FORT WAYNE — “They were enjoying the meal while we were just reading the menu,” related noted Catholic author Scott Hahn as he spoke to a crowd of nearly 1,000 people gathered at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Fort Wayne to hear his personal story of conversion to the Catholic faith. Hahn was the featured speaker during a day-long retreat sponsored by St. Vincent de Paul Church, Rekindle The Fire men’s group and Redeemer Radio on Saturday, Feb. 10.

Hahn made the comment about the “menu” in relation to the Eucharist, which he felt was missing from his former Presbyterian faith life. It was through intensive study and teaching of Scripture that he came to the realization that he desired the Eucharist, and that led him to conversion.

In addition to being a nationally recognized author and speaker on Scripture and the Catholic faith, he is known for formerly having spent 10 years in pastoral ministry in Protestant congregations, before his amazing conversion to the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil in 1986. His talks have been effective in helping thousands of Protestants and fallen away Catholics to embrace or re-embrace the Catholic faith.

“I was extremely impressed by his willingness to lay everything on the line to do what God was calling him to do, which was to become Catholic,” said retreat participant Della Daniel.

Noted Catholic author Scott Hahn spoke to retreatants and to a general audience at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Fort Wayne on Feb. 17. Participants heard his personal story of conversion to the Catholic faith through intensive study and teaching of Scripture where he came to the realization that he desired the Eucharist.

A “wrong number” was assigned to the diocese by a telephone company for the MERCY4U toll-free line for questions about the Catholic faith. The incorrect number was published in the February 18 edition of Today’s Catholic you received last week. The correct number is 1-800-MERCY4U, 1-800-637-2948. For counseling and help call toll-free Wednesday, Feb. 21, through Monday, March 19, for a confidential and anonymous venue for faith questions. The phone lines will be available 2-10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Monday is for Spanish speaking. To stay current on all jubilee events visit www.diocesefwsb.org.

Diocesan teams, athletes score regional, state, national accolades

SOUTH BEND — The richly endowed girls basketball tradition at Saint Joseph’s High School added another championship trophy as the Lady Indians added their fifth successive Indiana High School Class 3A crown with a convincing 63-53 victory over Gary Roosevelt in the Twin Lakes regional at Monticello.

Now the Lady Indians will face Wawasee in the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) semi state this weekend. Only a week before, Saint Joseph’s girls racked up its sixth straight sectional, also a school record. The Lady Indians triumvirate of Becky Newsom, Kristen Dockery and Sydney Smallbone set a sizzling rebounding pace along with a torrid scoring drive. Newsom racked up 20 points in the regional final that also upped the Lady Indians record to 23-2. Smallbone needs only two points against Wawasee to break the school’s individual scoring record of 1,700 set by Melissa Lechlitner, now a star on the University of Notre Dame women’s basketball team.

Fencing

Josh Dolezal, a Saint Joseph’s High School student won the Junior Olympic championship in fencing last weekend in Denver, Colo. Dolezal is one of three in the nation named to the National Team. He could compete in the 2012 Olympics.

Wrestling

Fort Wayne Bishop Dwenger High School’s wrestling team placed first in the Summit Athletic Conference, the school’s seventh SAC championship team of the year. On an individual level, after a 34-7 season, 130-pound Ben Reifenberg placed seventh in the state in the state wrestling tournament in Indianapolis on Feb.17. Reifenberg was also named First Team Academic All-State. Wrestlers Steven Cox and T.J. Charland made honorable mention.
Lent, jubilee call us to behold the face of Christ

Another season of Lent

It can be said that Lent is a great gift to the church. It is always interesting to note that one of the Lenten prefaces refers to it as “the season of joy.” In a way it is the church’s retreat. It can also be seen as a preparation for Easter, that is for the great mystery of the Resurrection. In recent decades we have learned much from the Rite of Christian Election for Adults. Thus, in our two cathedrals the next few weeks we will pray together at the Rite of Election. This is one of the beautiful ceremonies in the life of the church. We honor what has happened in parishes and in hearts in each cathedral amid music and prayer and reflection. Those who come forward first are the catechumens. Among these are people who have never been baptized and are to receive that sacrament in their respective parishes at Easter.

Then, those who have been baptized but now wish to enter full communion with the church, come forward. Through this ceremony we see the work of Christ going on in our parishes and in the hearts of our people. It is a special joy to see so many young people entering the church. At St. Matthew Cathedral, we have many from the University of Notre Dame.

A time of conversion

As you know, we are well launched into our Jubilee Year with its great emphasis on prayer and conversion and inviting people to return to the practice of their faith. Our staff has been preparing for this year, which I hope and pray will be a year of grace. As you know, from the pastoral letter I wrote to launch this year’s jubilee, I have asked every parish to have a parish mission within a three-year period. A mission is both a time of prayer and also a time of evangelization, never one without the other. Wells of Hope is a golden initiative in which people going forth from Christ invite people to return to the practice of the faith. But conversion must mean returning to a person. As we prepared for the year, I was presented different possibilities for our Jubilee Image. They were all beautiful and well chosen. My eye was caught especially by an image taken and adapted from a beautiful sculpture in St. Patrick Church in Fort Wayne. It is that of Christ on the cross with Mary looking up to him. The first thought I had was that the jubilee is by its very nature a year of celebration and joy; was it right to have an image of Christ on the cross as central to this year of grace?

Behold the face of Christ

Then I recall the words of Pope John Paul II in his message for the new millennium. He urged that as we crossed the threshold of the millennium, which he said would be, “a new springtime for Christianit,y,” we should contemplate the face of Christ, and we should contemplate it with Mary. I was reminded also that it is from the cross, indeed from the side of Christ, that all graces come. So if we presented this image, taken from one of our historic churches and if it was seen everywhere during this year, then we were responding to the request of Pope John Paul II, and we would be putting Christ on the cross and Mary his mother before our people as we proceed through the year.

Lent is the beginning of our Jubilee Year, and Lent is observed every year. What we must do in Lent is call our people to conversion to a person — to Jesus Christ on the cross.

‘Deus Caritas Est’

The encyclical of Pope Benedict XVI is like no other encyclical I have ever read. It is really a spiritual conference.

I will also hold two press conferences, explaining our program of evangelization called Wells of Hope. I will explain to the press our efforts to call people back to the practice of the faith. I am also preparing for pastoral visits to three more of our high schools and a trip to Terre Haute with the other bishops to offer Mass for our new local saint, St. Mother Guérin, foundress of the Catholic schools in this diocese. This trip to Terre Haute will also include a meeting of the bishops and major superiors of Indiana.

A diocesan history

On top of this, I am trying to keep an eye on the completion of the history of our diocese. Joseph White, PhD., is the author, and is nearing completion. I am trying to write a short memoir afterwards, so there is some record, hopefully objective, a few of the highlights of these past 22 years, as I have seen them. I will keep you updated on all of this.

A word of correction from last week’s citation of a Vatican II document

One should always quote accurately from divine choice, the lady have Christ for their brother, who though he is the Lord of all, come not to be served but to serve (cf Mt 20:28). They also have for their brethren those in the sacred ministry who by teaching, by sanctifying and by ruling with the authority of Christ feed the family of God, so that the new commandment of charity may be fulfilled by all. St. Augustin wrote put it beautifully when he says: ‘What I am for you terrifies me; what I am with you consoles me. For you I am a brother, but with you I am a Christian. The former is a duty, the latter a grace. The former is a danger; the latter, salvation.” —'Constitution on the Church, Lumen Gentium,” Second Vatican Council.

I will see you all next week.
for the women's retreat was born organizer, related that the planning Faylor. 

Faylor. "I was deeply moved by what he said," Father Kuzmich, "particularly his love for and appreciation of the Catholic Mass. It was in a small university chapel, because of curiosity, that he experienced for the first time the beauty and power of the Mass. He described that moment in detail and said that he left that chapel more convinced that he was being drawn to the Catholic Church. "In his talk, Dr. Hahn drew heavily upon sacred Scripture, in an exciting format that liturgical ritual, old and yet even new, is the source and summit of the life of the church," Father Kuzmich explained.

At one point he said that we Catholics don't have to die to go to heaven; we are in heaven when we are at Mass," Father Kuzmich wrote. "I smiled when he related the story that it takes a convert to point out to us a truth that is often missed by those who have been around for a long time."

At the early afternoon session with about 1,000 people in attendance, Scott Hahn held our attention as he explained to us how the written word of God supports Catholic teachings," added Father Kuzmich.

"It was a wonderful day with Dr. Scott Hahn, and I am very grateful to Rekindle the Fire for suggesting to me that we invite him to come to the parish," Father Kuzmich noted. "May we all grow in our appreciation of the beauty of our Catholic faith.""
Corpus Christi Holy Hour celebrates 25 years

SOUTH BEND — During the month of February, Corpus Christi Parish is celebrating the 25th anniversary of its Holy Hour program. The Holy Hour program began under the direction of Father Denis Blank, former pastor of Corpus Christi.

Several women of the Legion of Mary approached Father Blank with the request of beginning a Holy Hour program, especially since the parish name, Corpus Christi, means “body of Christ.” It just seemed appropriate.

Father Blank and the women began a publicity campaign to get the message out. It started small — just a few hours a day — until it took on its present format: Monday through Saturday, 5 a.m. to 10 p.m., and on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m.; the only day it is closed is Christmas Day.

“This program has been a wonderful grace-filled event in the lives of many people and still today brings peace and contentment to those who frequent our Adoration chapel,” Father Camillo Tirabassi, pastor of Corpus Christi, told Today’s Catholic.

“I remember when Bishop D’Arcy asked me to transfer to Corpus Christi, he told me about Father Denis Blank and the women to sign up. ‘Go see him and the women. ’ They have a Holy Hour program there. ’”

“I soon learned that if I were to ask others to join, myself must become a member as well,” Father Tirabassi said. “Making Holy Hours was something I did occasionally; now I have to make it an everyday effort. I never spend my daily time in chapel at 7 a.m., but I do it every day to grow closer to God.”

Father Blank encouraged participation: “Every year to promote new participation I have initiated a three-week membership drive. I feel this is necessary because members move away, some can’t make their appointed times and some go to the Lord personally whom they adore. In the first of the three weeks I speak at all the Masses on the value of the real presence; on the second weekend I place a pamphlet on the Eucharist and get members to write a few sentences on what the Holy Hour means to them and place these in the bulletin and on the third weekend lay members speak at all the Masses after holy Communion to get other parishioners to sign up.”

The promotion paid off. “Last year was our most productive ever — 50 new people signed up,” he said. “Thanks be to God after 25 years our Holy Hour program is healthy and strong.”

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is not just for Corpus Christi parishioners; anyone from the area is welcome to come and pray.

One of the students asked how priests could fight the temptation of career climbing in the church. “The Lord knew that from the beginning there was also sin within the church,” the pope said. “In humility it is important to recognize that and to see not only the sin in others, but go forward and, through the sacrament of reconciliation, to convert continually in order to start again and to grow,” he said.

Pope Benedict told the students that one of the things he found most helpful in his own seminary training was having a very disciplined timetable for personal and communal prayer, Mass, study and Scripture reading.

“Pope Benedict XVI poses with seminarians during his visit at the major diocesan seminary in Rome Feb. 17. Cardinal Camillo Ruini, the papal vicar of Rome, to the left of the pope, and Msgr. Giovanni Tani, rector of the seminary, are also seen in this photo.”

Pope Benedict XVI poses with seminarians during his visit at the major diocesan seminary in Rome Feb. 17. Cardinal Camillo Ruini, the papal vicar of Rome, to the left of the pope, and Msgr. Giovanni Tani, rector of the seminary, are also seen in this photo.

Pope says life involves recognizing fragility, refocusing on God

The attitude required of priests and all Christians is “to recognize that we need a permanent conversion, that we have not simply arrived, to accept our fragility but remain on the path, to not give up but go forward and, through the sacrament of reconciliation, to convert continually in order to start again and to grow,” he said.

When a individual accepts suffering in his or her own life and uses it in order to grow closer to God and to others who are suffering, then his or her words of comfort will not sound “rhetorical or pathetic,” he said. “But this is completely wrong,” the pope told the students. “Someone who promises a life that is only happy and easy is lying.”

Pope Benedict XVI poses with seminarians during his visit at the major diocesan seminary in Rome Feb. 17.
Kidney-shaped Valentine

BY JENNIFER ORCHSTEIN

SOUTH BEND — Named Valentine because she was born on Valentine’s Day, Valentia Gutierrez is used to birthday presents and sweet nothings on Feb. 14.

But on this Valentine’s Day, Valentina fulfilled Jesus’ command in Luke 15:12-13: “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

She gave away a kidney to her friend of nearly 30 years, Juan Manuel Gutierrez.

Juan Manuel and Valentina’s husband, Hugo Gutierrez, met at a retreat in 1979, according to Valentina.

And he quickly became a part of the family.

“Sometimes it’s hard to find good friends,” admitted Valentina, which is why the two Gutierrez families seemed to meld into one.

So when Juan Manuel experienced kidney failure two years ago, causing him to have to clean his blood up to five times each day through dialysis, Valentina found it more and more difficult to watch him suffer.

She asked herself what she could do to help?

“I think, I’m too old, and I’m a woman,” said Valentina at the Office of St. Adalbert in South Bend where she and Hugo are parishioners.

And time went on. Valentina also watched others offer up a kidney to her friend, but no one ever seemed to follow through.

“I saw him suffer through dialysis,” said Valentina. “He’s very active in his community, and he has to take his dialysis everywhere. I saw him depressed.”

And so she made up her mind, and, Valentina said, when she makes up her mind to do something there’s no changing it.

She called Juan Manuel in August and announced that he would be getting one of her kidneys if she was a match.

“Never heard,” Valentina said.

And she knew he would never follow through if she herself didn’t continue to take the initiative to follow through with her desire to give her kidney.

She said he even tried to convince her otherwise, telling her that she would suffer too much for him.

But she was adamant. “I said I would do it, and I will,” Valentina said.

Valentina saw him have a match and to make sure she was physically and mentally ready for the surgery. Doctors determined she was. Over the year before offering to donate her kidney to Juan Manuel, Valentina began a new health regimen and lost 40 pounds.

Valentina Gutierrez, who turned 53 Feb. 14, had surgery the same day to donate her kidney to Juan Manuel Gutierrez, a family friend she has known for nearly 30 years.

She said she’s convinced that it was God’s plan that she give her kidney to Juan Manuel. And her new healthy choices were part of that preparation even though she didn’t know it then.

But even still Juan Manuel admitted he does not want his friend to be in pain, though he is thankful for Valentina and her family’s sacrifice.

“I don’t want to create any pain for them,” said Juan Manuel, who lives in Warsaw and is a parishioner at Our Lady of Guadalupe. “Her life could be in danger. It bothers me, but I am very excited. There is no way to repay what she’s doing for me.”

And he was worried about the surgery, but not his own.

“It’s hard for me to deal with her suffering because of me,” Juan Manuel said. “I’m not scared for me.”

But Valentina said she has no qualms about her choice.

“I’m not nervous for myself — only for my family when I see them cry,” Valentina said. “But tell them, ‘I’m still alive. I have faith everything’s going to be okay. If I die? It’s okay.’”

She tells her family that if something went wrong and she died, a small piece of her would live on with Juan Manuel.

“Don’t worry,” she said she told them. “If I die, you will see him with a piece of me. Always look at him with love because there will be a little piece of me.”

Despite his own worry about Valentina, Juan Manuel said he was happy he received a kidney from someone he knows is healthy and who takes care of herself.

“I know it’s special,” Juan Manuel said. “There’s no doubt about it. It’s very special, very special.”

But Valentina saw her gift to Juan Manuel as simply fulfilling what Christ called her to do and her loyalty to their friendship. “I like to read the Bible a lot,” she said. “And what touches me most is that Jesus died for us. We are all his friends. And he decided to do it on his own.”

If not for her two kidneys and she can still live with one, she said she asked herself why she shouldn’t give one up.

Valentina added, “If I really want to love my neighbor, I can give anything.”

The Feb. 14 surgery was successful. Valentia and Juan Manuel are both doing well, and Valentina was expected to be released from the hospital last weekend.

Helen Riley took a stand on justice and the poor

BY MAY LEE JOHNSON

After volunteering at a Catholic Worker House in New York, Helen Caldwell-Day-Riley was so impressed with Dorothy Day that she would later open a house of her own.

Helen was born in Marshall, Texas in 1926. After her parents separated when she was a young girl, she split her time between them in Holls Springs, Miss., and Memphis, Tenn.

After attending college in Holly Springs, she headed to New York to study to be a nurse.

Helen loved her job at Misericordia Hospital, where she was trained to baptize newborn babies of Catholic parents. This led her to join the Catholic Church.

At the suggestion of a friend, she started volunteering at the St. Joseph House of Hospitality, where she became friends with Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin.

She met and married George Day and they had a son. She became sick and couldn’t continue her nursing studies. So saddled with sickness, a young son and a failed marriage, she headed back to Memphis.

Although down, she was not out. She moved to a housing project with her son, mother and stepfather.

Her dreams of a hospitality house was never out of her mind. Through a connection at the Catholic Worker, she met a white Notre Dame graduate from Memphis in 1950.

Their first meeting was broken up because they met in a “whites-only park.” The two later started a multiracial Catholic discussion group, called the “Outer Circle.”

Helen experienced many injustices, which she later included in a column she wrote for the local black newspaper, Memphis World.

One terrible event sparked her into action. In 1951, two black children were killed when a fire broke out in a garage where they were living. This fire and Pope Pius XI’s encyclical, “Reconstruction of the Social Order,” inspired Helen to start her own Catholic Worker House.

In 1952, the Blessed Martin House of Hospitality was opened. The house provided day care to help children of working mothers who went out during the cotton harvest.

The moms would be picked up early in the morning by truck to go across the river into Arkansas, or some miles south into the delta region of Mississippi.

It also offered after-school care for single mothers’ children. Helen supported the house with royalties from her book. She also put out a newsletter and solicited donations.

Helen refused to be pigeon-holed into attending the “colored only” church of St. Augustine. She chose to go the nearby St. Patrick Church to show she didn’t believe in keeping Catholic churches with one God.

In September 1955, Helen married Jesse Riley and he helped her run the house for a few months.

The Blessed Martin House closed in 1956 because of financial difficulties, and Helen and her husband moved to California where they started a new life.
Cardinal Hummes said. The cardi-
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must continually be meditated upon
Hummes has issued a strong and
celibacy,” the two bishops said in a Feb.
Anglicans can be strengthened, talk
“While it is encouraging that a doc-
established by the Vatican and the
Mission. The commission was
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AROUND THE DIOCESE

ST. THERESE CELEBRATES CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK OUTDOORS

PROVIDED BY JAY KIM

St. Therese, Fort Wayne, students celebrated Catholic Schools Week and managed to blend in the the winter season by creating large snowflakes. Barb Pinkerton of St. Therese School reports that the “snowflakes were huge and it was so much fun.”

After Mass, a selected group of seminarians will express their views of discerning a religious calling in a joint session with Serrans and their wives.

Meanwhile, the Serra Club is formulating plans for a 60th anniversary of its organization, which was the first to be chartered in Indiana in 1948. Deacon Ron Moser, Serra Club president, said a special committee will be selected to formulate plans for the observance.

Students host Edith Stein conference to address healing in women

NOTRE DAME — A group of University of Notre Dame students is hosting a two-day conference to address healing for women who have been victimized in body and spirit and to discuss the manner in which contemporary culture impairs the dignity of women.

The conference, titled “The Edith Stein Project: Toward Integral Healing for Women and Culture,” will be held Feb. 23 and 24 in McKenna Hall on campus, and is open to the public.

Seeking to address the way individuals are victimized, whether by sexual assault, rape, abortion, domestic violence or the way that both men and women are objectified by others, the conference will examine personal experiences with attention to the psychological, spiritual, societal and emotional aspects of hurt and healing.

Body image, Internet sexual addictions and family dynamics will be among the topics discussed by a variety of speakers, including Paolo G. Carozza, associate professor of law at Notre Dame and a member of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights; Kathy Gibney, an assistant professional specialist in Notre Dame’s Department of Psychology; Pia de Solenni, director of life and women’s issues for the Family Research Council; Janet Smith, professor of philosophy at the University of Dallas; and Caroline Rust, PhD., a doctoral candidate in economics at Harvard University.

For a complete schedule of speakers or to register online, visit https://marketplace.nd.edu/cce/Th e_Edith_Stein_Project.Pdf. cfm.

Lindenwood holds women’s retreat, ‘Who is my Sister?’

DONALDSON — Registrations are now being taken for the women’s retreat, “Who is my Sister?” In the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Jesus asks, “Who are my brothers and sisters?” Those who do the will of my Father are my brothers and sisters.” This weekend retreat will focus on understanding God’s will.

Facilitator Father Steve Gibson, CSC, is a Holy Cross priest who worked in East Africa for eight years and at Fatima Retreat Center for 27 years. He is currently director of Holy Cross Media Ministry. Also facilitating will be Chandra Johnson, who is the associate director of Campus Ministry at the University of Notre Dame. The program begins Friday, March 9, with check-in at 4:30 p.m. EST, and concludes Sunday, March 11, with lunch. The program fee is $160 for single occupancy, or $30 per person, double occupancy, and includes lodging and all meals. Sign up early. Registration deadline is Friday, March 2, 2007. For more information or to register, contact Lindenwood at (574) 935-1780 weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., e-mail lw@lindenwood.org or visit www.lindenwood.org.

Notre Dame tuition increases 5.4 percent

NOTRE DAME — Undergraduate tuition at the University of Notre Dame will increase 5.4 percent for the 2007-08 academic year to $35,187, and average room and board rates will be $9,290, for a total cost of $44,477.

In a letter to parents and guardians of students returning for the next academic year, Notre Dame’s president, Holy Cross Father John J. Jenkins, wrote of the “fiscal challenges and constraints” faced by all colleges and universities.

“More specifically in (Notre Dame’s) financial planning,” he wrote, “the rising costs of health insurance and utilities, the wages of more than 4,000 university employees, the acceleration of technological change and the increase in the costs related to providing and maintaining the university’s facilities, such as the recently opened Jordan Hall of Science, were major considerations. We strive to negotiate these obstacles while continuing to provide the unique educational experience so widely admired by our peers and so keenly cherished by our graduates.”

While the financial challenges are of continuing concern to both parents and the university’s officers and trustees, Father Jenkins pointed to the “success and satisfaction” of Notre Dame graduates as a measure of the university’s performance.

Graduate and professional school tuitions also will increase by 5.4 percent, bringing total tuition to $35,580 for the graduate school and $35,490 for both the law school and the master’s of business administration program.

Marian High School to hold auction fundraiser

MISHAWAKA — “Oh, What A Knight.” That is the intriguing theme of the Marian High School fund-raising auction to be held with a preview on Friday, March 9, and the general auction highlighted by a dinner-dance on Saturday, March 10.

This year’s fund-raising auction replaces the joint auctions previously held with Saint Joseph’s High School. Saint Joseph’s will hold its auction a week later.

A Friday night preview at Marian will be from 7-10 p.m. Admission is $10 per person and will include complimentary refreshments. Top prize at the preview auction will be $500 tuition credit.

The Saturday auction with both oral and silent bidding will take place in the main and auxiliary gymnasiums, both decorated according to the Knight theme. The dinner and dance will be preceded by a Mass in the chapel at 4:30 p.m. Admission to the auction is $100 per couple. Music will be provided by the Alter Egos.

General co-chairs for the first Marian auction are Rulan Asdell and Liz Ware. Honorary chairmen are Terry and Nancy Baranay.

Correction to parishes that had missions

The number of parishes which have had parish missions is 76 out of the 101 parishes in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

South Bend Serrans to host dinner with Holy Cross seminarians

NOTRE DAME — South Bend Serra Club’s traditional dinner with the seminarians of Holy Cross Seminary on the campus of Notre Dame will be held Thursday, March 1, at Holy Cross Seminary.

Both groups will attend a Mass preceding the dinner at the seminary.
Explore your Options.

HEALTH CAREERS VISIT DAY
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  • Surgical Technology, Clinical Laboratory Science,
  • Physician Assistant (Master's), Health Services,
  • Pre-Professional (Pre-Physician Assistant,
    Pre-Physical Therapy, Pre-Veterinary,
    Pre-Pharmacy, Pre-Dental, Pre-Medicine),
  • Healthcare Administration (Master's)

• Talk with faculty and students
• Tour patient care laboratories
• Bring transcript for transfer credit evaluation

To register for Health Careers Visit Day or find out more about Health Careers and how to apply, please call the Office of Admissions at 260-434-3279 or 1-800-729-4732.

“I found my purpose.”

INDIANAPOLIS — Two days before Valentine’s Day, 50 of Indiana’s state senators cast their votes either in support of or against protecting the sanctity of marriage through a constitutional amendment.

Senate Joint Resolution (SJR) 7, the marriage amendment, which passed the Senate 39-10, would amend Indiana’s constitution to define that a marriage consists only of the union of one man and one woman. In effect, the marriage amendment would ban same-sex marriages in Indiana.

Sen. Brandt Hershman (R-Wheatfield), author of the resolution said, “The institution of marriage has been a foundational building block of our society for centuries, but it is under assault from radical groups and activist judges. SJR 7 will provide a great deal of protection on marriage — an issue which has always been a province in state law,” said Sen. Hershman.

“The state has always regulated marriage based on age, family relation and number of persons,” he said. “The idea that there is a fundamental civil right to marriage as some opponents of SJR 7 claim is simply not true,” said Sen. Hershman. “SJR 7 also puts the question where it belongs in the hands of voters rather than activist judges,” said Sen. Hershman.

Sen. Richard Young (D-Milltown) said he supports the resolution because “I believe that marriage is between a man and woman.” Sen. Young said some of the opposition to the bill comes from a concern that employers would not be able to extend benefits to domestic partners, but Sen. Young said that the resolution doesn’t affect what benefits businesses in Indiana decide to give.

When asked if he thought the measure would pass, House, Sen. Young replied, “Yes, I think the measure will pass the House, but I also think it’s possible the House will amend it causing the whole process on the constitutional amendment to start over again.

If the Indiana General Assembly passes SJR 7 without an amendment, it will go to the ballot and Hoosiers will make the final determination if the constitution is amended. “On an issue of this magnitude, I think the citizens of Indiana need to hear the debate and then decide for themselves when they get to ballot box,” said Sen. Young.

Sen. John Broden (D-South Bend) who voted against the measure said “I absolutely agree that a marriage should be between one man and one woman, which SJR 7 states in subsection ‘a,’ however, my problem is with subsection ‘b’ of the resolution. We heard testimony from very respectable legal scholars who gave divergent testimony as to what subsection ‘b’ means.”

Subsection ‘b’ states, “This constitution or any other Indiana law may not be construed to require that marital status or the legal incidents of marriage be conferred upon couples or groups.”

The concern Sen. Broden and others have with subsection “b” is that public acts such as Indiana University or Purdue University could be banned from providing benefits to domestic partners, which could be interpreted as unmarried same-sex couples or unmarried heterosexual couples of whom have children.

Sen. Broden said that an appellate court in Michigan, which has a similar constitutional amendment recently ruled in exactly this way. “I don’t think we want to pass a constitutional amendment which bans benefits, especially when we are unclear how and what benefits would be banned,” said Sen. Broden.

Currently, Indiana law allows marriage between only one man and one woman. When the law was challenged, the Indiana Court of Appeals affirmed the state law and upheld Indiana’s definition of marriage between one woman and one man in the case Morrison vs. Sadler.

Indiana Catholic Conference Executive Director Glenn Tebbe, who testified before a Senate panel in support SJR 7, said, “Even though the Indiana Court of Appeals has affirmed current law, the debate and effort to redefine marriage continues in our nation and state. SJR 7 will strengthen Indiana’s law to defend and protect the definition of marriage and the church supports.”

In a 2003 document published by the Vatican’s Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith on “Considerations regarding proposals to give legal recognition to unions between homosexual persons,” it concluded, “The church teaches that respect for homosexual persons cannot lead in any way to approval of homosexual behavior or to legal recognition of homosexual unions. The common good requires that laws recognize, promote and protect marriage as the basis of the family, the primary unit of society. Legal recognition of homosexual unions or placing them on the same level as marriage would mean not only the approval of deviant behavior, with the consequence of making it a model in present-day society, but would also obscure basic values, which belong to the common inheritance of humanity. The church cannot fail to defend these values, for the good of men and women and for the good of society itself.”

Nationwide, 27 states have passed constitutional amendments defining marriage. SJR 7 now goes to the House for passage. It must pass the House in exactly the same form for the amendment to be eligible for a vote by Hoosiers in the 2008 election. If passed by a majority of Hoosiers, the amendment would become part of the Indiana Constitution.
Lent is learning to love like Christ

Sometimes it is easy to think of the season of Lent simply as a set of rules and requirements, days of fasting and abstinence, giving up the customary foods or habits. But the real depth of Lenten experience is the time when the season plays out in the lives of real people, when these practices affect them and play a part in calling them back to God, addressing issues like the sin and suffering in their lives along the way. This is the first Real Lent heard that will look at six very real and very different Christians and how they experience Lent in their lives.

For Justin Aquila, Lent hinges on his experience of being a young person in today’s world, a challenge that the 22-year-old native of Rochester, N.Y., does not take lightly. Now completing a degree in theology and sanitation science at the University of Saint Francis and attending the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, Aquila finds that he is “the biggest beneficiary of” other young adults’ experiences — experiences involving the shadow of so much violence and evil in the world.

“I think there were times in my spiritual journey where I didn’t so much doubt God’s existence, but doubted his wisdom,” he recalls, “in the sense that, you know, how the heck could he let Sept. 11 happen?”

One Lent, Aquila took a course on culture and the Holocaust at Eastern Michigan University, and after reading so many horrific accounts of survivors, he found himself questioning even more deeply why God allows evil in the world.

Aquila began to find answers in the writings of Walker Percy, who put suffering in perspective. He went on to read St. Augustine and other figures throughout the centuries in an attempt to deal with the same epic questions.

“But the final fruition for me was Ratzinger,” notes Aquila. In the essay, “Wounded by the Arrow of Beauty,” Joseph Ratzinger — now Pope Benedict XVI — describes the suffering of Christ as the person who is beauty itself displaying most beautiful love imaginable because it is completely self-giving, a love that goes to the very end.

What Aquila found in all his reading was the basis for the theology of the cross, something that has played a key role in his spiritual life for several years.

“They talk about how Christ takes on the suffering in the world,” Aquila explains. “The cross is the taking of violence and evil and conquering them.”

The best image of this, Aquila says, is that when a sword is taken and planted in the ground, it forms a cross.

But what, then, does this have to do with Lent? For Aquila, Lent is a sort of spiritual boot camp. “It’s intense 40 days in the desert, like Christ,” he says.

The focus is not on what a person gives up, but on taking stock of one’s life over the past year and examining what spiritual flaws and deficiencies need attention.

Plugging in Ratzinger’s image of the suffering Christ who represents perfect self-giving love, and suddenly the question of Lent becomes, “How can I better live a life of self-giving, Christ-like love?”

This, Aquila admits, is an uphill battle. In today’s world, a person who tries to give self-giving love is probably going to get abused and hurt, especially in a culture that promotes self-indulgence rather than self-giving. But to turn the other cheek, he says, is still the Christian responsibility.

“It’s a daily struggle,” Aquila notes. “And Lent’s a yearly refreshment course on that for me.”

But in the midst of dealing with suffering and the ugliness of the world, Aquila also keeps firmly in mind that Christians live in the post-Resurrection age, that the suffering and experience of Jesus has already given way to an explosion of grace that continues to illuminate the world.

On a practical level, this means he sees the value of taking Sundays off during Lent, of coming up to returning to the faith with renewed zeal.

Aquila says, “Any experience we have in life will attest to that. You sometimes have to hit rock bottom to bounce back up.”

The crucifix: More than just a cross

Whether we accept it or not, human suffering is prevalent in our world. Suffering is usually negatively associated with loss. Whether suffering is caused by the loss of a loved one or the loss of a necessity in our life, it is essential in our lives for salvation. By looking upon Jesus’ suffering on the cross, we can relate our suffering to his. It helps us to realize that the crosses we bear in our lives do not even compare to those that Jesus had to bear for us.

Realizing this is crucial for our salvation, because we begin to “offer it up” for others, making their suffering a part of our life. The importance of the crucifix is most clearly shown in its relationship to the Eucharist. We, as Catholics, believe that the bread and wine truly change into Jesus’ body and blood. This transubstantiation helps us to relive Jesus’ death every time we receive the Eucharist at Mass. Also, the wine represents Jesus’ blood that flowed from his side at his crucifixion. By having his body on the cross, his death is more clearly tied into the celebration of the Eucharist.

The crucifix serves as an icon to something greater; it is a physical reminder of Jesus’ love that he has for us and the love that awaits us in heaven. Not only is it a physical reminder, but it is also a personal one that accompanies us through our suffering. Through our suffering, we strengthen our relationship with Jesus, knowing that he can help us through our suffering situations. The crucifix also strengthens our belief in the true transubstantiation of the Eucharist and increases our love for the Mass. Through just one symbol of Jesus’ love, we are all called closer to him. That’s our way on the path to heaven.

A healthy twist on a classic comfort food recipe and a sure hit with all family members!

**Ingredients:****
- 12 ounces dried medium shell (about 5 cups)
- One 1-pound bag frozen broccoli crowns, cut into bite-size florets
- 1 1/4 cups canola oil
- 1 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup 1 percent lowfat milk
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 tablespoon corn flakes, coarsely crushed
- 2 tablespoons ground flaxseed

**Instructions:**
1. Preheat the oven to 375°.
2. Cook the pasta according to package directions. Add the broccoli to the pasta for the last four to five minutes of cooking.
3. Drain, return to the saucepan and set aside.
4. While the pasta is cooking, heat the oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Stir in the flour and cook, whisking constantly, until the flour turns light golden, about two minutes.
5. Raise the heat to medium-high. Slowly whisk in the milk, mustard, garlic powder and salt and bring to a simmer, whisking often. Reduce the heat and continue to simmer and whisk gently until the mixture thickens slightly, about two minutes.
6. Remove from the heat and stir in the Cheddar cheese and tuna. Add the cheese sauce to the pasta and broccoli and stir gently to combine. Place the mixture in a 9 X 13-inch baking dish.
7. Combine the corn flakes, Parmesan cheese and flaxseed, and sprinkle evenly over the top of the casserole. Bake uncovered until the pasta is tender and the top turns golden brown, about 15 minutes.
8. Makes 8 servings.

**Source:** Janice Newell Bissex, MS, RD & Liz Weiss, MS, RD Cofounders, Meal Makeover Moms.com.

Lenten recipes

**McLEAN, Va. — Lenten practices, such as abstaining from meat and giving them healthy alternatives, will help Today’s Catholic readers adhere to the abstinence requirements.**

What is good for the soul is good for the body, too. To that end, the National Fisheries Institute, found on the Web at www.AboutSeafood.com, is pleased to be a resource on fish and seafood during this holy season.

**Tuna Noodle Casserole**

A healthy twist on a classic comfort food recipe and a sure hit with all family members!

**Ingredients:**
- 2 tablespoons ground flaxseed
- 1/3 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 cups preshredded reduced-fat Cheddar cheese (8-ounce bag)
- 1/4 cup canola oil
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 3 cups 1 percent lowfat milk
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 2 cups pilledredreduced-fat Cheddar cheese (8-ounce bag)
- 1 tablespoon corn flakes, coarsely crushed
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 tablespoons ground flaxseed

**Instructions:**
1. Heat the oil in a large saucepan over medium-high. Slowly whisk in the milk, mustard, garlic powder and salt and bring to a simmer, whisking often. Reduce the heat and continue to simmer and whisk gently until the mixture thickens slightly, about two minutes.
2. Remove from the heat and stir in the Cheddar cheese and tuna. Add the cheese sauce to the pasta and broccoli and stir gently to combine. Place the mixture in a 9 X 13-inch baking dish.
3. Combine the corn flakes, Parmesan cheese and flaxseed, and sprinkle evenly over the top of the casserole. Bake uncovered until the pasta is tender and the top turns golden brown, about 15 minutes.
TIPS FOR BEATING WINTER BLUES

Ten to 20 percent of the United States population may suffer from a mild form of winter blues, according to The Cleveland Clinic. The following tips help men and women discover the power of a positive attitude and achieve their best in all areas of their lives.

Realize your best times are ahead. Stay positive – Achieving your dreams is possible.

Dr. Michael Deery receives ‘Catch the Spirit Award’

CULVER — Dr. Michael Deery, M.D., is a little embarrassed to be named the number one reason (of the Top Ten) “To Celebrate the Marshall County Health Center.”

But he’s a good one.

“There have been so many other people — starting with the Sisters of the Holy Cross — who have been instrumental in establishing the Health Care Center. I want to give them the credit,” he said.

Named the recipient of the 10th Annual Catch the Spirit award by the Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, Plymouth, Dr. Deery will be honored at a dinner-dance Gala on Friday, April 20, at Swan Lake Resort.

All of the proceeds of the event go toward the Health Center in downtown Plymouth.

Michael Deery, 66, was born in Indianapolis and graduated from Scecina High School in 1958. He went to Marian College in a premed program, graduating from there in 1962, and from Indiana University Medical Center, Indianapolis, in 1965.

He and his wife, Judy, a Marian College nursing student, were married in 1961. They have six children and 11 grandchildren.

After a one-year internship at Marion County (now Wishard) General Hospital in Indianapolis, Dr. Deery was commissioned a Navy lieutenant commander in the United States Public Health Service. As a mission officer he served two years on Indian reservations in Minnesota and North Dakota.

He and Judy lived on the reservation. In North Dakota alone, he had 10,000 potential patients.

“There was a lot of poverty,” he said, “and the diseases that go along with that. It was long before the days of the casinos.”

Michael still enjoys going back on duck hunting trips every October.

After he finished his two-year obligation, he started looking around for a place to settle.

“My family was in Indianapolis, but I wasn’t interested in starting a practice there.”

In fact, he only looked at towns that had a lake.

“I’d been to Culver once as a young boy. I remembered riding the tour boat and seeing the academy.”

Dr. Joe Howard was looking for a partner in his medical practice in Culver and in 1968, the Deerys came to town.

After eight years as a solo medical doctor, Warren Reiss, M.D., joined Dr. Deery in covering for Culver citizens. In 1976, they started treating Culver Academy students as part of their practice.

Board certified, Dr. Deery is also the medical doctor for Miller’s Merry Manors in Culver and Plymouth.

A member of St. Mary’s of the Lake Catholic Church, Dr. Deery is a lector and minister of the Eucharist.

The Health Care Center is very close to his heart. He pointed out that the clinic in Plymouth is pretty remarkable for a small community.

“There is nothing comparable in any other small town in Indiana.”

He was familiar with the Chapin Street facility in South Bend and brought the subject up in staff meetings several times.

“Everyone supported the concept.”

The Plymouth facility helps a large segment of society that have no health care.

“Once a patient is approved, they are eligible for all kinds of tests and treatments. We have had wonderful support from local physicians and specialists.”

Dr. Deery hopes to expand the services into eye and dental care.

“We already have some of the equipment and local dentists and optometrists have offered their services.”

He said that the clinic is also thinking about being able to help some children.

“Some of the children are falling through the cracks because they are not eligible for care.”

“We need to do something about that.”

And he will.
Charitable gifts can provide lifetime of income

Question: What is the difference between a charitable gift annuity and charitable remainder trust?

Answer: A charitable gift annuity is a contractual agreement between a donor and a charity where a sum of money or securities is given in return for fixed payments for life for one or two persons. An income tax deduction is allowed in the year the gift is made, and capital gains taxes may be reduced if appreciated property is used to fund the gift annuity. Payments can be made monthly, quarterly, semiannually or annually.

The American Council on Gift Annuities, a qualified nonprofit association of organizations whose goal is to promote philanthropy, suggests and recommends gift annuity pay-out rates for charitable organizations. The recommended pay-out rates apply to both men and women; however, the older the donor at the annuity’s beginning date, the higher the pay-out rate. Age to the nearest birthday at the time of the gift is generally used to determine the rate of the annuity pay-out.

Example: Mrs. Johnson, age 80, has $10,000 in a CD that will mature next month. She can get 4.5 percent interest on a new CD. Mrs. Johnson had been thinking about leaving a gift to her parish by making a bequest in her will for $10,000. She can establish a charitable gift annuity with the $10,000 from her CD. She will receive an annual annuity pay-out of $800, of which $533 will be tax-free, an income tax charitable deduction of $5,204, and the immediate satisfication of making a significant gift now for her parish.

A charitable remainder trust pays a fixed or variable pay-out (depending on the type of trust) to one or more beneficiaries for the rest of their lives or for a fixed number of years. An income tax deduction similar to the gift annuity is available if the trust is established, and capital gains taxes may be avoided or deferred on donated property that has increased in value.

A charitable remainder unitrust disburses a variable pay-out to its beneficiaries based on the value of the assets in the trust at a specific time each year. Depending on whether the assets appreciate or depreciate, the pay-out can increase or decrease from year to year. The minimum pay-out, according to IRS guidelines is 5 percent.

A charitable remainder interest at the time the trust is created must be at least 10 percent of the value of the assets. A charitable remainder annuity trust, on the other hand, pays a fixed amount to its beneficiaries each year. The trust is valid once, at the time the trust is created and never revalued. Annual payments remain the same, whether the assets increase in value or lose value. As with the unitrust, the charitable remainder interest at the time the trust is created must be at least 10 percent of the value of the assets.

Although both the charitable gift annuity and the charitable remainder trust are irrevocable gift annuities, they do have a number of differences.

The main differences are:

- The amount required to fund a gift annuity may be much smaller (i.e. $5,000) than the amount recommended for creating a charitable remainder trust (i.e. $100,000.)
- Initial set up and ongoing administration can be more involved if a charitable remainder trust.
- A trust can be used to provide for tax deferral.
- A charitable remainder trust requires an attorney to administer the trust and an investment advisor analyzes and makes changes to the portfolio.
- Tax compliance requirements for each vary. A charitable remainder trust must file IRS Forms 5227, 1041-A, and Schedule K-1 each year by April 15. These forms report assets, income and expenses and beneficiary distributions. A charitable gift annuity only files a Form 1099-R annually which reports the annuity pay-out.
- Taxes on payments from a gift annuity may be different than those for a trust. A portion of the gift annuity payment is tax-free for a period of time because it is deemed a return of the donor’s investment on the contract. The income from a charitable remainder trust, however, will be taxed for a donor dependent on how the assets in the trust are invested and the type of property used to fund the trust. The four-tier system is taxed first on ordinary income, then capital gains, then exclude interest and finally tax-free return of principal.

A charitable remainder trust allows the donor flexibility to change charities that will benefit when the trust terminates. Once a gift annuity is established, the donor cannot transfer the remainder to another charitable organization.

Note: The Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana has adopted the charitable gift annuity pay-out rates set by the American Council on Gift Annuities.

This information is for educational purposes only and is not intended for tax advice. Please consult with your professional advisor before setting up a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust.

Elisa M. Smith, CPA/PFS, is vice president and director of financial planning for STAR Wealth Management, Fort Wayne and the director of the diocesan Office of Planned Giving.

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Friends of caregivers can provide needed help

I n approximately one-quarter of American households, care is provided to one or more people who are 65 plus. In most cases, no formal support services are in place, meaning all care is provided by family members and friends.

These unpaid helpers provide practical assistance and enhance the quality of life for chronically ill older people who might otherwise require placement in a long-term care facility. Typically, they are spouses or offspring, many seniors themselves.

The loved ones they care for have needs that may require support and even care. Many caregivers are in their prayers. That she and the person she is caring for are in your prayers.

Provide words of support and encouragement. Let her know you understand the kinds of challenges the caregiver might be facing. When it comes to special occasions, keep in mind that the loved one they care for may be in need of support and encouragement. Let her know you’re thinking of her. Do this regularly, even if she is out of sight or otherwise can’t visit the family member.

Talking with other caregivers who have a firsthand understanding of their situation can be very helpful. Support groups provide an opportunity to vent frustrations, express concerns, brainstorm solutions, identify successes and even share some laughs.

• Encourage her to practice self-care by eating nutritious meals, exercising sufficiently, or resting in order to maintain good health. Do whatever you can to help make it possible. For example, bring over a meal or offer to sit with her relative while the caregiver exercises or takes a nap.

• Ask what kind of practical help she could use most; perhaps credit cards, running errands or doing laundry or yard work. If she initially declines assistance, continue to express your desire to help. Meanwhile, take it upon yourself to deliver a caserole or muffins or, if you’re a neighbor, to shovel her walk or mow her lawn. Encourage her to ask for and accept help rather than do it alone. If she can, drive her to the library or other community support services. It can also be one of life’s most rewarding experiences.

The caregiving role involves physical, psychological, emotional and financial demands. It can be a heavy load, exacerbated by the limited availability of community support services. It can also be one of life’s most rewarding experiences.

The caregiving journey is often a long one, though, and particularly challenging when the elderly has heavy hands-on needs, a demanding personality, or mental impairment. A common phenomenon is caregiver burnout, due to stress, grief, and emotional strain over time.

Following are some things that you, as a friend or relative, can do to help prevent a caregiver you know from wearing down:

• Keep in touch, recognizing that the caregiver’s life can be hectic. Call often, call to see how she is doing or send a card or letter to let her know you’re thinking of her. Do this regularly, even if she doesn’t reciprocate.

• Educate yourself about the condition or disease that the elderly is facing to help you understand the kinds of challenges the caregiver might be facing.

• Listen non-judgmentally. Demonstrate compassion and don’t give unsolicited advice. Provide words of support and encouragement. Let her know that she and the person she is caring for are in your prayers.

• Offer to accompany her to a caregiver support group meeting (some offer concurrent care).

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• In House Therapy •Activities •In House Therapy

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“A FAMILY SERVING FAMILIES”
Dwenger students promote chastity, other teen concerns, at junior high schools

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger High School senior Lea Fridley, is a participant in the school’s Promise To Keep program. Here is her description: “A Promise to Keep is a peer-mentoring program directed to junior high students educating them on the different aspects of the teenage life. This program includes lessons on the media’s influence, linking drugs to sex, life consequences, the differences between real love and ‘pizza’ love and other assertiveness techniques as well.”

Fridley says the opening of her presentation usually goes like the following: “Hello, my name is Lea Fridley, and I am a senior at Bishop Dwenger. I am in marching band, winter drum line, liturgical choir, BD Ambassadors, Habitat for Humanity and A Promise to Keep. I decided to be a mentor because living a chaste life is obedient to God’s plan for me, and it has helped me to surround myself with friends who have similar values. As I enter college next year, I will have the privilege to share my decisions.”

Fridley adds, “In looking at the program at Bishop Dwenger and A Promise to Keep participant since my sophomore year, she was elated when she received a letter asking her to join and discusses why she was selected. “I knew right away that this program was something that I wanted to be a part of,” says VanHoey. “The mentors who spoke to me seemed to really believe in what they were saying about chastity and purity, and that experience changed me by strengthening me. I reflected on what I gained from students teaching me, and I knew that I would love the opportunity to change the lives of my peers and hopefully strengthen their resolve to remain pure and chaste. This is how I became involved in this program.”

Fridley says, “During my presentation, Love in Action, my team and I discuss real love and its lasting rewards,” says VanHoey. “My group and I speak about Linking Sex to Drugs. The presentation usually goes like the following: “In a way, I am not only a teacher, I am a student. I have learned more about myself and my peers since joining A Promise to Keep, and that insight is invaluable.”

“Looking at the program at Bishop Dwenger, I am awestruck by the number of people who believe so strongly in this cause that they give their time, efforts and talents to change the world,” adds VanHoey. “I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of A Promise to Keep.”

Bishop Dwenger High School’s A Promise to Keep mentors Lea Fridley, Kristen Briscoe and Greg Svarczkopf make a presentation at Most Precious Blood School in Fort Wayne.

Help the center’s children through tutoring, helping with homework, reading together or playing games

BY KELLY SPIETH AND AMANDA HUFFMAN

FORT WAYNE — It’s 2:59 on a Monday afternoon at Bishop Dwenger High School. The kids are lining up at the door waiting for the last bell to ring. When it does, they burst into the halls, rush to their lockers and flood into the parking lot.

When most of the students and faculty are trying to get as far away as possible from the school, the Euell Wilson tutors are waiting for 3:30 to arrive. This is when they pile into the bus to take their usual Monday trip to the Euell Wilson Center.

These Dwenger students dedicate their Monday afternoons from 4-5 p.m. tutoring the children that attend the Euell Wilson Center.

As Dwenger students and Euell Wilson tutors, we enjoy going to the center. We help the children in many ways including tutoring, helping with homework, reading together or playing games. Our particular focus is on tutoring and helping with homework.

We typically help students in grades 1-5 with math, reading, science, social studies or spelling. However on some special occasions, we have a small party with them for the last half hour of the day. We typically make cards and decorate sugar cookies with the children. They have so much fun and it is amazing to see their eagerness and joy.

When the school year wraps up, helping out at the center does not. We have a summer camp during a week in June for the Euell Wilson children. This past summer it took place for one week, Monday through Thursday, in the afternoon.

Each day we were paired up with one or two children to be budgies with during the different daily activities. On Monday, we went to the Fort Wayne Children’s Zoo. On Tuesday, we had a field day at Zoller Stadium. We had many relays for the children to participate in, and played softball and water balloon volleyball. On Wednesday, we enjoyed an

Kristen Briscoe and Greg Svarczkopf make a presentation at Most Precious Blood School in Fort Wayne.

The Franciscan Center last Christmas season.
opportunity to play at Lawton Park before heading off to the Firefighter’s Museum. We went to Stampede Park on our last day. We looked at llamas, goats and other animals, and played softball, kickball and parachute. We also decorated and ate sugar cookies.

We experienced the joy and the fun that the children had. We also realized how innocent they are and how wonderful they were. It was like looking at life through a child’s eyes again. It was an amazing and truly gratifying experience for all of us involved. Every day we spent at least a half hour on the bus to travel to our destinations and while on the bus we interacted with the children. Whenever one of us would bring out a camera, all the children would immediately want to use it and take pictures. Then on our bus ride back to Dwenger after dropping off the children off, the cameras would have hundreds of interesting pictures.

These children were fascinating people. The bus rides with the children were almost as exciting as everything we did at the different locations throughout town.

The most rewarding aspect of helping out at the Euell Wilson Center is seeing how the students react to seeing us. Whenever we would wave onto the bus at the beginning of each afternoon of summer camp, the children had big smiles and looked so happy and cheerful. It is amazing to see how much a little action can brighten someone else’s day and how much a little action can be the source of inspiration. The bus rides onto the bus at the beginning of each afternoon of summer camp, the children had big smiles and looked so happy and cheerful. It is amazing to see how much a little action can brighten someone else’s day and how much a little action can be the source of inspiration.

The march was one of the most life-changing experiences I have experienced. Around every moment happened when we were in Washington, D.C., many of the students who lived out his faith were given the opportunity next year.”

March in D.C. worth a few inconveniences

BY ALLISON JACKSON

At a Catholic school, it is not uncommon to hear abortion criticized and condemned. It is not an easy teaching that abortion infringes on human rights that should be fought for and upheld. While many of the students at Luers feel very strongly about the subject of abortion, most simply think, “What am I supposed to do about it? It is not like I can change the minds of the nation or anything.”

In January, however, a group of 20 students and three teachers from Bishop Luers, along with approximately an equal number from Marian High School, decid

Marriage March in D.C. worth a few inconveniences

BY ALLISON JACKSON

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March for Life leaves indelible memories

BY CAITLIN CAMP

When I first signed up to go on the Right to Life March, I was excited for many reasons — reasons which I would later discover paled in comparison to the real reason for the march. I was expecting to go and show my support for a cause that I felt strongly about.

When I went with many of my friends in the hopes of improving my relationships with them, while also creating many new friendships with the students from our traveling companions from Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne. It was also an added bonus to be able to take place in beautiful Washington, D.C., so I would also be able to fit in some sightseeing.

Little did I know what actually awaited me that weekend. The March was one of the most life-changing experiences I have experienced. Around every corner, I met people who cared about innocent lives as much as I do. There were people praying for the mothers as they passed. To one gentleman, the protester shouted, “Get a life.” The marching man turned his back on this man, and calmly said, “I have a life, and I am using it to save the lives of the innocent.”

Caitlin Camp is a senior at Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne.
The liturgy discussion continues

In the Feb. 11 issue of Today's Catholic, George Weigel calls for discussion on the topic of “orientation,” that is, the direction in which the priest faces during the eucharistic prayers at Mass. Weigel urges discussion of this issue, noting that the idea of the priest facing with his back to the people — the common practice for centuries before Vatican II — should not be written off as an anti-Vatican II act, but should be seen as an appreciation of the ancient church custom of the priest and the congregation facing the same direction and praying as a community to God.

Today's Catholic appreciates Weigel's call for discussion and deeper understanding on the issue. In the spirit of this discussion, one should also consider that the practice of the priest facing toward the people at the time of the eucharistic prayer — the predominant practice since Vatican II — is reflective of an even more ancient tradition, the first Masses, when liturgy was celebrated in the homes of the faithful and the Eucharist was a shared meal. Rediscovered at Vatican II, this tradition has since been modeled in church architecture with the congregation seated “in the round,” like people gathered around a table for a meal.

As for whether one approach is somehow better for the church is not the decision of this paper. Mr. Weigel or a good many others in the church, but what is important to remember is that it brings to light the richness of the church's ancient tradition and scope of beautiful practices that have been incorporated into the worship of God by his people. Currently, there are no plans of making the changes at the altar that Mr. Weigel referred to in his Feb. 11 column in Today's Catholic.

Do not fear change

The question of liturgical reform is, of course, one that will play an ever greater role in the prayer lives of Catholics in coming years as preparations are made to implement the new English translation of the Mass. In the end, many things from the prayers of the priest to the spoken and sung responses of the congregation will be changed. And this was discussed at the recent Liturgy Day on Feb. 3 with Father Jan Michael Joncas as the presenter.

These changes are reflective of a desire by church authorities to use translations that use a more literal translation of Latin instead of the dynamic equivalence translations favored in the years following Vatican II.

We should not hesitate for a moment to welcome these changes. It shows the vitality of a living church, a pilgrim church finding its course in its traditions and beauty.

We are a pilgrim church of habit, and we will have to relearn some prayers that have become ingrained and familiar. The beauty of this upcoming change, at least at first, will be an attempt to actually think about what we say, how we respond to the prayers of the Mass. So often, we “rattle” off words without really thinking about their meaning. It will breathe new life back to our devotion.

To revisit George Weigel for a moment, Weigel has also argued in favor of the restoration of music gone largely untouched since Vatican II. Pope Benedict has also long been a proponent of appropriate liturgical music. Again, Today's Catholic would state that surely there is room — and enough Catholic Masses yet to be celebrated — to allow for the use of a broad spectrum of good liturgical music — one reflective of the culture of the parish, one congruent to church teaching — from the Gregorian chants and other preconciliar music, to the more folk-inspired hymns to gospel and even contemporary sacred music. The Catholic Church has been fortunate enough to have all of it crop up in the course of its history and tradition.

Music requires us to use both the right and left sides of our brains — therefore, when we sing, we praise God with our whole mind. Music indeed touches our senses and our emotions, our brains — therefore, when we sing, we praise God with our brains.

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Music requires us to use both the right and left sides of our brains — therefore, when we sing, we praise God with our whole mind. Music indeed touches our senses and our emotions, and we can praise God more wholly.

1-800 MERCY4U

Due to a mixup at the telephone company, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has procured a new toll-free number, 1-800 MERCY4U, 1-800-637-2948, for those with questions about the devotion. It will breathe new life back to our devotion.

Today's Catholic reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. Address letters to: Today's Catholic • P.O. Box 11169 • Fort Wayne, IN • 46865-1169 or e-mail to: editor@tw.diocecesewsb.org

Today's Catholic welcomes letters from readers. All letters must be signed and include a phone number and address for verification.

Catholic Near East Welfare Association thanks diocese

Thank you very much for your church's generosity on the 2006 World Mission Sunday collection of the Diocese of Fort Wayne- South Bend.

May God bless and reward all the good people whose love and concern for the people and places in the world, for the good people whose love and concern for the people and places in the world, for the

Catholic Church work for the church to the church to

The Polio Project, a joint endeavor between CRS and the Angolan Ministry of Health, has built polio vaccinations campaigns around the country to ensure others will not be infected with this crippling disease. We are also working with those like Jenita to help them live full, happy and healthy lives.

We fast this Lent, we fast in solidarity with our brothers and sisters overseas who do not have enough food to feed their families. We work to feed the hungry. We work to make sure farmers have enough water to grow their crops. Many of them will not be fasting out of sacrifice, but we will be with them as we do so during Lent.

We are also asked to give what ever we can to help those less fortunate during Lent. Every dollar we give helps — small sums can add up to provide significant help to those who need it overseas. Here at CRS, we work with our local partners to provide economic opportunities for women who need a source of income to support their families or to help farmers grow their crops and their farms. When we make a con-
Catholic Church’s social teaching backs up advocacy on climate change

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Climate change is an issue that not only has appeal to Catholics, but is one for which Catholics have a lot to back them up when they make their pitches to Congress, regulatory agencies or their counterparts at the state level for action on the issue.

Dan Misleh, head of the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change, said there are several “Catholic assets” Catholics can call upon when pushing lawmakers or regulators for effective climate-change containment policies.

Among them are the church’s size and scope. In the United States, there are 19,000 parishes, 195 dioceses and 63 million members, and organizations such as Catholic Charities USA, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, the Catholic Health Association and Catholic Social Services. And there is the universal church with its emphasis on serving the people themselves.

Misleh, speaking Feb. 13 at the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering in Washington, also cited a “Gospel tradition” of discipleship and stewardship, and more than a century of social teaching, including the U.S. bishops’ 2001 statement, “Global Climate Change: A Plea for Dialogue, Prudence, and the Common Good.”

There is also the “human interest” in climate change. Misleh said, noting that “there are actually houses that are crumbling” in Alaska as a result of the permafrost melting. He also pointed to an increase in the number and severity of large-scale weather events and the “mass migration” that results from them — including 400,000 displaced from the New Orleans area and elsewhere along the Gulf Coast after 2005’s Hurricane Katrina — as well as vector-borne illnesses.

“Malaria is on the increase where malaria had never been before,” Misleh said.

Environmentalists point out that President George W. Bush reneued on a 2000 campaign pledge to reduce power-plant emissions, and in 2001 withdrew from the Kyoto Protocol that would have committed signatory nations to reducing greenhouse gases to 6 percent below their 1990 levels by 2012. The U.S. was a signatory but the treaty has never been ratified by the U.S. Senate.

In Canada, the House of Commons passed a bill Feb. 14 that gives the federal government 60 days to detail the measures Canada would take to meet its Kyoto obligations. The Canadian Senate was expected to follow the House of Commons’ lead on the bill. Canada’s greenhouse gas emissions are 27 percent above 1990 levels.

And Stephane Dion, leader of the Liberal Party of Canada, is evaluating the Kyoto Protocol in light of climate science. Dion is the prime minister’s top advisor on climate change.

“Catholic assets” Catholics can call upon when pushing lawmakers or regulators for effective climate-change containment policies.

THE WASHINGTON LETTER

MARK PATRISON

Holiness requires faithfulness to God

T

he Book of Deuteronomy provides the first reading for this first Sunday of Lent. Deuteronomey looks to the days when the Hebrews were being rescued from Egyptian slavery and making an uncertain way across the treacherous Sinai Peninsula.

Even so, Deuteronomy is not a story of doom and gloom. It is hopeful. All will be well for God’s people if they simply love God and follow the commandments. God already has proven to be merciful and protective. He would not change.

The decision to obey God, however, and truly to be God’s faithful people rests solely with the people themselves.

For its second reading this weekend, the church provides us with a reading from Paul’s powerful Epistle to the Romans. The apostle wrote this epistle, or letter, to the Christians living in Rome, the imperial capital and the center of the Mediterranean world in the first century.

As was the case with the other communities to which Paul sent letters, the Christian community of Rome was living in a culture that was utterly at odds with the letter and the spirit of the Gospel. Surely many of the Christian Romans had doubts. Surely many were afraid since, after all, the popular mood and indeed the political order were against Christians.

Paul urged these people to be strong by uniting themselves to God through faith in Jesus. Paul expressly mentions the Resurrection, the miracle by which Jesus, crucified and dead, rose again to life.

Reassuringly, and strong with his own determined faith, Paul tells the Romans that if they trust in the Lord, none will be put to shame.

Finally, Paul insists, God’s mercy and life, given in Christ, are available to all, Greeks, or foreigners, as well as to Jews, who were part of the Chosen People.

St. Luke’s Gospel gives us a scene also seen in Mark and Matthew, namely a story of the temptation of Christ by the devil. The identity of Jesus is made clear. The Gospel says that Jesus is “full of the Holy Spirit.” He is the Son of God. He also is human, because the devil used food to tempt Jesus.

Fasting was a discipline for Jesus. In the exchange, the devil, so often depicted at least in myth and lore as so very powerful, as indeed the devil is powerful, comes across as indecisive and struggling. The devil cannot grasp the full meaning of Christ’s identity. The devil foolishly seeks to tempt Jesus not to be faithful to God but rather to worship Satan.

Jesus is serene and strong. He is in control.

Nevertheless, defeated for the moment, the devil does not relent but only lags in wait for another opportunity.

Reflection

On Ash Wednesday, the church invited us to use the season of Lent as a means to our great holiness. In so doing, it is not asking us to begin a walk along an imagined primrose path. Rather, it is frank in telling us what holiness requires. It requires faithfulness to God in the midst of difficulties and of forces, very real in the world, that are absolutely at odds with the Gospel of Jesus.

In so many ways were similar to the Hebrews as they fled from Egypt and slavery to the land of prosperity and peace God had promised them. We are in flight from the slavery and hopelessness of sin.

The reading from Romans, and certainly the reading from Luke, led us to a fact that we often would prefer to forget. It is the fact that evil attracts us, because selfishness attracts us. Furthermore, we are weak.

In God alone is strength and life. God invites us the opportunity to strengthen our own resolve to resist sin and to be with God.

READINGS

Sunday: Dt 26:4-10 Psl 91:2-10, 15 Mt 25:31-46


Tuesday: Is 55:10 Ps 119:16, 17, 19 Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:10 Ps 51:3, 4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C12:4, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138:1-7, 8-10, 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130:1-8 Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:11-19 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7:8 Mt 5:48-49

ANSWERS:

1. a. wine and grapes  b. vodka and blintzes  c. soap and rope

7. a. a razor  b. a chariot  c. a sword


15. a. Jesus  b. Paul  c. John the Baptist
Text of the eucharistic prayer says ‘for you and for many’

I read in the Dec. 3 issue of Today’s Catholic that the pope has asked that the words “for many” replace the words “for all” in the Mass when it speaks of the words “for many” replace the words “for all” in the Mass when it speaks of the words “for you and for many” — “for you and for many.”

The Vulgate (Latin) text of Mark and Matthew together record “pro multis effunditur” (the Greek original being “per pollon”), which is itself a conflation or combination of the words recorded by the evangelists in the synoptic gospels: the text of the eucharistic prayer actually says “pro voce et pro multis” — “for you and for many.”

Yet it’s hard not to feel a twinge of reverence for something that wasn’t perfect — but, dang, it was as perfect as any man could have gotten the first sentence out of the words “for you and for many” replace the words “for all” in the Mass when it speaks of the words “for you and for many” — “for you and for many.”

The Holy Father is demonstrating a concern that the liturgists of the church in translation be an accurate reflection of the original. While Latin may be considered by some to be a “dead language,” it is a precious part of the patrimony of the church and is in fact one of the bonds linking us to our sacred past.

Finally, it is important to note that there has always been a distinction between liturgical rites, words and gestures, which express the pashal mystery (we profess this type of preaching from fourth-century saints like Ambrose, Cyril of Jerusalem, John Chrysostom, and Theodore of Mopsuestia). It is precisely the work of catechesis, teaching and preaching to make clear what the words of Scripture and the sacred liturgy mean in the life of believers.

Father Michael Heintz, rector of St. Matthew Cathedral, answered this week’s question. He may be e-mailed at mheintz1@nd.edu.

George Weigel

Nancy and me: a lament

In any case, it is abundantly clear from the plain text of the Scriptures themselves that God “desires that all be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth” (1 Tim 2:4) and that “Christ died for all.” (2 Cor 5:15) As the Holy Father pointed out, the change in wording is not meant to reflect a change in this belief. However, the Holy Father is demonstrating a concern that the liturgists of the church in translation be an accurate reflection of the original. While Latin may be considered by some to be a “dead language,” it is a precious part of the patrimony of the church and is in fact one of the bonds linking us to our sacred past.

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George Weigel

Nancy Pelosi and me: a lament

Nancy Pelosi and me: a lament

The Latin phrase in question, found in the Roman Canon or Eucharistic Prayer I (and which is reduplicated in the other eucharistic prayers used at Mass), a prayer which dates from the fourth century (and elements within it are perhaps much earlier), is itself a conflation or combination of the words recorded by the evangelists in the synoptic gospels: the text of the eucharistic prayer actually says “pro voce et pro multis” — “for you and for many.”

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**Sports**

**BISHOP DWENGER HOSTS WRESTLING CAMP** The Bishop Dwenger Wrestling Camp for boys in grades 1-8 begins Feb. 6 and runs through March 8. Cost is $15, and no special equipment is needed. First through fourth grade boys will wrestle from 6-7 p.m. and the fifth through eighth graders from 7-8 p.m. Checks are payable to John Bennett. For more information call Coach Bennett at (260) 496-4700 or e-mail at jbennett@bishopdwenger.com

**CYO FIFTH GRADE CHAMPIONS**

The St. Vincent Panthers beat St. Joseph-Elizabeth 26-6 earlier in February for the championship game of the fifth grade boys’ CYO tournament. Coaches this season for the Panthers were Jeff Graham and “dads,” Jay Leonard and Mark Efert.

**Decatur Lady Commodores place ambitions on CYO tournament win**

**BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN**

FORT WAYNE — This year’s CYO (Catholic Youth Organization) co-league gold championship at the CYO Tournament by the Lady Commodores from St. Joseph, Decatur. The No. 3 seed heading into this week’s tournament, they had an outstanding season with a 21-1 overall record.

Coach Mike Stimpson said that one of his team’s strengths this year has been that they can play uptempo or half court. “We have six very versatile girls, good height and good basketball sense,” he added. One coach told him that he has four girls that can put up double figures in any given night. And that has been the case many times throughout this season.

The only loss for the team came Feb. 3 against St. Charles. The Cardinals and Commodores were tied up 11-11 at the half. St. Joe possessed a four-point lead by the end of the third quarter. The game came Feb. 3 against St. Charles.

St. Joseph and St. Jude played throughout this season. The Commodores and St. Jude shared the title. The game came Feb. 3 against St. Charles.

The Commodores would like nothing more than to repeat what they did in the CYO tournament last year. This year, the team has chalked up a 74-12 record.

“Overall, I have been pleased with what these girls have done,” Stimpson said. “They are a very good team. I feel so blessed to have been able to coach them for the past four years. It will be a long time before another girls basketball team exceeds what these girls have done,” Stimpson concluded. Stimpson’s wife, Deb, is the team’s scorekeeper.

**Gold league boys**

1. St. Vincent
2. St. Jude
3. St. Charles
4. St. Joe, Decatur
5. St. John, Fort Wayne
6. St. Joe/Saint Elizabeth
7. St. John, New Haven
8. Queen of Angels
9. Gold league boys
10. Queen of Angels
11. St. Charles
12. St. Joe, Decatur
13. St. John, New Haven
14. Queen of Angels
15. St. Jude
16. St. Vincent
17. St. Joe/Saint Elizabeth
18. St. John, Fort Wayne

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**Catholic Youth Organization (CYO)**

The CYO Tournament is a basketball tournament for students in grades 5-12. The tournament is divided into three divisions: Gold, Silver, and Bronze. The tournament is held annually and is open to students from Catholic schools throughout the state of Indiana.

**Indianapolis Star Index**

The Indianapolis Star Index is a newspaper that covers the activities of the Indianapolis Star Index, a group of Catho
Collection of Pope Benedict’s ‘essential writings’ to be published

SAN FRANCISCO (CNS) — A new book to be published in March by HarperSanFrancisco brings together what its editors call “the central writings and speeches” of Pope Benedict XVI.


Edited by John F. Thornton and Susan B. Varenne, the 464-page hardcover book will sell for $27.95 in the United States and $34.95 in Canada. The ed. retail price of $39.98 U.S. avoids a tax.

Major subject areas in the book include Christian relations with Islam, Christian values, birth control and abortion, sexual misconduct in the priesthood, the ordination of women, anti-Semitism and the Catholic Church, and ecumenism and interfaith dialogue.

“Now that a leading Catholic theologian has assumed office as pope, many are eager to get an overview of his theology,” said Cardinal Avery Dulles in a back cover comment on the book.

“The present selection, drawn largely from his shorter writings, gives an excellent sampling. It will provide a first orientation to beginners and will enable veterans to supplement their familiarity with this important thinker.”

‘Christy’ series trailblazes onto DVD in March

CENTURY CITY, Calif. — Set against the sweepingly romantic and breathtakingly picturesque backdrop of the American frontier, “Christy” The Complete Series is a compelling story based on the best-selling novel from Catherine Marshall. Arriving for the first time ever as a four-disc DVD collection on March 20 from Fox Home Entertainment, “Christy” The Complete Series features an all-star cast, including Kellie Martin, as well as Emmy®-winning and Golden Globe®-nominated Tyne Daly.

Set in 1912, the series follows an idealistic, sheltered 19-year-old (Martin) who leaves her privileged life in the city to teach school in an impoverished community in the Great Smoky Mountains of Tennessee. A collection the entire family will love, “Christy” The Complete Series is presented on four double-sided discs and features all 19 episodes. The set will be available for the suggested retail price of $39.98 U.S.

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6340 Stellhorn Road
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

Fish Fry
Holy Name Society fish fry
South Bend — A fish fry sponsored by the Our Lady of Hungary Holy Name Society will be held Friday, March 2, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Adult $6.50, children under 5 free. Sale tickets may be purchased at the Our Lady of Hungary rectory (574) 287-1700.

Fish Fry by Holy Name Society
New Haven — A fish fry sponsored by the St. John the Baptist Holy Name Society will be held Friday, Feb. 23, from 4 to 7 p.m. Adults $6.50, children 5-12 $3.50 and children under 5 free.

Fish Fry at Patrick Closet
Walkerton — A fish fry will be held Friday, March 2, at St. Patrick School, 811 Tyler St. from 4 to 7 p.m. Adults and carry-outs $7, children 6-10 $3.50 and children under 6 free.

Knights plan fish fry
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, Feb. 23, and every Friday during Lent. From 5 to 7 p.m. Adults $7, children (5-12) $3. Chicken strips for $7 and shrimp for $8 will be available.

Fish Fry
Fort Wayne — Knights of Columbus Father Solanus Casey Council 11276 will sponsor an Ed Fox fish fry Friday, Feb. 23, from 5 to 8 p.m. Adults $7, children 6-8, $5 and children under 5 free.

Catholic women to meet
Fort Wayne — The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women will meet Tuesday, Feb. 27, at 10 a.m. in the lower level of St. Joseph Hospital. The speaker will be Dottie Carpenter from St. Patrick Closet. All Catholic women of the diocese are members of the DCCW.

Athletic boosters sponsor fish fry
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers athletic boosters will have a fish fry on Friday, Feb. 23, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Bishop Luers cafeteria. There will also be drive-through service. Adults $7, seniors $6, children 6-11 $5 and children 5 and under free.

Fish Fry for first Friday of Lent
Fort Wayne — St. Jude Parish will have an Ed Fox fish fry on Friday, Feb. 23, from 5 to 8 p.m. Adults $7, children 6-8, $5 and children under 5 free.

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First Saturdays call for prayer
Fort Wayne — Our Lady of Fatima asked for first Saturdays of reparation, the rosary, confession, holy Communion and 15 minutes of meditation upon the mysteries of the rosary. Parishes observing first Saturdays on March 3 are St. Joseph and St. Charles, Fort Wayne; St. Rose, Monroeville; St. Patrick, Arcola; St. John the Baptist, New Haven; and in South Bend, St. John the Baptist, Little Flower, Our Lady of Hungary, St. Anthony and Christ the King. Call parishes for times.

New students may register
Fort Wayne — St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School is having new student registration. Contact Kathy Palmer in the school office at (260) 489-3537 x212.
A few miles west of Fort Wayne lies the small community of Arcola, and it was here that Father Julian Benoit, pioneer priest, builder of the cathedral in Fort Wayne and the man responsible for bringing Catholic education to the area through the Sisters of Providence, visited Arcola’s early settlers in 1845 and held services in the home of Victor Munier.

As a matter of record, St. Patrick’s as a parish was established in 1862 by Father P.J. Madden. The first resident pastor was Father Theodore Van Der Poel who arrived on Christmas Eve, 1867. He remained at St. Patrick’s for five years and during this time, served Nix Settlement and Roanoke as missions.

Next came Father Theodore Wilken. It is not known how often he said Mass in Arcola, since his missions included Monroeville, Bluffton, Hartford City, Montpelier and Blees Settlement, going to all of these places on horseback.

Catholic education came to St. Patrick’s in December 1895 when three Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ and set up housekeeping in a tiny convent they named “House of the Infant Jesus.” If heavenly rewards are based on earthly services rendered, one cannot begin to imagine the celestial rapture still enjoyed by Sister M. Bonaventure Heinsmann who, in addition to being superior of this primitive outpost, taught music, took care of the sacristy, the church wash and nursed the sick in their homes.

The dedication of St. Patrick’s present church on Oct. 29, 1899 was such a grand occasion that “The Hibernian Rifles” of Fort Wayne and nearly 400 others including “all Catholic societies” from Fort Wayne took a special train to Arcola for day-long activities beginning with a solemn high Mass at 10:30 a.m. and concluded with solemn vespers at 3 p.m. Nearly 1,000 were present to celebrate with the St. Patrick parishioners, which numbered about 100.

By 1875, the Enrights and four other Catholic families put together $1,300 and built a 30x50 foot church on Cherry Street in Bluffton, which was dedicated by Bishop Dwenger and named in honor of St. Joseph.

It would be another 45 years before Bluffton had a resident pastor; Father Nicholas Keller was sent by Bishop Herman Alerding to serve St. Joseph Parish in Bluffton and St. Margaret Parish in Montpelier. Each church had one Mass on Sunday.

The WWII postwar years brought rapid growth to St. Joseph’s and a schedule of three Sunday Masses. It became obvious that eventually, the Cherry Street location would not accommodate the needs of the parish and when, in 1958, 10 to 14 acres of land north of the city were donated as a future site for a new St. Joseph Church, it sparked activity toward the move.

The establishment of a church building fund, which accumulated proceeds from entertainment nights, raffles, picnics, cookie jars and pledges from parishioners, received a bountiful increase from two generous parishioners who had the resources to provide matching funds for money raised. On June 26, 1966, Bishop Leo Pursley dedicated the handsome new church and rectory.

In 1999-2000, through the generosity of the estate of parishioner of E. J. Shaefer plus parish funds, a separate wing was added to the church, which includes nine classrooms, two conference rooms and a gymnasium.