October 22, 2006
Serving the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

TODAY’S CATHOLIC

A saint of our own
Pilgrims burst upon Rome to celebrate canonization of St. Mother Theodore Guérin

BY TIM JOHNSON

ROME, Italy — From the United States to France to Taiwan, pilgrims gathered from all points on the globe to celebrate the canonization of a saint, the first saint recognized by the Catholic Church who lived in Indiana. On Sunday, Oct. 15, Pope Benedict XVI proclaimed St. Mother Theodore Guérin a place of special prominence in the church.

The Sisters of Providence, the order of Catholic sisters that Mother Theodore founded at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods near Terre Haute, reported that 1,200 pilgrims received tickets to attend the canonization. St. Theodore was one of four saints canonized Oct. 15. Others included Mexican Bishop Rafael Guízar Valencia and Italians Father Filippo Smaldone and Sister Rosa Venerini.

At the canonization Mass, Cardinal José Saraiva Martins, prefect of the Congregation of Saints Causes, presented the following summary decree to Pope Benedict XVI during the rite of canonization at beginning of the Mass:

“Go, sell everything you own, and give the money to the poor ... then come, follow me.” These words have inspired countless Christians throughout the history of the church to follow Christ in a life of radical poverty, trusting in Divine Providence. Among these generous disciples of Christ was a young Frenchwoman, who responded unreservedly to the call of the divine Teacher. Mother Theodore Guérin entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Providence in 1823, and she devoted herself to the work of teaching in schools. Then, in 1839, she was asked by her superiors to travel to the United States, to become the head of a new community in Indiana. After their long journey over land and sea, the group of six sisters arrived at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods. There they found a simple log-cabin chapel in the heart of the forest. They knelt down before the Blessed Sacrament and gave thanks, asking God’s help and favor to build a new community upon the foundations of Faith and Charity.

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Red Mass receives Shepard, Coughlin as guests

BY DON CLEMNER

FORT WAYNE — The annual Red Mass received a touch of brown on Oct. 15 when Franciscan Father John Coughlin, OFM, from the faculty of the Notre Dame Law School stood in for Bishop John M. D’Arcy, who was in Rome for the canonization of St. Mother Theodore Guérin. Along with Father Coughlin as a guest at this tradition honoring members of the area legal community was Chief Justice Randall T. Shepard of the Indiana Supreme Court.

After announcing at the start of Mass that he was “pinch hitting” for Bishop D’Arcy, Father Coughlin read a greeting prepared by the bishop for the lawyers, guests of honor and others present at the Mass. This, along with the inclusion of St. Mother Theodore Guérin among the names of saints mentioned during the Liturgy of the Eucharist, provided a reminder of the bishop’s momentous reason for being away.

In his homily, Father Coughlin addressed the Gospel story of the rich man who asked Jesus what he must do to follow him, saying that the man represents all of humanity and that Jesus calls people to follow the Ten Commandments but also to renounce that which is an obstacle to their relationship with God.

“It might be money. It might be something else,” Father Coughlin said, noting that renunciation of self is not easy and that the Word of God pierces to the core of the human heart when it calls someone to be focused on God and others, not self.

“That might be the message for those of us who are privileged to be attorneys.”

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LETTING THE FIRE DRILLS RING

Captain Mark Claus, left, stands with Captain Dan Newport from the Fire Prevention Bureau and students Sean and Gareth Brouwer from St. John the Baptist School, Fort Wayne, who were selected to pull the fire alarm during the WOWO city wide fire drill Oct. 11.

PROVIDED BY MARY LIZ WALTER

Cardinal José Saraiva Martins, prefect of the Congregation of Saints Causes at the Vatican, presents the sainthood petitions to Pope Benedict XVI at the Mass on Oct. 15. Sisters of Providence, the order of religious sisters founded by St. Theodore Guérin, can be seen in the background.
The pilgrims are everywhere

Rome is bustling with pilgrims from all over the world, and prominent among these are hundreds of Hoosiers. We have four new saints — two men and two women. Included among them is our own Mother Theodore Guérin, who walked the streets of our diocese and is one of the foundresses of our Catholic schools and a true missionary.

It was a joy and a privilege to con-celebrate the Mass of Canonization with Pope Benedict XVI and about 30 other bishops, and to my untrained eye about 30,000 pilgrims from around the world, including many Hoosiers. A large number of Sisters of Providence were there to honor their foundress, not only for her accomplish-ments in building schools, but especially for the holiness of her life. A canonization declares a person to be in heaven and affirms her life of holiness. What comes through, even in superficial readings of her life, was a woman of faith and extraor-diary prayer. In her earliest days, and espe-cially at her first holy Communion, she gave her life totally to God. It is interesting to note that by special permission, she was allowed to receive her first holy Communion at the age of 10, early for those times.

As a young Breton teenager, she found herself especially happy when she could leave the confines of school to go out into the hills and rocks overlooking the ocean and raise her heart to God. Little did she know that God would ask her to come across the great ocean in a frightening jour-ney to the woods of Indiana, where she began her mission of faith and education.

A saint for our jubilee

We are on the threshold of the observance of our 150th year. Already the Jubilee Pilgrim Cross has progressed to about half of our parishes. Our jubilee will only be effective to the extent that it calls all of us to closer communion with Christ and the sacraments. Mother Theodore was a true evangelizer despite problems with her health and the harsh conditions of the fron-tier. Her close communion with Christ assured the success of her apostolic efforts. She was in Indiana for only 18 years, yet schools and vocations flourished. Within her own lifetime, many young women came forward to follow Christ through her inspira-tion. We were handed a booklet for the liturgy with much singing, mostly in Latin, along with prayers in French, Spanish and English. In this booklet, there was a sum-mary of her life given so that people could understand the reason we were honori-ng this woman. We honor her because she lived close to Christ. Indeed, we are honor-ing what Christ did through her.

The Sisters of Providence

It is unfortunate that I had to learn about the Sisters of Providence through others. Their presence here at parishes like Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, St. Patrick, St. Jude and St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne as well as Central Catholic High School, means that genera-tions of young people learned from them. Among those with us on this pilgrimage is Msgr. Lester. It is no exaggeration that he is famous among the Sisters of Providence. Even when speaking with sisters who have served in Chicago or Indianapolis, they say, “Oh, Msgr. Lester!” He and many others tell me about this great group of women who prepared so many young people for the sacraments, for life and for heaven.

The sisters were excellent educators. Perhaps we can bring some of them back to help us, but we can still profit from their spirit.

Rome revisited

I lived here for three years at one time for graduate studies and have returned five times for the “ad limina” visits. One never tires of Rome, and there is always some-thing to see. I am impressed by the energy of the pilgrims. Rome for a priest must always include offering the Eucharist at special places. Celebrating Mass with our small group in the small chapel at St. Peter’s Basilica and at St. Mary Major was a highlight. Another great highlight for me, forever, will be some time spent in prayer at the tomb of our beloved Pope John Paul II.

We are staying at the Domus Sanctae Marie. There are so many pilgrims in Rome, it was difficult to find rooms for our little pilgrimage for the entire stay. There was a time when an important pilgr-image to Rome involved considerable inconveniences, and the journey was diffi-cult. In modern times it is important to find a comfortable place. So prayers were offered to the new saint, and we were able to secure a religious house — the place the cardinals stay when voting for the pope. This place is inside the Vatican, a few steps from St. Peter’s. We have a beautiful chapel in our building. Staying and praying togeth-er were Father Bob Schulte, our vicar gen-eral, Msgr. Lester and Fathers Dave Carkenord, Tom Shoemaker and Msgr. Jim Wolf. Assisting us and facilitating our schedule of liturgies and communications, as well as documenting this historic event, were Tim Johnson and Maureen Schott.

Related events

On Saturday, we attended a vigil service at the Church of the Gesu with the Sisters of Providence, where there were readings of Mother Theodore’s life. At this writing, we are preparing for the Eucharist at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls. This is the church of St. Paul, a great missionary who was beheaded in Rome after spending two years in chains. Mother Theodore Guérin was also a mis-sionary who knew suffering. The final event for me will be the audience with the holy father on Wednesday at St. Peter’s. (As you know, our office is always happy to make it possible for anyone, Catholics and non-Catholics to be present at this extraordinary event, which takes place each week unless the pope is on retreat or travel-ing.)

Back home Thursday across the great ocean, but I hope richer spiritually and a better bishop for you from this time with our pilgrims and some time with this remarkable saint.

I have no sports report, because every-thing arrives here a few days late, but I will see you next week.
Indiana Pilgrims offer Mass of Thanksgiving

BY TIM JOHNSON

ROME, Italy — An estimated 800 pilgrims from across Indiana, France, England, China and Taiwan gathered at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls in Rome, the legendary location where the Apostle Paul met his end, for a Mass in honor of the canonization of St. Mother Theodore Guerin.

St. Mother Theodore Guérin, a native of Estables, France, came to Indiana in 1841 to found the Sisters of Providence in Saint Mary-of-the-Woods and eventually Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, which is constructed of a similar brick material and style as St. Paul's. It was there that she ministered to the people in the missionary territory that was then the corner of Fairfield Ave. and Washington Blvd. which is the current location of the Cathedral Square.

The seeds of faith and holiness planted in our missionary territory from Indiana to spur us onward to victory, the archbishop said.

Father John Coughlin, a member of St. Joseph's Abbey, founded the order, or congregation, who called from France, England, China and Taiwan gathered at the Basilica of St. Paul Outside of the Walls in Rome after the canonization.

Sisters of Providence celebrate canonization at home

BY MARY ANN WYAND

SAINT MARY-OF-THE WOODS — Providence Sister Agnes Pauline Meierert received a special birthday present this year.

St. Mother Theodore Guérin, the foundress of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI at St. Peter’s Square on Rome, on Oct. 15, which also was Sister Agnes Pauline’s 90th birthday.

The canonization was “scioning on the cake” for Sister Agnes Pauline, who couldn’t believe that this historical and spiritual event happened on her birthday.

“In the summertime,” she said, “when the Holy Father announced that the canonization would take place on Oct. 15, I hollered, ‘That’s my birthday!’

“It was a birthday wish and longtime dream come true, Sister Agnes Pauline said after the 11 a.m. eucharistic liturgy at the Church of the Immaculate Conception at the motherhouse, which began seven hours after the formal canonization Mass at the Vatican.

The motherhouse church was filled for the liturgy, which included a brief message from Providence Sister Denise Wilkinson, general superior of the congregation, who called from Rome after the canonization.

Father Daniel Hopcus, chaplain of the congregation and celebrant for the Mass, read the liturgy by telling the sisters and guests at the motherhouse that Sister Denise said, “Everything (at the canonization) is a reminder of who we are holding everyone at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in her heart and prayers.”

During his homily, Father Hopcus noted that the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time was an extraordinary day for the Sisters of Providence.

Mother Theodore dedicated her life to God and the congregation and she loved God, he said, and never doubted that she was doing God’s work.

“She faced with countless obstacles and setbacks,” Sister Denise said. “Mother Theodore founded this community in the shadow of the cross.”

Father Hopcus said, “Pauline knew that if this community that she was establishing was going to last, it would be established on the cross.”

He said Mother Theodore’s canonization serves as a reminder of Providence, who God has called to live the life of a saint, “to the best of their abilities.”

Providence Sister Mary Beth Klingel welcomed the gathering at the start of the Mass.

“Can be a prelude to the canonization Liturgy of Thanksgiving for Founder’s Day on Oct. 22 at the motherhouse...”

Sisters of Providence were allowed to attend the Mass because of their role in caring for Sister Agnes Pauline.

Red Mass continued from Page 1

Father Coughlin added. “One of the characteristics of our profession is that we put self interest in second place to the service that we provide for others.”

Chief Justice Shepard opened his remarks at the Red Mass brunch by noting that he has a tie to the Fort Wayne community. He was a classmate of the Mayor Graham Richard at Princeton, and a law student at the University of Notre Dame.

“Words cannot capture in any way our great joy and the significance of this event,” Sister Mary Beth said. “This is now a saint of the universal Church, but what a unique privilege it is for all of us in the Diocese of Fort Wayne to see this Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, for the State of Indiana and for the United States of America to claim as our own.”

The Mass was a prelude to the Canonization Liturgy of Thanksgiving for Founder’s Day on Oct. 22 at the motherhouse...

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Indiana Pilgrims offer Mass of Thanksgiving

Sisters of Providence have also been on hand to support the Red Mass by offering a Mass of Thanksgiving.

Cardinal Sean O’Malley gave the homily at the Red Mass.

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Red Mass

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Red Mass

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Fort Wayne Memorial to be dedicated, blessed on Sunday, Oct. 22

BY VINCE LABARBERA

FORT WAYNE — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and Trinity English Lutheran Church have scheduled a dedication and blessing on Sunday, Oct. 22, at 2 p.m. of the St. Paul Memorial at the corner of Fairfield Ave. and Washington Blvd. in downtown Fort Wayne.

“This project was envisioned when Trinity English Lutheran Church purchased this property from the diocese a couple of years ago,” said Father Robert C. Schulte, vicar general, representing the Catholic diocese. When the sale of the site of the former St. Paul Catholic Church at 416 West Washington Blvd. was announced jointly May 17, 2004, by Trinity and the diocese, Rev. Frederick E. Hassecke, senior pastor of Trinity and Bishop John M. D’Arcy and Father Schulte, each expressed their happiness that the site will continue to be used for religious and spiritual endeavors rather than for commercial or other secular purposes.

The Memorial consists of a garden area with pavers forming a patio, two benches and a pillar which is constructed of a similar brick material and style as St. Paul Church. A cross that graced the roof line of the original church has been placed at the top of the pillar. The cornerstone from St. Paul Church also is included on the pillar along with plaques noting the history of their diocesan cooperation of Trinity and a prayer in English and in Spanish. It is meant to be a site of reflection, prayer and thanksgiving.

The dedication and blessing service, led by Rev. Hassecke and Father Schulte, is expected to last about 20 minutes. It will consist of appropriate Scripture readings and prayers with former St. Paul parishioners participating along with members of Trinity English Lutheran Church. A tent will be erected at the site for the occasion, and refreshments will be served after the service.
SAINT
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Offering Mass together on Friday morning at the Polish Chapel in St. Peter's Basilica, Bishop D'Arcy said, “This was especially meaningful for us because this chapel was created by Pope John Paul II and dedicated to the patroness of Poland, Our Lady of Czestochowa and all the Polish saints. We noticed many of the patron saints on the west side of South Bend were depicted.”

He added, “The following day we prepared by offered Mass in one of the side chapels of Santa Maria Maddogo. This ancient and beloved church honors Our Lady and is one of the four great basilicas in Rome.”

Bishop D’Arcy was joined by Archbishop Daniel Buechlein of Indianapolis, Bishop Dale Melczek of Gary, Bishop William Higi of Lafayette and Bishop Gerald Gettelfinger of Evansville. Priests from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-Steubenville, the Diocese of South Bend and the Diocese of Gary, Bishop William Higi of Lafayette and Bishop Gerald Gettelfinger of Evansville offered Mass in the forefront of the great Basilica of St. John the Baptist.

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Bishop John M. D’Arcy is joined by Msgr. James Wolf, Father Robert Schulte, Msgr. J. William Lester, a Congregation of Holy Cross priest and Father Tom Shoemaker to concelebrate Mass in the chapel of Our Lady of Czestochowa in the lower level of St. Peter’s Basilica. The chapel is dedicated to the Polish saints with many patron saints from South Bend’s west side parishes.
Leaving her to cope with the crisis. She and her family were opposed to abortion. But when her father, Jerry learned that the relationship had been abusive, that was all it took for him to rationalize that their situation was “different.” He became convinced that Candy should have an abortion, and even told her, “The best thing we can do is give the baby to Jesus.” Candy cried uncontrollably on the way and right up to having the abortion, but when she came out afterward, she was no longer crying but tersely said, “Let’s go home.” For the next two years she neither laughed nor cried. Her mother was depressed. The abortion was a family secret, and they did not talk to each other about it either.

The healing and reconciliation process began when a co-worker gave Candy a pamphlet about a post-abortion Bible study at a crisis pregnancy center. The Lord started to heal Candy and she convinced her father to go in for counseling, too. Finally admitting his guilt, both tears and laughter followed as he experienced Jesus’ forgiveness, something he did not think he would ever receive.

Today, Jerry is the coordinator of the men’s post-abortion ministry at the CareNet Crisis Pregnancy Center in Amarillo, and Candy is the director of one of the center’s branches and has been a facilitator of the New Dawn Post-Abortion Support Group. Pastor James Williams of Abundant Faith Family Ministries concluded the evening with a prayer.

The following morning, the first-ever prayer breakfast was held with about 40 attendees. Franciscan Father John Coughlin of the University of Notre Dame Law School opened with prayer and gave a reflection on how to overcome discouragement. Jerry and Candy shared again and Pastor Carl Evans of the Ardmore LaSalle Church of Christ closed the two-day event with prayer.

We are proud to announce that our colleague BERT DAHM was selected by his peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America® 2007. Bert was honored for his work in Product Liability Litigation.

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Vatican says pope to expand use of Tridentine Mass

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI is preparing to expand permission to use the Tridentine Mass, the pre-Vatican II rite favored by traditionalist groups, said an informed Vatican source. The pope is expected to issue a document “moot proprio,” or on his own initiative, which will address the concerns of “various traditionalists,” said the source, who asked not to be named. The source said the new permission, or indult, was a papal decision, but was being done in cooperation with agencies of the Roman Curia. He would not elaborate on the extent of the indult, when it would be established or how it would work. The Tridentine rite is currently available to groups of Catholics who ask and receive permission for its use from their local bishops.

The old rite is celebrated in Latin and follows the Roman Missal of 1962, which was replaced in 1969 with the new Roman Missal.

Italian cardinal tells Russians some missionaries acted improperly

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) — An Italian cardinal told the head of the Russian Orthodox Church that religious and missionary activity had expanded in the 1990s even at the initiative of well-intentioned individuals, and had “not appeared proper from the canonical viewpoint.”

Milan Cardinal Dionigi Tettamanzi told Russian Orthodox Patriarch Alexy II, “Christianization must not be renewed from generation to generation, but there must be no room for confusion or pretense in the life of the Church.”

Cardinal Tettamanzi told Patriarch Alexy that proselytism was “condemned not only by Orthodox, but also by Catholics.”

This is the first time that he regretted that some Catholics had shown a “carelessness toward the life of the Church” when the cardinal was part of an Italian church delegation that visited Moscow Sept. 29-Oct. 3 in the invitation of the patriarch. His speech was published in the Italian and Russian on the Milan archdiocesan Web site.

South Korean bishops say peace possible only with dialogue, patience

SEOUL, South Korea (CNS) — Catholic bishops in South Korea have insisted that cooperation on the Korean peninsula can be achieved only through dialogue and patience, after North Korea announced it had conducted a nuclear test Oct. 9. The bishops issued their Message for Peace and Reconciliation after attending a conference discussing the nuclear test during their Oct. 9-12 general meeting.

In their message, they said they “cannot but feel deep sorrow” at their Oct. 9-12 general meeting. The bishops said that peace possible only through incessant forgiveness and dialogue, which the message, published in Korean and English, was signed by Auxiliary Bishop Lucas Kim Woon-hoe of Seoul, president of the bishops’ Conference for the Reconciliation of the Korean People, and Bishop Boniface Choi Ki-san of Inchon, president of the bishops’ Conference for Justice and Peace.

Pope says Christians must not let politics, social status divide them

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Christians are called to form a united community of faith where social status and politics do not divide them and where dialogue with the world does not mean hiding the truth of the Christian faith, Pope Benedict XVI said.

“Certainly the path of understanding and dialogue, which the Second Vatican Council happily undertook, must continue with firm constancy,” he said Oct. 11 at his weekly general audience. “But this path of dialogue, which is so necessary, must not lead us to forget our obligation to recall and demonstrate with the same energy the principal elements of our Christian identity, which cannot be renounced,” he said. During the audience, the pope focused on the figures of Sts. Simon and Jude, continuing his series of talks about the Twelve Apostles.

Vatican confirms trip to Turkey, despite some Muslims’ misgivings

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican officially confirmed that Pope Benedict XVI will travel to Turkey at the end of November, despite misgivings among many Muslims over recent papal remarks on Islam.

The pope’s Nov. 28-Dec. 1 trip, his second to a predominantly Muslim country, will include stops in Ankara, Ephesus and Istanbul, the Vatican said Oct. 16.

The pope will travel at the invitation of the Turkish government and the Orthodox Church’s Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople. In Ankara, the capital, he is expected to meet with political leaders Nov. 28. The following day he is expected to say Mass in Ephesus, an important early center of Christianity in western Turkey. The pope will meet with Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew in Istanbul in the evening of Nov. 29 and participate in an Orthodox liturgy Nov. 30.

On Dec. 1, he is expected to celebrate Mass for Catholics in the city before returning to Rome.

Cardinal Mondruzzi, former prefect of papal household, dies at 84

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Italian Cardinal Dino Mondruzzi, who died Oct. 12 at the age of 84, spent almost four decades shepherding the humble faithful and the world’s most powerful leaders into the presence of the pope.

Pope Benedict XVI, who was to preside over the Oct. 16 funeral in St. Peter’s Basilica, said the cardinal would be remembered for “the promptness and wisdom with which he organized the daily papal audiences and pastoral visits in Italy.”

Cardinal Mondruzzi’s death leaves the College of Cardinals with 148 members, 110 of whom are under age 80 and eligible to vote in a conclave to elect a new pope. In a message of condolence to the cardinal’s family, Pope Benedict praised his generous dedication to his tasks in the Prefecture of the Papal Household under Popes John XXIII, Paul VI, John Paul I and John Paul II. From 1986 to 1998, he was papal chamberlain of the office, organizing the pope’s daily public schedule at the Vatican or on visits to Italian dioceses.

U.S. bishops’ president presses Bush to veto bill on border fence

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Extending the fence along the U.S.-Mexican border will lead to more deaths and violence, warned the president of the U.S. bishops’ conference in a letter urging President George W. Bush to veto the Secure Fence Act. The bill, passed by Congress in the waning days of the session before the October campaign break for midterm elections, “could lead to the deaths of migrants attempting to enter the United States and increases smuggling-related violence along the border,” said Bishop William S. Skylstad of Spokane, Wash., president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Bishops. Bishop Skylstad said the 700-mile fence authorized in the bill also “would send the wrong signal to our peaceful neighbor to the south, Mexico, as well as to the international community.”

The letter, dated Oct. 10 and released by the USCCB Oct. 11, said the fence would not solve the problem of illegal immigration.

Meanwhile, Mexico’s foreign secretary said his government was considering taking the issue of the fence to the United Nations.

Construction of Ave Maria University, town well under way

MIKOMALLE, Fla. (CNS) — Driving south from Immokalee over the sun-scorched back roads, one of the doubtless most travelers know a town and university are under development just behind the scrubby oaks and weeds that line the two-lane road. But tucked down a side road, on what were once pepper and tomato fields and areas with palmettos and wetlands, Ave Maria University and the town of Ave Maria are quickly rising.

The future 5,000-acre community was conceived by Tom Monaghan, Domino’s Pizza founder and chairman of Ave Maria Foundation, who wanted to build a major Catholic university. Ultimately bringing about $285 million to the project, Monaghan signed off Oct. 10 with Barron Collier Cos., a major southwest Florida real estate and agriculture company, to build his dream in east Collier County, south of a farming town on land already owned by Barron Collier. For the ceremony, the company had its official groundbreaking ceremony in February, Ave Maria officials invited the media to visit the university and town in the mid-stages of construction.
**St. Jude prepares for fall mission**

**FORT WAYNE** — St. Jude Parish will have a mission “Behold the Face of Christ: His Steadfast Love Endures Forever” from Sunday, Oct. 22 through Wednesday, Oct. 25 from 7-8 p.m.

Speakers will include Mary Glowaski on the topic of faith; Sister Marilyn Eller, OSF, SND, on prayer; Bishop John M. D’Arcy on Tuesday on reconciliation; and Father Gary Sigler will speak on the eucharist.

Ginny Kohrman of the office of Spiritual Development and Evangelization will lead morning sessions at 9 a.m. Monday-Wednesday. Childcare will be offered for all services.

**USF offers Mass in honor of Tom Jehl**

**FORT WAYNE** — The University of Saint Francis is offering a special Mass in honor of Tom Jehl, Fort Wayne businessman, founder of the Sports Academy and long-time supporter of the university’s athletic programs. The university’s football office complex is named in his honor. Jehl died in September after a long battle with cancer.

The Mass on Saturday, Oct. 21, at 4 p.m. in the Chapel in Trinity Hall will follow the university’s football game against the University College of Wales. The public is invited to attend. For further information, phone Jan Patterson, director of Campus Ministry, at (260) 3260 or Doug Coate, athletic director, at (260) 434-7414.

**Students spend fall break in Europe examining issues related to nuclear weapons**

**NOTRE DAME** — At a time when nuclear threats from North Korea and Iran have the world on edge, 17 University of Notre Dame students will spend their fall break — Oct. 14 - 21 — in Europe meeting with leaders of organizations committed to controlling the proliferation of nuclear arms and other weapons of mass destruction (WMD).

The students are enrolled in a new seminar titled “Non Proliferation of WMD,” taught by political scientist Luc Reydams, who will lead the European field trip.

Among the officials with whom they will meet is Ambassador Greg Schulte, the permanent U.S. representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations office in Vienna and other international organizations in Vienna. He is responsible for advancing U.S. policies regarding proliferation, terrorism, organized crime and corruption, while promoting the peaceful use of nuclear energy.

The Notre Dame students also will meet with officials at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Swedish Peace and Arbitration Society, Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons at The Hague and Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization in Vienna.

In Belgium, they will tour World War I battlefields, the cemetery at Flanders Field and the town of Ypres, where chemical weapons were first used in war.

In addition to the tour, the students are reading five texts on nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, their proliferation, global efforts to reduce their numbers and the technology and politics related to WMDs. They also are viewing several documentaries and lectures, including talks delivered during a 2005 series at Notre Dame titled “Thoughts on the Unthinkable.”

Reydams organized the seminar after serving as a guest lecturer in a course titled “Nuclear Weapons and Nuclear Warfare,” taught by Michael Wiescher, professor of physics, the course examines the physics and technological aspects of nuclear weapons and associated ethical, legal and social issues.

Reydams earned degrees in law and in political and administrative sciences from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven and Université Catholique de Louvain. He practiced law in Brussels, Belgium, before coming to Notre Dame to earn two law degrees through the University’s Center for Civil and Human Rights. His book “Universal Jurisdiction: International and Municipal Legal Perspectives” was published in 2003 by Oxford University Press.

The European field trip is sponsored with a grant from the Undergraduate Intellectual Initiative at Notre Dame’s College of Arts and Letters.

For more information contact Luc Reydams at (574) 631-6954 or reydams.10@nd.edu.

** Relevant Radio’s Dick Lyle is among speakers at Serra conference**

**NOTRE DAME** — The South Bend Serra Club is pleased to announce that Dick Lyle, CEO of Relevant Radio, will be speaking at the Serra Club Regions 6 and 7 Conference that will take place Oct. 21-23 at Notre Dame. Relevant Radio was founded by Catholic businessman Mark Follett in response to Pope John Paul II’s call to the New Evangelization. Starting with just one station in 2000, WJOK — “With Jesus Our King” — in northeast Wisconsin, the network now has 17 stations, five in the top 25 markets, and 15 affiliates that carry Relevant Radio programming.

Relevant Radio, which is listener supported, is now the largest Catholic talk radio network in the U.S. and is available to a worldwide audience via streaming audio at www.relevantradio.com. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops approved Relevant Radio as a national media outlet in October of 2003.

Dick Lyles holds a B.S. degree from the U.S. Naval Academy, an M.A. in Human Behavior and a Ph.D. in business administration. He is an expert in leadership skills, management, customer service and global business trends. He has authored five books including “Winning Habits: 4 Secrets That Will Change the Rest of Your Life” and “Winning Ways: Four Secrets for Getting Great Results by Working Well with People.”

In Dick Lyles promises to be a great speaker who will inspire Serrans in their work of fostering and supporting vocations to the religious life which will be a key part of the New Evangelization.

Relevant Radio was created in answer to a challenge from our beloved Pope John Paul II. The late pope encouraged American Catholics to seize the means and methods of modern communication to inspire the faithful with a deeper understanding and commitment to Christ and the church.

This he called the New Evangelization.

Relevant Radio’s founder, Mark Follett, rose to the challenge and answered the pope’s call to action. Follett, a successful businessman and devout Catholic, prayed for guidance and assistance. He discerned that his new charge would be to begin the creation of a national Catholic radio network to “proclaim the wonders of God,” believing the local Catholic community would then support its growth and sustenance.

The FCC granted a transfer of license for title first station, 1050 AM, NJOK in Northeast Wisconsin on Dec. 12, 2000, the first Catholic Radio of Guadualupe, and the Relevant Radio network was born.

The Serra International USA Conference Region 7 Conference, hosted by the Serra Club of South Bend and Notre Dame, will also include Bishop Alexander K. Sample of the Diocese of Marquette, Mich., Sister Mary Ellen Johnson, CSC, coordinator of vocations, Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, CSC, president emeritus of the University of Notre Dame, Father Daniel Scheidt, associate pastor of St. Pius X Church, Granger, Fred and Lisa Everett of the Office of Family Life and Charles E. Rice, JD, professor emeritus of the University of Notre Dame Law School.

**Deacon Steinacker to be ordained to priesthood Oct. 28 in Cathedral**

**FORT WAYNE** — Bishop John M. D’Arcy will ordain Deacon Anthony Steinacker, of Fort Wayne, to the priesthood Sunday, Oct. 29, at 11 a.m. in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Preparation for Deacon Steinacker’s ordination to the priesthood are nearing completion. Recently, he spent five days at Gethsemani Retreat Center in Kentucky examining the required competencies.

Following the ordination Mass, the congregation is invited to a reception luncheon to be held at the nearby Grand Wayne Center.

Deacon Steinacker attended Ivy Tech and was employed at Scott’s Food in Fort Wayne before entering the seminary in 1997 at St. John’s Semininary College in Boston. He completed his theological studies for the priesthood at Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio. On Jan. 8, 2005, he was ordained a transitional deacon in the Cathedral.

Father Steinacker has been ministering at St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne.

**Correction**

In the Sept. 24 issue of Today’s Catholic, Sister Alice O’Brien was mistakenly identified as Sister Kathy O’Brien in the photo caption related to the article “Mom finds calling to religious life.”
Catching the spirit at the youth rally

BY JENNY MURRAY

NORTH MANCHESTER — Eight hundred twenty students participated in this year’s youth rally on Saturday, Oct. 7, at Manchester College. “Catch the Spirit” was the theme for this year, and it was evident that the Spirit was captured in the hearts of these youth as they continued to sing the common song, “We Are One Body” even after the band Grace On Demand stopped playing the song. Visibly moved by their enthusiasm, Bishop John M. D’Arcy asked the musicians to play a few more verses of the song and the kids sang with all their might and all their heart.

The Mass was the culminating service of the rally. The Eucharist was shared with all their might and all their hearts as they continued to sing the communion song, “We Are One Body” even after the Benediction ritual. Bishop D’Arcy asked the students to go to reconciliation with one another and to touch the end of his blessing monstrance to the end of the Mass. The students were given the opportunity to offer their first communion experience in front of the people present. They were entertained by a very humorous skit written by Bob Sedlmeyer and performed by the Indianapolis-based Grace On Expectation, APeX, entertained the young people with their heroic juggling, their amazing singing, and their contagious humor as they led the students through a story of a poor man who wanted to thank the king for saving him from famine. But on his journey to take his toilet plungers, his most favorite possessions, to the king as a gift of thanksgiving, he came across three villagers played by students from the audience. Each villager had a great need and were reluctant to give away his plungers. The students were given the opportunity to act out the skit and to represent these struggles; they represented the poor who wanted to give away their plunger, the king who received the gift joy from the man’s generosity.

After the skit, Brad Farmer of APeX, told the students, “God loves you so passionately that he brought you into existence. He stopped thinking about you even for a second, you would cease to exist.” Referring back to the story they had just acted out, he asked, “How do you repay the Creator of everything? We make a gift of who we are. You give the gift of yourself back to God in the way you love yourself and love others.”

The rest of the afternoon was spent in praise and worship as Grace On Demand led the students in singing to God and with another round of comedy and juggling by APeX. Gene Monterastrelli, the other half of the duo, allowed a student to put him in a strait jacket. As he tried to get out, he described some of his own struggles in life but he said the strait jacket did not represent his own struggles; they represented his poor choices in life.

With their upcoming confirmation, the students’ initiation into the church will be completed and the grace of the Holy Spirit, received in baptism, will be strengthened. Bishop D’Arcy exhorted the students not to be afraid. “Don’t be afraid of God, of Jesus, of the Holy Spirit. Don’t be afraid of being good, of being different.”

Please join us...and discover the benefits of a Saint Joseph’s High School education. We are Saint Joseph’s High School, a faith- and values-based college preparatory school dedicated to helping students grow intellectually, spiritually, and socially. Each is challenged to be more and do more.

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‘Your Vote ... Their Voice’ is banquet theme

BY DORONIE EBERSON

Fort Wayne — Numerous legislators were in attendance at the Grand Wayne Center recently for the ninth annual Banquet for Life co-hosted by Bishop John M. D’Arcy of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and Dr. Dean Wenthe, president of Concordia Theological Seminary. Other sponsors were the Three Rivers Educational Trust Fund and the Allen County Right to Life Committee.

The banquet’s theme, “Your Vote ... Their Voice,” was underscored throughout the evening as speakers outlined efforts to promote the pro-life agenda.

The annual Telemachus Award for outstanding volunteerism was presented to Susan Landrigan, former U.S. Senator Dan Coats, former U.S. Senator from Indiana and Ambassador to Germany.

Coats recognized Allen County Right to Life members as “foot soldiers” in his initial senate campaign and emphasized his continuing support of pro-life issues. The 1973 Roe v. Wade decision was never intended to be as broad, as expansive or as sweeping as it has become today, he said. Those Supreme Court justices never expected their ruling to be interpreted as “abortion on demand” or the absolute right to abortion, he pointed out.

Coats heaped lavish praise on President George W. Bush for his “heartfelt, deep commitment to life,” and said the upcoming election is important to the president and his ability to lead this country in the next two years. He assured his listeners that pro-life opponents are excited at the prospect of reversing that trend if they win a majority in the Nov. 7 congressional races.

Coats described the struggle. “We travel a long and winding road and some of it is uphill” in the battle to change hearts and transform values, he said in conclusion.

Third District Congressman Mark Souder added passionately, “We’re all in this battle ... our culture is under assault.” If pro-life proponents lose control, the results will be catastrophic and far-reaching, he said.

Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels added his voice to the chorus by praising Banquet for Life audience members and confirming that, beginning in 2007, a “Choose Life” Indiana license plate will become available.

With the continuing effort of his listeners, he predicted, “One day the rights of the unborn will be fully protected.”

Editor’s note: As elected officials in this story state, abortion is a great evil in American society, but the Catholic Church does not support any one political party or endorse one-issue voting. According to “Faithful Citizenship: a Catholic Call to Political Responsibility,” the U.S. bishops ask that Catholic voters take into account an array of issues, including the death penalty, war, care for the poor and vulnerable, economic and social justice, the rights of workers, the environment, family life and global solidarity.

OFFICE OF FAMILY LIFE
DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE–SOUTH BEND

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.

Please enclose a check for $40 made out to the Office of Family Life and send to:
Office of Family Life / Christian Marriage Conference
114 W. Wayne St. / South Bend, IN 46601

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BISHOP LUERS SCHOLARSHIP PLACEMENT EXAM

Saturday, November 4, 2006 at Bishop Luers High School
333 East Paulding Road - Fort Wayne
Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. - Exam ends at 12:00 noon
Cost $10.00 (to cover material)

There will be a Parent to Parent Meeting in the Library from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. The purpose of the test is two-fold. The test is to determine placement for the 2007-2008 school year. A total of $5,000 in scholarships will be awarded.

All Eighth Grade Students are invited to test.

A re-test for students unable to attend the first exam will take place Saturday, December 2, 2006. Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. Exam ends at 12:00 noon
Catholic Cemetery Christmas Wreaths for sale

Order one of three different beautiful 20” ARTIFICIAL wreaths set on a 30” green wire easel to be placed on your Loved One’s grave at the Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne. You have a choice between Wreath “A”, which is beautifully decorated with natural pine cones and variegated holly, accented with clusters of red berries and a red velvet bow, Wreath “B”, which is decorated with gold-accented natural pine cones, with twig and red poinsettia accents by a generous burlap velvet bow; and Wreath “C”, which is a lightly white wicker wreath nestled with pine cones and is accented with a large, bright red velvet bow. The Cemetery will install the wreath the week of December 1 and remove it after February 20, all for only $35.00 plus $1.98 tax = $36.98 each. Send a $35.00 check payable to the Catholic Cemetery, 5960 Lake Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN 46805-5572, with the name of the deceased, year of death, and your name, address and telephone number. Please indicate your wreath option and order by November 1, 2006. If you have any questions, please call the Catholic Cemetery Office at 260-426-2044. Supplies are limited. We reserve the right to substitute.

St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School
prayer boat sails on peaceful sea

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Area clergy and religious from several denominations, students, parents, teachers and many others gathered together at the University of St. Francis on Wednesday, Oct. 4, to participate in an interfaith peace service. The service, an extension of the dedication ceremonies for the new Pope John Paul II Center, hosted representatives from the Catholic, Muslim, Jewish and Buddhist faiths who offered prayers and blessings unique to each religion.

Following the ceremony, a pilgrimage to the campus lake brought those in attendance to a unique finale. Student representatives from two Catholic elementary schools launched miniature hand-made sail boats onto the peaceful waters.

An invitation to participate in the boat launching was extended to area schools this past summer, reports Louis Widner, principal of St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School (SJSE), encouraging the Catholic schools to participate in the dedication service. Specific guidelines required the boats to be hand-made, three-tiered sail boats where personal prayers and petitions would be included on the sails. Widner immediately took the invitation to Krista Spoltman, the school’s art teacher, who presented the idea to her elective class. The class, comprised of 14 middle school students, meets twice each week and was delighted to design and create the boat. During each class the students paired off to develop the six sails needed for the boat. The young artists used color pencils to create colorful city and ocean scenes and more. Each pair visited with underclassmen to obtain the petitions that would be added to the sails. The prayer petitions included intentions for family members, peace and others.

The design of the body of the boat came from Spoltman’s grandfather-in-law, John Spoltman. “John guided the design to float. He assigned tools and helped out,” reports Spoltman. The students diligently worked on the project in every art class since the beginning of the year. It became a bonding effort, says Spoltman, adding, “The younger kids in the school benefited from seeing the older kids work so hard on it and felt a part of it because of their offered petitions.”

Two students were chosen to represent their school at the interfaith peace ceremony boat launching. “It was an awesome opportunity for our school to be part of what’s happening at Saint Francis. Our students were challenged creatively and spiritually and together they produced a beautiful boat with petitions. It was a tremendous experience for the school.” Their boat and the floating petitions brought a beautiful symbolism to the interfaith peace ceremony that touched the hearts of many.

St. Charles School also participated in the boat launch.
Scott and Rita Zehr examine a recently-finished card, one of the many hand-painted original cards the couple creates for sale to benefit Matthew 25. The Zehrs have collaborated on this work almost three years.

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Senior Spirit

Hand-painted cards benefit Matthew 25

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Greeting cards have a way of blessing both the sender and the receiver. The verses and illustrations bring special meaning to the lives of so many every day. Rita and Scott Zehr know that well, as together they team to produce beautiful greeting cards they have recently dubbed “Joymark Cards.” Joymark Cards are specially designed watercolor abstracts and florals hand-painted by Rita, the artist of the family. She has loved watercolor her entire life and pursued art in college. Following her marriage to her beloved Scott in 1981 and subsequently adopting their two sons Jeremy and Jeff, she found herself with little time to pursue her passion.

“It has been a blessing and a gift to have these boys,” says the artist, adding that while raising the boys she didn’t feel free to work on her art. Now that the boys are grown all that has changed.

Zehr began to paint again in earnest about three years ago. Surrounded by the generous and talented people that make up the volunteer ministries at St. Mary Church, the parish Scott and Rita call home, Zehr, already a volunteer herself, searched for a venue in which her artwork might benefit the poor. Her inspiration came from an article she read on autism, where a musical CD was produced and sold for a donation toward autism research. But the greeting card idea was offered by a fellow volunteer at church.

“Someone suggested cards. They had confidence that I could do it, and I had encouragement from Scott,” says Zehr. So began the production of Joymark Cards. Initially Zehr began painting flowers in watercolor on pre-cut card stock. Other supplies purchased gradually over time include glue, colored paper, paper cutter, pens and a multitude of brushes in varying sizes and shapes.

Birthday and sympathy were the first themes she chose to offer.

“I created a few to start. Friends ordered them, and it spread by word of mouth,” she says. The first six months of production, Zehr recalls asking only a donation for the purchase of the cards. Currently, each card is priced at $2.50, a bargain at the price not only because of the beautifully unique artwork but because of how the proceeds are used. All earnings from the sale of the cards goes directly to Matthew 25, a full-time health and dental clinic that provides free primary healthcare services to the uninsured and low-income residents of Allen County.

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“I call it a win-win situation. You’re giving to Matthew 25 and getting a beautiful greeting card,” offers Zehr.

Nancy Schenkel, administrator at Matthew 25, says of the Zehrs’ enterprise, “This is a perfect example of how we’ve been able to sustain Matthew 25 for 30 years. People like the Zehrs come and do things like the cards and give the proceeds to Matthew 25. It’s been a community effort. I never would have believed they would sell over $2,500 worth of cards in such a short time.”

The original water color cards, which initially included only stamped verses, are continually evolving with Zehr’s creative inspiration. “There are no recreations. I love to create and do something different,” she says. Currently she is developing abstract florals and the verses are now all her own, some of which include scripture. Scott assists in the printing of the original verses and says, “I just follow her lead. She uses art as a tool for expressing herself. She expresses the character of our Maker, nature and the world we live in. That creates a person I like to be around.”

The couple has taken the cards to area churches for sale as well as to their own parish of St. Mary. Three large notebooks hold the cards that include birthday, sympathy, get well, best wishes, wedding, birth, and note cards and are available for perusal at any time. And of course, friends support this ministry with generous donations in exchange for the cards. “A friend in Goshen orders 20 cards at a time and donates $100,” reports Zehr. “We have consistent customers. It’s encouraging to have folks continue to buy them.” She has been delighted to receive her own creations in the mail from friends on several occasions.

Each month the Zehrs visit Matthew 25 to offer their donation from the card sales. Walking through the crowded lobby amidst the area residents in need, Zehr says softly, “We are fortunate to be able to do this. There but by the grace of God I.”

This faith-filled duo works on the cards in their kitchen every spare minute they have. They are experimenting with tri-fold cards this season and are in the process of creating a children’s line that will contain special poems that can be saved. The call to use their talents has the Zehrs devoted to continuing their ministry of giving for years to come, as long as their health holds up.

“It’s our faith in action,” they say sincerely. “We feel every one is in the body of Christ and needs love and care. If our cards will inspire people to make the world a better place it’s worth it.”

For more information on Joymark Cards, email the Zehrs at razehr@juno.com.
Senior Circle promotes friendship, senior health

By Michelle Donaghey

South Bend — Mass, friends, food, fellowship and a special guest or two all add up to a good time once a month for seniors at Little Flower Parish.

“We really enjoy the friendship of the group and the activities we have had are just great,” said Marge Smith of the Little Flower Senior Circle group.

Every Thursday, seniors are invited to come for Mass, lunch, a special guest speaker and fellowship starting at 11:30 a.m. Attendance is not mandatory for every month’s meeting, and numbers vary from season to season.

“Who knows how many we’ll have! Sometimes we have 35 or more people and other times, much less,” said Joe Meyer, one of the group’s leaders.

Meyer said that everyone who comes brings their own lunch. Drinks are provided along with cookies sometimes. Speakers vary.

“We have a steering committee that decides,” Meyer noted. Speaking for their group is a doctor who explained Medicare Part D, an antique appraiser who offered an “Antiques Roadshow” of sorts, a speaker on the history of the flag, with different flags to show, and a county policeman who spoke on how seniors can protect themselves. The senior’s group even got a special trip to Shank’s Piano and Organ where they enjoyed a mini concert.

Recently, Tom Shafer, a University of Notre Dame law professor, spoke to the group. Once a year, the Circle has their annual summer picnic. Previously, they met in a local park but now hold the event behind the church in a grassy area.

Members range in age from 55 to 90 years old. It doesn’t matter what age they are, just that they come to enjoy getting together, especially when it includes a sing-a-long, as it did at a recent meeting.

“It’s great to get out and to see a lot of people you know and don’t know,” said Vi Pritzel, of the benefits of coming to the Senior Circle.

“It was a really nice way to get reestablished here (in the area),” said Smith, who noted that she and her husband, Bill, originally from the South Bend, had lived in Fremont for several years before coming back to the area.

Groups like the Little Flower Senior Circle are great for senior health. According to a 10-year longevity study of people aged 70 and older, researchers at the Centre for Aging Studies at Flinders University in Adelaide, Australia found that having a connection with a group of good friends is more likely than close family relationships to increase longevity in older people. This report, based on the Australian Longitudinal Study of Aging (ALSA), was published in the Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health.

New legislation allows for lifetime gift from IRA

Question: What is the IRA charitable rollover?

Answer: Among the new tax provisions in the Pension Protection Act of 2006, which President Bush signed into law on Aug. 17, is the IRA charitable rollover. This allows donors who are 70½ or older to transfer funds directly from their individual retirement account (IRA) to a public charitable organization without having to report the withdrawal as income.

Previously, if a donor wanted to use IRA funds for a charitable contribution, he or she would have had to withdraw the funds from his or her IRA account and then contribute the money to the charity. The amount withdrawn was taxable income and reportable on the individual’s income tax return. Depending on whether the donor qualified to itemize deductions, he or she could take a charitable deduction for the amount given to charity, but only up to 50 percent of adjusted gross income.

Note: This information is for edcational purposes only and is not intended for tax advice. Please consult with your professional advisor.

Joe Meyer smiles as he hands out song books at a recent Senior Circle meeting. The group that meets monthly recently had a sing-a-long as part of their activities following Mass, lunch and a speaker.

The Doctor is In Live (1-2 p.m.), Heart Mind and Strength Live (12-1 p.m.), The Elder Angle (9 a.m.), 4th Saturdays, Entertaining the Soul — Mass and Rosary (10-11:30 a.m.), Local Priest Reflections (11-4:30 a.m.), Divine Mercy (3 p.m.), Senior Circle promotes friendship, senior health

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

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EDITORIAL

‘Dictatorship of relativism’ alive in the U.S.

In his homily before the Sacred Conclave to elect a new pope, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (now Pope Benedict XVI) spoke of the “dictatorship of relativism” plaguing the Western world. By the word “relativism” he was speaking of a philosophical attitude by which people live as if there are no absolute truths. Rather, according to this attitude, truth is only what a person or a group of persons decide that it want to be. By “dictatorship,” he means to add that this philosophical attitude is being forced by those who hold it on the entirety of society.

That the “dictatorship of relativism” is alive and well in our country can be seen in the following examples. First is the heinous attitude in our country concerning a baby in the womb. On the one hand, if a person attacks a pregnant woman and her baby dies as a result of this attack, in most jurisdictions, the attacker can be charged with homicide, and rightly so. However, if a mother decides that she does not want the child in her womb, the law of the land gives her the freedom to murder that child. In other words, the given situation in our country is that if the baby in the womb is wanted by the mother, it is a child; if it is not wanted by the mother then it is simply a bunch of cells that can be discarded. This is the relativistic view that has been forced on our country, and this view is simply an evil smokescreen used to discard unwanted humans. The truth is that what exists, exists outside of our opinion of it. A tree is a tree no matter what else you might think that it is, and a child is a child whether the mother wants that child or not.

A second example of the “dictatorship of relativism” in our country is the continual push in areas to redefine marriage as an institution that can be entered into by two men or two women. The push for gay marriage, as it is called, is an attempt to decide according to our own whims what marriage is. However, marriage is what it is apart from what any of us might think that it should be. God has given us marriage to be the partnership of the whole of life between a man and a woman which is meant to be procreative and unitive. “Gay marriage” cannot be either. It cannot be procreative for obvious reasons, and it cannot be unitive because those of the same sex were not meant to be joined together in this way by the Creator. This relativistic view is in the process of being forced on our country from some quarters. However, again, a tree is a tree no matter what else you might think that it is, and marriage is what it is no matter how we might try to redefine it.

Catholics have a responsibility to be formed in the truth, and then to use our rightful political power to keep society from the continual march of the dictatorships of relativism, lest our country continue to fall prey to these distortions of reality.

Only God is absolute

The week after Pope Benedict’s election, Cardinal Carlo Martini, SJ, himself a contender for the papacy, said in a homily in Milan, “Only God is absolute. All human efforts are relative to the end of time. Then all human works will appear in their true value, and all things will be made clear, will be illumined, and will be pacified” (quoted from “A Church in Search of Itself” by Robert Blair Kaiser).

This does not change what then-Cardinal Ratzinger said. It merely embellishes it by reminding us that, as the Scriptures say, God causes the sun to rise on the evil and the good, that Christians are called to exercise charity and mercy as they seek to correct the errors of their time and trust that, no matter what happens, God is in control and will make everything right in the end.

Pope supports family policies

BY CHARLES E. RICE

Are you trying to decide how to vote this November? Benedict XVI can help you decide whether your religion or lack thereof.

In a little-noticed March 30 address to Filipino theologians, Benedict spelled out three “non-negotiable” principles for the public arena. They are not “truths of faith,” but rather “are inscribed in human nature” and are therefore “common to all humans, regardless of their individual beliefs and voters in the United States. Achieving a “just society,” said Benedict, is the job of “politics, not of the church.” As he said in his first encyclical, Deus Caritas Est (God is Love), the job of the Church is to “help form consciences in political life.” She does not seek to impose “ways of thinking and acting” but “conduct proper to faith” but argues “on the basis of reason and natural law” so as to reawaken “spiritual energy.”

The first principle stated by Benedict requires “protection of life in all its stages, from the first moment of conception until natural death.” That recommendation was dead-on-arrival in the United States. Abortion and euthanasia are moving beyond the practical reach of the law. Early abortion technology is making abortion by pill a private event. At the moment of conception, the “right to life” is not of the church.” As he said in his first encyclical, Deus Caritas Est (God is Love), the job of the Church is to “help form consciences in political life.”

Terri’s killing. He ordered that Michael Schiavo “shall cause the removal of nutrition and hydration from Theresa Schiavo, at 1 p.m. on Friday, March 18, 2005.” That was as much a scheduled execution as the ones they do at the Florida state prison in Raiford. This is the first time ever that an American court ordered the execution of a concededly innocent person accused of no crime. On this the pope, to say the least, is out of sync with American law and culture. But, regardless of what the law says, “all Catholics,” as the American bishops said last March, “are obliged to shape their consciences in accord with the moral teaching of the Church.” And vote accordingly.

Benedict’s second principle requires “recognition and promotion of the natural structure of the family—as a union between a man and a woman based on marriage and procreation. The main political issue is whether to confer the name or legal incert of marriage on same-sex unions.”

Professor Emeritus Charles Rice is on the University of Notre Dame Law School faculty. He can be reached at (574) 633-4415 or charles.rice.1@nd.edu.

Bulletin of the Diocesan Director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith
School safety issues affect public, Catholic schools alike

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Recent deadly school shootings, in particular what occurred in the one-room Amish schoolhouse in Pennsylvania, shattered an illusion that some schools are immune from violent attacks.

The incident, two of them involving intruders, sparked an Oct. 10 summit convened by the White House. The Conference on School Safety took place after the latest school shooting victims had been buried but while the issue was still fresh with the Oct. 9 arrest of a 13-year-old student for firing an assault weapon in a Missouri middle school.

Summit participants, who included educators, police officers, White House officials and students, discussed ways to combat school violence, but they were leery about offering any sweeping solutions. Speakers emphasized the need to have crisis plans in place and to practice them, to take bullying and threats seriously and to have open communications with school parents.

The daylong event in Chevy Chase, Md., highlighted local prevention programs and called attention to online resources available for schools, but did not introduce any new policies or program funding and was criticized by some for failing to mention the role of guns in school shootings.

One participant, Michael Caruso, assistant superintendent for secondary schools and government relations in the Washington Archdiocese, said a key part of the meeting was “identifying the best practices” in place for violence prevention. Catholic school officials need to be part of this discussion, he said, because their schools are just as vulnerable to external attacks as any other school.

Sister Mary Angola Shaughnessy, a Sister of Charity and an education professor at Spalding University in Louisville, Ky., said she was invited to a similar discussion several years ago with then-President George W. Bush.

Secretary Richard Riley. Talking about school violence is at least a starting point, she said, particularly since these incidents don’t show signs of abating.

In fact, Sister Shaughnessy has been talking about school safety for the past 20 years. The nun, who is a lawyer and legal consultant to many Catholic dioceses, has written several books and articles on school safety and frequently lectures on the topic across the country.

“For the first 10 years, no one took me seriously,” she told Catholic News Service in an Oct. 12 telephone interview recounting her pleas with Catholic school administrators to prepare for worst-case scenarios. But that changed in the past decade, particularly after the 1999 shootings at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., and a shooting five years ago at a Catholic school in the Diocese of Scranton, Pa.

Today, she said, most dioceses mandate that their schools have plans.

LETTER, PAGE 15

Reflection

The Lord came into the world as the Redemeer. His mission was to redeem, or rescue, humanity from its own plight, a plight created by willful sin and voluntary rejection of God.

Sin had disordered and weakened every aspect of human nature and its effects is throughout earthly life. These readings call us to face all these realities. We live in a material world. As disciples, we look to the spirit. We live in a world in which sin is strong, and sinners are many. It is a world with little love, and with little justice.

So, we must swim upstream. It will be difficult, accomplished only with God’s help. If we ask for it, God’s help will come. We can, and will, succeed in our purpose to be with God in the great new kingdom of peace and justice.

READINGS

29th week of ordinary time

Monday: Eph 2:1-10 Ps 1002-5 Lk 12:13-21

Tuesday: Eph 2:12-22 Ps 859-14 Lk 12:35-38

Wednesday: Eph 3:12-13 Ps 122-6 Lk 12:39-40

Thursday: Eph 3:14-21 Ps 331-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19 Lk 12:49-53

Friday: Eph 4:1-6 Ps 241-6 Lk 12:54-59

Saturday: Eph 2:19-22 Ps 192-5 Lk 12:16-17

THE CATEQUIZ’EM

by Dominic Camplisson

This quiz looks at an aspect of Catholicism almost as old as the Church, the Catholic press.

1. When did Catholic publishing begin?
   a. during the Apostolic Age, in the first century A.D.
   b. in the fourth century when Christianity was legalized
   c. in the 16th century after the invention of the printing press

2. What is the most widely disseminated example of Catholic writings?
   a. Dick and Jane’s liturgy reader
   b. the Romanish Catechism of 1666
   c. the Bible (including of course much Jewish writing)

3. During the Middle Ages, what was the normal way for Catholic writings to get reproduced?
   a. They were copied by hand, most often in monastic communities.
   b. They were duplicated in the lost wax process.
   c. They were copied by Arab converts, as they were usually the only literate people.

4. In the Americas, when did Catholic writings first appear?
   a. in the 3rd century when St. Brendan sailed here from Ireland.
   b. possibly with the Vikings in Vineland, but definitively with the Spanish
   c. 1776 after the declaration of Independence made it legal

5. One of the most significant modern organizations in the field of Catholic writings is the "CPA." What is that?
   a. it is the Communist Party of America, a sad but true symptom of politics in the church.
   b. it is the Catholic and Presbyterian Alliance, which focuses on ecumenism.
   c. Catholic Press Association

6. Where is the CPA headquartered?
   a. New York State
   b. the Vatican
   c. the exclave of Baltimore in Washington D.C.

7. Although headquartered there, what two countries does the CPA serve?
   a. the Vatican City and Italy
   b. the U.S. and Canada
   c. the U.S. and Mexico

8. Who are members?
   a. newspapers, magazines, writers, other businesses and individuals
   b. former or retired priests who are also journalists
   c. no one knows, it is by Canon Law a secret society

9. The CPA represents
   a. only (by Canon Law) Roman Catholic publications.
   b. Roman and Eastern Catholic Publications.
   c. no one knows, it is by Canon Law a secret society

10. Among publications in languages other than English they list
   a. Australian, Irish and Creole.
   b. French, Spanish and Slovak.
   c. Yiddish, Arabic and Punjabi.

11. Among prizes awarded each year by the CPA are:
   a. Newspaper, Magazine, Combination, Spanish and Book Awards.
   b. The best looking quiz writer award.
   c. First with the Worst, for the least tasteful Catholic story of the year.

12. According to the CPA, what is the true mission of a Catholic publication?
   a. to generate revenue from any legal method, knowing that the money will be put to good use
   b. to tell the public what they want to hear and avoid controversial topics
   c. to inform and to form public opinion in conformity with truth and the pursuit of truth

13. In regards to advertising, what principles does the CPA lay down?
   a. Be mindful of economic diversity of readers and ensure ads match the publication’s mission.
   b. Remember that dollars are color blind and agnostic.
   c. Adverts should only be for artifacts and books as otherwise it is too misleading.

ANSWERS: 1a, 2c, 3a, 4b, 5c, 6a, 7b, 8a, 9b, 10b, 11a, 12c, 13a.
Living in an I, me, mine world

As I prepared to close out our 2006 spring baseball season, I took my team gathering at a local pizza establishment. I went over my notes, brushing up on the talks I was going to give to the parents and players recap- ping our season.

“Try not to say I. Say we instead,” reminded my wife as we were walking out the door. She was absolutely right. Rather than talk in all-inclusive terms, I have a tendency to say, well, I, I thought this and I think that. I decided to do this and I decided this. My wife told him this and I told him that.

It’s really a very bad habit. Not only is it a bad habit, but it’s also bad for the world I live in. See, I did it again. It’s not the world I live in; it’s the world we all live in. The way I do things doesn’t revolve around me; it revolves around God and his creation.

It’s a disease that afflicts many of us. We tend to be so self-centered in our view of life that everything is measured by how it affects numero uno.

Quite frankly, it’s no wonder we tend to view life in “I, me, mine” terms. Everything is measured by how it affects numero uno.

For a brief 20-minute talk, the Marian baseball program was not something that had a direct bearing on me, but rather, a collective group of young men and their coaches had tried very hard to put their selfish attitudes aside to focus on one goal — the team. Based upon the talent we have coming back in our senior and junior classes, we have an excellent chance to achieve several goals this spring.

I — excuse me — we are planning on it.
**Animal Rights vs. Human Rights**

Sometimes sincere people concerned with protecting the rights of others will express sentiments along these lines: “Animal rights advocates are eager to protect all kinds of animal life, but they are only concerned with the most important animal of all, the human animal. They are willing to save the whales, but want to sacrifice the bugs.” Protecting animals can never be as important a task as protecting young children from sexual molestation, or embryonic stem cell research or other forms of experimentation.”

Such a viewpoint, though fundamentally correct, should not be taken to signify that animal abuse in our society is an ethical issue that we care little about. The concern for exercising proper stewardship over animals ought to be a balanced part of a broader concern to avoid exploiting the vulnerable, wherever they are encountered.

The Catholic Church recognizes how man holds a special place in creation, while remaining an integral part of that creation. Man’s first act of responsibility in life is to take over the care of God’s creatures and to tend them with love and care as God’s stewards. Every life is sacred to God, and likeness, he still belongs to the animal kingdom. Feet on the ground, Ms. Thomas, stars, man experiences a limited domination over the world and over the realm of creation and the dominion taking the animal kingdom. He perenially faces the question of how to properly exercise that domination, which includes the stewardship of these animals. Speaking alongside a Jewish rabbi, the president of the Humane Society, a representative from a group called Farm Sanctuary and several others, I found myself in the midst of an unusual gathering of people from widely different political and religious perspectives. The experience reminded me of how the Catholic Church is uniquely positioned to speak across many societal strata and participate in many interrelated levels of ethical understanding. In my comments, I stressed that the proper care and stewardship of animals should sensitize us not only to the vulnerability of the human being, but also to the vulnerability of our brother beings.

The production of foie gras is instead oriented toward the satisfaction of a desired desire, a disturbing desire to satisfy the human palate to the point of promoting serious animal mistreatment. Some old Catholic manualists might even advert to the term, “animal delection” to describe the root problem of a disordered palatte that promotes other disorders. Animals are an important part of our creation, and we must live in an ordered way with them, exercising a responsible stewardship as the gift that they really are. Even those animals used for legitimate purposes ought to be treated humanely with reasonable housing, care, food, companionship and pain control if needed.

Pope Benedict XVI’s aca- demic talk at Regensburg, Germany, on Sept. 12, though now delivered over a month ago, is still relevant. It’s in the news. That our pope is so closely listened to testifies to the weight of his words in our fractured world and to the Catholic Church’s importance today. It also emphasizes the importance of religious dialogue, especially inter-religious dialogue.

Toronto’s The Catholic Register ran a piece by Michael Swan titled “Canada’s Catholic-Muslim dialogue continues forward in wake of pope’s remarks.” One line was especially significant: “The official dialogue between Christians and Muslims in Canada, unanimously passed a resolution calling for continued dialogue, ‘whatever the sub- sequent or even the failure of any individual.’ Where dialogue has begun, the world of good will, mutual understanding and esteem that it creates is not easily dismantled. Difficulties and movement backward certan- ly are expected, but knowing how to deal with them and how to continue to move for- ward are integral to this work.”

Dialogue is a part of the evangelizing mission of the church, according to the 1991 document “Catholic Identity.” The Pope’s document, “Papa Benedetto XVI, a ‘nuevo’ Papa” (D.P. 8, quoting Evangelii Nuntiandi 18). This evangelizing mission is “a single but complex and articulated reality,” comprised of these principal elements: “presence and witness; commitment to social development and human liberation; liturgical prayer and contemplation; interreligious dialogue; and, finally, proclamation and catechesis” (D.P. 2). Each of these elements “has its own place”: each is a “component element and authentic form of the one evangelizing mission of the church.”

“Proclamation,” the final ele- ment in the list, “occupies such an important place in evangelization that it has often become synonymous with it; and yet it is only one aspect of evangelization” (D.P. 8). Proclamation, then, more specifically, that evangelization, is “the clear and unambiguously proclamion of the Lord Jesus” (D.P. 8, quoting EN 22). The goal of religious dialogue is greater understanding and esteem between religions. This goal is reflected in the “dis- positions” (DP 47-50) needed for dialogue. The first disposition is for “a balanced attitude.” Dialogue requires openness and receptivity, “the will to engage together in commitment to the truth, to find the goodness to allow oneself to be transformed by the encounter.” This means that one can study the texts of another religion, but until one sits down and actually engages in a real discussion with a believer in the other religion of what the text means, and understand it as the other faith understands it, you have not been engaged in dialogue.

Second, dialogue’s disposition requires openness to the differences of others, but also a well grounded, stong commitment to one’s own tradition. “The sincerity of interreligious dialogue consists in the fact that each enters into it with the integrity of his or her own faith.”

And fourth, these disposisions allow for “the fruits of dialogue.” Dialogue is a step in opening up to the profane prejudices, to revisioning misconception, and even sometimes to allow the understanding of their faith, a “new openness to truth.”

“Openness to truth” is required. Through dialogue we may move beyond our negative and prejudicial ideas, to revise our perspectives, and even sometimes to allow the understanding of their faith, a “new openness to truth.”

“Father Thomas Shoemaker

Ordained to the priesthood: Nov. 19, 1990
Pastor, St. Jude, Fort Wayne

What was your primary influence in your decision to become a priest?

After two years of practicing dentistry, I didn’t think that I was making a major contribution in the world with my life. When I started thinking in those terms, God start pulling me in this direction.

What is the most rewarding part of being a priest?

Celebrating the sacraments. We are privileged to touch people and touch God in profound mystery.

What are your interests and hobbies?

Woodworking, oil painting, travel, gardening, biking, piano, skiing.

Do you have any pets?

No.

What is your favorite reading material?

Russian novels and “Calvin and Hobbes” comics.

What is the best part of being Catholic?

Our connection through the sacraments with the church around the world and through the centuries.

Meet The Priest
Field drops to four

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — With the CYO football season coming to a close, just four teams remain after the first round of the tournament, St. John, New Haven, St. John, Fort Wayne, St. Vincent and St. JAT. St. John, New Haven upset their record to 6-2 after beating St. Jude in the first game of the day 24-16. The Raiders jumped out to a 16-0 lead at the half with touchdowns from Michael and Nick McCarthy. Michael McCarthy had another run in the second half, this time for an eight-yard touchdown. St. Jude mounted a late comeback with their passing game to make it 24-16 and then recovered an onside kick late in the final quarter. Their comeback was ended following Tim Wilson’s 13-yard run in the final minutes of the game to prevent a possible overtime situation. The Knights advance to the semifinals and will face the number 1 seed, the unbeaten Eagles of St. John, Fort Wayne, in a 1 p.m. match up at the University of Saint Francis Sunday, Oct. 22.

Raiders stay undefeated

In CYO sixth grade action, St. John, New Haven, won the “battle of the unbeaten” by holding off a tough Holy Cross team, 12-6. Holy Cross scored on their first offensive play of the game taking advantage of great field position following a missed punt snap. But it was all St. John’s after that. Adam McCarthy scored on a 15-yard run and Graham Renberger on a 50-yard sprint to seal the victory. Dillon Carey had an interception for 25 yards and a 40-yarder to James Knapke. Duv Kiermayer had two interceptions for touchdowns. Alex Stronczek had a 30-yard touchdown reception from James Knapke and Devon Caufey had a 15-yard run. Alex Stronczek was 2-2 on PATs for touchdowns. Alex Stronczek was 2-2 on PATs for the Raiders who finished unbeaten for yet another week while Alex Wharton and Tim Wilson’s 13-yard run in the final minutes of the game to clinch the win.

Defensive assistants and Bishop Luers graduates, Andy Niezer and Andy Jackson and the St. JAT defense held the Cardinals at the three-yard line in the final minutes of the game to prevent a possible overtime situation. The Knights advance to the semifinals and will face the number 1 seed, the unbeaten Eagles of St. John, Fort Wayne, in a 1 p.m. match up at the University of Saint Francis Sunday, Oct. 22.

ICCL regular season winds down in final match ups

SOUTH BEND — The football teams representing Mishawaka Catholic and Holy Family moved into the final rounds of the post season Intercity Catholic League tournament with hard fought victories. The Saints of Mishawaka Catholic nipped St. Matthew Blazers, 8-6, as Andrew Davidson booted the winning extra point, following Tim Wilson’s 13-yard run in the final minutes of the game to prevent a possible overtime situation. The Knights advance to the semifinals and will face the number 1 seed, the unbeaten Eagles of St. John, Fort Wayne, in a 1 p.m. match up at the University of Saint Francis Sunday, Oct. 22.

FORT WAYNE — The eighth-grade girls’ volleyball team from Queen of Angels is off to an outstanding start according to Coach Tim Houser. In his 14th season, Houser and his Royals recently competed in the fourth annual Lakeside Middle School Volleyball Invitational at Taylor University. The all-day tournament took place on Saturday, Oct. 7.

Of the five teams participating, Queen of Angels was the only CYO school on the program. The Royals won four out of six matches to earn runner-up title. Miami Middle School beat the Royals 15-8 in the championship tiebreaker after splitting the first two games.

Liz Jones, Teresa Hilger, Laura Merz, Alanna Richardson, Sydney Spurgeon, Brianna Fritwou, Victoria Myers, Emily Hanic, Angelina Aquirre, Chelsie Cady, Sara Weong, Alex Haag and Aggie Nicholas make up this year’s roster.


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Life in Progress
A fresh look at the Mass


Reviewed by Jill Bughton

In this slim volume, South Bend author Ken Peters gives Catholics a fresh way to look at the Mass. His meditative reflection juxtaposes the progression of the Mass to an individual’s spiritual journey from purification through illumination to union with Christ.

Peters takes one section or phrase at a time from the Mass, and suggests how to enter into each more attentively, experiencing purification through the penitential rite, illuminative reflection through the Liturgy of the Word and unifying transformation through the Liturgy of the Eucharist. He concludes by showing how the dismissal empowers us to remain in Christ so we can act contemplatively in the world.

I found particularly inspiring Peters’ meditations on the Eucharistic prayers, including such phrases as “take away the sins of the world” as applied to us in our union with Jesus Christ. In just over 100 pages, Peters can only hint at the richness of the spiritual masters. He draws heavily from the work of Father Adrian VanKaan, CSSp, and Dr. Susan Muto, occasionally leaving the reader floundering in jargon such as “self-alienation” and “pre-transcendent natures,” which would have been made more comprehensible by real-life examples. I would have appreciated an appendix to the entire text of the eucharistic prayers.

However, this is a powerful little book, providing a fresh perspective on rituals we too often take for granted.

A retired editor with Ave Maria Press, Peters and wife Ellie are active members of St. Joseph Church, South Bend.

“Alex Rider: Operation Stormbreaker” (Weinstein)

Adapted from a strong action adventure based on the first volume of the popular children’s book series by Anthony Horowitz, about a London teen (Alex Pettyfer) who, after learning that his recently deceased uncle (Ewan McGregor) was a secret agent for the British government, is recruited into the spy biz to investigate a Soviet American billionaire (Mickey Rourke) who’s planning to use his high-tech “stormbreaker” computer to steal a top-secret government file. Despite a lightweight script padded with chases and explosions, director Geoffrey Sax keeps the action fast-paced and the tone amusingly campy, though some of the story elements may be a bit grim for some young viewers. Some nonaction graphic violence and scenes of peril. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

“Inferno” (Warner Independent)

Author Truman Capote (a bravura turn by Tobey Mag) travels to Kansas with his friend, “To Kill a Mockingbird” author Nelle Harper Lee (Sandra Bullock), after the brutal murder of the wealthy Little family in 1959, and decides to write the nonfiction novel that became “In Cold Blood” by interviewing the townpeople, the authorities (Jeff Daniels), and the killers themselves (Daniel Craig and Lee Pace). The similarities and differences between this version (by writer-director Douglas McGrath), with more humor and greater scope, and director Bennett Miller’s “Capote” (made at the same time) are interesting. It also boasts a starry supporting cast (Gwyneth Paltrow, Sigourney Weaver, Hope Davis, Ron Rifkin and Juliet Stevenson) as his high-society friends back in New York. Some gay elements involving Capote and one of the killers, innuendo, discreet but strong re-creation of the murders, some gritty images, two hangings, rough and crude language and expressions, an irreverent remark, domestic violence, and abortion and suicide references. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

“The Queen” (Miramax)

Absorbing British drama about the days following the death of Princess Diana, as new Prime Minister Tony Blair (Michael Sheen) tries to revenge Queen Elizabeth (Helen Mirren) to express public remorse about her former daughter-in-law, as public grief reaches fever proportions. Stephen Frears directs beautifully, and even if Peter Morgan’s script is mostly speculative, what we see on screen plays convincingly, with a fine cast (including Alex Jennings, Helen McCrory and Roger Allam) and Mirren whose crassly yet wry performance is a tour de force. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

“Jesus Camp” (Magnolia)

Fascinating and frightening listening documentary about an evangelical summer camp where children are trained to lead the fight in “reclaiming America for Christ” through a militant Christianity which critics claim has little to do with the Gospel. Co-directors Heidi Ewing and Rachel Grady give voice to both those who charge that what is being done is harmful indoctrination and those who see it as instilling passionately held religious values. While it’s understandable that many of the evangelicals interviewed earnestly feel alienated by the increasingly secular, materialistic culture — and many of those same concerns may resonate with Catholics — the picture is quite sobering. Some emotionally intense images and mature discussion. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

FUNDRAISERS

Dinner benefits Christmas project
Fort Wayne — The St. Martin de Porres Society of St. Mary Parish will have a Finger-Lickin’ barbecue dinner on Sunday, Oct. 29, at St. Mary’s Oechtering Hall following the 10:45 a.m. liturgy. Menu of barbecue ribs, tips or chicken, cole slaw, baked beans, potato salad, dessert and beverages. Adults $8, children (3-10) $4, children under 3 yrs. free. Proceeds benefit the Christmas Family Charitable Project.

Fish fry
New Haven — The Holy Name Society of St. John the Baptist will have a fish fry on Friday, Oct. 20, from 4 to 7 p.m. Adults $6.50, children 5-12 $3.50 and children under 5 free.

Spaghetti supper and country store
South Bend — Corpus Christi church and school will have a spaghetti supper and country store on Thursday, Oct. 26, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Adults: $8, children (5-12) $3 and children under 3 free. Spaghetti dinner includes: all-you-can-eat spaghetti, salad, bread and dessert. Country store will have holiday items, candles, home decor, homemade apple butter and more as well as second hand treasures. Tickets available at the rectory or at the door. For information, call (574) 272-9982.

CRAFT 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. 18 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be 40 booths, a raffle and concession stand. For booth rental and information call Julie Voir at (574) 255-4360.

Fancy fair and cookie bar held
Rome City — A fancy fair and cookie bar will be held at St. Gaspar Church Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch available.

St. Charles plans craft fair
Fort Wayne — A craft fair will be held at St. Charles Parish Saturday, Nov. 4, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Over 140 vendors will be on hand. St. Charles is located at the corner of Trier and Reed roads.

Rosary Society sponsors craft show
Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood Parish, 1515 Barhold Ave., will host a craft show on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the school gym.

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.

Craft bazaar held at BD
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 plans bazaar
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

Worldwide Marriage Encounter
Fort Wayne — The Nov. 17-19 Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held at the Signature Inn. Call the registration Couple, Mike and Julia Roszkowski (574) 243-0743 or register directly at www.wmeme-ni.org.

Encountering Christ offers presentation on St. Mother Theodore Guerin
Fort Wayne — Sr. May Ann Phelan, SP, of the Sisters of Providence, will be speaking about the miracles leading to the Oct. 15 canonization of this first Indiana saint. The presentation will take place at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, 915 S. Clinton on Sunday, Nov. 5, at 1 p.m. For information, call Jenny Murray at (260) 422-4611.

Local author signs book
Fort Wayne — Raquel Hanic, author of “My Daddy Never Died” (Queenship Publishing Company), will hold a book signing at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21, at Abba House Christian Books and Gifts, 3209 North Anthony Blvd. Hanic is a parishioner of Queen of Angels Parish.

Fall concert at Bishop Dwenger
Fort Wayne — The Bishop Dwenger music department will have a fall concert on Sunday, Oct. 22, at 2 p.m. in the gym. The band, orchestra, choir and show choir will perform. Admission is free.

GAP singles meet Oct. 20
Fort Wayne — Singles between the 40s and 60s: The GAP will host a chili and hotdog dinner on Friday, Oct. 20, at 7 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Parish. Enjoy cards, pumpkin carving contest and more. No costumes. Admission $3. For information call (260) 432-7346 or e-mail gap4565@msn.com.

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