoming stories about the stadium's progress.
Small school with big resources

Father Albert Seen, OFM, was the pastor of St. Therese Parish in 1958 when the school was built. It was Father Albert who gave the permission to its members to begin planning the unique semi-circular two-story building. Today, St. Therese School has 154 students in grades K-8 under the direction of Principal Michael Briggs. The staff consists of nine home room teachers, four aides in addition to special teachers of art, physical education, music, computer, and a full-time resource teacher.

St. Therese is located in the Waynedale area of Fort Wayne where students benefit from the caring neighborly feel of a small town as well as the diversity and opportunity of a larger community. Within this warm atmosphere, students are given personal attention though a variety of resources offered at St. Therese School. We have a full-day kindergarten, Junior Achievement, family groups, a playground gym, full CYO athletic program and hands-on science lab.

The school is located adjacent to the Waynedale Branch of the Allen County Public Library that students visit weekly.

St. Therese School has daily rosary attended by students every morning before school. Students are very proud of the new church. The beautiful rose window is located on the north side of the church. Students make visits to neighborhood Kingston Springs Center to interact with senior citizens on a monthly basis. The upper grades publish a quarterly Crusaders’ Times newspaper. Students have access to a newly remodeled computer lab with Internet access and a SmartBoard. St. Therese eighth grade students publish their own personal yearbook composed of class memories since kindergarten. They also plan an annual Midwest class trip for May. All middle school students participate in three service project each quarter. This can be raking leaves or shoveling snow for handicapped individuals in the Waynedale area. Some students even provide free babysitting service for parents in need as well has reading/tutoring younger students. A big highlight before Christmas break is the Questival to raise money to send to our sister school in Honduras. The upper grades put together booths for the younger students and their little siblings at home. Some of the booths are food, fun games with lots of prizes. All students participate in the annual “clean-up” day every spring. Students come to school with rakes, gloves and buckets to freshen up the parish and school grounds for the upcoming summer.

Come join us. We have a great school with marvelous and caring people. We have an awesome education and we take ISTEP+ every year.

How I feel about St. Therese School

I am very proud to be a part of St. Therese School and parish. St. Therese has always seemed like my second home and I have always felt safe here and enjoyed the people and environment it’s in. It is not the newly remodeled classrooms, or the beautiful new church, but it’s the people that make St. Therese what it is and how special it is today. The teachers are phenomenal and they listen and understand you. My classmates are great and funny people to be around and the best thing is we all get along.

Attending church has always and will always be a big part of my life, however having a small parish, it seems to be that much more special and spiritual. St. Therese has changed my perspective on life and I will cherish the memories I have had here forever!

Abby Hurley Grade 8

St. Therese, in my opinion, has the best teachers. They give me a reason to come to school every day. They teach us the important things about life and help us students prepare for the upcoming years. They also inspire us in many different ways. For example, they remind us every day how smart and blessed we all are. Everyone doesn’t learn at the same pace so, to help those who fall behind they provide more one-on-one time with those students and offer after school tutoring. The best thing about the teachers here at St. Therese is that they can relate to our everyday lives. They tell us about their mistakes and what they did to find a solution. The teachers here at St. Therese are like a second family to me and are always there for me when I need them.

Alyssa Shaffer Grade 8

Being a St. Therese student for more than eight years has shown me what true appreciation is. Although I have thought the rules here were too strict, I have learned that these rules were only for our best interest. I have also made some of my very best friends here and have always been able to turn to God without judgment here. Appreciation and gratitude are only a few words to describe my great thanks to this school. I have faced many hardships at this school that have made me stronger. I am going to miss these great teachers and this great spirit every student here has.

Katie Eash Grade 8

St. Therese is an all around great school. It has caring teachers and good morals, many sports teams, creative arts, and it brings God into the classroom, etc. I appreciate these qualities in a school and they make learning more enjoyable. However these great attributes aren’t really what makes this school so great for me. It’s the students and friends I have here that make this school so great. Students leave St. Therese with a positive outlook on life and are intelligent and kind people. After all, students are the most important part of any school and the kids here are great people.

Mariah Hubbard Grade 8

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY ST. THERESE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St. Therese School has 185 students in grades kindergarten through 8. Michael Briggs is the principal. Additional information is available at the Web site: stthereseschoolfw.org, e-mail: fwsattherese@yahoo.com or by calling the school at (260) 747-2343.
Franciscan Father John Coughlin, a law professor at the University of Notre Dame Law School, will be the celebrant and homilist for the annual Red Mass in Fort Wayne at 9:30 a.m., Oct. 15 in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. He is standing in for Bishop John M. D’Arcy, who is in Rome for the canonization of Mother Theodore Guérin.

Father Coughlin is both a civil lawyer and a canon lawyer, and he teaches courses on canon law, legal ethics and professional responsibility. He told Today’s Catholic that he is very happy that the tradition of the Red Mass has been revived.

“It’s a wonderful time for lawyers — Catholic and non-Catholics alike — to gather in a faith context and to acknowledge the role of God, the reality of the sacred,” Father Coughlin said. “It’s good for the church, but it’s even more important in terms of the civic forum, and the sense that in the government we ought to have a recognition of God and of the sacred.”

Father Coughlin has broad experience in the law profession. He received his J.D. from Harvard Law School and his license and doctorate of canon law from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He is a member of the New York bar and served as general counsel of St. Francis De Sales School of Law Sept. 28 that he teaches courses on canon law, belives to debate based on reason.

“We could argue all day on theology.”

SEN. SAM BROWNBACK

He said his faith-formed ideas about the dignity of human life and the need for laws to protect society’s most vulnerable influence his views about public policy, but even in debates about embryonic stem-cell research he prefers to stick to scientific reasoning. That’s why he said he asked participants during a recent debate on such research to discuss when human life begins from a biological, not a theological, standpoint. The senator also noted that he does not shy away from debate, even though for many the “tendency is to walk away from conflict.”

“We’re better off to have a wholesome debate,” he told the audience.

The senator said he is often accused on television talk shows of imposing his values on others and he finds that “people often try to force their beliefs at the door” he is concerned about the role of the media and the need for laws to protect people’s right to express their faith. The senator believes that although he is a person who “checks his beliefs at the door,” he is convinced that people of faith should not “seek to impose their faith beliefs on anyone.”

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Coughlin and the Red Mass

BY ANN CAREY

The chief justice of the Indiana Supreme Court will be the featured speaker at a brunch after the Oct. 15 Red Mass celebrated in Fort Wayne’s Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard has been chief justice of the Indiana Supreme Court since 1987. He was originally appointed in 1985 by Governor Robert Orr. During his tenure on the Indiana Supreme Court, Chief Justice Shepard has received numerous awards for his service, including this year’s Lifetime Achievement Award from Indiana Black Expo, the Professionalism Award from the American Inns of Court Foundation in 2005, and the Norma Wickler Excellence in Service Award from the National Association of Women Judges in 2004.

Just last month, Chief Justice Shepard received a Special Merit Citation from the American Judicature Society for the Indiana Supreme Court’s Jury Pool Project. That project succeeded in creating a more diverse and inclusive jury pool by expanding state jury pool lists from 60 to 80 percent of eligible jurors to 99 percent of eligible jurors by combining data from the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles and the Department of Revenue. Thus, anyone with a driver’s license or state identification card who works on jury pools is eligible for the jury pools.

A native of Indiana, Chief Justice Shepard graduated from Princeton University and earned his law degree from Yale University School of Law. He also holds a master of laws degree in the judicial process from the University of Virginia.

Before being named to the Supreme Court, he was a judge in the Vanderburgh Superior Court from 1980 to 1985. Prior to that, he had been executive assistant to Mayor Russell Lloyd of Evansville and a special assistant to the under-secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Chief Justice Shepard also is active in other areas, including the Boy Scouts of America and the Indiana Historical Society. He and his wife, Amy, are the parents of one daughter.

The present Indiana Supreme Court has four associate justices in addition to the chief justice. Incumbent justices are subject to retention votes every 10 years, with mandatory retirement at age 75.

Brownback tells audience he prefers to debate based on reason

BY CAROL ZIMMERMAN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan., told an audience at The Catholic University of America’s Columbus School of Law Sept. 28 that he does not use theology to debate issues on Capitol Hill, but instead uses reason.

The Catholic senator, speaking at a two-day forum titled “Roundtable on Religion in the Public Square,” and sponsored by the law school, stressed that although he is not a person who “checks his beliefs at the door,” he is convinced that people of faith should not “seek to impose their faith beliefs on anyone.”

“We could argue all day on theology,” he said, noting that he prefers to debate based on facts and science, which may be informed by theology, as a “way to move forward.”

Chief Justice to speak at Red Mass event

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TRANSPORTATION LAW
FAMILY LAW
MILITARY LAW
to bait me,” saying “that’s your belief,” despite his attempts to steer clear of such actions. Brownback added that he has had to stand firm on his principles even if it has meant risking that his constituents could vote him out of office. That includes his pro-life stance, which was not initially popular with Kansas voters. “I stood there and articulated my position and continued to,” he said.

During a panel discussion after the senator’s speech, participants from a variety of religious groups spoke of the challenges and successes they have experienced in attempting to influence public policy.

Several participants stressed the importance of working together with members of other religious groups to make more of an impact. The Rev. Richard Cizik, vice president for governmental affairs for the National Association of Evangelicals, said collaboration in this line of work is key because “we’re not just helping ourselves.” Melissa Rodgers, a professor at Wake Forest University Divinity School in Winston-Salem, N.C., who worked for several years with the Baptist Joint Committee on Religious Liberty, said the government “shouldn’t meddle in religion but that doesn’t mean religion doesn’t have a place in public life.”

She said when diverse groups work together to promote single issues in federal policies, they are not only more successful, but they also could serve as a model for similar partnerships on the local level.

Rabbi Abba Cohen, director of Agudath Israel of America, a group representing Orthodox Jews in Washington, said his faith tradition has followed a long custom of approaching political leaders from Pharaohs to prime ministers. His organization currently examines public policy issues that directly affect the Jewish community — specifically religious freedom and discrimination issues.

Another panelist, Nancy Wisdo, an associate general secretary of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, noted that the principles the U.S. bishops seek to apply to current legislation are often based on encyclicals dating back hundreds of years. She said religious groups have a responsibility to “engage in public debate,” but she noted that the process is not always easy. “We agree on the principles,” she said, “but as they apply to legislation, that’s where the rub happens.”

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FORT WAYNE — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will hold its annual Red Mass in Fort Wayne on Sunday, Oct. 15, at 9:30 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Father John Coughlin, OFM, of the University of Notre Dame Law School, will preside at this traditional liturgy in honor of members of the legal profession. Following the Red Mass, at a brunch at the Grand Wayne Center, Randall Terry Shepard, Chief Justice of Indiana, will address members of the local legal community.

The brunch is not open to the public. However, interested individuals are welcome to attend the Red Mass, which is one of the three regularly scheduled Masses at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday morning. The Red Mass is a 13th-century European tradition of asking God’s guidance on all members of the legal profession — lawyers, judges and civil government officials — in administering justice.
Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, placing our worries in the Lord’s hands — that was the key, besides a holy life, that brings Mother Theodore Guérin to be recognized this weekend as a canonized saint.

Like us, she bore her struggles. She had poor health. She dealt with prejudice. She dealt with difficult personalities, sometimes from the Bishop of Vincennes. Yet she remained strong as a woman of grace. Notes tell us that Msgr. Julian Benoist recognized her saintliness when he met her.

We rejoice, with the rest of the state of Indiana, that one of our own has received this honor. The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend owes a debt to the work of Mother Theodore. She is the founder of our Catholic schools.

Here is some background on Mother Theodore’s ties to the diocese.

The first Bishop of Vincennes, Bishop Bruté, whose own sainthood cause has been opened, sent his vicar general, the Very Reverend Celestin de la Hailandiere to France in 1839 to recruit sisters and brothers to establish schools in Indiana. Indiana. Bishop Bruté died while de la Hailandiere was in France. de la Hailandiere was consecrated as the bishop of Vincennes while in Paris.

His mission gained even more fervor to bring religious to the diocese. The Congregation of Holy Cross in Le Mans gave him six brothers with their superior, Father Sorin, the founder of Notre Dame. Bishop de la Hailandiere also received a promise from Rueil, France, that a colony of sisters would come to Indiana.

When Mother Theodore was presented with this request, she didn’t outright volunteer to come to the wilderness of America to open a girls’ school. But she happily accepted her role as superior of the motherhouse and superior general of the other houses that would be established.

In many ways, her life resembles that of many of our own ancestors who came to Indiana. It took 40 days by ship to come to America. Seasteads, stormy seas and unscrupulous fellow travelers accompanied the sisters on their journey. When they arrived, they faced with the challenge of learning English. And then they had to travel west to what was then the wilderness.

The Sisters of Providence, at the request of Msgr. Julian Benoist, opened a mission in Fort Wayne. That school would become St. Augustine Academy and located on the Cathedral Square. The sisters brought a strong faith and culture to their school and maintained their presence in Fort Wayne long after St. Augustine Academy closed — serving at parish schools, Central Catholic High School and various other ministries.

These pioneer sisters bolstered Catholic identity in the community. Today we celebrate the good mother for building the faith in our corner of Indiana, for showing us the path to saintliness and trusting in the providence of the Lord.

The tragic event of this past week, the killing of the little Amish girls in the Pennsylvania school house and specifically the heroic action of the 13-year-old child who begged the killer to shoot her and spare the others and then her little sister, is an example of the sacrifice of our children, which the cause for sainthood for these two children could be initiated.

As a highway department “zone man,” I work in an area heavily populated by Amish families and over the years have become well acquainted with some of these families. We have entertained them in our home, and they have had us to their home. Some of them have even attended our cathedral Christmas concerts and patriotic concerts. They are widely known to have retained a remarkable commitment to family, duty, work, modesty and a heroic detachment from modern day conveniences. Their qualities sadly are to a great extent widely lost in the modern rush in our western culture of consumerism and high fashion, which has reached the level of a world wide scan...
Is interreligious dialogue slowing? Vatican emphatically says no

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The president of the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue said the Vatican’s commitment to interreligious dialogue not only continues, but “it is even stepping up.”

For example, the council is promoting a November meeting in Assisi, Italy, that will bring nearly 100 young people from a variety of religious backgrounds together to talk about peace in education, said French Cardinal Paul Poupard, who also heads the Pontifical Council for Culture, in an interview with Catholic News Service Oct. 5.

In November, he is scheduled to travel to Jakarta, Indonesia, for an interreligious meeting. He is also scheduled to go to India to talk with religious representatives and to attend a gathering of people involved in Catholic cultural centers there.

The centers, run by local parishes all over the world, regularly hold cultural initiatives about a new book, film or social problem. The events give the church the opportunity to talk about values that are important to Christianity and draw people from every faith or no faith at all.

The cardinal said in an earlier interview with CNS that these cultural centers have the most impact in countries that are predominantly Muslim, Hindu or Buddhist.

And in mid-October the council’s secretary, Archbishop Pier Luigi Celata, was to meet with the head of Turkey’s directorate of religious affairs in Istanbul and address some 400 Muslim representatives.

Cardinal Poupard told the Italian daily Corriere della Sera the occasion “will be a unique opportunity to clear the air.”

The controversy sparked by Pope Benedict XVI’s September address in Regensburg, Germany, triggered condemnation and violence in recent weeks against Christians and their places of worship in several Muslim-majority countries.

Cardinal Poupard insisted that speculation that interreligious dialogue had been put on the back burner under the new pope is misguided. He denounced any assumption that the pope intends to weaken the interreligious council as a “complete lie.”

LECTURE, PAGE 18

Value of spiritual riches is wisdom

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MGR. OWEN E. CAMPION

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mk 10:17-30

T he Book of Wisdom is the source of this weekend’s first reading. As the name implies, this ancient book was designed to convey the sense that believing in the one God of Israel, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, is not ridiculous but in fact the ultimate in wisdom and human logic.

In this weekend’s reading, an interesting literary technique occurs. Wisdom is presented not as an abstract virtue or reality of the mind, but as a person. Christians long ago came to identify the most profound wisdom with the Holy Spirit.

So in Mark’s Gospel furnishes the last reading. Asked what is essential to possessing eternal life, Jesus answers that the person truly wishing to have eternal life must obey the Ten Commandments, the great gift of God to the people of Israel through Moses. Asked further, Jesus replied that a person must disregard the thirst for things so strong among humans, and in turn give to the poor.

The man asking the questions could not possibly accept this last admonition. Greatly disappointed, he turned and walked away from Jesus. He could not remove himself from the belongings he had acquired.

Almost always, the story is called the passage about the “rich young man.” It is interesting to note that the Gospel gives clear indication that the questioner in this exchange was a man, and a man of means.

However, nowhere does the Gospel imply that the man was young. What was his age? The Gospel gives no clue.

Reflection

In the long and eventful history of France, few leaders exceeded in power and influence upon the French culture than Cardinal Armand Jean de Plessis, Duc de Richelieu, who served for more than 30 years as chief minister to the French king, Louis XIII.

As he was dying, Cardinal Richelieu supposedly said, “If I had exchanged my cardinal’s red for the Carthusian white (habit), my palace for a (monastic) cell, I would not be afraid to die.”

Realizing the true value of spiritual riches, and living in accord with this realization, is the greatest wisdom. As with Cardinal Richelieu, the reality that eternal life rests upon spiritual vitality, not earthly wealth, characterizes the genuinely wise.

Even among persons professing Christianity, and indeed even among those wishing to be devout and good disciples, the lure of things, of personal adulation and of the comfortable can be very alluring.

In these readings, the church calls us to true wisdom. To confirm its teachings as wisdom, we simply must look at reality and remember so long ago, have found true wealth, the wealth of the spirit in finding God.

READINGS

25th week of ordinary time


Tuesday: Gal 5:6-16 Ps 119:43-45, 47-48 Lk 13:37-41

Wednesday: 2 Tm 4:10-17 Ps 145:10-13a, 17-18 Lk 10:1-9

Thursday: Eph 1:1-10 Ps 98:1-6 Lk 11:28-32

Friday: Eph 1:1-14 Ps 33:1-2,4-5, 12-13 Lk 12:1-7

Saturday: Eph 1:15-23 Ps 82:7 Lk 128-12

CATEQUIZ’EM

By Dominic Samplisson

With the recent tragic death of naturalist Steve Irwin, this quiz looks to Australia, the country that will host the next World Youth Day.

1. Who were the first Christian clergy to reach Australia?
   a. Maori converts from New Zealand
   b. The Spanish Jesuits who were already active in nearby Japan
   c. Anglican clergy who worked in the penal colonies

2. Why did the British rulers also pay the clergy of other denominations in the early days of their Australian colonies?
   a. Religion tended to encourage the population to behave.
   b. It was impossible to distinguish between them in the chaos of the new lands.
   c. It helped isolate the colonists from Islamist influences.

3. Catholic convicts were at first tended by these:
   a. high church Anglicans (Anglo-Catholics)
   b. convict priests
   c. Zen masters

4. This country was a prime source of Catholic convicts:
   a. Indonesia
   b. France
   c. Ireland

5. Catholics were served as well after 1833, by these men:
   a. missionary priests
   b. deacons
   c. Orthodox bishops

6. The Anglican Church’s de facto role as an established church was:
   a. accepted by all, as England was the mother country.
   b. unknown, so not an issue until 1943.
   c. resented and opposed by Irish Catholics and Scots Presbyterians.

7. 19th century Missions by Spanish Benedictines to these people in Western Australia were not very successful:
   a. Jewish immigrants
   b. Aborigines
   c. Vicuna herders

8. One of the Benedictines who had a big impact on Australia was William Ullathorne. How did he get to Australia?
   a. He took a wrong turn at London’s tower bridge and accidentally ended up there.
   b. He was a convict and was sent there as a punishment for dissent.
   c. He volunteered to go there as a missionary.

9. He was appointed to this office in Australia:
   a. Vicar General
   b. Governor
   c. Primer minister

10. Father Ullathorne was hated in England, why?
    a. He was a Catholic.
    b. He attacked the penal system, bedrock of colonization in Australia.
    c. His name was too hard to say.

11. When state schools were established in the 1850’s, Australian Catholics
    a. joined in as the schools were pro-Catholic.
    b. retained their own separate school system.
    c. sent their children abroad to Catholic missions in Macau for education.

12. Most Australian Catholics rallied behind the British in WWI, with the notable exception of a large portion of this Catholic group:
    a. Italian Australians
    b. Spanish Australians
    c. Irish Australians

13. By the 1990’s the biggest single Christian group in Australia was the:
    a. Catholics
    b. Anglicans (Episcopal Church of Australia)
    c. Mormons

14. Set in Australia, this fanciful novel and mini series includes an extremely lax Catholic cleric:
    a. Skippy the Bush Kangaroo
    b. The Thorn Birds
    c. Cardinal Dundee

15. This actor portrays the wayward Australian prelate in number 14:
    a. Richard Chamberlain
    b. Brian Brown
    c. Rock Ayers

ANSWERS:
1.c, 2.a, 3.b, 4.c, 5.a, 6.c, 7.b, 8.c, 9.a, 10.b, 11.b, 12.c, 13.a, 14.b, 15.a
I am a practicing Catholic; my husband is not currently affiliated with any religion. We have been married for 13 years and have three children. Our youngest child is six years old, and we have used NFP successfully for those six years. Even though my husband is not Catholic, he has supported my decision to use NFP when we made the decision together to not have any more children — until now. My cycle is very irregular, and we also had a vasectomy a few years ago for a couple of weeks, because of uncertainty of fertility. My husband is becoming agitated, and I try to explain why this method is the only one we can use. But he argues that it’s a give-and-take relationship; that he’s done it “your way” for our entire marriage so far. Now he wants me to do it “my way,” which he is suggesting should be a vasectomy for him. I have protested, but he says he is not Catholic and doesn’t have to follow the same rules I have. I am at a loss as to what I should do. I need someone to help me. I can’t forbid him to get a vasectomy, because I am so afraid it will harm our marriage. But on the other hand, if he gets one, the guilt I will feel will be tremendous. I do know that we don’t want any more children, and we have valid reasons for making that decision.

I want to be a good Catholic and follow every teaching of my church. My faith has been an obstacle in our relationship before. Our children are being raised Catholic, and my husband is usually so supportive of anything I do regarding my faith. Please help me. CF

Dear CF,

I commend you for your strong faith. You instinctively see your decision as one that is compatible with sterilization. You also must have a good marriage, and three beautiful children, that is your husband is a vital part of this.

God has a plan for human life, spousal love, marriage and family. It is his plan, not yours, not mine, and not your husband’s. The Ten Commandments are not just for Catholics, nor is the moral wrongness of contraception and sterilization meant only for Catholics. If you are a member of the human race, then they apply to you.

The question is: “What is wrong with sterilization, especially when so many people are doing it?” There are many things wrong with it. First of all, God is the author of all life. We are only stewards of the gifts of life and fertility, not masters. God wants us to open it towards, and to treasure, the gift of life and never turn against it as something evil. Secondly, we are not to mutilate our bodies or interfere with the integrity of our bodies, especially those sacred faculties that can procreate a new human person.

GEORGE WEIGEL

Non-Catholic protests NFP

Throughout the recent controversy over Pope Benedict XVI’s remarks on faith and reason at Regensburg University, attempts have been made to drive a wedge between Benedict and his papal predecessor.

The Arabic satellite TV network, Al Jazeera, for example, ran a series of cartoons featuring a John Paul figure releasing peaceful doves; the doves are then shot down by Benedict from the roof of the Sistine Chapel, holding a smoking shotgun, smirks. All of which is silly and vulgar, of course. But it isn’t that far from the views expressed by some Catholics, lamenting what they allege to be the drastic difference between Wojtyla’s Ratzinger’s views of Islam.

The 1994 international best-seller “Crossing the Threshold of Hope” was John Paul II’s most personal statement, a summary of his convictions about faith, prayer, the papal mission, other world religions and the human future. As such, it has a special claim on our attention as an inheritance of the Old and New Testaments, and then reads the Koran, clearly sees the process by which it completely reduces divine revelation. It is impossible not to note the movement away from what God said about himself, first in the Old Testament through the prophets and then finally in the New Testament through his Son. In Islam, all the richness of God’s self-revelation, which constitutes the heritage of the Old and New Testaments, has definitely been set aside.

“Some of the most beautiful names in the human language are given to the God of the Koran, but he is ultimately a God outside of the world, a God who is only Majesty, never Emmanuel, God with us. Islam is not a religion of redemption. There is no room for the cross and the Resurrection. Jesus is mentioned, but only as a prophet who prepares for the last prophet, Muhammad. There is also mention of Mary, his Virgin Mother, but the tragedy of redemption is completely absent. For this reason not only the theology but also the anthropology of Islam is very distant from Christianity.”

In other words, there isn’t a millimeter of difference between John Paul II’s substantive evaluative treatment of Islam and Benedict XVI’s. John Paul II was a master of the public gesture; but to read from his public gestures for respect for Islamic party an agreement with Islam’s understanding of God, man, and moral obligation is to make a grave mistake. John Paul II would have completely agreed with Benedict XVI’s critique, at Regensburg, of a theology that reduced the one and only Son of God to a remote dictator who can command the irrational (like the murder of Dr. Taha) and say that’s divine.

And, like Benedict XVI, John Paul II knew that such misconceptions can have lethal public consequences, because all the great questions of the human condition, including political questions, are ultimately theological. Benedict XVI bears the burden of the papacy at a historical moment in which religiously-irrationality is a lethal threat to the future of civilization. He and his predecessor have the treasure, the gift of life and never turn against it as something evil. Secondly, we are not to mutilate our bodies or interfere with the integrity of our bodies, especially those sacred faculties that can procreate a new human person.

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

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

John Paul II, Benedict XVI and Islam

BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN I WAS SAVED POSSIBLE

THEIR TWO NIGHTS ON THE BEACH WENT AWAY

THEIR YOUTH WAY AWAY

WHO MUST I DO GOOD

RICH ADVERSITY GOD

SHAL NOT FOLLOW ME

HOW DIFFICULT

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 28th Sunday, Cycle B: the story of the young man with much wealth. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

This week’s Word Search:

AP WO YO U T H C
H N O J U R N E Y Y PA
U A O U N A R D A E P M
N N F N K W L W C M O E
D T O D E V A S H O S L
R O L A E T S J E C S M
E N L P N J H H R O I U
D L O E H O C I P T B S
O L W J U I A K N E L T
O A M S R A N U P G E I
G H E A S I E R F A O D
P S N E D L E B N C O

‘Continued from page 17

Although the two councils have one principle in common — “remain intact and autonomous” — with neither being subordinate to the other, Cardinal Pompild said in an Oct. 5 interview with Corriere della Sera that “in no way does the pope wish to diminish the importance of working with peoples of other religious faiths, he said, “and it is very grave” that speculation to the contrary “continues to resurface in spite of every correction.”

At the Vatican, Cardinal Poupard routinely receives ambassadors to discuss interreligious and political questions and he told CNS that he recently met with Buddhist monks from China, Islamic representatives from Iraq and Sikhs from India.

He said the representatives he meets with are happy with the Vatican’s efforts at dialogue and exchange, and they are all working “in a harmonious climate.”

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Starting off right: Tackling the issue of student debt levels

Tackling the issue of student debt levels is a major concern for students and educators today. According to P. Greenway, objects dating from the 17th century in Lebanon provided a safe haven during war. An offshore island that sheltered crushed remains of hundreds of ancient garbage dump with the highly valued purple dye. At the Mediterranean Sea in the southern part of the kingdom of Israel, was famous for his incense and sacrifices could take place. These idols included Milcom of the Ammonites, Astarte of the Sidonians, and Molech of the Ammonites. Incense and sacrifices could take place.

What caused the kingdom of Israel to split after Solomon?

Solomon, the third king of Israel, was famous for his wisdom, wealth, and fame. The problem was that his father had married many foreign women who worshipped foreign gods, and then he constructed temples to these gods where the burning of incense and sacrifices could take place. These idols included Milcom of the Ammonites, Astarte of the Sidonians, and Molech of the Ammonites. Incense and sacrifices could take place.

What were the factors that contributed to the split of Israel?

The factors that contributed to the split of Israel were idolatry, rebellion, and economic issues. Idolatry and rebellion caused the split of Israel. The reasons for the split were the people's attachment to foreign gods and the economic burden imposed by the taxes.

What are the economic consequences of the split of Israel?

The economic consequences of the split of Israel were severe. The kingdom of Israel was split into two parts, and each part had to support itself. This led to economic strain and instability.

What is the role of the Pharaoh in the split of Israel?

The Pharaoh was not directly involved in the split of Israel. However, the kingdom of Israel was under Pharaoh's control, and the Pharaoh's policies, such as the heavy taxes imposed, contributed to the people's dissatisfaction.

What is the significance of the Temple of Jerusalem?

The Temple of Jerusalem was a significant religious and political center. It was the place where the religious and political leaders of the kingdom of Israel gathered. The Temple was destroyed in the Babylonian conquest, which contributed to the split of Israel.
**EIGHTH GRADE GIRLS CHEER WITH BISHOP LUERS**

The Bishop Luers High School cheerleaders invited all of their feeder school eighth grade cheerleaders to participate in cheering on the Knights at the Luers-Snider game on Sept. 15. Fifteen girls came and learned sidelines and did some tumbling and stunting with the Luers Varsity Squad two days before the game. It was a way for the Luers cheerleaders to give the eighth-grade girls a look into high school cheerleading and to encourage them to participate in cheering at Luers. Bishop Luers cheerleaders are looking into high school cheerleading and to encourage them to participate in cheering at Luers.

**St. John’s football Eagles remain unbeaten**

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Luke very few football teams at this point in October, the Catholic Youth Organization’s (CYSO) St. John Fort Wayne (7-0) remains “unbeaten, untouched, and virtually untested.” In what could have caused a three-way tie for first place, the New Haven team wore down against the Fort Wayne running attack in the battle of the St. John’s team. Marquell Cooper put the Eagles on the board with a 1-yard scamper. McCarthy answered back for the Raiders to make it 6-6 show down at the half. But it was all Eagles from there. Steven Kiemmner had a 1-yard plunge after a huge drive in which the Eagles controlled the ball and ate up over eight minutes on the clock in the third quarter. James Nkappe scored the Eagles final TD on an 11-yard run. Alex Strongeck put 2-3 on PATs in the 22-6 victory. Alex Wharton led the Raider defense in the loss with a fumble recovery (caused by Kevin Kohrmann) and a blocked PAT.

The Eagles have allowed their opponents just four touch downs, outscoring them 194-28 during the seven weeks of CYO regular season play.

In other games, Cardinals running back Andy Magnuson scored four times to lead St. Charles rout over Queen of Angels-Precious Blood in the 26-0 opening game as the CYSO league finished their regular season last Sunday. Sts. JAT quarterback Eric Sorg found James Wyss in the second quarter of a 6-0 victory over Holy Cross. “Our line continues to improve each week and our defense played an outstanding game. We are looking forward to the tournament and getting every one healthy,” said an excited Coach Jerry Niezer. The Knights improved to 4-3.

Finally, the 2006 second-place season finisher, the St. Vincent Panthers beat St. Jude, 32-16. Greg Katz caught four passes for close to 100 yards for the Panthers. Scoring came from Brian Bowers (1-yard run), tailback Russell Coonan (two 5-yard runs), and Greg German (25-yard pass from Patrick Ryan). Conner Friesner was flawless on his PATs (4-4).

The CYO tournament begins this Sunday, Oct. 15, at the University of Saint Francis. Third place will play sixth place in the first game, first will face eighth at 2 p.m., second matches up with the seventh spot and finally, the fourth-place finisher for the season will battle against the fifth-place seed in the late game.

**Final regular season records**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEAM Record</th>
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<tr>
<td>St. John Fort Wayne 7-0</td>
<td>St. Vincent 6-1</td>
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**Hawaiian Luau**

Saturday, October 21, 2006 7-11PM

Feast • Music • Fun • Prizes • Buffet menu includes Slow Cooked Pork • Hawaiian Chicken in a tropical sauce Sauer Kraut • Sweet Potatoes • Rice • Tropical Fruit Salad

Dinner, Dancing, Prizes, Beer, Wine & Soft Drinks $25 Couple (Special tropical drinks available at a nominal price)

RSVP by October 18: 493-1914 (Dress Island Style...Prizes for Best Dressed and Loudest Shirt)

**ICCL SOCCER PREPARES FOR TOURNAMENT PLAY-IN**

In its last week of regular play, the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) reports the following scores: St. Thomas beat Mishawaka Catholic, 7-2; St. Thomas beat St. Anthony, 10-2; St. Joseph South Bend 8 beat St. Jude 7-3; and Christ the King beat St. Michael, 1-0. The tournament play-in will challenge Mishawaka Catholic and St. Anthony at Marian High School’s fields on Oct. 14.

**ICY Coaches are requested to e-mail fall sports scores to sports writer Michelle Castleman at mcastleman@aol.com**

**ICCL coaches are requested to contact Elmer Danch at (574) 234-0687 or email editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org.**

**SOUTH BEND — The Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) football teams spent Oct. 8 vying for a spot in the tournament.**

The fifth-place St. Matthew Blasters took a loss to the sixth-place Holy Family Trojans, 22-6, at the first placement game.

Dominick Romanos scored on a 20-yard fumble recovery, and kicked two extra points. Tate Borkitt threw a 22-yard pass to Alex Kohler, and Collin Skodinski scored on a 70-yard interception return in the win. Chase Parker scored for the Blasters.

In the second placement game, third-place Mishawaka Catholic defeated number-four-ranked Corpus Christi Cougars, 24-14.

Tom Wilson scored on runs of 3 and 44. Coley Schluthes also scored on a 40-yard run in the win. Andrew Davidson kicked three extra points. Mario Aversa and Jerry Alston scored for Corpus Christi. Cody Weber kicked an extra point.

In the final placement game, top ranked Holy Cross-Chr. the King Crusaders defeated the second-place St. Anthony-St. Joseph Panthers, 14-8.

Max Matthews threw a 45-yard pass to Colton Pulaski and Pat Kowaleski scored on a 20-yard run to lead the Crusaders, A.J. Fitzpatrick kicked a 2-point conversion. Matt Catter returned a punt 35 yards for the lone Panther score. Tyler Sorocco added the 2-point conversion.

This weekend, the St. Matthew Blasters will play the Mishawaka Catholic Saints at 1 p.m. The Holy Family Trojans will play the Corpus Christi Cougars at 2:30 p.m. The games will be played at Marian High School.

The following results are from the fifth and sixth, boys B-team football games:

- The St. Anthony-St. Joe Panthers defeated the Holy Family Trojans 12-0.

Frankie Karzewski scored on a run of 13 yards and threw a 21-yard touchdown pass to Tommy Formatete.

- The Mishawaka Catholic Saints defeated the Corpus Christi Cougars 27-0.

Steve Whitefield scored on runs of 67, 35 and 40 yards to lead the Saints. Anthony DeBroka also scored, and Alex Schlemmer kicked an extra point.

- The Holy Cross-Chr. the King Crusaders defeated the Granger Catholic Titans 28-0.

Pat O’Connor scored on runs of 20 and 15 yards to lead the Crusaders. Henry Turner also scored, and Mike Swift kicked two extra points.

- This weekend the Mishawaka Catholic Saints will take on the St. Matthew Blasters. The Holy Family Trojans will play the Granger Catholic Titans. The Holy Cross-Chr. the King Crusaders will play the Corpus Christi Cougars. The games will be played at Saint Joseph’s High School.
Notre Dame makes first offer of football season tickets in three decades; revenue to fund repairs to stadium

BY DENNIS BROWN

NOTRE DAME — To fund repairs to historic Notre Dame Stadium, the University of Notre Dame announced Sept. 28 the sale of 5,000 football season tickets beginning in 2007 — the first such offering in more than three decades. The university also announced that, in response to unprecedented demand, it is instituting changes to several policies that will increase ticket access for alumni in the general football ticket lottery. The 5,000 season tickets will be sold first to people directly affiliated with Notre Dame and then to the general public. In addition to the face value of the tickets, the cost will include an annual ticket rights fee based on seat location: $2,000 per ticket for sideline seats, $1,500 for corner seats, and $1,250 for end zone seats. The revenue generated through the ticket plan will be used to assist in paying for repairs and ongoing preservation of the 76-year-old Notre Dame Stadium’s original seating bowl. The exact cost of the project is yet to be finalized, but is expected to exceed $40 million.

University officials studied other revenue-generating options — including the addition of luxury boxes — before deciding on the ticket rights fees. “Notre Dame Stadium is a legendary landmark in American athletics, and we are committed to preserving and maintaining both its structural integrity and its historic look and feel,” said John Affleck-Graves, executive vice president of the university. “By providing a rare opportunity to purchase Notre Dame football season tickets, we are developing revenue for this important project, giving fans a chance to invest in the future of ‘The House that Rockne Built,’ and protecting current and future resources necessary for our primary mission of teaching and research excellence.”

Engineering studies have indicated that the structural supporting frame of the stadium remains in good condition. However, freezing/thaw damage over three-quarters of a century has led to deterioration of the seating bowl concrete. Stadia of the same vintage as Notre Dame’s facility at the University of Michigan and Ohio State and Purdue Universities have faced similar maintenance issues in recent years. The repair project was to begin last spring, but the university put it on hold to conduct further engineering analysis.

Fans interested in purchasing season tickets can find information on the process on the Web at stadiumpreservation.nd.edu. A waiting list for the potential future sale of season tickets will be established after all of the current allotment has been sold.

Affleck-Graves emphasized that none of the new season tickets will be drawn from tickets currently available in the general alumni lottery. The 5,000 tickets that have been returned over the past several years, as well as a reduction in internal university ticket allocations, he said. Though unrelated to the season ticket offering, the university also has responded to the high demand for Irish football tickets in the 2006 general alumni ticket lottery by revising policies that will reallocate tickets among several groups in order to increase opportunities in the general lottery.

“What Notre Dame has the most inclusive alumni ticketing process of any high-demand program in the nation, and we remain committed to continuing that access,” Affleck-Graves said.

He added that when Notre Dame adds an eighth off-site home game in the near future, ticket opportunities for alumni will improve even more.

Affleck-Graves said that Notre Dame also is committed to actively monitoring and enforcing its ticket resale policy in an effort to curb resale for profit and ticket fraud. More than 3,400 tickets have been suspended or revoked in the past three years, including 1,700 this year. Suspected resale violation information can be sent to seller1@nd.edu.
“Employee of the Month” (Houseguest)
Lightweight comedy about a slack off stock clerk (Dane Cook) at a Costco-style megastore where he tries to dethrone a cocky rival co-worker (Dax Shepard) — who’s nabbed “employee of the month” honors for 17 months straight — in order to win the affection of a pretty new cashier (Jessica Simpson), sparking a madcap competition. Director Greg Coolidge blends slapstick, broad comedy and pettiness for 17 months straight — in order to win the affection of a pretty new cashier (Jessica Simpson), sparking a madcap competition. Director Greg Coolidge blends slapstick, broad comedy and satire to uneven effect, and while the gamesmanship is intermittently amusing, the general vulgarity undermines the story’s sweet center. Much crude and sexual humor, gay innuendo, a racial joke, use of the f-word, as well as recurring crude language and profanity. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is L — limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

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“The Guardian” (Touchstone)
Action drama about a veteran Coast Guard rescue swimmer (Kevin Costner) who, after losing a colleague, temporarily hangs up his fins to teach at a Coast Guard academy, where he locks horns with a cocky recruit (Ashton Kutcher). Despite treading water for most of its first hour that plays like a commercial for the Coast Guard, director Andrew Davis’ formulaic film is kept afloat by appealing performances, exciting rescue sequences and an admirable theme about sacrificing one’s life for others. Intense scenes of peril, including a harrowing helicopter crash, implied sexual encounters and a tacit approval of casual sex, a brief bar fight, an inappropriate for children under 13.

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WHAT’S HAPPENING?

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

FUNDRAISERS

Vegas Night planned by Knights Granger — The Knights of Columbus Council 4263 will have a Vegas Night, Saturday, Oct. 14, at 7 p.m. at St. Pius X Church. Admission is $10 and you must be 21. Food, beverages, silent auction and door prizes. Proceeds will go to the College Scholarship Fund.

Bake sale and flea market South Bend — The St. John the Baptist A and R Society, 316 St. Johns Way, will have a bake sale and flea market on Sunday, Oct. 14, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 15, from 7 a.m. to noon. Homemade goods, household items and miscellaneous treasures will be available.

Fish fry sponsored by Holy Name Society South Bend — An all-you-can-eat fish fry sponsored by the Our Lady of Hungary Holy Name Society will be held at the school, 735 W. Calvert, on Friday, Oct. 13, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $7 a day of sale, $6.50 presale, $4.50 children 6-12 and under free.

Drive through fish dinner Fort Wayne — St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel will have a drive-through fish dinner on Friday, Oct. 20, from 4 to 7 p.m. Tickets are $6.50.

Knights plan spaghetti dinner South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council #521, 6153 S. Ironwood, will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, Oct. 20, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults $6, children (5-12) $3. Dinner includes spaghetti, salad, garlic toast and coffee. Carry-out available.

Casino night celebrates Halloween Monroeville — A Halloween casino night will be held Saturday, Oct. 28, at the Monroeville Park Pavilion, 421 Monroe St. at 5 p.m. Food and refreshments will be available. Must be 21. Call (260) 623-8618 for information.

Port-a-pit chicken dinner planned Roaneoke — St. Joseph’s Church, 641 N. Main St., will have a port-a-pit chicken dinner Saturday, Oct. 28, from 4 to 7 p.m. Half chicken $7, quarter chicken $5. Carry-out available.

St. Aloysius scrapbook fundraiser Yoder — St. Aloysius will have a scrapbook fundraiser on Sunday, Oct. 22, from 7-10 p.m. at the parish. $5 admission.

Tallgater party planned Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will host a chili and bowling dinner held Friday, Oct. 13, from 5 to 9 p.m. at Luers football field as part of the Bishop Luers vs. Bishop Dwenger football game.

Day of reflection Mishawaka — A Day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent Wednesday, Oct. 25, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is “Praying with Miriam, Deborah and Judith.” There is a $15 and includes lunch. Register by Oct. 20, to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

Little Flower Holy Hour Fort Wayne — Father Mark Weaver, OFM Conv., will celebrate the holy hour at MacDoughal Chapel on Tuesday, Oct. 17, at 7:15 p.m. Father Mark is pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Lagrange.

Women’s prayer breakfast planned Fort Wayne — A Christian Women’s Prayer Breakfast will be held, Thursday, Oct. 19, at the Marriott, 305 E. Washington Center Rd. Tickets are $15 and doors open at 7:30 a.m. with breakfast served at 8 a.m. Call Fran Dickenson at (260) 485-2649 for information.

Haunted Castle announces opening Fort Wayne — The Haunted Castle sponsored by the St. Vincent Boy Scouts at 8965 Auburn Rd., is open every weekend from now until Oct. 31. For information visit www.haunted-castle.com.

Rummage sale this weekend New Haven — St. Louis Besancon will have a rummage sale on Friday, Oct. 13, from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 14, from 9 a.m. to noon. Fill a bag for $3 on Friday starting at 3 p.m. and on Saturday for $1.

Braffest assists St. Patrick organ Wabash — A Braffest sponsored by Friends of St. Patrick, Lagro will be held Saturday, Oct. 14, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Knights hall. Polka music provided by Stan Nicholson. Tickets are $8 for children 10 and under are free.

SHOWS

Holiday Bazaar Mishawaka — St. Joseph Parish will have a holiday bazaar on Saturday, Oct. 28, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the corner of Spring and 3rd streets. Craft and house- hold items, raffles and baked goods on 80 tables displaying Christmas and holiday gifts. Lunch available. Sponsored by the church adult choir.

Holiday craft show planned Mishawaka — The St. Bavo Home and School Association will have a holiday craft show on Saturday, Nov. 11 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be 40 booths, a raffle and concession stand. For booth rental and information call Yvonne at (574) 255-4360.

Fall craft show at St. Monica Mishawaka — A fall craft show will be held Saturday, Oct. 14, from 8 to 3 p.m. in the school gym, corner of Grove and Elizabeth streets. Donation of a canned food item will enter you for a door prize.

Fancy fair and cookie bar held Rome City — A fancy fair and cookie bar will be held at St. Charles Parish Center, St. Joseph Parish, 4360. There will be 40 booths, a raffle and concession stand. For booth rental and information call Yvonne at (574) 255-4360.

Holiday craft bazaar South Bend — St. Anthony de Padua will have a holiday craft bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the school auditorium, on the corner of E. Jefferson and Ironwood Dr. Lunch will be available.

Vendors needed for craft bazaar Fort Wayne — The Bishop Dwenger Music Boosters will have a craft bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 11. Call Terry Luebke at (260) 483-5750 for information.

Queen of Angels seeking crafters Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Parish will have a holiday bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 11. Call (260) 484-2035 or (260) 436-5172 for information.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Knights of Columbus Smokers Sacred Heart Parish Center Notre Dame — The Knights of Columbus, Santa Maria Council #553 will host a Notre Dame Smoker each Friday night of home Notre Dame football game, after the campus pep rally (approximately 8-10 p.m.), at the Sacred Heart Parish Center, St. Joseph Hall, to present several guest speakers and provide football camaraderie. At the Notre Dame vs UCLA Smoker, Oct. 21, speakers will be Jay Caponigro of the Robinson Center, Kevin Corrigan, coach of ND LaCrosse team and Bill Bilinski of the South Bend Tribune.

Jet ski race at St. Vincent de Paul store Fort Wayne — A jet ski race will be held Sunday, Oct. 22, at 2 p.m. at Fort Wayne Raceway at the speedway. Registration needed by Oct. 20. Cost is $1,699 for double occupancy. For information or reservations call (574) 842-8299.

Adult education series continues Fort Wayne — St. Jude Parish, located at State and Randolph streets, will host Rabbi Jonathan Katz of Achduth Vesholom Synagogue on Monday, Oct. 16, at 7 p.m. in the church hall. He will speak on the basic tenets of the Jewish faith.

DONATE

St. Vincent de Paul Store always in need of donations Fort Wayne — Donations are always accepted for cars, trucks and vans. Donations are tax deductible. Call (260) 456-3561 for pick up or drop off at the store, 1600 S. Calhoun St.
three sisters. They took a stage to Covington, Ind., where they shifted to the Wabash and Erie Canal for the remainder of the journey to Fort Wayne. The history book says “The trip consumed the greater part of a week of slow and wearisome travel and long delays.”

From the canal, history records that the sisters arrived at their mission on covered wagon down Piqua Road, now known as Calhoun St.

The sisters arrived just in time to hear the bells of St. Augustine Church ring out across the frontier town of Fort Wayne for the evening Angelus. Traveling by covered wagon from the canal, the sisters passed an ensemble of log cabins, larger frame dwellings and an occasional brick house.

The school enrolled 60 students when it opened in 1846. Canal traffic brought many settlers to northeast Indiana. Soon additions to the school were necessary and built in 1867 and 1885. Gradually 150 students were enrolled.

Mother Theodore did not teach at the Fort Wayne mission. But her visits to the mission were described as “gala days for the sisters. Her all-pervading kindness and motherly solicitude, and her gentle gaiety when she presided at table and at recreation were a perennial source of joy.”

Mother Theodore and the sisters were very grateful to Father Benoit, a fellow Frenchman, who Mother Theodore described as “our benefactor, good Mr. Benoit.”

Until 1857, Fort Wayne was part of the Diocese of Vincennes. Both Mother Theodore and Father Benoit found themselves having difficulties with the bishop of Vincennes at the time. At one time, the bishop said that he would replace the sisters at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. Mother Theodore, as she would do often, stayed up all night and prayed before the Blessed Sacrament and “silently committed the issue to God.” The sisters remained at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

And Father Benoit actually left Fort Wayne in 1852, after what was termed “a painful misunderstanding” in the history book. It was the prayers of Mother Theodore, the history book says, “which smoothed away his difficulties,” that Father Benoit returned to Fort Wayne where he remained until his death.

Meanwhile St. Augustine School prospered. “The school continued to develop in enrollment and in prestige,” the history book says. “St. Augustine’s is not only the oldest sisters’ school in northern Indiana, the area afterwards cut off from Vincennes as the Diocese of Fort Wayne, but was all these years the only institution offering to children of the grammar grades the cultural advantages of music and painting.” Soon after the founding of St. Augustine, Father Benoit also secured the Brothers of Holy Cross to operate a school on the Cathedral Square.

These schools were vital to the education and post-grammar school education through 1939. At that time, Central Catholic High School was opened and the academies and commercial schools were consolidated into one coed high school.

The Sisters of Providence legacy spread to other schools in the Fort Wayne area: St. Patrick, Cathedral School, St. Jude and St. John the Baptist. The sisters also staffed St. Catherine Academy, a part of St. Patrick Parish and Central Catholic High School. The Cathedral Museum, located in garden level of the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center holds a wealth of information on St. Augustine Academy and has many personal belongings of Msgr. Julian Benoit.

Joining Pope Benedict XVI at the canonization Mass on Sunday will be all Indiana bishops, including Bishop John M. D’Arcy and diocesan pastors Father Robert Schulte, Msgr. J. William Lester, Father Michael Hentz, Father David Carkenard, Msgr. James Wolf and Father Thomas Shoemaker.