We are at the beginning of a new springtime for the church

ND program explores vocations
‘Priesthood is about being; not about doing’

NOTRE DAME — “There used to be an implicit understanding that if you wanted to take holiness seriously, you became a priest, sister or brother,” Archbishop Timothy Dolan of Milwaukee told University of Notre Dame students here on March 26.

However, the archbishop continued, “That is an incorrect interpretation,” and the “providential alarm clock” of Vatican II called us back to the reality of the universal call to holiness, the “inescapable call to sanctity — wherever, whenever, however you are living — for every baptized person.”

That universal call to holiness and the living out of that call in various walks of life were the subject of a program that brought Archbishop Dolan and other prominent theologians to Notre Dame to address undergraduates at the March 23-25 event, entitled “Vocations and the Universal Call to Holiness.”

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Faith is a gift that will grow significantly during the Easter season if we pray

BISHOP JOHN M. D’ARCY

The meaning of Easter

Those who attend daily Mass during Easter Week receive a special joy. The readings, all from the New Testament, present the various Resurrection accounts. So those who attend are filled with the joy that comes from the truth. They reflect that sentence in the Gospel of John, which states, “The apostles were filled with joy when they saw the Lord.” — John 20:20.

Ultimately, this is the source of joy for all of us — to see the Lord. Here, of course, we see him in faith. But that is what the Resurrection is all about — faith.

In the Epistle to the Corinthians, Paul makes it clear that Jesus appeared many times, but not to everyone, and he shows that he is handing us what he received.

“That he died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures. That he was buried. That he was raised from the dead, in accordance with the Scriptures. That he was buried: that he was raised" (Rom. 4:24-25).

The joy came from seeing their Savior even though the wounds were evident. Our joy must have the same root. We see him in faith. Faith in this life leads to vision in the future. This faith is a gift, but it will grow significantly during the Easter season if we pray. I am always reminded of the great biblical theologian, Rudolph Schnackenburg, who wrote, “Faith is either growing or receding. There is nothing so hazardous to faith as lazy inactivity.” — Rom. 15:5.

The joy of the season, the joy which will last, is that during our prayer, we make personal acts of faith in Jesus Christ, who is present to us. We tell him that we believe and he who is risen is present.

Other aspects of the Resurrection accounts

If you read the various Resurrection accounts, some of which are in the readings of Easter Week, you find the following gifts.

Peace

On almost every occasion, Jesus greets the apostles and others with this greeting, “Peace be to you,” which is retained in the celebration of the holy Eucharist.

In the death and resurrection of Christ, the two great obstacles of peace — sin and death — have been overcome. If we accept this and accept the one who made it possible, peace will grow.

Forgiveness of sins

In the Gospel for the Second Sunday of Easter, now by a decree of Pope John Paul II, we hear the great gift given to the church, “Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven. Whose sins you shall retain, they are retained.”

Then we also have the appearance of Jesus as recounted in John’s Gospel at the Sea of Tiberias. After preparing breakfast for them, Jesus puts the three questions to Peter about love. “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these do?” This has always been seen as a response to the three times Peter is recorded as denying Jesus.

St. Augustine says, “Jesus asked about his love and then gave him a work to do. Feed my sheep.”

The ministry of education and encouragement

The beautiful event on the way to Emmaus says so much about prayer in the Easter season, and prayer always, since we always live in the Easter season. The Lord asks them about their discouragement, listens and then explains the place of suffering and the cross.

The Acts of the Apostles

Easter week and the Easter season present many readings from the Acts of the Apostles. This is also encouraging because one experiences the church as it is, the hand, flourishing and growing. On the other hand, in contact with evil and experiencing struggle, it will be until the end. I would encourage those who are not able to go to daily Mass during the Easter season to read the accounts of the Resurrection, and also the Acts of the Apostles as a kind of exercise of what is called “lectio divina.” Here one allows Jesus Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to speak to us from the Scriptures.

It is a time of grace and joy, and when the sun finally returns to northern Indiana, as we know it will, that will help as well.

More on the sacrament of penance

As I have indicated, one of the fruits of the Lord’s death and resurrection has been the forgiveness of sins. Often my parishes in Holy Week and Easter, I refer to the church being born from the side of Christ, from the blood and water which came forth. This idea of the church being born from the side of Christ is not something made up. It is found in the writings of the Fathers of the Church, referred to also by Pope Benedict XVI in his recent exhortation, “Sacramentum Caritatis,” (“the Sacrament of Charity”). Indeed, it is outlined in the Second Vatican Council.

It was most encouraging to speak to many of our pastors during Holy Week and Easter. The outreach to Catholics who had slipped away from the church’s sacramental life, has brought encouraging results. I hope we can have a full report later, but we do know the following.

Mercy Day

In every parish, there was some response. In some parishes, the response was extraordinary, with priests hearing confessions for the full seven hours or more. This continued everywhere during Holy Week.

Wells of Hope

This occasional and innovative effort put together by our Office of Spiritual Development in close communion with Linda Furge, coordinator of our Jubilee Year, is ongoing. Parishioners were asked to give names of Catholics whom they thought would welcome an invitation to return to the church. After some training, Catholics going out two-by-two, as the Scripture said, visited those people. The term Wells of Hope was taken from the event in the Gospel of John describing the conversation of Christ with the Woman at the Well. (Jn. 4:4–41).

The media

As you know, there were a number of television spots in which I personally invited people to return to the practice of their faith. Priests told me that a number of those who returned to the sacrament of penance have indicated that this was the instrument of their return.

Our newspaper, Today’s Catholic, on two occasions with more to come, was sent to every home in the diocese. Along with bringing about some new subscriptions, this has motivated some people to turn to the church again. I received a very moving letter and phoned the writer to help her work on returning to the sacramental life.

All this would not have been possible without a significant grant from Our Sunday Visitor Institute. I am most grateful.

This all shows the importance of “the new evangelization.” It shows how many people are hungering just to hear from us — just a phone call, a letter or a visit. They have to know that we have not forgotten them. All of this will continue as preparations are made for parish-wide missions, and our Eucharistic Congress in August at Notre Dame. Please keep this year in your prayers, for the prayers of many will bring about the spiritual graces that are necessary. Still no word from the Red Sox. Perhaps they are holding me for the post season, which I would love to see.
On Easter, pope laments wars, horrors, ‘continual slaughter’ in Iraq

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In his Easter message, Pope Benedict XVI lamented the countless wars, disasters and horrors ravaging the world, including “the continual slaughter” of Iraqis.

“Fear and hatred know no bounds,” he said in his first Easter message as pope, urging the faithful to “renew our hope” in dialogue and prayer.

The pope opened Easter greetings in 62 different languages, which he said were marked by “cheers and flag-waving from the jubilant visitors in the square.”

During the April 7 Easter Vigil Mass, Pope Benedict and confirmed six women: two from China, two from Japan, and one each from Lebanon, Angola and the Republic of Congo.

Using a small golden shell to pour the holy water over each catechumen’s head, the pope also blessed women’s children — a small infant and a toddler, both born in Israel.

Baptism represents “a new beginning in life” in which “we begin a new way of looking at life,” the pope said during the evening ceremony in St. Peter’s Basilica.

At the end of the candelit Easter vigil, the pope blessed and Coloseum April 6, Pope Benedict again reminded people of the suffering and danger of the women and urged them to become messengers of that love through compassion.

“Without a word, the pope said the early Christian theologians considered the greatest sin of all to be that which hardened, insensitive heart.

Becoming Christian is to receive a heart that is open to the love that is sensitive and moved by the pain and suffering of others, he said.

During the two-hour service, the pope carried the black wood en cross for the first and last stations.

tions, women and men from Angola, the Republic of Congo, Chile, South Korea and China, as well as two Franciscan friars and two laymen, were among those who carried the cross during the service.

EARLIER APRIL 6, Pope Benedict presided over Good Friday of the Lord’s Passion, beginning the rite by lying prostrate with his face on a pool of water at the foot of St. Peter’s Basilica.

The preacher of the papal household, Capuchin Father Fabio Clerico, urged people to be humble in their homily that humanity was in dire need of “a woman’s era: an era of sharing, sacrifice and hope.”

“Christian women are ‘the hope for the future’” that is too caught up in a quest for knowledge and power that is lacking in love and mercy, he said.

Those who condemned Jesus to death were men, the preacher said, while those pious and courageous enough to accompany Christ throughout his passionate and humiliating trials.

Even his closest disciples had already abandoned the suffering Christ or were preparing to pack up and head for home, he added.

These and many other women today, such as those who work from their homes in the fields of HIV/AIDS, “and every brand of society’s rejects,” are not just forsaken, but for imitating, he urged.

Pope Benedict left the Vatican Easter Mass service April 8, after days resting at the papal residence in Castel Gandolfo, south of Rome.

Earlier April 9, he recited the Regina Coeli prayer with visitors gathered in the courtyard.

REFLECT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

strong effort, blessed by God, to reach people who had been tossed from the sacraments for many years.

I believe in the new springtime because I see the caliber of the young seminarians who are studying for our diocese. I notice the greater popularity of the Mass, and study, especially prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, and the dedication that the candidates, as well as the seminary faculty, encourage the time of formation.

I believe in the new springtime because of the openness of our young people to Christ. This is evident in our Catholic high schools and among those going to public schools. It is evident among college and university students. I meet one in this diocese. There is a purity of heart, a goodness and a hunger to know the theological tradition of the Catholic Church. I believe it because of the young people I recently met when we had our annual retreat for young adults. They live in a culture, which is immoral to worship, prayer and a charism. Despite all of this, they are seeking such a faith and environment. They are open to truth.

I believe it because of the openness to life that one finds in people preparing for marriage and in married couples.

I believe it because of Pope John Paul II, “not so much a man from Poland as a man from Galilee,” as one observer declared in the early days of his papacy. I believe it because of his 26-year presence and the Church. He made the priesthood once again a “great adventure.” I first met him in Boston and watched with joy at something I saw him do many times — his passionate unfolding of the loving challenge he presented to young people. On that rainy day, it was rooted in the story of the rich young man in the Gospel. I saw it again in Denver at World Youth Day. In Denver, he was in the pope but in the eyes of the young men and women in and their response to his message. Goodness, truth, joy and holiness still attract. After all these centuries, these qualities still attract, and they especially attract the young.

I believe it because of Pope Benedict XVI, whom I have come to know these past years through the “ad limina” visits. In him I see the courage of a superior theological mind and a gentle goodness placed always at the service of the church and of truth. I find it in the leadership which he consistently shows about accepting only men of quality to study for the priesthood.

“The usual account should help to reveal to man and understandable the mystery about the feeling of the bride and the groom, of the love and affection, of the joy and gratitude of the bride and groom, of the beauty and holiness of their marriage and the truth about the dignity of women.

Most of all, I believe in the new springtime because of the grace won for the church by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, more than ever. Christ has been with me keeping the promise he made that day, shown in his words to the Apostle Paul, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

The holy priesthood, which I embraced as a young man 50 years ago, not fully understanding it but relying on his grace, is more dear to me than ever. Christ has been with me keeping the promise he made that day, shown in his words to the Apostle Paul, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

Most Reverend John M. D’Arcy

April 15, 2007
POPE BENEDICT XVI washes the feet of a worshipper during the Mass of the Lord’s Supper at the Basilica of St. John in Lateran in Rome April 5. The pope washed and dried the feet of 12 men to commemorate Christ’s gesture of humility to his apostles the night before he died.

Today, the new Pasch, Easter, represents the effective sacrifice Jesus’ giving of himself for humanity, Pope Benedict said. “Let us pray for help (that we) not keep our life for ourselves, but we give it” to Jesus and help other people discover true life found only in him, said the pope. Donations collected during the Mass were earmarked for a medical dispensary in Somalia run by Caritas Somalia, the local affiliate of Caritas Internationalis, an international network of Catholic relief, development and social service agencies. Somalia, located in the horn of Africa, has been ravaged by anarchy and decades of war.

Earlier in the day, Pope Benedict celebrated the chrism Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica, leading more than 1,000 priests and bishops in the renewal of their ordination promises. He encouraged today’s priests to be inspired by Christ’s sacrifice and love for others as they face their “tremendously heavy” burden of pastoral responsibilities.

The pope, presiding over the first of two Holy Thursday liturgies, blessed the chrism and the oils used in the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, ordination and the anointing of the sick. They were carried to the altar in silver urns by groups of catechumens, youths preparing for confirmation, the sick and deacons about to be ordained in the Diocese of Rome.

In his homily, the pope spoke about the challenges of the priesthood. “At times we would like to say to Jesus: Lord, your burden is not at all light. On the contrary, it is tremendously heavy in this world,” the pope said. “But looking at the one who brought everything, who personally experienced obedience, weakness, pain and darkness, then these complaints of ours fade away,” he said.

In administering the sacraments, the pope said, the priest “no longer represents himself and no longer expresses himself,” but speaks and acts for Christ. For that reason, he said, priests must continually configure themselves to Christ, something that is symbolized in the liturgical vestments they put on. The amice, which traditionally covered the shoulders and head reminds priests to concentrate on the celebration of the Mass and on the figure of Christ, and not to let their thoughts wander, he said. The stole and alb evoke the festive clothing given by the father to the tattered and dirty prodigal son in the Gospel parable, he said. They should remind priests how far they are from Christ and “how much faith exists in our lives,” he said.

The pope said the chasuble, the main liturgical garment worn over the rest, symbolizes the yoke of Christ and his burden of suffering. All priests should continue to learn “mildness and humility” from him, he said.

The vestments above all should symbolize love toward God and neighbor, he said. “A person without love is darkness inside,” he said. “As we approach the celebration of the Mass, we should ask ourselves if we are wearing this clothing of love. We ask the Lord to drive all hostility from our midst, to remove any sense of self-sufficiency and to dress us with the clothing of love,” he said.

The pope began his homily by citing a story by the Russian writer Leo Tolstoy, in which a king asked a shepherd how God worked. The shepherd said they first had to exchange clothes. When the king stood in the shepherd’s worn garments, the shepherd said to him: “This is what God does.” The pope said the story is a useful allegory of how God became man and assumed the role of servant for all people.

**TODAY’S CATHOLIC**

**APRIL 15, 2007**

Pope says only Jesus’ body, blood can purify, save humanity

**BY CAROL GLATZ**

ROME (CNS) — The body and blood of Christ, as well as his love, are the only things that can purify and save humanity, Pope Benedict XVI said.

During his April 5 celebration of the Mass of the Lord’s Supper, which commemorated Jesus’ institution of the Eucharist, the pope reflected on how Christ transformed the Jewish Passover meal into the new Pasch of the Eucharist.

Pope Benedict also washed the feet of 12 young laymen from the Diocese of Rome. The ritual reflected the call to imitate Christ by serving one another. The pope poured water from a gold pitcher onto the foot of each young man and then gently rubbed each foot dry with a white towel.

The annual sacrifice of a lamb to drive all hostility from our midst, to remove any sense of self-sufficiency and to dress us with the clothing of love, he said.

The pope said he would like to say to Jesus: Lord, your burden is not at all light. On the contrary, it is tremendously heavy in this world,” the pope said. “But looking at the one who brought everything, who personally experienced obedience, weakness, pain and darkness, then these complaints of ours fade away,” he said.

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We receive holiness from God in baptism, Cavadini explained. Holiness is a property of the divine that is given to us, not something we earn — but it isn’t enough to simply accept that gift and do nothing.

“Our holiness is a call to holiness, to become what we are,” Cavadini said, explaining that holiness is a mission with Christ that grows as we grow in the imitation of Christ, who showed his love through his actions.

Most people live the call to holiness through the lay vocation, explained Aurelie Hagstrom, who has served as an advisor to the U.S. Bishops’ Committee on the Laity. She reminded the students that, “All of us in the body of Christ share in the mission Jesus entrusted to the church.” We just all have different roles and ministries.

Catholics used to think that holiness was for the “spiritual athletes” like monks and nuns, she said, but “There are no third-class citizens in the church.” It was “exciting and radical” for lay Catholics to hear after Vatican II that we are called to live a holy life in the secular world and participate in Christ’s mission to transform the world, she said.

Hagstrom explained that laity are empowered by the Holy Spirit and the sacraments to live out the mission of the church in daily life, in the family, in the neighborhood, at work, in politics, indeed wherever they are. In fact, she said, there are many places in the world that only the laity can reach.

“We live the call to holiness through the vocation of marriage,” she said, explaining that marriage is “a sacrament of holiness that only the laity can reach. In fact, she said, “There are no third-class citizens in the church.” It was “exciting and radical” for lay Catholics to hear after Vatican II that we are called to live a holy life in the secular world and participate in Christ’s mission to transform the world, she said.

Hagstrom explained that laity are empowered by the Holy Spirit and the sacraments to live out the mission of the church in daily life, in the family, in the neighborhood, at work, in politics, indeed wherever they are. In fact, she said, there are many places in the world that only the laity can reach.

“We live the call to holiness through the vocation of marriage,” she said, explaining that marriage is “a sacrament of holiness that only the laity can reach. In fact, she said, “There are no third-class citizens in the church.” It was “exciting and radical” for lay Catholics to hear after Vatican II that we are called to live a holy life in the secular world and participate in Christ’s mission to transform the world, she said.

People who receive and take up this vocation, she said, are given the grace to remind the rest of the baptized, and indeed the whole world, that we must strive for eternal life; that God is worthy of the gift of our entire lives, and that the love of Jesus Christ can fulfill all the desires of the human heart.

While all Catholics are called to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, Sister Sara said, not everyone is called to consecrated life’s intimate companionship with Jesus. The consecrated person imitates Jesus in a more radical way than the lay person and embraces celibacy “for the sake of the kingdom.”

Sister Sara told the students some of the signs of the call to consecrated life include having generous, high ideals, enjoying prayer, being comfortable at the liturgy and other devotions, receiving penance regularly, liking to help others, being willing to go the extra mile and feeling God may be calling them.

Scott Hahn, who also is a prolific author, discussed the vocation to the married life. Hahn has been married for 28 years to his wife, Kimberly, with whom he has six children, and the couple has taught a course on marriage.

Hahn’s talk drew heavily on Biblical references to marriage, and he observed that marriage is seen throughout Scripture as a “great good.” Marriage is a symbol of the love of Christ has for the church and the love God has for his people. Marriage, then, is very much like the divine covenant, he said.

The Hahns had married before they both converted to Catholicism, and he said he knew then that marriage was a covenant, but he has since come to realize that marriage is more than a covenant, it’s a sacrament and a vocation.

“The sacrament of matrimony doesn’t make holiness easy,” Hahn said. “It only makes it possible. Apart from the sacrament, we’d be on our own, and we don’t have what we need. God takes up for what we lack, and he gives us all we need through this covenant sacrament of marriage.

“By living out the marital covenant we make the Gospel believable. We make the word of God come alive. We become living signs of the consummation of a divine love affair, the passion of which exceeds everything this world has ever imagined and more.”

The vocations program was organized by Notre Dame’s Center for Liturgy and the Notre Dame Vocation Initiative (NDVision). Various other Notre Dame departments and programs helped with funding and are providing follow-up sessions to help students explore the vocations they will choose in their quest for holiness.

Speaking about their own vocational callings were Sister Sara Butler, left, Archbishop Timothy Dolan, center, and Aurelie Hagstrom, right.
**TODAY'S CATHOLIC**

**Pope names Vatican secretary of state to serve as chamberlain**

**VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has named Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone of Rome as Vatican secretary of state, to serve as the camerlengo, the chamberlain of the Holy Roman Church.**

While the pope is also the job is basically just a title. But when a pope dies, the chamberlain is charged with sealing the papal apartments, chairing consultations about the papal funeral, making the practical preparations for the conclave to elect the next pope, and chairing a committee of cardinals taking care of the temporal affairs of the church until a new pope is elected. Cardinal Bertone, whose appointment was announced April 4, succeeds Spanish Cardinal Eduardo Martinez Somalo, who turned 80 March 31 and consequently is no longer eligible to enter a conclave to elect a new pope. Pope Benedict named Cardinal Bertone, 72, as the Vatican secretary of state, in June 2006. The former bishop of Mantua, northern Italy, was named prefect of that congregation in June 2005.

Illinois Catholic leaders criticize proposed HPV vaccination mandate

**ROMEOVILLE, Ill. (CNS) — Catholic leaders in Illinois are speaking out against proposed legislation that would require all girls entering sixth grade in the state to be vaccinated against the human papillomavirus, or HPV, saying the mandate could have an adverse moral impact on minors.**

Approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in June 2006, the vaccine, marketed as Gardasil, protects against four HPV strains that are responsible for 70 percent of fatal cervical cancers and 90 percent of contagious sexually transmitted diseases, according to Curtis Allen, a spokesman for the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. “The HPV vaccine can be a reasonable way to protect young women from the horror of cervical cancer,” said the Catholic Conference of Illinois, the public policy arm of the Catholic Church in state, in a statement on its Web site. “There is nothing wrong with the vaccine itself,” said Zach Wichmann, associate director of the Catholic conference. But mandating that young girls receive this particular vaccine might send the message that teenage sexual relationships and encounters are acceptable, Wichmann said. “Parents should be able to decide” about allowing their minor children to undergo the vaccination procedure, he added.

Despite bishops’ urging, Virginia Republicans expand death penalty

**RICHMOND, Va. (CNS) — Despite a warning by Virginia’s Catholic bishops that the state’s death penalty has spiraled “out of control,” legislators voted overwhelmingly April 4 to override a gubernatorial veto and make it a capital crime to murder a judge or a subpoenaed witness. The legislators narrowly failed, however, to override Gov. Timothy M. Kaine’s veto of legislation that would make it a capital offense to direct a killing even if one does not personally participate in the murder. The House of Delegates voted 79-21 to override the veto, but the 40-member Senate voted for it 25-14, two votes short of the two-fifths needed for a veto override. “No matter how heinous the crime, if society can protect itself without ending a human life, it should do so,” said bishops Francis X. DiLorenzo of Richmond and Paul S. Loverde of Arlington in a joint statement April 3. “Even as states across our nation exhibit growing unease, restraint and moratorium on the use of capital punishment — 10 of 38 states in which it is lawful have suspended it — Virginians and their elected officials continue to apply the accelerator to a system of punishment that kills to teach that killing is wrong,” the bishops said.

Cardinal Francis E. George blesses Easter baskets at St. Ferdinand Parish in Chicago April 6.

The blessing of baskets of food to be prepared for Easter dinner is a Polish custom.

**CARDINAL GEORGE BLESSES EASTER BASKETS IN CHICAGO**

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Cardinal Francis E. George blesses Easter baskets at St. Ferdinand Parish in Chicago April 6. The blessing of baskets of food to be prepared for Easter dinner is a Polish custom.

Cardinal George, 70, was hospitalized after he suffered a broken femur when he slipped and fell on holy water while blessing baskets.

**USCCB officials comment on new stem-cell, cloning bills**

**WASHINGTON (CNS) — Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia urged U.S. senators to vote down a bill that would permit the destruction of human embryos to obtain their stem cells. “The question is whether our technical progress is guided by an equally advanced sense of the dignity of each and every human life, so our technology becomes a servant to humanity and not our cruel master,” Cardinal Rigali wrote in an April 4 letter to the Senate as chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities. The Senate was expected to vote on the bill shortly after it returned from its Easter recess. On a related front, Sens. Sam Brownback, R-Kan., and Mary Landrieu, D-La., introduced March 29 the Human Cloning Prohibition Act. Should the bill become law, the United States would join 20 other nations with similar bans on cloning. Five states have already enacted such a law. “The United Nations has urged its member nations to enact such bans to preserve human dignity and protect women’s health,” said a March 29 statement by Deirdre McQuade, director of planning and information for the U.S. bishops’ pro-life secretariat. “The cloning agenda poses a tremendous risk to women, as it would require exploiting countless women as egg factories,” she added. “Women have died from the hormonal manipulation required for egg extraction. Others have become seriously ill or lost their natural fertility at a young age.”**

**Vatican newspaper launches edition in Catholic Indian stronghold**

**BANGALORE, India (CNS) — The first non-European language edition of the noted Vatican newspaper L’Osservatore Romano was launched in India’s Kerala state, which is home to the highest proportion of Christians in the world. “The faithful have a right to know what the pope is telling the world. It is being realized here world. “The faithful have a right to know what the pope is telling the world. It is being realized here**

**SYDNEY, Australia (CNS) — The earthquake and tsunami that struck Indonesia last December has made many fearful of widespread disease and hunger among the coastal communities sheltered on high ground. Fresh-water tanks have spoiled, increasing the risk of water-borne diseases that could spread among the thousands of people who lost their homes in the April 2 tsunami. The Associated Press reported April 4 that airdrops of food had already reported cases of diarrhea, which they said could be a sign of more diseases to come. A series of violent aftershocks continued to rock the region after the tsunami, which was triggered by a magnitude 8.1 underwater quake that already had killed several people and burned the area. At least 364 people were killed in the natural disasters. The airport in the town of Gizo was closed for two days until April 9. However, international aid organizations mobilized medicine, food, shelter, water cans and bottled water to be sent to Gizo. Caritas Australia launched an appeal for funds to assist the humanitarian crisis in the affected work. Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops’ international relief and development agency, said that it would commit an initial $100,000 for emergency relief.**

**Retired Episcopal bishop and wife return to Catholic Church**

**ALBANY, N.Y. (CNS) — Bishop Daniel W. Herzog, recently retired Episcopal bishop of Albany, and his wife, Carol, have left the Episcopal Church and re-entered full communion with the Catholic Church. Both were raised as Catholics and joined the Episcopal Church as adults. In a letter to his successor, Bishop William H. Love, Bishop Herzog said his decision was a result of the decision of the 2003 General Convention of the U.S. Episcopal Church to affirm the ordination and promotion of an openly gay man, Bishop Gene Robinson, as bishop of New Hampshire. Referring to the turmoil that action caused in the church, he said, “That turmoil was not merely external. It also caused a lot of hidden tears.” In his view, he said, the power the convention claimed in taking its action “negated any previous authority on which I had relied. It caused me to engage in a fresh examination of apostolic teaching and authority.”**

**Tsunami destruction raises fears of disease, hunger in Solomon Islands**
St. Pius X Parish rich with Lenten activities

GRANGER — St. Pius X Parish religious education students have had a myriad of opportunities to experience the grace of God through the many activities offered this Lenten season. Second grade catechists and parents worked hand in hand with the first communicants preparing for reception of the Eucharist.

Parents attended sessions to update their understanding of the theology of the sacrament of the Eucharist while their children learned the themes during their own age-appropriate classes. They also enjoyed a retreat, Jesus Day, where they participated at stations that offered teachings on Scripture and the Eucharist. Additionally, the first communicants learn about St. Pius X, their parish patron saint, who is known as ‘the Saint of the Eucharist.

In the two-year preparation for confirmation, religious education students had the opportunity to participate in a day retreat, Our Journey Continues, where stations were offered on each of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The students experienced reconciliation, reflected on Jesus in the modern world and participated in a question and answer session concerning the faith.

Another activity offered was Mary Meloak and daughter Melissa’s visit to the second and fifth grade classes with a talk on deceased son Eric and his Lenten promise. Donations for the next year in Eric’s name for St. Vincent de Paul Society. This year nearly 300 pairs of socks were donated at St. Pius X for Eric’s Promise.

St. Pius X fourth, fifth and sixth grade students met with friends at St. Adalbert Parish to pray the Stations of the Cross in English and Spanish. Following stations, the group enjoyed a tour to the Eco Locker project followed by refreshments and fellowship.

And St. Pius X first and seventh grade religious education students kept with a parish Lenten tradition by gathering supplies and candy to fill Easter baskets for St. Mary’s House, a women’s day care center. The students collected supplies to fill over 300 baskets for the children and offer baskets and toiletries for the women at the center.

Sisters of Providence, White Violet Center host ninth annual Earth Day festival April 21

SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS—Alpacas, rapscals, music, a horse-drawn trolley ride, straw bale tours and plenty of activities for all ages highlight the schedule for the ninth annual Earth Day celebration Saturday, April 21, at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, hosted by the White Violet Center for Eco-Justice, a ministry of the Sisters of Providence.

The event is free and open to the public and offers a unique opportunity for a free will donation at the gates. Activity begins at 11 a.m. and continues until 3 p.m. Food from local chefs is available, and plenty of bakery items prepared by Sisters of Providence will be available for purchase.

Returning by popular demand is Mark Booth’s “Take Flight!” wildlife educational program, which allows people to see vultures, owls, hawks and other birds of prey up close.

New this year is The Troubadours of Divine Bliss, an eclectic folk duo from Kentucky. Their unique performance is entertaining for the entire family.

Activities are scheduled throughout the day. Visitors will be able to take a guided tour of the straw bale house, attend organic and biodynamic gardening presentations, see spinning and weaving demonstrations, and visit the herd of 50 alpacas and learn what makes them vital to the Sisters of Providence organic farm.

Also available are hikes along a nature trail, a leisurely ride around the grounds on a horse-drawn trolley, tours of the Sisters of Providence biomass program, and an informational display on hybrid cars. Numerous exhibitors are expected to provide educational and informational displays.

For information, contact Candace Hack at check@spwv.org or at (812) 535-2935. For a schedule of presentation times, and the most up-to-date information visit www.whiteviolet.org.

A.S.K. Ministries Health Clinic to hold fundraiser

FORT WAYNE — A.S.K. Ministries Health Clinic is holding a concert on Saturday, April 21, from 8 p.m. to midnight, at the American Legion 499, 830 Hillegas Rd., Fort Wayne, featuring the Junk Yard Band. A silent auction will also be held during the event. Proceeds from this fund raiser will be used for general operating costs. Ticket price is $10 and can be purchased by calling A.S.K. Ministries Health Clinic at (260) 744-9540 or may be purchased at the door the night of the event.

Started in 1997 by a small group of dedicated volunteers to address the growing demand for quality health care among the indigent population, A.S.K. Ministries has grown to serve over 500 patients each month through its regular and specialized care clinics. Numerous health professionals donate their time and effort to provide medical examinations and screenings to children and adults.

St. Jude Catholic School holds open house

SOUTH BEND — Administrators and staff at St. Jude Catholic School invite the public to open an open house on Sunday, April 15, from 1-3 p.m. on the school campus. There will be on hand to provide tours of the facility and answer questions.

“We’re excited about the opportunities available to our students at St. Jude,” said Stephen Donnelkinger, St. Jude School principal. “We want to share our vision and potential with current and prospective families.”

St. Jude School offers K-8 students a faith-based education with high academic standards. St. Jude students consistently rank higher than state averages on standardized test results.

In addition to core academics, St. Jude School offers music, band, art, technology and physical education. Students in grades 5-8 are invited to participate in athletic programs offered in the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL). Other conveniences include the hot lunch program and after school care.

St. Jude hopes to have registration packets for new families and information about summer programs for all students, regardless of whether they are enrolled in the school.

St. Jude School is located on Hildebrand Street on South Bend’s south side. For more information, please contact Principal Stephen Donnelkinger at (574) 291-3620 or go to www.stjudeschool.net.

Huntington County Right to Life holds carnation sale

HUNTINGTON Huntington County Right to Life (RTL) will hold its 26th annual Mother’s Day carnation sale, May 11, 12 and 13. Long-stemmed carnations, corsages and vases will be sold Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the RTL office only, located at 34 East Washington St. Saturday sales will be 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the RTL office, J.C. Penney, Etna Avenue Huggy Bear, Dollar General, Walgreens Drug Store, Kmart and Walmart.

Long-stemmed carnations and corsages will also be sold at Saturday and Sunday Masses at St. Joseph, St. Mary and St. Peter and Paul Catholic Churches. Carnations will be available for students at Huntington Catholic Middle and Primary Buildings. Prices are $1 each for long-stemmed carnations, $2 and up for corsages with vases starting at $3.

Corsages, vases and large quantities can be ordered in advance by calling the RTL office at (260) 356-5900 or by calling Principal Stephen Donnelkinger at (574) 291-3620 (closed Wednesdays). All proceeds benefit pro-life efforts in Huntington County.

Student Art Exhibition opens at University of Saint Francis

FORT WAYNE — The School of Creative Arts at the University of Saint Francis is hosting its 31st Annual Student Art Exhibition in Weatherhead Gallery in the Rolland Center. The exhibition will run through April 27. The gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. For more information contact the School of Creative Arts at (260) 434-7591 or visit their Web site at www.sf.edu/art.

Holy Cross Village hosts senior health, fitness fair

NOTRE DAME — Area residents can take advantage of free health screenings and valuable wellness information at Holy Cross Village’s second annual senior health and fitness fair on Wednesday, April 25, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at its community, 54515 State Road 933 North (on the campus of Holy Cross College), in Notre Dame.

In addition to having local organizations that promote health and wellness in attendance, blood pressure testing, height, weight, body mass index testing, hearing screenings, blood sugar checks and balance and posture tests will also be available.

Also, as part of the health fair, Holy Cross Village will sponsor a blood drive for the South Bend Medical Foundation. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, contact Holy Cross Village at (574) 287-1838.

USF, St. Therese, St. Louis host Focus on Health

FORT WAYNE — The School of Creative Arts at the University of Saint Francis will host Focus on Health, Friday, April 20, from 8 a.m. to noon in the Hutzell Athletic Center.

Students, staff and faculty volunteers from all healthcare programs will work with community health care professionals in providing free health checks. The event also includes information about the St. Therese and St. Louis student poster presentations with health and wellness information available. This community health fair offers free health checks that include height, weight, blood pressure, vision, blood and balance and osteoporosis screenings.

A fasting blood chemistry test with cardiac profile will be available for $27. The hemogram will also be available for $7. For information contact Beth Shutt at (260) 434-7602.

St. Therese Church and St. Louis Besancon will also be Focus on Health sponsors.

St. Therese Church, 2304 Lower Huntington Rd., Fort Wayne, will host Focus on Health on Saturday, April 21, from 1-3 p.m. in the School of Creative Arts.

St. Louis Besancon, 15535 Lincoln Highway E., New Haven, will host Focus on Health on Saturday, April 21, from 8 a.m. to noon. For more information about the event, call St. Therese and St. Louis, at (260) 481-4864.
Bill to jump-start funding for moral stem-cell source passes Indiana House

BY BRIGID CURTIS AYER

INDIANAPOLIS — A bill to jump-start public funding for umbilical cord blood donations, a moral source for stem cells, passed the Indiana House 97-1 and has nearly cleared the Senate.

House Bill 1348 authored by Rep. Peggy Welch (D-Bloomington) lays a foundation for a public umbilical cord blood bank program.

The measure would do two things. It would authorize the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) to apply for a Medicaid waiver from the federal government to reimburse doctors who collect cord blood from Medicaid recipients upon the birth of a newborn. It would require FSSA to make an oral report to the Health Finance Commission on progress in developing a statewide cord blood collection program prior to the 2008 legislative session.

Half of all births in Indiana are births to Medicaid recipients. Welch, a practicing nurse in the cancer unit at Bloomington Hospital said she’s always had an interest in health issues and as a cancer nurse she’s had a particular interest in stem-cell research and the promise it offers cancer victims.

She became interested in starting a public cord blood bank program in Indiana when a friend from church wanted to make a cord blood donation, but her friend learned there was no way to make a public donation.

Rep. Welch said that private donations of umbilical cord blood can be made for about $1,000 plus an annual storage fee $100, but there is no provision for public donation.

“What’s really exciting about this bill is the discussion that has been created,” said Rep. Welch. “Hospitals, doctors, researchers and corporate people are now talking about the possibility of creating a public cord blood bank,” said Rep. Welch. “Indiana is a leader in cancer research and life science, and has as a real potential to become a global leader in cord blood too,” said Rep. Welch.

Many believe stem cells only come from embryos, but Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, a leading national stem-cell expert, told Indiana legislators in 2005 that stem cells can be taken from umbilical cords, the placenta, amniotic fluid, adult tissues and organs such as bone marrow, fat from liposuction, regions of the nose and even cadavers up to 20 hours after death.

There are four categories of stem cells: 1) embryonic stem cells; 2) embryonic germ cells; 3) umbilical cord stem cells; 4) adult stem cells. Father Pacholczyk says that since embryonic germ cells can come from miscarriages where no deliberate interruption of pregnancy occurs, three of the four categories (2, 3 and 4) are potentially morally acceptable and the church vigorously encourages research in these areas.

Umbilical cord blood is a rich source for stem cells and a moral, non-controversial option, which can be used for bone marrow transplants.

Private and public umbilical cord blood banks have proven invaluable to the medical community. Many blood and immune diseases have been successfully treated using cord blood. Doctors use cord blood cells to treat about 70 diseases, mostly anemias or cancers of the blood, such as leukemias and lymphomas.

Sen. Patricia Miller (R-Indianapolis) who chairs the Senate Health Committee and is expected to chair the Health Finance Commission this year said, “There are two reasons for this bill: to use the cord blood for research and if there is enough blood left over it can be used normally as blood is used. Indiana’s on the cutting edge on this issue. Clearly, cord blood stem cells are a moral, non-controversial route to a source of stem cells,” said the Indianapolis lawmaker. “It’s exciting to see a lot of people interested in the cord blood issue. They range from L.U. Medical Center, Clarian Hospital, to biotechnology companies, and research companies.”

Julie Halbig, an associate at Hall Render Killilan Heath Lyman, who represents the Indiana Hospital and Health Association said, “This bill is the first step for Indiana to begin looking at ways to develop a statewide cord blood program. The goal with this bill eventually will be to raise the awareness that cord blood banking is available to expectant mothers.”

Since HB 1348 was amended in the Senate, it will go back to the House for a concurrence. For example, if a House bill is amended in the Senate, the bill’s author must agree with the amendments in order for the House to move to the governor. If the author doesn’t agree or dissent on the amendments, the bill goes to a conference committee of four legislators who will reconcile differences in the bill.

Rep. Welch said, “I plan to concur on the bill and send it up to the governor for his signature.” HB 1348 passed the Senate April 9 45-1.

Umbilical cord blood is one of three sources for the blood-forming cells used in transplants. The other two sources are bone marrow and peripheral (circulating) blood. The first cord blood transplant was done in 1988. Cord blood plays an important role in transplant today. Doctors are still learning about the ways cord blood transplants are similar to and different from marrow or peripheral blood transplants. Umbilical cord blood is collected from the umbilical cord and placenta after a baby is born. This blood is rich in blood-forming cells. The donated cord blood is tested, frozen and stored at a cord blood bank for future use. The stored cord blood is called a cord blood unit.

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Eucharistic Procession celebrated April 22 at Notre Dame

NOTRE DAME — Following the values set forth by the Venerable Father Basil Anthony Moreau, CSC, the University of Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s College and Holy Cross College are collaborating in the celebration of the Third Annual Eucharistic Procession on April 22 following the 11:45 a.m. Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Notre Dame.

The eucharistic procession will be celebrated on the historical “God quad” at the University of Notre Dame stopping at four altars of devotion before the statues of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, Our Lady of the University at the main circle, Holy Cross Father Edward Sorin, founder of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s, and concluding at the Golden Dome of the Administration Building.

Students, faculty, religious and staff of each institution, as well as the general public will give public witness of their faith and devotion to the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

The photo from 2006, shows the Eucharistic Procession celebrated in front of the Administration Building at the University of Notre Dame. The Third Annual Eucharistic Procession will be held April 22 after the 11:45 a.m. Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Notre Dame.

For information about this eucharistic procession, please contact Holy Cross Father Kevin Russeau at Russeau.3@nd.edu.

Medjugorje 2006 National Conference

University of Notre Dame
May 26, 27 and 28

The international pilgrimage Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima has traveled around the world since 1954 and has been seen by millions. Cures and miracles of conversion have occurred along the way. On more than thirty occasions it is reported to have shed tears. The statue will be on display throughout the conference, and Carl Maltburg (custodian of the statue) will give a talk on its history.

Tony Melendez is an internationally known singer and guitarist. His 1987 performance for Pope John Paul II in Los Angeles was an unforgettable moment. Born without arms, he played the guitar with his toes and sang a touching song entitled “Never Be The Same.” Since that time, he has performed in all fifty states and in twenty-eight foreign countries. He has appeared on many major television specials and has received countless awards for his inspiring music and personal accomplishments.

David Leatherby had a tremendous conversion experience in Medjugorje, which in turn had dramatic effects on his family and business enterprises. He is the founder of the Catholic Professional Business Club of Sacramento. His son will be ordained to the priesthood in Rome this May.

Bro. Jason Lewis, MIC, is a convert to Catholicism, a seminarian with the Congregation of Holy Cross; and a member of Council #1477.

Dr. Theresa Karmenicki Burke was instrumental in producing the first video presentation of the events in Medjugorje. The Karmenicki’s were the first American family to visit Medjugorje. Theresa is the founder of Rachel Vineyard Ministries, an international outreach to women on a variety of women’s issues.

Eduardo Verástegui is a well known and popular Mexican singer and actor. He is one of the stars that is in America and has appeared on major network dramas and music videos. His view of life and his entertainment career changed significantly after his trip to Medjugorje in 2005. He is now on fire for the Catholic faith and Our Lady.

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University of Notre Dame
May 26, 27 and 28

The eucharistic procession will also be a public prayer asking God for three graces: a greater respect and protection of the rights for all human life from conception to natural death; an increase of vocations to the religious life and priesthood especially in the Congregation of Holy Cross; and blessings for the students, faculty, staff, religious, trustees and administration of the three institutions of higher learning.

A picnic lunch will be provided by the generosity of the Notre Dame Knights of Columbus Council #1477. Founded in 1835, the Congregation of Holy Cross serves in 15 countries on five continents throughout the world. Father Moreau envisioned the brothers, sisters, and priests of Holy Cross united in their lives and in their work as a visible imitation of the Holy Family.

Father Moreau will be beatified in LeMans, France, on Sept. 15. A proponent of eucharistic adoration and devotions, this procession gives honor to Father Moreau and his vision for a religious community of educators in the faith. With a combined history of more than 369 years of education at Saint Mary’s, Holy Cross and Notre Dame, the religious of Holy Cross have been educating the hearts and minds of children and young adults. It is the mission of Holy Cross to make God known, loved and served.

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GUARDIAN CATERING SOLUTIONS
Bishop John M. D’Arcy

Diocesan vicars talk about their roles, bishop

BY TIM JOHNSON AND KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Father Robert Schulte, Msgr. James Wolf and Msgr. J. William Lester share a special bond with Bishop John M. D’Arcy. Father Schulte, the current diocesan vicar general, and his predecessor, Msgr. James Wolf, who is now the pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Warsaw, and Msgr. Lester, vicar of retired clergy and administrator of St. Thomas Aquinas Cathedral in Fort Wayne, are all aware of the day-to-day operations of the diocese.

The vicar general works with the general affairs of the diocese and serves as a liaison between the priests, parishes and the bishop as well as rector of the cathedral. The bishop is the pastor of the cathedral, but the rector handles the day-to-day affairs of the parish.

Father Schulte summarizes the duties of the bishop as “usually anything the bishop asks me to do.”

All have served the bishop at a point in diocesan history with special challenges and highlights. With a 25-year background in education and 10 years as superintendent, Msgr. Lester was top choice for superintendent of Catholic Schools with the bishop’s arrival in 1985. With his one-year appointment, Msgr. Lester was commissioned in the search for a permanent superintendent.

During that time Bishop D’Arcy also asked him to administer St. Aloysius in Yoder. As Msgr. Lester worked more closely with the bishop, he soon realized how involved with the area people he was. “He’s very oriented to the people who work for him,” Msgr. Lester says. “He knows everyone personally. He grasps the whole picture of the diocese and knows everybody down to the ordinary. He’s a hands-on guy!”

Msgr. Lester says he appreciates what he considers “the key idea from the bishop,” namely, that all diocesan offices, which have increased under the tutelage of Bishop D’Arcy, are commissioned with the job of serving the parishes rather than running them.

Msgr. Wolf was asked three times to be co-vicar general with Msgr. J. William Lester. “Finally (the bishop) asked the fourth time,” Wolf recalls. “Well do it for a year and see if you like it.” Msgr. Wolf recalls Bishop D’Arcy saying, “I remember saying something to him after the year was up, and (the bishop) said, ‘I don’t remember that.’”

Msgr. Wolf held the office for 15 years. He worked with the different diocesan departments that he and Msgr. Lester were asked to oversee. He was involved with the restoration of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, the Jubilee of 2000 celebration and investigated the expansion of the chancery offices to what would become the Archbishops Noll Catholic Center.

One of the challenges was “Msgr. Lester and I worked with bishop on a lot of the pedophilia cases that came up,” Msgr. Wolf says. A personal honor for him was being named a monsignor although he added quickly that all the priests of the diocese deserve such honor.

Of Bishop D’Arcy’s pastoral style, Msgr. Wolf says, “The bishop is very busy. He’s very meticulous about things. He wants to be involved.... As a pastor he’s concerned about the people, the relationship with God and help (the people), through the parishes, to come closer to God.”

Father Schulte, the vicar general since September of 2000, what he calls his “millennial gift,” finds his fourth assignment in his priesthood enjoyable. The founding pastor of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, he spent 12 1/2 years of his priesthood at the southwest Allen County parish and celebrated his 25th anniversary there.

Nevertheless, Father Schulte says, “There are challenges in every assignment, and I’ve enjoyed every assignment I’ve had.”

Bishop D’Arcy, whenever possible, meets with the cathedral priests for dinner. This gives Father Schulte and Bishop D’Arcy an opportunity to talk and sometimes catch up on administrative matters.

“Bishop D’Arcy likes to be with priests, and he likes to be with lay people as well,” Father Schulte says. “He’s a very people-oriented person. Our relationship is business as well as friends.”

As a pastor, Bishop D’Arcy “is very concerned for people. He’s a good listener. I would describe him as pastorally very, very consistent, very honest and very fair. ... I find him easy to work with because of those qualities,” Father Schulte says.

A significant project for Father Schulte is coordinating the foreign priests who serve in the diocese. He has also worked on a committee discussing the consolidation of parishes, personnel issues and trying “to make sure you have a priest for every parish. It’s not an easy task,” he says.

When looking at accomplishments of Bishop D’Arcy, Father Schulte highlights the initiatives of the Jubilee 2000 year, the current Sesquicentennial Jubilee Year, which includes updating and publishing the history of the diocese and promoting Catholic identity in the schools.

Father Schulte also mentions retreats, “I think the bishop has done a lot initiating young adult retreats. Those retreats are great experiences for them,” he says.

Teen retreats and parish mission weekends Bishop D’Arcy has with the University of Notre Dame, the Holy Cross priests and the diocese.

Of the number of ways the bishop has worked to better the diocese, Msgr. Lester remarks on the Annual Bishop’s Appeal that “reformed and reshaped the financial structure of the diocese.”

“He has solidified the diocese and gave purpose and meaning to the good advice he generates from the people of the diocese,” Msgr. Lester adds.

Father Schulte’s favorite memory was “having pasta with bishop at the outdoor restaurants on the streets of Rome last October — just a good time together in the Eternal City.”

Father Schulte, Msgr. Wolf and Msgr. Lester were some of the priests who joined Bishop D’Arcy with a diocesan pilgrimage group to Mother Theodore Guérin’s canonization.

Father Mark Gurtner: Bishop put diocese on ‘solid ground’

BY DON CLEMMER

FORT WAYNE — “I think Bishop D’Arcy’s legacy for our diocese can be summed up in one phrase: solid groundwork has made our diocese solid theologically, spiritually and financially,” says Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, Fort Wayne.

He adds that Bishop D’Arcy is really the only bishop he has known, as Father Gurtner was in his early teens when Bishop D’Arcy arrived.

“Bishop D’Arcy, of course, accepted me to the seminary, and throughout my seminary time he offered formation for the priesthood through individual meetings with him and also meetings together with other seminarians,” Father Gurtner recalls, noting that his top priority of knowing all the seminarians personally sets him apart from other bishops.

“I am consistently struck by bishop’s sincerity in his pastoral ministry. There is no duplicity about him. Some may disagree with a decision that he makes here and there, but no one can ever question his motivation in making any particular decision. His motivation has always been what he feels is best for the flock entrusted to his care, what will best lead the flock closer to Christ.”

“Also, one cannot help but be struck by bishop’s steadfastness. Over the years, he has consistently taught and fought for what the church teaches. He has offered us the teaching of Christ without fear of criticism or suffering.”

When looking at accomplishments of Bishop D’Arcy, Father Gurtner highlights the initiatives of the Jubilee 2000 year, the current Sesquicentennial Jubilee Year, which includes updating and publishing the history of the diocese and promoting Catholic identity in the

Msgr. William Faber: ‘They’re all thank you’s’

“He’s very, very concerned about everything. His coverage of the diocese in every kind of way at all has been beyond belief. ... I’ve written probably 20 letters to the bishop in the last couple of years, and they’re all thank-yous.” — Msgr. William Faber, senior priest of the diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.
Leader, Role Model

Father Schooler: He puts the diocese first

BY DON CLEMMER
GRANGER — Father Bill Schooler was pastor of St. Paul of the Cross Parish in Columbia City when Bishop John M. D’Arcy came in 1985. The parish was building a new church building at the time, and when Bishop D’Arcy came to the dedication, he asked Father Schooler if he would be willing to head a committee to come up with a formula for supporting the diocese.

After conducting numerous interviews, the committee recommended the formation of the Annual Bishop’s Appeal, which Bishop D’Arcy accepted.

Twenty two years later, Father Schooler reflects on his experiences of the bishop.

“I...have always been struck by his care and concern for the diocese. This diocese is first, and there is no doubt about that.”

From a priest-historian’s perspective

BY DON CLEMMER
FORT WAYNE — Not only is Father William Hodde a history buff, his nearly 55 years as a priest give him a firsthand perspective of four bishops and how Bishop John M. D’Arcy fits into the greater history of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

“In these 22 years, he’s faced a lot of challenges,” Father Hodde first notes, listing issues from the financial crisis of the diocese in the 1980s to the abuse crisis that faced the whole church in 2002.

Of the latter, Father Hodde says, “Certainly, we have been blessed compared to some other dioceses with all the initiatives he has taken to solve a problem before it becomes really dangerous.”

The other significant challenges of the last 22 years, Father Hodde adds, have come primarily in the areas of the church’s teachings.

“In defense of our faith and of evangelization and teaching it, our bishop has certainly done marvelously.”

University of Notre Dame chair of the theology department, John Cavadini, meets Pope Benedict XVI with Bishop D’Arcy in October of 2006.

Bishop’s man at St. Matthew’s —
Father Heintz

BY DON CLEMMER
SOUTH BEND — “I first met Bishop D’Arcy when I was a senior at Marian High School.

Ironically, as a member of the National Honor Society, I served as a greeter at St. Matthew Cathedral when he presented his credentials to the consultants on April 30, 1985, ” recalls Father Michael Heintz of his relationship with Bishop John M. B’Arcy, who has spanned the last 22 years and brought him back to St. Matthew Cathedral, where he now serves as rector.

Even by that first encounter at the door, the young Michael Heintz was already in the process of applying to the seminary, and in the years leading up to his ordination, he would become involved in various diocesan projects at the urging of Bishop D’Arcy. This personal involvement, according to Father Heintz, is reflective of Bishop D’Arcy’s approach to the diocese.

“I am always amazed at how many people throughout the diocese he knows by name. That is only possible when one has the level of engagement and concern that he does,” he notes.

This engagement also extends to Bishop D’Arcy’s relationship with the Catholic colleges and universities of the diocese, especially Notre Dame, Heintz adds.

“He has avoided the kind of adversarial relationship we have seen elsewhere in the country, and prefers to get to know the administration, in particular the theology department, and work with them for the good of the university and the church... His friendship with John Cavadini, their level of mutual trust and respect, and their work together is, I believe, the model for the relationship between bishops and the universities in their dioceses.”

Notre Dame Theology Department Chair says ‘thank you Bishop D’Arcy’

BY JOHN CAVADINI
NOTRE DAME — I teach in the Department of Theology at the University of Notre Dame. Currently I have the privilege of also serving as its chair, and I am surrounded by so many edifying examples of influence in teaching and in scholarship that we hope as a department to promote that sometimes I feel that I have hardly any work to do. Such is the power of inspiring example, and gratitude’s only adequate response is an increased dedication to service.

When I became chairperson 10 years ago, I was aware of these examples of excellence in teaching and theological scholarship that surrounded me, and that was daunting enough. But I had never, in all my life, including my years as a theologian, spoken to or even met a bishop. I did know, however, that John Paul II’s Apostolic Constitution “Ex Corde Ecclesiae,” (“From the Heart of the Church”), called for “close personal and pastoral relationships between university and church authorities, characterized by the sort of fruitful dialogue that should take place.” The constitutive document of the “Constitution on the Church in the Modern World” (Lumen Gentium) 27). The power dynamic seemed hardly promising for “dialogue” between the governing and the governed.

If I had bothered to read a little farther in “Lumen Gentium,” I would also have noticed the following passage:

“A bishop should keep before his eyes the example of the Good Shepherd who came not to be served, but to serve (see Mt 20:28; Mk 10.45) and to lay down his life for his sheep (see Jn 10:11). Taken from among human beings and subject to weakness himself, he can sympathize with those who are ignorant and erring (see Heb 5:1-2). He should not refuse to listen to his subjects whose welfare he promotes as of his very own children and whom he urges to collaborate readily with him. (“Lumen Gentium,” 27).”

“The greater must become like the lesser, and the leader as the servant,” the text further insisted. Perhaps it was just as well that I had not read that far, because unless you actually see this in action, you are inclined to think it is the sort of rhetoric most people in authority read and forget about.

But one of the greatest privileges I received when appointed chairperson, and one I did not expect, was the opportunity to see these words come alive, and to have them vividly etched in my mind by a living embodiment of them.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy called my office and invited me to lunch the first semester I served as chair. At lunch, among other things, he gave me his contact information and told me I could call him at any time, even at home, if I needed to talk to him.

I was so shocked by that at the time that I forgot even to say “thank you” for extending such a courtesy — though I tried to look cool as ever, as though, of course, it was the most normal thing in the world for a bishop to invite me to contact him at home and that I was used to it.

In point of fact, I was an undisguised scholar with zero

Anniversary 11 April 30, 2007
Campus-young adult ministry flourishes with the encouragement of Bishop John M. D’Acy

FORT WAYNE — Linda Furge is the director of Young Adult and Campus Ministry for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. She also coordinated the diocesan events of the Great Jubilees 2000 and the current diocesan 150th Anniversary Jubilee Year. Under Bishop John M. D’Acy’s leadership, Young Adult and Campus Ministry have grown and flourished. Today’s Catholic interviewed Furge about the ministry and Bishop D’Acy’s influence.

Today’s Catholic: Linda, you have worked with Bishop D’Acy as the director of the Office of Campus and Young Adult Ministry, and as coordinator for the Great Jubilee of 2000. How have you worked with Bishop D’Acy?

Furge: After his arrival in our diocese, bishop commissioned a study of campus ministry across the diocese. A recommendation of the study was formation of an Office of Campus Ministry. My pastor at that time, Father Bill Scholler, was appointed co-director of the new office, and he asked me to join the team to develop campus ministry. Over the years, Bishop D’Acy has understood the need to support our Catholic colleges and universities in our diocese, and so it began.

Today’s Catholic: Let us give us a brief history of how your department has grown.

Furge: Before bishop arrived, campus ministry consisted of Father Larry Krueger, a novitiate campus minister, and one Holy Cross sister in South Bend. In 1985, the newly commissioned campus ministry started with one campus minister at Indiana-Purdue Universities at Fort Wayne and Purdue at the Indiana University-South Bend (IUSB).

Shortly thereafter, realizing the huge parish and young adult population in the diocese, we requested bishop to add young adults (18-40 years) to our ministry efforts. At the same time, bishop accepted the full-time pastors-co-directors’ recommendation that I be appointed director to allow them to return to parish ministry.

As our relationship with the college and parish grew over the years, we gradually added necessary staff so that today we have a director, an assistant director, two full-time campus young adult ministers at each end of the diocese, serving area college students and parish youth.

Today’s Catholic: What do you see as the major building blocks with in the Office of Campus and Young Adult Ministry?

Furge: Campus-young adult ministry’s primary building block is, without a doubt, its dedicated staff because this is primarily a ministry of relationships. College student and parish young adult groups are the foundation of our very successful young adult retreat, our service component, and everything else we offer. We also establish and maintain cordial relationships with college and university faculty and staff and work with those individual religious serving parish young adult ministry.

As often bishop says, campus young adult ministry is a missionary, evangelizing activity one in which we “plant seeds.” We demonstrate to young adults that Christ, though the church, is always there for them — even if they choose not to be present in the church at this particular time in their lives.

In addition, the various World Youth Days have served as building blocks for our young adulthood. Especially WYD in Denver. Denver WYD was instrumental in the development of the U.S. bishops’ pastoral statement on young adult ministry. “Sons and Daughters of the Church” encyclical which is a companion with campus ministry’s “Empowered by the Spirit,” provides guidelines for our ministry.

Today’s Catholic: Please comment on the relationship bishop has with the young people of our diocese?

Furge: Campus-young adult ministry is the sign of a true pastor. Bishop D’Acy has never given the impression that serving us was an imposition when we talked, made me feel as though he was “greater,” in fact became “like the Good Shepherd who is willing not to neglect the more fundamental searching questions that young adults have, and they appreciate his honesty and integrity. His extensive pastoral relationship with young adults, both in Boston and this diocese, allows bishop to interact with them in a very personal and meaningful way.

Today’s Catholic: How has bishop offered support and direction to your office?

Furge: Bishop backs our efforts completely. In each instance where there was a question, there was a prompt and most of the time most appreciative of Bishop D’Acy’s long-standing commitment to them. In recognition of this commitment, bishop was named “Outstanding Campus Ministry Bishop” by the largest national campus ministry organization that has dedicated efforts with college students and young adults.

They love his presence and eagerly look forward to his arrival at the annual “Walsh Retreat,” the personal rapport between bishop and the young adults is strong and heartens everyone.

Today’s Catholic: This refers to bishop as pastor, as priest. How is bishop’s pastoral concern reflected with the young people? How does he interact with them?

Furge: Bishop has a wonderful talent of truly listening to the views and thoughts of young adults in a way that is both understandable and relevant. He is very comfortable with the challenging, searching questions and the honest answers adults have, and they appreciate his honesty and integrity. His extensive pastoral relationship with young adults, both in Boston and this diocese, allows bishop to interact with them in a very personal and meaningful way.

Today’s Catholic: One hundred years after the Encyclical, “Sacrosanctum Concilium,” what do you think people will look back at the “Bishop D’Acy Years” of the dio-

Furge: As one of the “golden ages” of the diocese.

THANKS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

administrative experience and even less understanding of how to wield any kind of authority. But even less understanding of how to administer experience and parish young adult ministry. When we talked, made me feel as though he was “greater,” and treated me as though he was “served,” but also taught and continuing dialogue,” I feel was actually even more the virtue of his office, and in fact, it was what was actually more true, that I admired over the years, Father Ted Hesburgh, CSC, Bishop D’Arcy, Grenville, Bishop D’Arcy, and that of all the colleagues I respect, serving area college students and parish youth.

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Furge: As one of the “golden ages” of the diocese.

Notre Dame theology professors enjoy relationship with Bishop John M. D’Acy

Professor Margaret Pfeil

I came to know Bishop D’Acy in January 2006. In anticipation of an apostolic visit to Moreau Seminary that included interviews with the theological department, I realized that I needed to talk with the bishop about ECE.

I have interpreted this text as a positive vision of the relationship between Catholic institutions of collaboration among the Good Shepherd who is willing not merely to lay down his life— which sometimes seems easier than listening — but to listen, and talk and engage in a “dialogue” which, like the case of the Lord Jesus, never compromised, but actually enhanced, his authority. At the end of 10 years of “ongoing and continuous conversation,” I feel not only “served,” but also taught and sanctified, another daunting example of excellence for which I can only be very grateful and renewed dedication to my own service which is the only proper response, as I noted above, and ending gratitude. On behalf of myself and of my colleagues, I would like to take this opportunity to say, “Thank you, Bishop D’Acy!”

Professor Gary Anderson

I first met Bishop D’Acy when my family came to South Bend in 2003. In fact, I think my son, who was then a senior at Saint Joseph’s High School, was referred to Mass at the school. When I first met the bishop, I remember him welcoming me and my son with that made a very big impression on me because he revealed how much he thinks about the whole family. He often asks me, whenever I see him, how my sons are doing. That is the sign of a true pastor.

I teach in the theology department at Notre Dame. This means I am responsible for courses in both our undergraduate and graduate programs. Of course, alongside of this comes the expectation of a strong research program.

The bishop is very active in the department. He knows many of our faculty by name and comes to our graduation lunches every year to meet the students. He takes a great interest in how the department has grown over the years and become more involved in both the local church but also the national church and the various organizations.

The bishop has a warm relationship with our department and has always known how to give voice to what he believes the church’s position on matters that the university may not agree with. He is forthright and bold without being needlessly confrontational. I can’t think of a better person for the job.

Today’s Catholic: Tell us about the Jubilee 2000, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and the Sesquicentennial Jubilee. Have you worked with bishop on these projects? What was your role?

Furge: As coordinator of these events and projects, my relationship has been one of collaboration and trust. In each event or project, bishop’s devotion to the people of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is clearly evident, and his vision and purpose is always to serve and support both the people of God in their personal journeys of spiritual growth and the local church as it continues to be a pilgrim people. I thoroughly enjoy working with and for him.

Today’s Catholic: One hundred years after the Encyclical, “Sacrosanctum Concilium,” what do you think people will look back at the “Bishop D’Acy Years” of the diocese?

Furge: As one of the “golden ages” of the diocese.

Loretto Hall’s 75th Anniversary

 années

ANNIVERSARY

April 15, 2007

today’s catholic
Last week, nine Planned Parenthood clinics in Indiana gave away free doses of so-called “emergency contraceptives.” This give-away was announced in the western side of the diocese in a low key letter to the editor published in the South Bend Tribune March 30, recommending that “women and couples” keep the “EC” in their medicine cabinets “just in case.”

We wonder why Planned Parenthood is so anxious to get EC, otherwise known as Plan B, into everyone’s hands when the medication is now available over-the-counter to anyone 18 years of age or older. In any event, we find this Planned Parenthood initiative to be offensive and irresponsible to our community at large.

It is offensive because it reduces sex to a purely physical level, ignoring the beautiful spiritual and emotional elements of sexual relations within marriage. Secondly, it treats the creation of a new human being as a disease and an evil that must be avoided at all costs, as the Tribune letter proclaims: “Every woman deserves every chance to prevent unintended pregnancy.” Ignored is the indisputable fact that pregnancy is the natural consequence of sexual intimacy.

The initiative is dishonest because it omits crucial information. The Tribune letter calmly assuages potential clients that “Emergency contraception is just that: contraception. As such, it reduces the need for abortion... EC is not the same as mifepristone (RU-486), which ends a pregnancy.”

The Planned Parenthood of Indiana Web site is even more specific, stating: “emergency contraception will not cause an abortion.”

However, even the FDA labeling of the EC drugs notes that the medication may prevent a fertilized egg from implanted in the uterus. As the American Academy of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists (AAPLOG) has noted: “Fertilization means the successful entry of a sperm into an ovum to create a human embryo. Abortion is the removal of an embryo or fetus from the uterus. Adequate informed consent dictates that the woman using this medication be plainly informed of this abortifacient potential.”

The Planned Parenthood of Indiana Web site also states: “There have been no reports of serious complications among the millions of women who have used EC.”

Again, this is inaccurate, dishonest and altogether dangerous. The AAPLOG reports that women using Plan B who do conceive have at least three times the risk of an ectopic pregnancy — a pregnancy that normally implants in the fallopian tube — which can be fatal to both mother and child.

Another health risk posed by the EC medication is the high hormone dosage. It is known that even normal doses of birth-control pills have the potential to be dangerous for some women, but EC contains artificial hormones 25 to 40 times the amount found in birth control pills. Furthermore, women and teens who keep EC in their medicine cabinets “just in case,” rarely visit a physician after taking the medication, making them even more vulnerable to potential side-effects and undetected complications.

Yet, a Planned Parenthood Web site for teens — teenwire.com — posts this answer to a teen who asks how often it is safe to take EC: “Most people should feel free to use ECP whenever they think it necessary.”

And the Planned Parenthood International Web site informs teens younger than 18 that they can contact a Planned Parenthood clinic to get a prescription for EC, advising that it is wise to have EC on hand for “emergency situations.” Not only does this place young teens at risk of physical complications without parental supervision, it also places them more at risk of being sexually exploited.

As AAPLOG notes: “Male sexual predators can easily use this medication to cover their abuses and unlawful actions. Likewise, the potential for increased pressure on young women to become sexually active, since they may be led to believe that preventing pregnancy is as simple as taking a pill after intercourse.”

This Planned Parenthood initiative is symptomatic of an effort to debase the beautiful sexual act that our Creator intended to be both unitive and procreative within marriage. The Catholic Church has been the leading advocate for preserving this correct view of sexual relations, and we Catholics in the pews must honor and support that effort.

Planned Parenthood seeks pharmacists

Planned Parenthood is making even more of a mess by launching a “Pharmacists for Planned Parenthood” campaign in an attempt to lure local pharmacists to go to their neighboring pharmacies and try to buy EC over-the-counter.


Today’s Catholic welcomes letters from readers. All letters must be signed and include a phone number and address for verification.
On political and practical fronts, attention turns to immigrants

WASHINGTON (CNS) — With Congress preparing to reopen the touchy subject of an immigration reform bill, the people and religious organizations that deal with the humanitarian repercussions of the current situation are planning new strategies and直接 old ones.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said he will bring the immigration legislation to the floor for debate the last two weeks of May, even though a Senate bill has yet to be introduced. A House version that so far is serving as a baseline for congressional discussion was introduced in March.

President George W. Bush was expected to promote a White House-backed bill during events planned for the week after Easter.

Like the return of spring flowers, the season has brought increased attention back to border issues on many fronts:

• The self-proclaimed citizens’ border-watch organizations such as the Minutemen were heralding their spring campaign along the Arizona-Mexican border.

• Workplace raids by the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency, or ICE, were

the subject of vehement protests in California, New England, the mid-Atlantic and the Midwest by religious leaders whose social service programs were trying to handle the repercussions for families that have had breadwinners arrested, detained or deported.

• The vast coalition of faith groups, ethnic organizations, unions, business groups and immigrants’ rights organizations that supports a comprehensive approach to immigration reform worked all winter to get their spring bills in Congress to influence what final legislation includes.

The House bill, H.R. 1645, the Homeland Security Through Regularized Immigration and a Vibrant Economy, or STRIVE Act, represents “a good starting point,” according to Kevin Appleby, director of migration and refugee policy for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Among its failings, he said, are that the bill lacks provisions to restore due process rights for immigrants and includes unnecessary enforcement mechanisms that will harm refugees and asylum seekers.

The bill includes increased enforcement efforts at the border; legal orientation programs for detainees; new penalties for people convicted of certain crimes; an employment verification program; provisions for up to 400,000 guest workers annually; a path to permanent residency for guest workers; reforms of the family-based immigration visa program; and a path to legalization for people who are already in the country illegally.

Meanwhile, workplace immigration raids since last fall that have left apart families, especially those with some citizen and some undocumented members, are

Jesus conveys power to forgive sins

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

2nd Sunday of Easter

Jn 20:19-31

The Acts of the Apostles supplies this weekend’s first reading. The first several chapters of Acts are fascinating since they so well depict the life of the early Christian community in Jerusalem. The events covered begin with the story of the Lord’s Ascension itself and proceeds forward.

Vitaly important in the life of the community in Jerusalem was the leadership of the apostles, with Peter as their head. Such status of the apostles was no surprise.

After all, Jesus had called the apostles individually, commissioning them to continue the work of salvation after the Ascension.

In this reading, the apostles work many miracles. The people held them in great esteem. Peter moves among the sick, and merely to touch him with his shadow was enough to be cured of sickness or infirmity.

The implication is clear. Jesus did not leave the Christian body without guidance or without access to God’s grace. The Acts says that the apostles, agreed upon with Peter as the leader, came together with the community for the “breaking of the bread,” for prayer, for providing aid to the needy, and for healing the sick.

For its second reading, the church provides a passage from the Book of Revelation. In the reading, John, the author of Revelation, assumed by tradition to have been the Apostle John, tells of being in exile on the island of Patmos in the Aegean Sea. He said that on the Lord’s Day, or Sunday, the day of the Resurrection, he had a vision of Jesus. Jesus ordered John to write about all that John saw.

St. John’s Gospel provides the last reading. There, the Gospel begins with an appearance of Jesus before the apostles. The Lord brings peace. He then empowers the apostles to forgive sins. Jesus says that if they forgive, the sins are forgiven.

Next comes the familiar story of the doubting Thomas. Other apostles had seen the risen Lord, but Thomas had not seen Jesus. Thomas would not believe that Jesus indeed had risen, insisting that he would not believe until he personally could touch the very wounds of Christ.

When Jesus appeared before the apostles, Thomas sees the wounds. He proclaims Jesus “my lord and my God”.

The reading ends by stating that Jesus performed many other miracles.

Reflection

Only a week ago, in celebrating the feast of Easter, the church joyfully and exactly proclaimed to us its belief that Jesus was risen. He lives! To emphasize the meaning of this pronouncement, the church gave us the liturgy of the Easter Vigil, the very summit of the church’s entire year of formal worship.

This weekend, just a week after Easter, the church hurries to tell us that the risen Christ is with us still, visibly, tangibly and dynamic.

Christ still is present with us through the apostles. The church does not just say that the apostles represent Jesus.

It clearly verifies the apostles’ credentials. In the second reading, from the Book of Revelation, we are told of John’s extraordinary encounter with the risen Lord.

John’s Gospel, in the third reading, continues this process of reporting the Lord’s granting to the apostles the very power of God itself, by giving them the ability to forgive sins. As sins affront God, only God can forgive sins.

Yet Jesus conveyed this power to the apostles.

Thomas is important to the story. He doubted, not an unusual human reaction to the amazing assertion that Christ had risen from the dead. Then Thomas saw Jesus and uncategorically believed.

The church is saying that we today encounter Christ through the apostles. Through the apostles the Lord heals and redeems us. It is a clear and direct self-testimony of the church’s own sense of its identity.

READINGS

Jn 20:19-31

Jn 8:22, 28-29


Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26 Ps 34:2-9
Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33 Ps 34:2-9, 17-20 Jn 3:31-36


Saturday: Acts 6:1-3 Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 Jn 16:21

CATEQUIZ’EM

By Dominic Campilloss

As the church continues through the Easter season, let’s revisit what the event pivotal to salvation history — the Resurrection.

1. What does the term resurrection really refer to?
   a. raising up (again) specifically from the dead
   b. resolution of the soul
   c. redeeming a debt or bondage

2. What do the four Gospels tell us about the process (mechanics) of the Resurrection?
   a. It was similar to nuclear fission
   b. It was accompanied by blinding light
   c. nothing

3. Who, as far as we know, witnessed the Resurrection?
   a. St. Thomas
   b. Mary Magdalene
   c. no one

4. How did the apostles find out the Resurrection had occurred?
   a. It was headlined in the Jerusalem Post
   b. They were told about the empty tomb and then Jesus appeared
   c. Peter was given a secret handshake by Pontius Pilate

5. According to John’s Gospel, who discovered an empty tomb?
   a. Mary Magdalene
   b. John (the Apostle that Jesus loved)
   c. Peter

6. Who confirmed to this discoverer that Jesus was not in fact in the tomb?
   a. The Roman soldiers
   b. The temple guards
   c. angels

7. Jesus was not the first person to come back to life. Who, from Bethany, was also raised from the dead?
   a. John the Baptist
   b. Elijah
   c. Lazarus

8. But what was different in his case?
   a. He was raised up by the power of the law.
   b. He was raised up despite Jesus being against it.
   c. His was a temporary reprieve, eventually he would die a natural death.

9. What did early Christians like St. Paul deduce about the Resurrection?
   a. That Jesus could be resurrected because he was divine, so no one else could be resurrected.
   b. That this was the future of those who followed Christ faithfully.
   c. That everyone would be resurrected from then on.

10. After the Resurrection, John tells us that Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene. What was unusual about her reaction?
    a. She could not bring herself to speak so she just whitened.
    b. She did not recognize him in fact, she thought he was the gardener.
    c. She was sure it was him, but refused to believe it as she knew he was dead.

11. Jesus’ subsequent appearance to the apostles had another unusual feature:
    a. He appeared to him, but in the dress of a gentle noble.
    b. He appeared to them in physical form, but was able to enter a locked room.
    c. He appeared to them but was not visible to them.

12. One of the 12 was not there and later expressed doubts. Who was he?
    a. Thomas
    b. Judas
    c. Peter

13. Which Gospel gives only a very brief description of the post-Resurrection events, so that it was often thought some original verses had been lost?
    a. Mark
    b. John
    c. The Gospel of James

14. But even that short version includes a geographical detail. Where are the disciples?
    a. in Rome
    b. in Galilee
    c. in Jerusalem

15. What term is used by the church to describe Jesus’ body after the Resurrection?
    a. Body of Grace
    b. Glorified Body
    c. Doppelganger of Dulia

ANSWERS:
1. a, 2. c, 3. c, 4.b, 5. c, 6. c, 7.c, 8.c, 9.b, 10.b, 11.b, 12.a, 13.a, 14.b, 15.b
Ruth Messinger brings message of justice in Darfur: end genocide

NOTRE DAME — When it comes to giving advice on how to make a political impact, Ruth Messinger knows what she is talking about. And as executive director of the American Jewish World Service, an international development organization motivated by Judaism’s imperative to pursue justice, Messinger is ready to motivate people on behalf of genocidal victims.

Messinger pre- sented the Liss Lecture, which was entitled “Bearing Witness: Crisis in Darfur,” at the University of Notre Dame on March 28. Messinger’s talk was sponsored by the University of Notre Dame Department of Theology and the Holocaust Project.

She opened her lecture with the phrase “Never again,” quoted so often in reference to the Holocaust, or Shoah. Now over 60 years after the Holocaust, the world has seen more than 100 mass atrocities in the past 60 years, including those in Bosnia, Rwanda, Cambodia, Sudan, and Darfur.

In Darfur, the governments of Sudan, which were responsible for the genocide, are still in power. The government has been holding the region hostage, and the international community has failed to respond.

Messinger spoke about the Righteous, those who risked their lives to save the lives of their families, sheltered Jews during the Nazi regime. Why did the Righteous act as they did? The simplest explanation, gleaned from the words of Righteous who survived, is that they could not have done otherwise.

Messinger made it clear that we are today in just such a situation — we live in a time of ongoing genocide in Darfur. If we do not act, the people will die. Darfurians, she said, have faith that if they tell their story, those who hear it will come to their aid.

The fact is that the government in Khartoum, Sudan, is waging a war of genocide on its own people in the Darfur region. Since January 2003, between 450,000 to 500,000 innocent, unarmed civilians have been killed by government forces and its proxy militias rebels, women have been raped and branded, villages bomb ed and burned, livestock dumped down. The 2.5 million people who have made it to the seven refugee camps tell chilling stories of five to 60 percent of those in the camps are children.

Darfur, and now neighboring Chad, are the most dangerous places on earth for aid workers. The increasing absence of aid workers on the ground also means the increased absence of witness to the suffering.

Messinger fielded many questions from the audience asking why such genocides occur. She replied that when such evil has happened, there is always a small group of people, sometimes a larger group of victims and then all the bystanders. How the world responds to the genocide in Darfur is its moral legacy. The Indiana Catholic Conference makes the same point about Darfur: “Doing nothing makes a statement. It means that we are willing to be bystanders to genocide.”

What can we do? For those who are interested in attending a rally, there is the status of the Markle Center for the 21st Century: “Time is Running Out!” Sunday, April 15, 2:30 p.m. at the Indiana Statehouse. Contact the Indiana Coalition to Save Darfur, a statewide coalition of Protestants, Catholics, Jews, Darfurians and students of faith. IndianaCoalitionToSaveDarfur.com.

Indiana House Bill 1484, requiring divestiture by Indiana state entity investments, passed unanimously in the House, but failed to come out of committee in the Senate. An unsigned statement will be attached, it is hoped, to another bill this month. "We encourage our lawmakers to work together.

What is the solution? Catholic doctors need to discover good exhibitions of medical ethics. I recommend Dr. William E. May’s “Catholic Bioethics” and the “Gift of Human Life” (Our Sunday Visitor Press, Huntington, Ind.: 2000). The couples must assume their role, their unique vocation, in the new evangelization of the Gospel of Life.

Father Matthew Habiger, OSB, announced the Poor Men question. He may be contacted at Mhabiger@kansasmonks.org.

Today’s Catholic welcomes questions from readers. E-mail your questions to editor@indianservice. 1wib.org or mail them to Today’s Catholic, That’s A Good Question, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46856. Include your name, city and an e-mail address or phone number so we can contact you if necessary. Anonymity will be preserved upon request.

By Patricia Kasten

April 13, 2007

Commentary

Why are Catholic doctors, especially obstetricians, so resistant to give their backing to natural family planning? I understand that only one percent of Catholic ob/gyns refuse to prescribe contraception and to do sterilizations. That is not to say that the others are contributing to the problem of so many Catholic women using the pill, and the moral harm that results from that.

There are many reasons. Let me provide a few.

Most doctors were never exposed to the merits of NFP when they were taught in medical school. The prevailing attitude is that NFP does not work, and that is equivalent to nothing but a myth. This means that the medical schools have not kept up with all the developments in refining the effectiveness of NFP.

Doctors at the Pope Paul VI Institute at Creighton University, for one, have advanced the science of NFP to the extent now that NFP can be used not only to effectively space pregnancies, but to overcome infertility.

Naprotechnology (natural reproductive technology) is three times more effective than standard treatments for infertility, less expensive, and without the dangers of hyper ovulation, in vitro fertilization, embryo transfer and placing many embryos in the mother’s womb. Naprotechnology eliminates frozen embryo banks, where in this country alone there are 400,000 frozen embryos.

Catholic ob/gyns and family practice doctors have told me that they have experienced real prejudice against NFP in their training. Some were told that, if they could not in conscience prescribe contraception, then they would not have a place in the school. Many medical students do not have strong enough convictions about their faith to resist this kind of pressure. They reason, if the profession feels this way about NFP, who am I to think otherwise?

Many medical students were never exposed to good courses in Catholic medical ethics. Thus, they do not understand morally why contraception is so harmful, and medically why NFP is so effective and beneficial. This means, of course, that Catholic colleges and universities that do not offer reputable courses in ethics have failed both the church and people they serve.

Still another consideration is the financial one. There is no money to be made in promoting NFP. In the case of the pill, a doctor can routine prescribe a monthly prescription, and collect his fee. But with NFP there is the initial teaching of a couple in their own physiology, helping them to understand their sexuality, and encouraging them to acquire self-possession in this area. A normal course in NFP requires usually four to six sessions. Once the couple masters the method, then there are no further expenses. NFP is very good medicine, but bad for business. However, there are other compensations. Many doctors who come to see you about NFP, who am I to think otherwise? They do not understand morally why contraception is so harmful, and medically why NFP is so effective and beneficial. This means, of course, that Catholic colleges and universities that do not offer reputable courses in ethics have failed both the church and people they serve.

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Search Scripture

By Patricia Kasten

April 15, 2007

Gospel for April 15, 2007

John 20:19-31

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for Divine Mercy Sunday: Cycle C, the Easter evening appearance of the risen Lord. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

EVENING JESUS CAME WITH YOU FATHER SINS TWELVE MARK

LOCKED DOORS


LETTER

Continued from page 14

prompting some religious groups to resurrect a 1960s idea—offering sanctuary in their churches. California, New York, and Chicago-based interfaith organizations are laying the groundwork for what they call a New Sanctuary Movement, which will offer refuge to families of immigrant status who are facing deportation. A formal announcement launching the movement is expected in late April.

The New Sanctuary Movement is being coordinated by Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice-California, an alliance of interfaith organizations; Interfaith Worker Justice, a Chicago-based network of worker justice groups; and the New York Sanctuary Coalition as a way “to accompany and protect immigrant families who are facing the violation of their human rights in the form of hatred, workplace discrimination and unjust deportations,” as the movement’s Web site says.

The group cites roots in the sanctuary movement of the 1980s, when, networks of mostly church-based shelters provided refuge for Central American immigrants who fled wars in their homelands, but were unable to obtain legal asylum in the United States.

Sunday, April 15, 2007

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Recapturing the soul of bioethics

Modern bioethics seems to be going through a kind of identity crisis. While some bioethicists available for hire, drug companies and biotech firms have easy access to “experts” who can provide them with the veneer of respectability if they decide to head in the direction of unethical science. Erwin Chargaff, a pioneer in the field of biochemistry, once quipped that “Bioethics didn’t become an issue until ethics started being breached. Bioethics is an excuse to allow everything that is unethical. The only moral approach to allowing the unethical is to claim that, ‘We have already made certain choices, and now we really must move on to the next step — we must yield to the inexorable progress of science.’” Rather than examining and rejecting certain poor choices that may have been made in prior years, and trying to regain lost respectability if they decide to undo what has already been done, bioethicists have been crushed, let us go confront or challenge.

Many are being breached. Bioethics is an excuse to allow everything that is unethical. The only moral approach to allowing the unethical is to claim that “We have already made certain choices, and now we really must move on to the next step — we must yield to the inexorable progress of science.” Rather than examining and rejecting certain poor choices that may have been made in prior years, and trying to regain lost respectability if they decide to undo what has already been done, bioethicists have been crushed, let us go confront or challenge.

IVF has become a kind of medical waste), that does not have its day in court, and its research experiments. Bioethicists and politicians then further attempt to limit some of the collateral damage from IVF, and any reasonable person can see the benefit of enacting such legislation. But in the United States, we face what has been termed the “wild west of infertility,” where few regulations of any kind exist and close to half a million frozen embryos are trapped in liquid nitrogen tanks in fertility clinics. As couples get older and no longer intend to implant their own eggs, they begin to clamor for those embryos to use in their research experiments.

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Bioethics is an exceedingly important discipline for the future of our society, addressing critical issues in science and life. This discipline cannot afford to compromise its integrity in new controversies arising, selling its soul to the highest bidder or playing to powerful special-interest groups like universities or biotech companies. Only by rejecting the demands of expediency and courageously acknowledging past mistakes can it regain the kind of principled moral foundation and credibility it needs to effectively assist scientists, medical professionals and researchers in the future.

Meet the Priest

What is your favorite food?

Eel.

What is your favorite Scripture passage?

2 Cor. 12:9

Who is your favorite pope?

John Paul II

What is your favorite pet?

Fish of all kinds

What is your favorite hobby?

Singing

What is your favorite music?

Jazz

What is your favorite activity?

Singing

What is your favorite color?

Blue

Who is your favorite author?

Alice Walker

What is your favorite historical figure?

Jesus

Who is your favorite actor?

Jack Nicholson

What is your favorite book?

The Bible

Who is your favorite artist?

Michelangelo

What is your favorite TV show?

The Apprentice

What is your favorite sport?

Soccer

What is your favorite team?

The New England Patriots
Sports

Bishop Dwenger, Luers summer camp programs announced for 2007

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

FORT WAYNE — Free physical exams will be offered on a Saturday, which will be announced later, at FWO, 750 West Jefferson, Fort Wayne. Exams are open to all Bishop Dwenger (BD) athletes entering grades 9-12 in the 2007-2008 school year. The preferred time for Dwenger athletes is 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Forms will be available on the day of the exam or from the main office.

The camps offered are:

• An eight-week program: flexibility, throwing, running, agility and weight training designated for your particular sport(s). BD athletic facilities and weight room.

Instructors: BD coaching staff (cost $35) Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Summer (cost $35). Every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Registration: June 4-7, 5-6:30 p.m. at the Plex, grades 4-8 (2007-08 school year), cost $40.

• Team football camp — June 4-8, 8-10 a.m. to noon at Northwood.

• High school volleyball camp — Six weeks: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 5-8, Saturday, 7-9 p.m.

• Wrestling camp — June 18-21, 5-8 p.m. at the Plex.

• Basketball camp boys and girls — Session one: June 11-15, Session two: July 9-13.

• Cheerleading camp — Monday, June 26, through Friday, June 29, 9-11 a.m. at the Sport Club on Androme Avenue, Fort Wayne.

The camps offered are:

• Team girls soccer camp — June 11-15 8:00-9:30 and 10:30 a.m. to noon at Northwood.

• IHSAA Mandatory Moratorium Week — July 2-8.

• Boys soccer camp — June 4-7, 6-8 a.m. at the Plex.

• Basketball camp boys and girls — Session one: June 11-15 8:00-9:30 and 10:30 a.m. to noon.

• Dancing camp — Thursday, June 14, 7-9 p.m.

The following camps will be offered at Bishop Luers High School this summer:

• Boys soccer camp — grades 5-8, Monday, July 16, through Thursday, July 19, 8-10 a.m.

• Cheerleading camp — Monday, June 11, through Thursday, June 14, 7-9 p.m.

• Dance camp — Wednesday, June 20, through Friday, June 22, 12:30-3:30 p.m.

• Football camp — grades 5-8, Monday, July 16, through Thursday, July 19, 8-10 a.m.

• Show choir camp — Tuesday, July 31, through Friday, Aug. 3, 9 a.m. to noon.

• Boys soccer camp — grades 5-8, Saturday, June 23, through Monday, June 25, 9-11 a.m. at the Sport Club on Androme Avenue, Fort Wayne.

The camps offered are:

• Cheerleading camp — Monday, June 11, through Thursday, June 14, 7-9 p.m.

• Dance camp — Wednesday, June 20, through Friday, June 22, 12:30-3:30 p.m.

• Football camp — grades 5-8, Monday, July 16, through Thursday, July 19, 8-10 a.m.

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“Firehouse Dog” (Fox)  
A pampered Hollywood pooch rescues an inner-city station house from closure and helps a father and son (Bruce Greenwood and Josh Hutcherson) bond in this catch-all family comedy, which tries to be parody, mystery and action-adventure rolled into one. Director Todd Holland’s too-long-for-the-kids movie has too many plot strands and some cruder than expected language, toilet humor and innuendo, although mostly in reference to canines. Mild crass language and gags, scenes of action peril and one brief instance of physical violence. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

“Are We There Yet?” (Columbia/Revolution)  
Only fairly amusing sequel to 2005’s “Are We There Yet?” is a couple (Ice Cube and Nia Long), along with her two kids, relocate to the great outdoors and a huge house desperately in need of refurbishing. Director Steve Carr trots out every cliche imaginable and relies too heavily on slapstick humor, but the film does carry a strong affirmation of family and friendship and virtually no objectionable material. Brief innuendo, a comedic physical scuffle and other slapstick violence, scenes of drinking, marital discord and a tense nonexplicit birth scene. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

HELP WANTED  
Counselor  
Catholic Charities seeks an individual to provide counseling services in South Bend Catholic schools two days per week and Plymouth, Indiana, one day per week. Qualifications include a Master’s degree in Social Work, Counseling, Psychology, or related mental health area and at least six months of related experience. The qualified individual should be familiar with general counseling issues, and sufficiently familiar with the Catholic faith to identify and appropriately respond to issues unique to Catholic clients. This person must be licensed or actively working toward licensure for LCSW, LMFT, or LMHC in the State of Indiana. Pay will be hourly, following the school schedule. There may be an opportunity to see clients in an office setting at a later date. Send resume and salary requirements to:

Attn: Operations Director - Catholic Charities  
315 East Washington, Blvd.,  
Fort Wayne, IN 46802  
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Jesus, We Trust in You!

Congratulation to Our Shepherd

His Excellency Rt. Rev. John M. D’Arcy
On His 50th Anniversary of
His Ordination to the Priesthood
Ad Multos Annos

Father Thomas Conde of the Archdiocese of Chicago washes the feet of a young girl at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Fort Wayne. Father Conde, a nephew of the late Father Tom O’Connor, presided at the Easter triduum services at the parish.

The cross is carried in procession before the Veneration of the Cross on Good Friday service at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne.

Father James Shafer, pastor of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne, baptizes Ryan Trouten at the Easter Vigil on April 7.

Divine Mercy Celebration
Sunday, April 15, 2007

Immaculate Conception Church
500 East Seventh Street - Auburn
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction, Divine Mercy Chaplet

2:00 - 2:45 PM Confessions
3:00 PM Celebration

Celebrant for Divine Mercy
Father Lourdino Fernandes
Pastor
Immaculate Conception Parish, Kendallville
Homemade food and refreshments provided afterward by Ladies Cenacle Prayer Group
Literature on Divine Mercy available to purchase.
Pastor: Father Babasino Fernandes

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