Serving the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

April 29, 2007

Today’s Catholic

Diocese to host
Eucharistic Congress at Notre Dame

BY LINDA FURGE

The entire Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will come together in an exciting and prayerful pilgrimage to the University of Notre Dame for an Eucharistic Congress on Saturday, Aug. 18. This day of pilgrimage will be filled with inspiring presentations, educational workshops (see pages 13-21 of this week’s Today’s Catholic), numerous opportunities for prayer and sacraments, and many other avenues for nourishing one’s faith and spiritual growth. There is truly something for everyone in this celebration.

In addition to spiritual opportunities, there will be time for families to share lunch, either by bringing a picnic or purchasing food and beverages on the campus of Notre Dame. The day will culminate in a very special Mass at 4:30 p.m. at the Joyce Center at Notre Dame. The prelude will begin at 4 p.m. and will celebrate the magnificent artistic, musical and cultural heritage of our diocese.

In an assembly of thousands, supported by a large diocesan choir, the Jubilee Pilgrim Cross will lead the procession of bishops, priests and deacons from every parish in the diocese. The prayers, readings, music and environment for this closing liturgy will contribute to a celebration of praising in many languages, incorporating many cultures, singing music people know and can participate with as one voice and with all their heart.

Everyone in the diocese is invited to come in pilgrimage to this Eucharistic Congress — “Behold the Face of Christ: His Steadfast Love Endures Forever.” Mark your calendars and register soon to be a part of this historic occasion.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy kneels before the Blessed Sacrament at one of four stations of prayer during the Eucharistic procession at the University of Notre Dame on April 22. Notre Dame will host the Eucharistic Congress on Saturday, Aug. 18.

This special jubilee year issue

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — This is the third of four gift issues that the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and Today’s Catholic is sharing with all registered Catholic households in the diocese. The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is celebrating its 150th anniversary — or its Sesquicentennial Jubilee Year — in 2007. One of the hallmarks of the year is a Eucharistic Congress, scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 18, at the University of Notre Dame.

For those who attended the diocesan Eucharistic Congress in the Great Jubilee 2000, the spirit and format of the day will be very similar. In the center of this week’s edition of Today’s Catholic is the registration guide for the August 18th Eucharistic Congress. These pages contain the day’s schedule, numerous choices for two workshop sessions, and the workshop registration form itself. You are encouraged to register at the diocesan Web site, www.diocesefwsb.org.

Registration for the workshops is necessary to reserve adequate meeting room space for each workshop. Some workshops are expected to fill quickly. We encourage readers to sign up as soon as possible so they receive their first choices. Registration for the Mass is strongly recommended, but not required, so that the diocese can plan for seating.

The next time that Today’s Catholic will be delivered to all registered Catholic households is Aug. 12. That issue will feature the Eucharistic Congress program, complete with detailed information about all the various events of the day, maps, workshop locations and much, much more regarding this special event.

Subscribers of Today’s Catholic will continue to be updated with news about the Eucharistic Congress and other Sesquicentennial Jubilee events throughout this historical year. Non-subscribers to Today’s Catholic can find subscription information on page 5 of this week’s issue.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT ON HUNGER

BY TIM JOHNSON

Tony Henry of St. Mary’s Soup Kitchen speaks at an April 24 panel discussion on hunger at St. Jude Church, Fort Wayne. Jane Avery from Community Harvest Food Bank listens.
A perfect day at Notre Dame, an intense period of prayer and adoration

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

A weekend to remember

Perhaps we should start on Sunday even though it was the final event of an intense four days. I celebrated the 11:45 a.m. Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on the campus of Notre Dame. The church was filled with many standing. And the music, always so prayerful and beautiful, was under the direction of Steve Warner and the Notre Dame Folk Choir. I spoke on the beautiful Gospel where the Lord puts the triple question to Peter, responding to his triple denial: “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these do?”

After Mass, it was my privilege to lead a procession of the holy Eucharist. Corpus Christi would be the perfect day for this, but when that feast comes, the students will be on vacation. Following liturgical rules, benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was celebrated at each of four altars: The statue of the Sacred Heart, the statue of Our Lady (Notre Dame), the statue of Father Sorin, and finally, high on the steps of the administration building.

One of the first truly spring days we proceeded around the campus with a number of Holy Cross priests and sisters and the Franciscan sisters of Mishawaka whose charism involves eucharistic adoration. Many students followed, as did people from South Bend. A perfect day at Notre Dame, an intense period of prayer and adoration.

At each of the stations of the altars, there were very brief readings by the young men and women — students of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s. It was a reading of Scripture, then followed a short reading from the writing of Basil Moreau, the founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross. Then came short prayers of the faithful. I carried the monstrance out the door of the basilica and the first few steps, and blessedly it was carried after that by young, strong Holy Cross priests in the full vigor of youth. Among those walking in the procession was the provincial, Father David Tyson, CSC.

Tuesday evening

The weekend had started the previous Thursday when I celebrated Mass at Alumni Hall for a group at the Notre Dame University Law School called the St. Thomas More Society. I first spoke to this society 20 years ago, and this custom started again these past two years at the invitation of the law students. We prayed for those killed in the terrible massacre at Virginia Tech University and their families. I also reflected on the Acts of the Apostles, which present the accounts of the early church and show that struggle and opposition will always be present in the church. But so will grace and love and faith and hope, and “this is the victory which overcomes the world: our faith.” I reflected on the Scriptures and, as is always important to law students, the example of St. Thomas More, the patron of lawyers and also politicians. We went to the lounge at the law school where I had a delightful discussion along with tasty sandwiches. It is certainly encouraging to meet so many young men and women, some of them married with babies and all of them so intent on serving Christ and his church in some way.

After a busy Friday and celebrating Mass in our downtown chapel in South Bend, I was off to a delightful dinner with two devoted priests, Fathers Bill Schooeler and Dan Scheidt, at St. Pius X, Grand Forks. In the evening, under the direction of Cindy Black, diocesan director of youth ministry, I was part of something called XLT. This is a program of prayer and adoration of the holy Eucharist. It includes songs of worship, times of silence, a short catechesis and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. One had to be impressed by the devotion of the young people. On the way home, I received an enthusiastic call from Cindy whose spirituality and devotion to the young people will certainly have a great effect on our diocese.

The drive home

I took a look at the television before leaving and noticed that the Yankees were leading the Red Sox by 5-2. I was sure it was over. As I drove on this moonlit night 331 to 301, I was able to find the New York station and their somewhat prejudicial announcer. Alas, the miles sped by swiftly as the Red Sox came from behind with five runs in the eighth, to win. Fort Wayne seemed to arrive very quickly.

News & Notes

Bishop John M. D'Arcey

A perfect day at Notre Dame, an intense period of prayer and adoration

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A splendid priest

Saturday morning, off early to Hessen Cassel to celebrate the funeral Mass and the rite of Christian burial for Msgr. Robert Contant, surely one of the most beloved priests in our diocese. Msgr. Contant could talk about anything at great length and could tell you much you wanted to know and probably a few things you didn’t really need to know. There was a large number of priests present, and the beautiful country church was full. Here you found a place where the priest was truly father, shepherd and spouse of the parish. He had served there for 33 years and was truly beloved.

In preparing his homily, I found a note that he sent to me after the restoration of the church under the excellent guidance of Father Robert Van Kempen. Msgr. Contant returned for the dedication and later wrote that “I wanted you to know how much I appreciated the credit you gave me at the time of the restoration of the church at Hessen Cassel. I always thought of the devotion and love of the people there shown to me simply mirrored the love of God for them. I saw myself simply as the mirror of that love.”

He was a thoughtful, caring, highly intelligent, knowledgeable priest. He also was very humble, which is important for all of us. It was a joy to be around the people and priests who loved him.

The weekend was not over. After a short rest, I went to Bishop Luers where I took up my usual responsibility to lead the auction in which people give funds for tuition grants for those who cannot afford to attend Bishop Luers. Remarkably, in this auction alone we received $100,000 in gifts for tuition.

The next morning I drove to Notre Dame for Mass and an inspirational eucharistic procession on a Sunday where the weather mirrored the spirit of joy and worship. Back then to Fort Wayne at 6 p.m., in time for dinner and to tune in to Fenway Park to see what would happen.

What happened was a sweep of the Yankees, the first time at Fenway in many years. But the games were close, and it will be battle all year long. The dreaded New Yorkers will not go quietly. Still, a sweep of three games in April gives great hope.

This Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday and also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Let everyone beseech God our Father to grant this blessing to our diocese, that more young men of good quality would come forward to study for the priesthood and join the other fine young men who are already in the seminary. Blessedly, we will ordain two young men to the diaconate at St. Matthew co-Cathedral Parish on June 2.

See you all next week when I believe the intense battle between Boston and New York will heat up again, this time at the big ballpark in the Bronx.
Partial Birth Abortion Ban upheld; abortion opponents laud court

BY MARK PATTISON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Supreme Court upheld the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act in a 5-4 decision April 18. The ruling was lauded by abortion opponents, including President George W. Bush, who called partial-birth abortion an "abhorrent procedure" in an April 18 statement from the White House.

The decision affirms that the Constitution does not stand in the way of the people’s representatives enacting laws reflecting the compassion and humanity of America. The partial-birth abortion ban, which an overwhelming bipartisan majority in Congress passed and I signed into law, represents a commitment to building a culture of life in America," said Bush.

He signed it into law in 2003, but because of court challenges it never went into effect.

"The Supreme Court’s decision is an affirmation of the progress we have made over the past six years in protecting human dignity and upholding the sanctity of life. We will continue to work for the day when every child is welcomed in life and protected in law," said Justice Anthony Kennedy, writing the majority opinion in the Gonzales v. Carhart and Gonzales v. Plan Parenthood cases.

Kennedy’s majority opinion “have not demonstrated that the act would be unconstitutional in a large fraction of relevant cases.” Also voting in the majority were Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas.

In the minority were Justices Paul Breyer, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, David Souter and John Paul Stevens.

In dissenting opinion, Ginsburg said the decision “tolerates, indeed applauds, federal intervention in a procedure found necessary and proper in certain cases by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.” She added that the decision “refuses to give constitutional protection to the child of a mother who died in September 2005, and Chief Justice William Rehnquist, who died in September 2005, and now-retired Justice Sandra Day O’Connor were both on the high court at the time this ruling was issued. O’Connor sided with the majority, and Rehnquist with the minority.

In 2003, Congress again passed a ban on partial-birth abortions, and the bill was signed into law by Bush.

Kennedy’s majority opinion said there was “medical disagreement whether the act’s prohibitions would ever impose significant health risks on women” and that other procedures exist to abort late-term pregnancies.

During the November oral arguments, Solicitor General Paul Clement, who argued for the federal government, said Congress had sufficient evidence that “partial-birth abortions were never medically necessary, and that safe alternatives were always available such that no woman would be prevented from terminating her pregnancy. As a result, Congress was entitled to make a judgment in furthering its legitimate interests that they were going to ban a particularly gruesome procedure that blurred the line between abortion and infanticide.”

A brief separate opinion written by Thomas and joined by Scalia said they wanted to reiterate their view that “the court’s abortion jurisprudence ... has no basis in the Constitution.”

In statements issued April 18, abortion opponents rejoiced in the decision.

“Granted this is a very small step, but it is the first step away from a society that looks at the life of an unwanted, unborn child as nothing more than a problem that needs to be disposed of, and the first step toward a society that respects and values all human life,” said a statement by former Republican Sen. Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania, author of the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act.

“When drafting this legislation, we were, we went to court and they would withstand constitutional scrutiny and today’s ruling confirms that belief,” said a statement by Rep. Steve Chabot, R-Ohio, who sponsored the bill in the House. “Our legislation was supported by an overwhelming bipartisan majority in Congress, signed into law by the president and has now gone up through by our highest court.”

In praising the decision, Father Frank Pavone, president of Priests for Life, said: “Congress and the vast majority of state legislators and American citizens have made it clear over the last decade that this procedure — by which a child is killed in the very process of delivery — has no place in a civilized society.”

“Finally,” said National Right to Life Committee legislative director Michael New, "it is illegal in America to mostly deliver a premature infant before pushing its head into the mother’s body and then moving her brain, which is what a partial-birth abortion is."

“I am encouraged by the important strides made today,” said Mailee Smith, staff counsel of Americans United for Life. "The court sent the message that it will not strike down abortion regulations simply because they are abortion regulations.”

“We are waiting for the anti-Catholic bigots to go bonkers over the fact that all five of the justices who voted against infanticide are Roman Catholic,” said a statement by William Donohue, head of the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights.

The Gonzales v. Carhart case is an affirmation of the culture of life and a greater respect for every human being from conception until natural death.

On Supreme Court partial-birth abortion decision, Gonzales vs. Carhart

April 18, 2007

Today marks an important step not only in the legal recognition of the dignity of every human being, including the unborn, but also in a more sound constitutional jurisprudence.

This close 5-4 decision simply recognizes that the U.S. Constitution does not protect the grisly procedure known as partial-birth abortion. This procedure that is performed on children that are viable or nearly viable, is both barbaric and horrific. This procedure has no place in a civilized society, and the fact that some would argue that it is protected by the U.S. Constitution — a document that does not mention or even come close to dealing with the issue of abortion — underscores the work that has yet to be done.

This decision is also an important victory for democracy. The Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act passed Congress overwhelmingly in 2003. Members of the court in the majority acted responsibly in recognizing that our government is one where judges should limit themselves to applying the law impartially and not revising it to suit their own agendas or personal preferences.

Let us pray that our beloved country will continue to build a culture of life and a greater respect for every human being from conception until natural death.

Catholic Home Missions Appeal collection set May 5-6

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are so blessed in this diocese to have dozens of vibrant parishes, flourishing schools and religious education programs and outreaches to young people, families, the poor and the sick. But we know that this is not the case in many parts of our country, where the percentage of Catholics is very small and priests and their coworkers struggle to meet the pastoral needs of their people in isolated parishes and remote missions. In places like Appalachia and the Deep South, the Southwest, the Mountain West, and the remote island dioceses of the Caribbean and Pacific, our brothers and sisters in the faith depend on us for financial support.

On the weekend of May 5-6, we will take up the collection for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal, which is sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. This collection enables Catholics in more prosperous parts of the country to help the missions in poorer areas. It pays for travel expenses for priests to celebrate Mass in remote towns so people can receive regular nourishment from the Eucharist and the word of God. It helps pay for the education of seminarians, deacons and lay ministers. It supports religious education programs aimed at deepening youth and young adults’ knowledge of our faith. Some 90 dioceses, in fact, rely on the support of the Catholic Home Missions Appeal.

In addition, this appeal provides funding to the global Archdiocese of Military Services, which sends close to 1000 chaplains to offer Mass, the sacraments, counseling and a comforting presence to American Catholic soldiers and their families throughout the world.

On behalf of our brothers and sisters, then, with whom we share the same homeland and the same faith, I ask you to be as generous as you can with this important collection.

Sincerely yours in our Lord,

Most Reverend John M. D’Arcy

BISHOP JOHN M. D’ARCY
Vatican commission: Limbo reflects ‘restrictive view of salvation’

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — After several years of study, the Vatican’s International Theological Commission said there are good reasons to hope that babies who die without being baptized go to heaven.

In a document published April 20, the commission said the traditional concept of limbo — as a place where unbaptized infants spend eternity but without communion with God — seemed to reflect an “unduly restrictive view of salvation.”

The church continues to teach that, because of original sin, baptism is the ordinary way of salvation for all people and urges parents to baptize their infants, the document said.

But there is greater theological awareness today that God is merciful and “wants all human beings to be saved,” it said. Grace has priority over sin, and the exclusion of innocent babies from heaven does not seem to reflect Christ’s special love for “the little ones,” it said.

“One reason is that the many factors that we have considered ... give serious theological and liturgical grounds for hope that unbaptized infants who die will be saved and enjoy the beatific vision,” the document said.

“We emphasize that these are reasons for prayerful hope, rather than grounds for sure knowledge,” it added.

The 41-page document, titled “The Hope of Salvation for Infants Who Die Without Being Baptized,” was published in Origins, the documentary service of Catholic News Service. Pope Benedict XVI authorized its publication earlier this year.

The 30-member International Theological Commission acts as an advisory panel to the Vatican, in particular to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Its documents are not considered expressions of authoritative church teaching, but they sometimes set the stage for official Vatican pronouncements.

The commission’s document said saving unbaptized babies who die was becoming an urgent pastoral question, in part because their number is greatly increasing. Many parents today are born to parents who are not practicing Catholics, and many others are the unborn victims of abortion, it said.

Limbo has never been defined as church dogma and is not mentioned in the current Catechism of the Catholic Church, which states simply that unbaptized infants are excluded from God’s mercy.

But limbo has long been regarded as the common teaching of the church. In the sixth century, “people find it increasingly difficult to accept that God is just and merciful if he excludes infants, who have no personal sin, from eternal happiness,” the new document said.

Parents in particular can experience grief and feelings of guilt when they doubt their unbaptized children are with God, it said.

The church’s hope for these infants’ salvation reflects a growing awareness of God’s mercy, the commission said. But the issue is not simple, because appreciation for divine mercy must be reconciled with fundamental church teachings about original sin and the necessity of baptism for salvation, it said.

The document traced the development of church thinking about the fate of unbaptized children, noting that there is “no explicit answer” from Scripture or tradition.

In the fifth century, St. Augustine concluded that infants who die without baptism were consigned to hell. By the 13th century, theologians referred to the “limbo of infants” as a place where unbaptized babies were deprived of the vision of God, but did not suffer because they did not know what they were deprived of.

Through the centuries, popes and church councils were careful not to define limbo as a doctrine of the faith and to leave the question open. That was important in allowing an evolution of the teaching, the theological commission said.

A key question taken up by the document was the church’s teaching that baptism is necessary for salvation. That teaching needs interpretation, in view of the fact that “infants ... do not place any personal obstacle in the way of redemptive grace,” it said.

In this and other situations, the need for the sacrament of baptism is not absolute and is secondary to God’s desire for the salvation of every person, it said.

“God can therefore give the grace of baptism without the sacrament being conferred, and this fact should particularly be recalled when the conferring of baptism would be impossible,” it said.

This does not deny that all salvation comes through Christ and in some way through the church, it said, but it requires a more careful understanding of how this may work.

The document outlined several ways in which unbaptized babies might be united to Christ:

• A “saving conformity to Christ in his own death” by infants who themselves suffer and die.

• A solidarity with Christ among infant victims of violence, born and unborn, who like the holy innocents killed by King Herod are endangered by the “fear or selfishness of others.”

• God may simply give the gift of salvation to unbaptized infants, corresponding to his sacramental gift of salvation to the baptized.

The document said the standard teaching that there is “no salvation outside the church” calls for similar interpretation.

The church’s magisterium has moved toward a more “nuanced understanding” of how a saving relationship with the church can be realized, it said. This does not mean that someone who has not received the sacrament of baptism cannot be saved, it said.

Rather, it means that “there is no salvation which is not from Christ and ecclesial by its very nature,” it said.

The document quoted St. Paul’s teaching that spouses of Christians may be “consecrated” through their wives or husbands. This indicates that the holiness of the church reaches people “outside the visible boundaries of the church” through the bonds of human communion, it said.

The document said the church clearly teaches that people are born into a state of sinfulness — original sin — which requires an act of redemptive grace to be washed away.

But Scripture also proclaims the “superabundance” of grace over sin, it said. That seems to be missing in limbo, which identifies more with Adam’s sinfulness than with Christ’sRedemption.

“Christ’s solidarity with all of humanity must have priority over the solidarity of human beings with Adam,” it said.

Liturgically, the motive for hope was confirmed by the introduction in 1979 of a funeral rite for unbaptized infants whose parents intended to present them for baptism, it said.

The commission said the new theological approach to the question of unbaptized babies should not be used to “negate the necessity of baptism, nor to delay the confession of the faithful.”

“Rather, there are reasons to hope that God will save these infants precisely because it was not possible for them that what would have been most desirable — to baptize them in the faith of the church and incorporate them visibly into the body of Christ,” it said.

The commission said hopefulness was not the same as certainty about the destiny of such infants.

“It must be clearly acknowledged that the church does not have sure knowledge about the salvation of unbaptized infants who die,” it said.
Msgr. Robert Contant dies

BY DON CLEMMER

CARThAGena, OHio — Msgr. Robert W. Contant, retired priest of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and pastor of St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Parish for 33 years until his retirement in 1997, died Monday, April 16, at St. Charles Seminary in Carthage, Ohio. He was 86.

Msgr. Contant had suffered from Parkinson’s disease for years and spent his last years in the care of the Precious Blood Priests in Carthage.

Born Dec. 5, 1920 in Fort Wayne to the late Henry Francis and Ruth Louise (Wells) Contant, he attended St. Patrick School and Central Catholic High School in Fort Wayne, graduating from Central Catholic in 1939. He attended college at St. Joseph Rennselaer and seminary at St. Gregory and Mount St. Mary in Norwood, Ohio.

Father Contant was ordained to the priesthood on Sept. 21, 1946 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. His first assignment was as assistant at St. Vincent de Paul Church, Elkhart. In 1949, he assumed administration duties at a mission parish in Bristol. In 1951, he was appointed assistant at both St. Patrick Church, Fort Wayne, and St. Mary of the Assumption Church, Decatur.

In 1962, Father Contant was appointed diocesan director of Catholic Cemeteries. In 1963, he attended St. Patrick School and attended college at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School in Fort Wayne, graduating from Luers High School in Fort Wayne.

In 1966, Father Contant became diocesan director of Catholic Rural Life. On June 1 of that year, he was invested as a Paulist Chamberlain and, on June 15, received his first and only assignment as pastor, to St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Parish, Fort Wayne. He would serve at Hessen Cassel for 33 years, becoming a beloved figure to generations of parishioners.

“Your child the rectory at any time, and he was always available,” notes Loren Nitcher, a lifelong parishioner at Hessen Cassel.

Gimmy Kohrman of the diocesan Office of Spiritual Development and Evangelization also recalls the ever-present feel one got from Msgr. Contant, saying, “I would drive by the old rectory at night and see the parish office light on. There was a real sense of warmth in seeing that light and knowing that our spiritual father was home.”

Louie Widner, principal of St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School in Fort Wayne taught at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel from 1983 to 1991 and served as principal from 1991 to 2002. She recalls, “Working with Msgr. Contant was such a joy. He was so knowledgeable about schools, finances, history, everything. Msgr. truly cared about the students and wanted the best programs for them. “

Msgr. Contant is said to have contributed many scholarships from his personal funds and was at the forefront of promoting parish improvements including the school gymnasium, which now bears his name. While he was always open to ideas for bettering the parish, Msgr. Contant was also known for his personal asceticism and his vigilance with funds, making the parish budget go as far as it could.

“He lived modestly, spending little on food, clothing or necessities,” recalls Gina Bodette, a Hessen Cassel parishioner who worked with Msgr. Contant often over the years and served as his secretary during his final year at the parish, when he was struggling with many health issues.

“He had cancer and needed hip surgery,” says Bodette. “But anytime someone would ask him how he was doing, he answered ‘I can’t complain about the little things.’”

Roger Bubb, another lifelong parishioner and a teacher at Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne also notes that Msgr. Contant never complained. An aunt of Bubb’s once put it in perspective by observing, “You know, it’s a real privilege to have him as a pastor, because we’re seeing a saint in the making.”

Msgr. Owen Campion, associate publisher at Our Sunday Visitor, Inc., celebrated Mass on weekends at Hessen Cassel the last 10 years of Msgr. Contant’s time there and assisted in other ways during his hospitalizations. Campion recalls, “He never forgot anything. I recall thinking to him about the lynching of two black men on the public square in Marion, Ind., in 1930. He recalled every detail he had heard and the reaction of every major American figure at the time. He was a martyr of the racing priest, the quiet kind that they write books about, the kind that instills faith, and confidence, and strength, and peace. No greater tribute to his superb service as pastor exists than in the love and esteem in which he was held by parishioners. He was completely dedicated to them, to his priesthood and to the church. I shall remember him as an inspiration.”

In 1981, Msgr. Contant was appointed chaplain of the Fort Wayne area Diocesan Council of Catholic Women.

In 1996, the year of his golden jubilee as a priest, Msgr. Contant traveled to Rome at the invitation of Pope John Paul II to celebrate Mass with the pope and priests from around the world who had been ordained in 1946 and were celebrating 50 years as priests.

By this point, Msgr. Contant also shared something else in common with Pope John Paul, his deep desire to serve even as the progression of Parkinson’s disease made it more and more difficult to do so.

In July of 1997, he retired in residence at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, Fort Wayne. It was said that it was very hard for him to leave Hessen Cassel, as he regarded the parish as his family.

When he left Hessen Cassel, his possessions reportedly fit into one car. In November of 1998, he moved again, this time to the infirmary at St. Charles Seminary in Carthage, where he received continuous nursing care from Brother Dennis Rumschlag.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy celebri- brated Msgr. Contant’s funeral Mass with about 30 priests from the diocese on Saturday, April 21, at St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Church. At the Mass, Msgr. J. William Lester praised Msgr. Contant as a “priest’s priest,” noting that his life, servanthood and dedication to the people of St. Joseph Parish was a living example to all who knew him.

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After journey of sorrow, look to Resurrection, Virginia bishop urges
BLACKSBURG, Va. (CNS) — Bishop Francis X. DiLorenzo of Richmond told an overflow gathering of students, faculty and families April 22 at Virginia Tech that rushing to experience the joy of the Resurrection while they are actually feeling pain and confusion “would be terribly unrealistic.”

In his homily Mass on the university campus in Blacksburg, the bishop said, “We as a community have not quite caught up to the joy of the Resurrection yet, because of the tragedy we are living. People’s emotions are anything but joyful.”

He reminded the faithful assembled at Memorial Chapel that the message of Christ’s resurrection would be there to answer their questions when the community emerges from grief and the April 16 tragedy that left 33 people dead. “We need to start the journey of Jesus’ passion over,” Bishop DiLorenzo explained, noting “the fog of emotion” that surrounds the community in facing “the senseless act of violence where so many have passed away.”

The bishop also celebrated an evening Mass April 21 at St. Mary Church in Blacksburg.

Catholic weekly to publish book on Virginia bishop
WASHINGTON (CNS) — The National Catholic Reporter will publish this summer a book by Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O’Connor, one of the Catholic Church’s top leaders in Britain and one of the last bishops to retire in England and Wales.

Titled “To a Future,” the book offers reflections on the cardinal’s life and career focused on the theme of hope in the face of an uncertain future.

The book will be published in September, according to the National Catholic Reporter, which is based in Loretto, Ky.

Bishop Carlos Aguiar Retes of Tecoco, president of the Mexican bishops’ conference, at an April 16 press conference. “This is what we call the life-faith divorce.” In a weeklong meeting at a walled compound on Mexico City’s northern outskirts, the Mexican bishops discussed the shrinking role of religion in modern society, growing individualism and the deterioration of traditional communities. The bishops concluded that they face a critical task in reenergizing Catholicism and Catholic virtues in Mexico and Latin America. The bishops listed a number of Mexico’s ongoing social woes, such as drug-related violence and rampant corruption, as the most extreme evidence of the disconnect from Catholic virtues.

Audrey Santo dies; she could not speak or move but inspired thousands
WORCESTER, Mass. (CNS) — In silence, Audrey Santo witnessed to the world, preachers and participants said at an April 17 wake for her at St. Paul Cathedral in Worcester and at her funeral Mass there the following day. Santo, 23, who died April 14 at home, was in a comatose state, unable to move or speak, because of an accident when she was 3 years old, but people had flocked to her bedside at her family’s home, where she was cared for. Unexplained phenomena that seemed to happen in her presence drew thousands of visitors over the years. Many felt she could heal others. More than 100 people attended her wake and about 300 were at her funeral.

On April 20, Pope Benedict XVI prays before the remains of St. Augustine during an evening liturgy in the church of San Pietro in Ciel d’Oro in Pavia, Italy, April 22. The pope stood in prayer before a crystal urn that holds the 226 bone fragments of St. Augustine, then lit a new votive lamp for the tomb. The pope called St. Augustine a “model of conversion” for all Christians.

Catholic immigration advocates head to Hill to push for reform
WASHINGTON (CNS) — A workable comprehensive immigration reform bill on the table, more sympathetic leadership in Congress and a “this year or maybe never” incentive are producing immigration advocates to action. After a day and a half of briefings and strategizing with advocates who work on immigration every day, activists from more than 60 dioceses took their campaign for immigration reform to Capitol Hill April 19. “It is time ridding the prospect of a bad bill or no bill happening, considering the number of people who are involved in this,” said Frank Sharry, director of the National Immigration Forum. Sharry was keynote speaker for the April 17-19 Justice for Immigrants national gathering organized by the U.S. Catholic bishops’ migration awareness campaign of the same name. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., has said he plans to bring immigration legislation to the floor for a debate and a vote the last two weeks of May. As of mid-April, there was no Senate legislation in the mix, but a House bill, H.R. 1645, had the backing — at least as a starting point — of many in a vast coalition of business, agriculture, union, civil rights, ethnic and religious organizations. It is called the Security Through Regularized Immigration and Vibrant Economy Act, or STRIVE Act.

Secretary-general invites pope to visit U.N. headquarters
VATICAN CITY (CNS) U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon invited Pope Benedict XVI to visit the United Nations headquarters in New York, during a private meeting at the Vatican.

The two leaders discussed global trouble spots and cultural tensions during a 20-minute encounter in the pope’s private library April 18. It was the first papal audience for Ban, a former South Korean diplomat who took up his U.N. post at the beginning of the year.

A Vatican statement said the pope and Ban had discussed the need for a “restoration of multilateralism” in international affairs and the strengthening of the dialogue between cultures. The Vatican confirmed that, as expected, Ban had officially invited the pope to visit the United Nations.

Vatican sources have said the pope would like to make the visit, and that one possibility is for the pope to visit the United Nations. Vatican sources have said the pope would like to make the visit, and that one possibility is for the pope to visit the United Nations.

Nuncio says by living simply Catholics can help protect the earth
WASHINGTON (CNS) — Every Catholic can do something about climate change by adopting a lifestyle of simplicity, the Vatican’s Nuncio says. It comes down to “working less, using less, spending less,” thus reducing the impact each person has on the environment.

Archbishop Celestino Migliore told an audience in Columbus for the second in a series of regional Catholic conver- sation groups April 14. Citing Genesis’ call to human- ity to oversee creation while protecting the earth’s social doctrine, the Vatican diplomat outlined the Holy See’s position on the need for Catholics to heed the environmental dangers that face the planet. “The denigration of the environment has become an inescapable reality,” the archbish- op said. “There is no doubt that the latest assessment has established a strong connection between human activity and climate change,” he said, referring to a February statement by the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.
Cancer and spirituality panel discussion slated at Fort Wayne library

FORT WAYNE — Cancer Services of Northeast Indiana will present a panel discussion called "Mere Mortals Facing Cancer" on Tuesday, May 1, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Allen County Public Library, The Allen County Public Library is located at 900 Library Plaza in downtown Fort Wayne. "Mere Mortals Facing Cancer" is a sensitive, thoughtful conversation about cancer and spirituality. Panelists will share their personal experience and insight about what a cancer diagnosis changed their life perspective.

These panelists include the following: Bishop R. Sheldon Dunckel of the United Methodist Church; Dr. Richard Fraizer, pastor emeritus of Trinity English Lutheran Church; Dr. Gary Gize, medical oncologist; Rebecca Harding, a mental health counselor; and Father Bill Kummel, pastor of St. Michael Church, Plymouth.

For information call (260) 484-9560 or visit www.cancer-service.org.

Redeemer Radio completes record on-air appeal

FORT WAYNE — Redeemer Radio, Catholic Radio AM 1450, has completed its third on-air appeal, held April 11-13. Over $191,000 was raised toward funding the total from the previous fall appeal, held April 11-13. Over $191,000 was raised toward fund

The concert will be at 7 p.m. at each parish. A free will offering will be collected. Contact the parishes for additional information.

Associated Churches holds annual meeting, Szymczak honored

FORT WAYNE — The Associated Churches held their 2006 annual meeting and honored retiring board members. The highlight of the meeting was the presentation by Executive Pastor Vernon Graham with a message concerning the "State of the Church in Fort Wayne and Allen County," he said.

President Charlie Hatten acknowledged the following retiring board members: Thomas Szymczak of Queen of Angels Parish; Rev. Alycia Smith of Community of Christ Church; Rev. Father of Union Baptist Church; Walter Hayden of Faith United Methodist Church; Dr. James Wooten of First Presbyterian Church; and Father Cyril Fernandes of St. Patrick Church, Arcola.

Rev. Graham also introduced the new board members, who are the following: Rev. Amy Beithel-Albers of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Harlan; Rev. Peter Janzen of First Mammonite Church; Earl Robinson of Emmanuel Catholic Church; Rick Stevenson of Pilgrim Baptist Church; Doris Mather of First Presbyterian Church; and Father John L. of St. Patrick Church, Arcola.

The Associated Churches Ecumenical Service Award went to Thomas Szymczak who is a pastoral associate at Queen of Angels Catholic Church. Szymczak was the first Roman Catholic board president in the 63-year history. He served two years as president and honored retiring board members of Associated Churches.
Negotiations for healthier Indiana plan heighten statehouse final days

BY BRIGID CURTIS AYER

INDIANAPOLIS — With only a few days left to meet the April 29 adjournment deadline, lawmakers have shifted into high gear to finalize a legislative initiative to curb smoking and fund health care for uninsured families and children in Indiana.

The governor’s Healthier Indiana Plan originally included four components: to provide healthcare for the uninsured; to fund the Tobacco Prevention and Cessation (ITPC) program at the Center for Disease Controls recommended level of $34.8 million annually; to provide funding for the immunization of children under age two; and to raise the cigarette tax to fund the program.

Sen. Patricia Miller (R-Indianapolis), author of SB 503, the measure that contained the primary components of the Gov. Mitch Daniels’ Healthy Indiana Plan, said “We are very, very close to reaching a report all the conferences agree with and can sign. I’m very optimistic, very optimistic,” said the Gary lawmaker about the success of this proposal. “We all agree something needs to be done this year for the uninsured and for children in our state,” said Rep. Brown. “What we still need to decide on is the level and the kind of tax.”

Rep. Brown said that they have narrowed the range of the debate on the cigarette tax from a 35 cent increase to a 44 cent increase. The increase would bring Indiana more in line with the $1 cigarette tax most other states across the country collect. Another possible tax increase being considered is that Rep. Brown said is “a relatively new tax called a bed tax for hospitals, which would raise millions of dollars.”

Karla Sneegas, executive director for the Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation (ITPC) program, said the major health organizations including the American Cancer Society, The American Lung Association, The Heart Association and ITPC the group, which Sneegas represents, agree the cigarette tax should be raised by $1 not just raised up to a dollar.

“The beauty of the governor’s four-point plan is that each component has a positive impact, but by putting it all together it has the opportunity to drastically impact and reduce tobacco use in Indiana as well as reduce other diseases across the board for Hoosiers,” said Sneegas.

Dan Gangler, Co-Convener of the Hoosier Faith and Health Coalition, a group whose primary purpose is to help reduce tobacco use in Indiana, said their organization agrees with the major health organizations in raising the cigarette tax by $1 to bring Indiana’s total cigarette tax to over a $1.55 per pack. “We have found a marked decrease in teen smoking when the cigarette tax increases,” said Gangler. “We want the tax to act as a deterrent for teens and adults, and to help fund programs which help them quit, or prevent them from starting.”

Glenn Tebbe, executive director of the Indiana Catholic Conference who testified at the April 19 hearing on the HB 1678 conference committee report in support of the bill, said, “We need to find ways to fund health care for working families and for families and children living in poverty who are uninsured or under insured. Access to basic health care is necessary to one’s dignity.”

“This bill is good for families, children and the common good of all people in Indiana. That’s why it is in everyone’s dignity,” added Tebbe.

Once the conference committee report on HB 1678 is agreed upon by the four conferees and signed by them, it will go to the Senate for a final vote.

The uninsured in Indiana

According to the governor’s Plan for a Healthier Indiana included in the fact sheet on the uninsured in Indiana, there are 561,000 Hoosiers without health insurance. Costs of the uninsured are passed on to Hoosiers with health insurance. The same report noted that each family in Indiana with health insurance paid an additional $953 in premiums in 2005 to cover the costs of the uninsured. By 2010 the premiums are expected to be nearly $1,500 higher for families to compensate for the cost of the uninsured.

A 25 cent cigarette tax increase would provide coverage for approximately 120,000 Hoosiers; a 50 cent increase would cover 200,000 people.

(SOURCE: GOVERNOR’S PLAN FOR A HEALTHIER INDIANA)

The cigarette tax in Indiana currently is 55.5 cents per pack, and ranks 38th nationally having one of the lower cigarette tax rates in the country. The cigarette tax in states that border Indiana are Kentucky at 30 cents; Ohio at $1.25; Michigan at $2; and Illinois at 98 cents. However the city of Chicago and Cook County also collect a cigarette tax making the total tax on a pack of cigarettes purchased in Chicago $3.66.

(SOURCE: KARLA SNEEGAS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INDIANA TOBACCO PREVENTION AND CESSATION)

According to the Indiana Department of Health’s Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, 49 percent of high school dropouts are smokers and 49 percent of uninsured Hoosiers are also smokers.
By Kim Pohovey

FORT WAYNE — In the midst of modern teenage dating, few young people probably take the time to consider their future spouse, but that is exactly what they were asked to envision while listening to nationally-acclaimed chastity speaker Jason Evert at Bishop Dwenger High School on Tuesday, April 17. “God has a plan for your love life,” shared Evert.

Evert was hosted by Bishop Dwenger’s A Promise To Keep program and spoke to junior high and high school students and their parents. He is affiliated with “Catholic Answers,” the nation’s largest lay-run apostolate for apologetics and evangelization; he has authored several books and has spoken worldwide on the subject of chastity. His tour in the diocese included two public appearances and a visit to the four diocesan high schools.

Evert’s captivating presentation was humorous, blunt, factual and highly relatable to the teen audience. He described the beauty of remaining chaste for your future spouse in order to offer the “priceless gift of your body” to the one you marry. During his talk, Evert challenged teens to a “better kind of love” stressing the need to respect members of the opposite sex while maintaining one’s own dignity.

He discussed in detail the challenges facing teenagers today. Specifically for boys, he guarded them against giving into pornography and treating girls as sex objects. To girls, he addressed concerns of false body images and dressing modestly. He shared shocking statistics regarding teenage sexual activity rates, sexually transmitted diseases and little-known facts about the effects of contraceptives.

Though his presentation was, by design, entertaining and teen-friendly, Evert’s message also clearly embraced the teachings of the church. “I would tell you that there are three important things that you need to do (to maintain chastity),” said Evert. “Go to reconciliation, go to Mass, and devotion to Our Lady — say the rosary.”

He stressed that “purity is a gift from Jesus Christ” and chastity should be a given. “God wants you to set your standards high,” he said.

He also had a message for young people who have already sacrificed their virginity. “Seek out the sacrament of reconciliation and start over even if you’re not a virgin anymore,” Evert encouraged. “When you fall away, God wants to welcome you back. Forgive yourself and write a love letter to your future spouse.”

Casually dressed in blue jeans with an untucked Oxford shirt, he looks just a few years older than the teens he’s addressing, but he’s actually a 31-year-old married father of two with a master’s degree in theology and undergraduate degrees in counseling and theology.

Evert began his career in crisis pregnancy counseling and leading teen retreats but soon felt the need to address teens earlier to help prevent crisis situations. Thus began his career in chastity speaking engagements.

“He and his wife Crystalina are on the board of advisors for the National Abstinence Clearinghouse and are frequent guests on radio and television programs throughout the country and have authored several books on the subject.

Through his work, Evert addresses approximately 100,000 teenagers each year but the one-on-one time he spends with them is what he finds most rewarding. “It’s the personal influence I’ve had on someone who lets me know years later that I find extremely rewarding about this ministry,” shared Evert.

In fact, Ben Becker, a senior at Carroll High School in Fort Wayne, came to his talk on this night to thank him. Becker heard Evert speak three years ago when he attended school in Florida and has remained chaste ever since. Wearing a chastity ring on his finger, Becker brought his girlfriend, Kristi Brooks, along to hear Evert’s message.

“His whole message of chastity changed my scope of thinking and now I’m trying to share that message with others,” said Becker.

Bellmont High School freshman Andy Weaver gained fresh perspective from Evert’s talk on this evening. “His talk was so interesting, and I have more perspective now,” he said. “I especially liked what he had to say about girls dressing more modestly. I don’t particularly like the belly buttons hanging all the time.”

Dana Kaczmarek, an eighth-grade student from St. Joseph, Decatur, enjoyed his unique approach. “He kept me laughing the whole time, it was really great, it definitely wasn’t the usual have-sex-and-die talk.”

According to Nancy Yorke, director of A Promise To Keep, the program started at Bishop Dwenger High School and is funded by a grant from Our Sunday Offering. A Promise To Keep is a peer mentoring curriculum meant to equip adolescents with the knowledge of God’s gift of sexuality through education and affirmation.

The goal is to strengthen their commitment to a chaste life. Since its inception three years ago, the program has flourished to the 48 students who have been trained as mentors. This year, these high school mentors have given team presentations to 700 area seventh- and eighth-grade school students on subjects such as peer pressure, assertiveness and consequences.

For more information on Evert’s efforts, visit his Web site at: www.pureloveclub.com. For more information about Bishop Dwenger’s A Promise To Keep program, contact director Nancy Yorke at (260) 496-4742.

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St. Vincent School families learn lesson of service

BY KIM POHOVEY

FORT WAYNE — The Lord ensured the beautiful weather, volunteers provided the elbow grease when more than 200 moms, dads and their children tackled painting projects, dirty windows and yard clean up as part of the first-ever Family Service Day at St. Vincent de Paul on Saturday, April 21.

Sponsored by St. Vincent’s Home and School Association (HASA), the Family Service Day was a great way to help celebrate the school’s 50th anniversary, according to Lisa Morr, HASA president. “It amazed me how everything fell into place for this event — the weather was perfect, we would receive donations when funds were running low, and whenever we would receive a call with a request, the very next call would take care of that request — it was as if it was all meant to happen,” said Morr.

The event started at school with a prayer service during which pastor Father John Kuzmich said a blessing over the workers before sending them off to their respective work sites. Morr indicated that volunteers fanned out to 18 different sites throughout the community including the Women’s Care Center, Sacred Heart Church and Head Start as well as many residential homes.

Donations from local businesses allowed for shirts to be distributed to all volunteers and Home Depot generously donated a gift card to help pay for materials needed at the work sites. At the conclusion of the projects, families gathered for a p.m. Mass at St. Vincent’s dirty from their day’s work and still dressed in their green service day t-shirts.

Principal Sandra Guffey shared that during Mass, Father John explained about the Family Service Day and why the volunteers were wearing their green shirts, and workers received a round of applause.

“It was a wonderful testament to the families who chose to participate in the event,” she said. A cookout then followed Mass for all the families who volunteered.

“The true beauty of the day was in the feeling of community and service present from the very beginning of the day, and the stories people brought back from their work sites when they were finished,” said Guffey.

Keith Burn and his wife, Sheila, had a story to share when...
Father and daughter duo, Eric and Elizabeth Parlin, wash windows as part of the first-ever Family Service Day at St. Vincent de Paul School on Saturday, April 21. The Parlins worked at CANI Head Start in Fort Wayne.

They returned from painting a couple’s front porch on Hugh Street in downtown Fort Wayne. “As we were busy painting, two young Mormon missionaries came by dressed in full suits and asked what we were doing,” he said. “I explained that we were participating in a family service day with St. Vincent’s and they asked if they could help. I told him ‘sure but you’re not exactly dressed for this type of work,’” Burns said they returned a few minutes later sans suit coats, rolled up their sleeves and worked hard alongside them for the next several hours. “This was definitely an example of community in action,” he added.

Another family made a connection with a 95-year-old woman they were sent to serve. Three families of Kinniryys, whose collective 10 children all attend St. Vincent School, gathered to experience the opportunity of service together as a family and in doing so forged a new friendship. While taking care of the lady’s yard work on Decatur Road on the south side of town, they found in her a woman full of spirit and appreciation.

“We signed up for the event to give back to the community and to show our children a sense of helping others,” said Mary Kinniry. “What was so wonderful was that this 95-year-old woman was so happy and content in her life that she just touched the hearts and souls of our kids.”

All students who participated in the Family Service Day earned a free “dress down” day on Monday to show off their new service day t-shirt.
Alerding years marked with Catholic population growth

BY ANN CAREY

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, with a grant from Our Sunday Visitor, has commissioned Dr. Joseph M. White to write a history in celebration of the Sesquicentennial Jubilee Year.

The following is excerpted from “Worthy of the Gospel of Christ: A History of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend,” by Joseph M. White:

“Through the early 20th century, the United States experienced a high tide of European immigration, with northern Indiana receiving a substantial share — especially Catholics from southern and eastern Europe. These newcomers transformed life in northern Lake County adjacent to Chicago and expanded the Catholic presence there in Fort Wayne. South Bend and several other communities. As Catholic immigrants arrived and made their livelihoods and homes, Bishop Herman J. Alerding presided over the founding of parishes where their faith was nurtured and ethnic culture preserved.

“Through the 24 years of Alerding’s leadership, 1900-1924, the diocese’s Catholic population increased from an estimated 72,000 in 1900 to 162,586 in 1924. The diocese’s urban and multietnic dimensions became multiethnic dimensions became more striking, while Catholic life progressed steadily among established communities large and small across the rural stretches of northern Indiana, but without the social transformation of massive immigration.

“In the 1920s, after World War I had created renewed fears of foreigners, immigration restriction achieved a wider political consensus despite Catholics’ opposition. Congress enacted an emergency restriction law in 1921. In 1924, the Immigration Reform Act, imposed a system of annual quotas by country, taking effect in 1927, reducing to a trickle the immigrants from Eastern and Southern Europe.

“In the last year of Alerding’s life, then, the legal barricades went up to curb further European immigration, especially of Catholics, though Mexican immigration would continue to increase slightly the diocese’s Catholic population. During his years as diocesan ordinary, 1900-1924, the influx (of immigrants) resulted in the sharp rise in the number of ‘sacred places’ — parish churches with resident pastors — from 102 to 148, while mission churches in rural areas without resident priests declined from 39 to 31. Thereafter, the Catholic ethnic communities were cut off from additional immigrants from Europe. The Catholic community of the diocese was then left to develop largely on the basis of the natural increase of its population.

“Through the early 20th century, the vitality of Catholic life ... was revealed through a wide range of events and activities. Within the Catholic Church, the Holy See launched initiatives that touched on devotional, liturgical and intellectual life that bishops and clergy were expected to implement. Concurrently, growing women’s religious communities responded to opportunities to expand their institutional commitments in staffing parish schools. The same religious communities responded to opportunities to expand their service in health care by enlarging existing hospitals and opening new ones. Meanwhile, the laity initiated and supported societies to expand their influence in new directions.

“Some trends of the times stimulated responses that reminded Catholics of their separate status in Indiana society. In the early 20th century, the inherited hostility to Catholics was renewed through new anti-Catholic publications that stirred Rev. John Francis Noll (to found Our Lady of Hungary Church in South Bend). The Holy See took up the cause of the Catholics and addressed the need for Catholics — locally and nationally — to be better informed about their religious faith and to combat the formidable tradition of anti-Catholic prejudice.”

World and diocesan timeline 1900-1924

1900 St. Stephen, South Bend; closed June 2003

1901 U.S. President William McKinley shot in Buffalo, NY. Dies eight days later. Succeeded by Vice President Theodore Roosevelt.

1902 The beginning of World War I rages in Europe

1903 Pope Pius X succeeds Pope Leo XIII as 257th pope

1908 May 10: Mother’s Day is observed for the first time

1909 Sept. 27: Henry Ford produces his first Model T automobile

1910 Oct. 11: Theodore Roosevelt first president to ride in airplane

1911 April 15: RMS Titanic sinks

1912 March 4: Woodrow Wilson succeeds William Howard Taft as president of U.S.

1913 June 13: The United States Postal Service rules that children may not be sent via parcel post

1914 June 19: U.S. formally ends World War I. Declares peace with Germany

1915 Jan. 31: (born) Thomas Merton, American monk and author

1916 Sept. 11: Boston Red Sox defeat Chicago Cubs to win World Series. Their next win would not be until 2004.

1919 Houdini dies on the electric chair

1920 June 13: The United States Postal Service rules that children may not be sent via parcel post

1920 Jan. 22: Pope Benedict XV dies; Pope Pius XI elected

1922 June 19: U.S. Congress passes the 18th Amendment (prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages)

1923 Sept. 1: The U.S. Supreme Court rules that segregation in public schools is unconstitutional

1924 June 22: Calvin Coolidge becomes president of the U.S.

1924 Feb. 22: Calvin Coolidge becomes first president of the U.S. to deliver a radio broadcast from the White House

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My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This year we celebrate the Sesquicentennial Jubilee of our beloved Fort Wayne-South Bend diocese. During the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the diocese, we pause to honor the many persons who sacrificed so much to bring our Catholic faith to northern Indiana, and we eagerly prepare our hearts for “the new springtime of hope,” envisioned by the late Pope John Paul II for the church. We are invited to contemplate the face of Christ with Mary, his mother, the patroness of our diocese, our country and, indeed, all of America.

The highlight of our jubilee celebration will be a Eucharistic Congress on Saturday, Aug. 18, 2007. It is my fervent hope that all the faithful of our diocese will pilgrimage to the University of Notre Dame in South Bend for a day of spiritual joy and renewal. A plenary indulgence will be given to all those who make this pilgrimage if they fulfill the usual obligations.

On the beautiful campus of Notre Dame, a place dedicated to Mary, the mother of God, families, single persons, religious and clergy will enjoy a day marked with inspiring talks, catechesis and instruction, the rosary, Stations of the Cross, reconciliation, music, art from the parishes, high schools and colleges, eucharistic adoration and much more. There will be something for everyone to renew hearts and spirits in Christ whose “steadfast love endures forever.”

I have requested there be no Masses, weddings, funerals, reconciliation or athletic/school activities in the parishes and high schools of the diocese that Saturday, Aug. 18, in order that everyone will be free to come together for one magnificent liturgy at the conclusion of the day in the Joyce Center at Notre Dame. Naturally, all regular Masses will be celebrated on Sunday, Aug. 19.

I personally invite each and every one of you to join me for this wonderful event, a day of the highest significance in our diocese. Let us all come together, Aug. 18, to “Behold the Face of Christ: His Steadfast Love Endures Forever.”

With every best wish and prayer, I remain
Sincerely yours in our Lord,

Most Reverend John M. D’Arcy
ADULT WORKSHOPS

SESSION I: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

1. The Call of the Disciple to Prayer and to Growth in Faith
   Bishop John M. D'Arcy
   This catechesis will examine the nature of the life of faith. What is faith and how does it grow? What are the challenges, which are always present to the believer and what are the challenges to faith, which are especially strong at this time.

2. The Mission of a Catholic University
   Father John Jenkins, CSC
   Father Jenkins will speak about the mission of a Catholic university, some of the challenges it faces in the 21st century, and the hope it provides for the church and the world.

3. Archbishop John Francis Noll: A Diocesan Legend – His Life and Legacy
   Msgr. Owen Campion
   Archbishop Noll, as pastor, editor, publisher, bishop of Fort Wayne, and active member of the U.S. Conference of Bishops, faced issues not unlike many experience today, and his responses still have effects on the ways American Catholics think and act today.

4. God is Love: Understanding Pope Benedict XVI’s First Encyclical
   John Cavodini, Ph.D.
   This workshop will present an overview of Pope Benedict XVI’s first encyclical letter and will consider such issues as: Why this topic for an encyclical? What is the background of the letter? What direction does it set for us in various ministries of the church, especially in teaching mission, such as catechesis and ministries of social justice? The thesis of the workshop is that “Love alone is credible” (to quote a famous 20th century theologian). That is, the Christian doctrine of the primacy of love provides the best foundation for persuasive articulations of the meaning of Christian faith in our time.

5. Looking at the Charism and Rules of Our Religious Orders
   Anthony Henry
   Around the world are religious orders of men and women who have fallen in love with their founder’s vision of living the Gospel. There are hundreds of religious orders that serve the universal church. To name a few: the Franciscans, Jesuits, Dominicans, Maristas, and Benedictines. How do each of these religious orders find their God? How do their rules differ from each other? Why do some choose to live the solitary life while others desire to be placed in urban settings to preach the Gospel? Join Anthony Henry, a former Franciscan, as he sheds light on the charism of some of these different religious orders and on how they find God in this world of ours.

6. The Franciscan Eucharistic Heritage
   Sister Anita Holzmer, OSF
   Francis and Clare of Assisi were at the forefront of the 13th century revival of eucharistic devotion in the wake of the Fourth Lateran Council. In our own time we find ourselves in a similar situation historically as we continue to understand and implement the reforms of Vatican II. In this workshop we will examine the lives and writings of the founders of the Franciscan movement in light of the 13th century need for eucharistic devotions to discover how their legacy can inform our 21st century eucharistic spirituality and practice.

7. Secrets of Happiness: Faith, Family and Forgiveness
   Father Miles O’Brien Riley, Ph.D.
   People who are dying — a very important moment in this life — talk about two things, only and always: their faith (why they get out of bed in the morning) and their family (blood, love, spiritual, extended). And the key to both faith and family is being able not necessarily to par- don but to forgive.

8. What the Scriptures Teach About Forgiveness
   Greg Doyle
   What does Scripture tell us about God’s mercy and forgiveness? How can Scripture inform our own experience of reconciliation with God and one another? This workshop will provide reflections on some insights Scripture gives us on God’s mercy and forgiveness, and offer suggestions for how Scripture can help us in our experience and celebration of forgiveness. Participants are welcome to bring a Bible, though it’s not required.

9. Christ’s Love for Sinners
   Father Chris Young
   Using the Scriptures as a guide, we will reflect upon Christ’s love for sinners and then explore the human response to God’s mercy. The jubilee theme “Behold the Face of Christ” will be central to this reflection, which will seek a practical and dynamic response to Christ’s love.

10. Living Christ’s Life Through the Sacraments
    David Fasberg, Ph.D.
    What is in fact a Christian? Another Christ, is the reply given by tradition. The sacraments are not just rituals that bestow grace from afar, they are contacted through the Holy Spirit with Christ’s own divine-human life so that we “become by grace what he is by nature.” In the Eucharist especially, Christ’s divine life is shared with us. This workshop will explore the eucharistic doctrines of sacrifice and transubstantiation from the perspective of devotion.

11. Take Part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation Today!
    Father Jim Shafer
    Goal: Immediate preparation to receive the sacrament of reconciliation TODAY! This workshop will focus on “why and the how” of celebrating the sacrament today. Included will be an examination of conscience. Hopefully, this will make it a joyful celebration of the Lord’s love.

12. Mary, Mother of God
    Father Ronald Reider, OFM Cap.
    God gave the simple, humble girl from Nazareth the incredible privilege of being the mother of his son, Jesus the savior of the world. Jesus, in his dying breath, gave Mary to the church, to all of us, to be our mother. What does this mean to us today as Christians and Catholics?

13. Loving the Church
    Father Jim Stytle
    A brief discussion of the modes of love from the natural to the supernatural. How can we love the church today? How can this understanding help us to worship more deeply in the mystery of Christ’s love — revealed and lived in and through the church — in her structure, message, ministry and mission.

14. Inviting non-Practicing Catholics Back to the Church
    Mary Pohman
    This workshop will help participants identify reasons that Catholics move away from the practice of their faith, suggest practical ways to share your own faith with non-practicing family members and friends, and offer gentle help to break down the apprehension and fears someone might have about returning to the church. We will also discuss resources that are available through the diocese and parishes to foster a return to active participation in the church.

15. Revitalize Your Catholic Faith: Adult Catholic Formation
    Jim Kitchens
    This workshop will explore how our parish communities can create an evangelical spirit that generates energy and passion to enrich adult faith formation. We will discuss what programs are successful from small to large parishes to ignite a fire of faith in adult Catholics and then share knowledge about the wonder and majesty of our 2000 year old church. Topics include: Conversion of the Heart; Strengthening Personal Communion with Jesus Christ; Church — Sacrament — Prayer; Adult Catechesis: Faith plus knowledge — the Wealth of Catholic History and Tradition.

16. Going on Pilgrimage: Learning Lessons about the Church as God’s Pilgrim People
    Father Bill Schooler
    Since the eighth century, pilgrims have walked across the north of Spain on pilgrimage to the Cathedral of St. James in Santiago de Compostella near the western coast of Spain. Seeking the intercession of St. James the Apostle, whom Spaniards credited with ousting the Moors, countless pilgrims have walked the Camino de Santiago throughout the centuries. In the summer of 2005, Father Bill Schooler served as a chaplain, along with Father Chris Young, to a group of pilgrims who rode bicycles on the Camino. So struck by the experience, he and Father Young served as chaplains to another group this summer, accompanying 20 pilgrims on the Camino Frances from France to Sarria, Spain, and then walking with members of St. Pius X Parish youth group for the final 100 kilometers to the tomb of St. James. This session will apply the lessons learned from the pilgrimages to deepen our understanding of the church as God’s pilgrim people, walking together on pilgrimage to the kingdom of God. Slides taken during both trips will help participants connect one of Europe’s oldest pilgrimage routes with our diocesan celebration of 150 years.

17. The Book of Revelation
    Father John Pfister
    Father Pfister will place the Book of Revelation in its historical context, talk about the background and influence on the book and the apocalyptic style of writing, reflect upon some of the main sections of the book, and give an overview of the message of the book.

18. The Joseph Story in Light of the Passion
    Gary A. Anderson, Ph.D.
    The church has frequently seen in the story of Joseph and his brothers (Gen. 37-50) many narrative patterns that have very close parallels to the life of Jesus. Indeed, Joseph was often depicted as a “type” of Christ. We will see how a “typological” reading works and how the Old Testament can shed light on the new.

19. St. Mother Theodore Guérin – Valiant Woman of the Church
    Sister Mary Ann Phelen
    This workshop will deal with the topic of the virtues that can be seen in the life of St. Mother Theodore Guérin. Foremost among these virtues was her practice of the virtue of faith. The life of this holy woman at a time when the world of women was somewhat second class can be attributed in large part to her faith that God would work with and through her at all times. Although she had poor health she trusted God to help with any difficulty she would encounter if she answered the call of her superiors to lead a group of women who would establish a school in Indiana. In this workshop we will see how this faith was rewarded and how her life became an inspiration not only to those who knew her during her lifetime but to many generations of Sisters of Providence and people of God not only in Indiana but throughout the world. There will also be some information about the miracles attributed to her intercession.

20. Prayer and the Spiritual Life: Essence and Obstacles
    Father Michael Heintz
    A discussion of the basics of the spiritual life, including prayer, encountering Scripture, and the sacramental life, as well as a frank discussion of the obstacles to genuine progress and growth.

21. What the Mystics Teach Us about Prayer
    Lawrence S. Cunningham, Ph.D.
    A presentation on the meaning of the term “mystic” and how the tradition of mystical prayer, alive in the Catholic Church for nearly two thousand years, can be an aid for every person who wishes to pray well. The presentation will have two emphases: the correct understanding of “mystic” and some concrete examples of such prayer utilizing notions found in Thomas Merton’s “New Seeds of Contemplation.”
22. The Rosary and Father Peyton, CSC: Encouraging Family Prayer

John Gabeaux, Ph.D.

This will be a session on the classic discipline of reading the sacred text. I will present a specific method along with important guide questions developed from a careful reading of the Vatican II document on divine revelation. We will begin with an introduction to the dynamic understanding of the word we see in Genesis, in John and in the liturgy.

23. Praying with Scripture: Lectio Divina

John Gabeaux, Ph.D.

This will be a “beginner’s guide” in learning how to pray. We will look into the “why of prayer,” what prayer can be in its simplest terms, along with the need for developing the habit of daily prayer, styles of prayer and how prayer can be seen as going on a “date” with God, approaching it with expectation for the lover and the loved.

24. Prayer: A Vital Part of a Catholic’s Life

Father David Voors

This will be a “beginner’s guide” in learning how to pray together as a couple. It can seem awkward at first, but married couples who pray together daily find remarkable blessings in happier, healthier relationships. Is God inviting you to take your relationship to a deeper level? Come explore “how to” in a simple format. This workshop is for couples who are married, engaged or contemplating marriage. The session will include: reasons for praying as a couple; rewards and difficulties; praying with Scripture; blessings: continuing to pray together. Other sessions may be offered in the future for continued couple prayer support.

25. Praying as a Couple: Can We Do It Together?

Sister Jacinta Krecek, OSF

Learning to pray together as a couple is a process. It can seem awkward at first, but married couples who pray together daily find remarkable blessings in happier, healthier relationships. Is God inviting you to take your relationship to a deeper level? Come explore “how to” in a simple format. This workshop is for couples who are married, engaged or contemplating marriage. The session will include: reasons for praying as a couple; rewards and difficulties; praying with Scripture; blessings: continuing to pray together. Other sessions may be offered in the future for continued couple prayer support.

26. Affirming Our Catholic Identity

Gerard F Baumback, Ph.D.

Faith formation through the dynamics of sound catechetics supports and enriches our Catholic identity. Come and explore dimensions of identity that enrich even the living faith we proclaim — whether at home, at work, or in a school or parish program. Faithful discipleship is not beyond the horizon, it is ours to live and share as we embrace face and hand on our identity as this new century unfolds.

27. The Three Sources of Morality – Object, Intention and Circumstances: Why all Three Are Important

Deacon Jason Freiburger

This workshop will explore the various elements that make up a human act. We will see how all three are relevant in making good moral decisions. The various ends of a moral act will be explored, as well as what some acts are considered intrinsically evil. Moral acts will also be seen as human acts because of the use of reason and the will that are a part of them. Time will be given for questions and answers.

28. Introduction to Marital Love as Portrayed in John Paul II’s Theology of the Body

Adrian Reimers, Ph.D.

In his audiences on the theology of the body, Pope John Paul II taught that the human body in its sexual differentiation as male and female has a “spousal meaning.” This is so to say that we are created to give ourselves generously to others. One of the marital relationships is to be one of total self-gift. Furthermore, this complete gift of self, body and spirit, between man and woman in marriage, is a sign of God’s love for and delight in his creation and of Christ’s redeeming love for his church. It is in this parallel that we can understand and live out the sacrament of marriage, for the husband and wife realize between them the creative power of God and the saving grace of redemption. As they do so, their union stands as a living sign of God’s faithful and saving love.

29. An Introduction to Catholic Social Thought

Joseph Incandela, Ph.D.

An exploration of the theological foundations of the church’s social teachings: 1) the dignity of the person; 2) community or solidarity; 3) the preferential option for the poor. Attention will also be given to the relationship between charity and justice.

30. The Death Penalty and the Call to be “Unconditionally Pro-Life”

Fred Everett

Just what does the Catholic Church teach about the death penalty, and is it consistent with what has always been taught? How does the death penalty relate to other pro-life issues like abortion, euthanasia and warfare? These and other issues will be dealt with in connection to Pope John Paul II’s call to Americans in 1999 to be “unconditionally pro-life.”

31. Can Ethics be Taught:

Combining Tradition and Answers

Caryn L. Wee, Ph.D.

In the development and education of adult professionals, there is an ongoing debate as to whether ethics can still be taught. This workshop takes up this topic and illustrates how ethical beliefs can be transmitted within organizations through formal actions and the leadership approach at the top. It addresses the factors that mitigate judgment and disconnects knowledge from doing what is right.

32. Does Your Estate Plan Include Your Gift to God?

Elsa Smith

Estate planning is a spiritual act as well as a part of a total life of service to God. This workshop, you will learn how a proper Catholic estate plan can benefit your family and your church. By discussing the estate design process including tools and documents available, overview of tax ramifications and various types of planned gift arrangements for charitable giving, we will consider God’s overall plan of stewardship for your estate.

33. Understanding Annulments

Father Bruce Piechocki

Perhaps the least understood aspect of Catholic life and teaching is the requirement that persons previously married obtain a declaration of nullity before marrying within the church. Many find the process daunting and emotionally draining, especially since applying for an annulment does not bring with it a guarantee that it will be granted. Other. This workshop will explore how we can find a basic outline of what the annulment process is. Time will be left for participant questions.

34. The Jesus in Me Loves the Jesus in You: Loving the African American Face of Jesus

Brother Roy Smith, CSC and Mel Tardy

Reflecting upon Mt 25:34-40 as well as examples like Blessed Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) and St. Josephine Bakhita of Africa, Brother Roy Smith and Mel Tardy will present ways in which Catholics can begin to see Jesus within the faces (particularly brown faces) of the poor, the needy and oppressed in America. We will then explore ways in which Catholics can be the face of Jesus to those suffering the effects of poverty or injustice in the U.S.

35. God Doesn’t Waste Our Sorrows

Mary Glowacki

Life as a Christian promises eternal life as we follow Jesus Christ. To follow the path of Jesus means we will experience many challenges and much joy. It also means that we, as Jesus did, experience times of deep sorrow and suffering. Our lives are filled with faithful witnesses who care for their pain and trials with dignity and trust. This workshop will explore how we can find meaning in our suffering, who God wants us to be, where God is in our pain and how we discern what God is asking of us as we walk with our burdens and carry our crosses.

36. Through the Desert of grief:

Grief and Transformation

Jim Tighe

A look at grief and mourning and one’s relationship with God through a period of great loss. Presenter Jim Tighe will talk about grief, its symptoms and its manifestations, and our responses to it, and how a time of loss can become a time of spiritual rebirth. Comparing the journey through grief to Biblical desert narratives, Tighe will demonstrate through his own grief experiences, how working through grief and mourning is also a very spiritual exercise that can deepen one’s relationship with God. A parishioner at St. Jude in Fort Wayne, Tighe is the former co-leader of the Fort Wayne “Compassionate Friends,” an international support organization for parents who have lost children.

SESSION II: 2 – 3 p.m.

37. St. Theodora Guerin and Bishop Simon Bruté: Eucharistic Devotion of our Pioneers

Archbishop Daniel M. Buckelew, OSB

A historical reflection on the primacy of the Holy Eucharist in the life and devotion of our Indiana pioneers of our Catholic Church.

38. The Eucharist: The Greatest Spiritual Gift

Bishop Daniel Jenky, CSC

“Jesus Christ is present in many ways to his church: in his word, in his church’s prayer, in his miracles, the sick, the imprisoned, in the sacraments of which he is the author, in the sacrifice of the Mass, and in the person of the minister. But the present and most especially in the eucharistic species.” (CCC 1373)

39. Holy Men in the History of Notre Dame

Father Richard Warner, CSC

Father Warner and two seminarians, who are currently editing a book on the writings of Blessed Basilé-Antoine Moreau, founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, will offer an overview of the Congregation over Notre Dame’s 165-year history. These holy men religious will include Father Moreau, Father Sorin, Cardinal O’Hara, Father Dujarie and Brother Columba, among others.

40. The Diocese of Fort Wayne–South Bend:

Highlights of a Unique History

Joseph White, Ph.D. and Janice Cantrell

A Catholic diocese has diverse dimensions: a communitarian church, religious orders and clergy, religious orders of women and men, and the myriad of ways Catholics express their faith and identity. These dimensions form a unique story against the background of the times, a geographic area, and a general population. This workshop stresses the diocese’s ongoing characteristics and what makes its history unique.

41. God is Love: Understanding Pope Benedict XVI’s First Encyclical

John Cavardin, Ph.D.

This workshop will present an overview of Pope Benedict XVI’s first encyclical letter and will consider such issues as: Why this topic for an encyclical? What is the background of the letter? What direction does it set for us in various ministries of the church, especially in teaching ministries (such as catechetics) and ministries of social justice? The thesis of the workshop is that “Love alone is credible” (to quote a famous 20th century theologian). That is, the Christian doctrine of the primacy of love provides the best foundation for persuasive articulations of the meaning of Christian faith in our time.

42. Major Themes of the Splendor of Truth

(Encyclical of Pope John Paul II)

Father Glenn Kohran

“Veritatis Splendor” was published on Aug. 6, 1993, the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord. Literally the name of the document is the Splendor of Truth. The workshop will attempt to share the contents of the document and its attempt to provide guidance to the moral trends of the day. Truth never leads to enslavement but rather liberty. Truth is humanity’s only hope, as is filled with splendor!
43. So, We’re Created in God’s Image — What is God’s Image?
Father Miles O’Brien Riley, Ph.D.
If St. John is right that “God is love,” then we are created in and called to love. Divine holiness and human wholeness require health for body, humor for the heart, hope for the mind and healing for the soul. You will know you are spiritually alive when you experience enthusiasm, creativity, peace, laughter and grace.

44. Faith and Culture
Dominic Aquila, Ph.D.
The real presence in the Eucharist is an extension of the Incarnation, which is something utterly unique among the religions of the world. The Church will use a variety of methods of prayer and reflection. This workshop can be helpful in day-to-day decisions as well as the bigger decisions of our lives.

45. The Sacrament of Reconciliation as Gift
Father Jim Shafer
Goal: Deepen our appreciation of this ancient sacrament. Relax our expectation on God’s action and off ourselves. We will examine reconciliation using the story of the prodigal son and older brother.

46. Conscience Formation
Mike Hamano
This workshop will begin by defining what a conscience is — that innate sense that we ought to do good and avoid evil (even if we are sometimes confused as to what the true good is) and that part of the intellect where we are able to judge as to whether our human actions are right or wrong. Participants will be led to a discussion about the kinds of consciences: true, false, certain, doubtful. The three duties that we have towards our conscience: forming it correctly (through prayer, studying morality and avoiding sin, which darkens the conscience); following a conscience and never doubting a good conscience will also be discussed.

47. Our Jewish Roots
John Clabeaux, Ph.D.
Understanding Judaism is important for understanding who we are as Catholics. Many of our distinctive beliefs, practices and convictions have their roots in Judaism and can be better understood by a deliberate effort to learn, not only from the Scriptures, which we share, but also from the way Judaism has developed since the time of Jesus. We will focus on Jewish prayer and the celebration of the Sabbath.

48. Scripture through Art
Father David Ruppert
Philosophy’s three “transcendentals,” beauty, truth and goodness, all have a home in the Catholic Church. The church’s presentation of truth and goodness may be better known through efforts such as the “Catechism” and “Living the Beatitudes.” However, the church has also appreciated and incorporated the use of beauty to communicate the good news through architecture such as stained glass windows. In a letter to artists in 1999, Pope John Paul II said, “In order to communicate the message entrusted to her by Christ, the church needs art... Art has a unique capacity to take one or other facets of the message and translate it into images, shapes and sounds which nourish the intuition of those who look or listen.” The focus of this workshop will be the use of sacred art to illustrate and educe on Christian doctrine and Catholic teaching based on sacred Scripture. Several examples will be presented including a portion of Michelangelo’s Sistine Chapel.

49. Living the Sacramental Life
Father William J. Kummer
This workshop will have three parts: 1) a brief review of the basic elements of Catholic sacramental theology; 2) the canonized saints’ lives will be used as an example of how the sacrament will reflect the person of Christ; and 3) a group dialogue discussing how we in the contemporary church integrate sacramental practice with daily living.

50. The Art of Prayerful Discernment
Sister Marybeth Martin, PHJ
— This workshop will explore ways of listening to the movements of God. She will use a variety of methods of prayer and reflection. This workshop can be helpful in day-to-day decisions as well as the bigger decisions of our lives.

51. Loving the Church
Father Jim Stoyle
A brief discussion of the modes of love from the natural to the supernatural. The person and how this understanding can help us to live more deeply in the mystery of Christ’s love — revealed and lived in and through the church — in her structure, message, ministry and mission.

52. Stewardship Spirituality
Harry Verhille
The spirituality of stewardship is often restricted to terms like time, talent and treasure. This workshop will address issues of our individual existence as God’s stewards. Four core values of a Christian steward will be examined: identity, trust, gratitude and love.

53. Going on Pilgrimage: Learning Lessons about the Church as God’s Pilgrim People
Father Bill Schoeller
Since the eighth century, pilgrims have walked across the north of Spain to the Cathedral of St. James in Santiago de Compostella near the western coast of Spain. Seeking the intercession of St. James the Apostle, whom Spaniards credited with ousting the Moors, countless pilgrims have walked the Camino de Santiago throughout the centuries. In the summer of 2005 Father Bill Schoeller served as a chaplain, along with Father Chris Young, to a group of pilgrims who rode bicycles on the Camino. So struck by the experience, he and Father Young served as chaplains to another group earlier this summer, accompanying 20 pilgrims on the Camino Frances from France to Sarria, Spain, and then walking with members of St. Pius X Parish youth group for the final 100 kilometers to the tomb of St. James.

54. Making Mary Part of Your Everyday Life
Father Daryl Rybicki
By God’s loving will Mary will play a tremendously significant role in the life of Jesus, and in our salvation. She continues to play a most significant role in our lives down through the centuries. She is a model of how we should live as followers of her Son. By making Mary part of our everyday life, we continue to stand beside her as we behold the face of Christ, whose steadfast love endures forever.

55. The Triumph of the Immaculate Heart — Reflections from the Book of Judith
Deacon Bob Lengerich
A presentation of Our Lady’s role in history, particular — particularly the triumph of her Immaculate Heart as promised at Fatima, from the perspective of sacred Scripture, the Gospels, Revelation, Esther and, in particular, the Book of Judith may be interpreted in a spiritual sense, in keeping with the church’s tradition established by the fathers and evidenced in her liturgical life, that reveals the special mission God has given to Mary. A special emphasis will be placed on the means by which we all are called to cooperate with Our Lady as she cooperates with Our Lord.

56. The Priesthood of Mary
Katlin Dudley-Curtin
In this workshop we will explore the ways that Catholic women live out the sacraments of baptism in today’s world. Taking Mary as the model of Christians, we will examine the many lessons the church has learned from the mother of God.

57. St. Edith Stein and the Eucharist
Sister Marie Morgan, OSF
Sister Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (St. Edith Stein) had a deep love for our eucharistic Lord. After an intense intellectual, spiritual and emotional struggle, Edith converted to the Catholic faith, joined the Carmelite order and died a martyr at Auschwitz. It was through the mystery of the cross, this same sacrifice of our Lord made present to us in the Eucharist, that Edith found the strength to give her entire self to God and others. Through her life and writings, Edith has much to teach us in order to help us better love and serve our eucharistic Lord. This workshop will help us to explore some of her profound teachings and thus deepen our love for the eucharist.

58. Our Lady of Guadalupe: Patrons of America
Timothy Matovina, Ph.D.
The Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City is the most visited pilgrimage site in the Western Hemisphere. Pope John Paul II recently acclaimed Guadalupe as the Patroness of the Americas. This presentation examines the ever-expanding writings on Guadalupe down through the centuries and her influence in both church and society. This workshop is recommended both for those who know little or nothing about Guadalupe as well as those who have had some experience of her and want to deepen their knowledge and appreciation.

59. The Catholic Church and Immigration
Father Christopher Cox, CSC
Since the founding, the United States of America has received millions of immigrants from foreign lands. We have found opportunity and safe haven in a new land. The labor, values and beliefs of immigrants from throughout the world have transformed the United States from a loose group of colonies into one of the leading democracies in the world today. From its founding to the present, the United States remains a nation of immigrants grounded in the belief that newcomers offer new energy, hope and cultural diversity. In this session, we will talk about immigration from a theological perspective as well as addressing some of the common misconceptions about immigrants. Our common faith in Jesus Christ moves us to search for ways that favor a spirit of solidarity. It is a faith that transcends borders and bids us to overcome all forms of discrimination and violence so that we may build relationships that are just and loving.

60. Welcoming Our Neighbors: The Gift of the Hispanic Presence in Our Diocese
Sister Joan Hasteirer, SSJ
We (plural) will study the Indiana Bishops’ document, “We will hear (life stories) histories of these gifts. We will pray in solidarity with immigrants of all ages. We hope to live in gratitude for a diocese where the values of the kingdom are proclaimed.

61. Delivering the Pastoral Response to Individuals Enduring Alzheimer’s or Related Cognitive Disorders
Anthony Henry
Religious tenets of faith, prayers of old, images or religious paintings of saints from the past. A variety of short-term memory in persons wrestling with Alzheimer’s. By utilizing innovative pastoral tools, one can help persons with dementia reconnect to their own history, traditions or prayer devotions. In doing so, it can help “calm the storm” for both the caregiver and the receiver of care. Anthony Henry, a former chaplain in a long-term-care facility, has presented workshops to clergy throughout the Midwest and the East Coast on how to more effectively deliver the pastoral response to those afflicted with Alzheimer’s. Come share time with Anthony to learn how you can help care for those affected with Alzheimer’s as both the clergy and the laity will benefit from his knowledge and approaches.
62. Embracing People with Disabilities in Parish Life
Sister Mary Therese Harrington, S.H.

What are signs of belonging to a parish? These signs would include being nourished by the sacraments, partici-
pating actively in the liturgy, and being accepted and wel-
come by the parish community. Sister Mary Therese will discuss how to open our hearts and our parishes to our
brothers and sisters with disabilities.

63. The Biblical Foundation of Catholic Moral Theology
Father Edward A. Hallay, CSC

The Christian tradition embraced the moral foundations of Jewish teaching (the law, the prophets, the wisdom lit-
erature) while introducing unique elements in the teaching and practice of the church (the parables, the Sermon on
the Mount, the call to conversion and holiness). This workshop will provide an overview of this biblical materi-
al.

64. Prayer and the Spiritual Life: Essence and Obstacles
Father Michael Heintz

A discussion of the basics of the spiritual life, including prayer, encountering Scripture, and the sacramental life as
well as a frank discussion of the obstacles to genuine progress and growth.

65. Growing in the Life of Prayer
Michelle Kris

Prayer is God’s invitation to us to talk and listen to God in all aspects of our life. It is the food of life. What prompts
us to pray? Perhaps it is time at a child’s bedside, an unex-
plainable inner emptiness, a hurt caused by a disagreement
with a spouse or friend, attempting to deal with illness,
grieving the loss of a loved one, or the depth of love of God
that draws us to spend time adoring and praising him and
thus loving him more and more. Father Thomas Dubay,
SM, says that “learning to pray is really learning to fall in
love... with supreme beauty.” This session will address
this particular emphasis upon the differences between Sunni and Shi’ite sects and the Muslim presence in the modern
world. Since there are now as many Muslims living in
America as there are Jews, as citizens we are called upon
to understand this growing presence. Is it a threat, or is
there brotherhood? How does geopolitics figure into the
spread of this monotheistic faith? Who are the Wahabists,
and why should we care who they are? Be part of our
workshop and dialogue on these topics.

70. The Jesus in Me Loves the Jesus in You: Loving
the African American Face of Jesus
Brother Roy Smith, CSC and Mel Tardy

Reflecting upon Mt. 25:34-40 as well as examples like Blesseds Teresa of Calcutta, Josemaría Escrivá, and St.
Josephine Bakhita of Africa, Brother Roy Smith and Mel Tardy will present ways in which Catholics can begin to see
Jesus within the faces (particularly brown faces) of the poor,
the needy and the oppressed in America, and explore ways in
which Catholics can be the face of Jesus to those suffering the effects of poverty or injustice in the U.S.

71. Evangelization through the Media
Tim Johnson, Vince LaBarbera, Don Clemmer and Francie Hogan

Whether your job is promoting the parish fish fry or the activities of the parish school, you are assisting the
church in its ongoing work of evangelization. The staffs of
Today’s Catholic and the Office of Communications want
to help you explore the tools they use to “get the word out.” From writing a proper press release, taking and
sending photos, to updating your parish Web site, this workshop will discuss a few ways you can promote your
parish activities to the public.

72. Holy Reading and Spiritual Growth: A Book Club
in Your Parish?
Cindy Turner

This workshop will give you the “in and outs” of begin-
ing a spiritual book club in your parish. We will cover the
first steps in getting organized, discuss the spiritual benefits
and provide recommendations on books and materials. We
will also cover suggestions on how to order books. If your parish does not have any adult education classes at this moment, a book club is a great beginning toward spiritual growth through personal reading and discus-
ston with others in your parish family. We will respond to
to other typical questions you may encounter in starting a spiri-
tual book club in your parish.

HISPANIC WORKSHOPS

TALLERES EN ESPAÑOL PARA ADULTOS

SESION I: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

73. Todos Somos Misioneros
Fr. Paul Buetter

Nuestra primera experiencia profunda en los primeros
años de nuestra vida es el sacramento del bautismo, por
medio de este sacramento somos todos llamados por
Cristo a “ir y anunciar el evangelio a todas las naciones.” Ven compartir este llamado con el Padre Pablo.

74. El Rol de la Mujer Latina en la Iglesia de Hoy
Lourdes E. Silva

Todos hemos oído hablar de muchas mujeres que han
contribuido grandemente en la misión de la Iglesia, pero
¿qué sabemos del quehacer de la mujer en la Iglesia
Católica de hoy? Hoy más que nunca, la Iglesia necesita de
las mujeres para continuar su misión pastoral y
evangelical. Escucha a Lourdes relatar su llamado y jornad-
da al servicio de la Iglesia.

75. La Misericordia de Dios
Fr. Eloy Jiménez

Alguna vez has pensado, yo ya no me confieso, si al
cabo se saber si Dios me va a seguir perdonando mis
mismas del mundo entero para que todos podamos tener
acceso a él continuamente. Retírennos compartir contigo
este gran misterio de la Fe Católica.

76. El Sacerdote: Santo y Pecador
Fr. Constantino Rocha

Como buenos hispanos, la mayoría de nosotros ten-
emos la tendencia de pensar que el sacerdote es un ser
extraordinario, un hombre de Dios que no puede cometer
errores. Bueno, la reali-
dad es que los sacerdotes son como todos nosotros, seres
humanos que luchan cada día con su humanidad y con su
entrega al servicio de la comunidad de creyentes. Deja
que el Padre Tino te expulse en sus propias palabras la
humanidad del sacerdote de hoy.

77. Ahora que nacieron, ¿qué hacemos con ellos?
Grupo de Mentores de ICLM

Este grupo de líderes de nuestra diócesis tiene una idea
de cómo ayudarte a comunicarte más efectivamente con
tus hijos y cómo crear un mejor ambiente de familia en
la que todos tiene algo que aportar. Ven y acompañanos
en esta discusión familiar.

SESION II: 2 – 3 p.m.

78. Iglesia: Identidad y Vocación
Fr. Eloy Jiménez

¿Sabes de quién es la Iglesia y quién es la Iglesia? ¿Cuál
es el llamado que tenemos los católicos y en donde se nos
hace este llamado? Si te interesa este tema no te pierdas
al Padre Eloy explicarnos nuestro rol como bautizados en
la Iglesia de hoy.

79. La Eucaristía como Centro de Nuestra Fe
Diócesis Ramiro Reyes

El regalo más grande que Cristo nos ha dejado es
saberte que él se hace comida y bebida cada día en las
SESSION I: 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
83. Family concert with Amanda Vernon
Amanda Vernon
Join recording artist Amanda Vernon for an hour of music and storytelling for parents and children ages pre-school through grades 8. This 19-year old young woman who has developed a vibrant music ministry to share the Catholic faith with young people has performed at many youth rallies in the Midwest. (Children preschool to grade 8 are welcome to attend this workshop with their parents.)

84. Catholic Parenting: Encouraging Priestly Vocations
Msgr. Paul Langfeld, STD
Parents and families are the most important “vocation directors” for their children. Christian formation and encouragement of a positive attitude toward service to the church are indispensable in helping young people discover their vocations to the priesthood and religious life. We will look at some of the major challenges to encouraging church vocations and what parents and families can do to help inspire their children to consider a vocation to ecclesial service.

SESSION II: 2 – 3 p.m.
90. Companions in Prayer (Grades 1-3)
Lisa Everett
Joining the Rev. Brian McDonald, “Companions in Prayer” program helps children develop the habit of speaking to Christ from their hearts and listening to him speak in their hearts in return. Lisa Everett of the diocesan Office of Family Life will use storytelling and discussion to lead children in grades 1 through 3 to reflect on their relationship with Jesus and help them to have a personal conversation with him, a method which parents can learn to do at home. A simple craft will be included for the children to take home. (Children grades 1 – 3 are welcome to attend this workshop with their parents.)

91. Family concert with Amanda Vernon
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Join recording artist Amanda Vernon for an hour of music and storytelling for parents and children ages pre-school through grade 8. This 19-year old young woman has developed a vibrant music ministry to share the Catholic faith with young people and has performed at many youth rallies in the Midwest. (Children preschool to grade 8 are welcome to attend this workshop with their parents.)

92. Catholic Parenting: Leading Your Teens to Christ
Father Mark Gurtner
Do you feel that your teen is losing touch with the faith? Do you wish your teen was closer to Christ? Tips for parents from a priest’s perspective for leading teens closer to Christ.

93. Catholic Parenting: The Spiritual Life of Pre-Schoolers
Teresa Cross
In this session we will look at the developmental stages of young children and the impact these stages have on a child’s relationship with Christ. A simple craft will be included for the children to take home. (Children grades 4-6 are welcome to attend this workshop with their parents.)

94. Catholic Parenting: Teaching Your Children Catholic Traditions
Tami DeLucenay
“The General Directory for Catechesis” states that parents are the primary educators in the faith of their children. It also defines the family as a “domestic church.” This workshop will aid parents with primary and intermediate-aged children how to enhance the lessons learned in the child’s school or parish religious education classes. We will take a journey through the liturgical year with hands on fun and activities you can do at home, in the car, or in the backyard. (Children in grades K - 5 are welcome to attend this workshop with their parents.)

95. Companions in Prayer (Grades 4-6)
Ginny Kohrman
The “Companions in Prayer” program helps children develop the habit of speaking to Christ from their hearts and listening to him speak in their hearts in return. Ginny Kohrman of the Office of Spiritual Development will use storytelling and discussion to lead children in grades 4-6 to reflect on their relationship with Christ and help them to have a personal conversation with him, a method which parents can help them continue at home.

96. Companions in Prayer (Grades 7-8)
Lisa Everett
The “Companions in Prayer” program helps young people develop the habit of speaking to Christ from their hearts and listening to him speak in their hearts in return. Lisa Everett of the diocesan Office of Family Life will use real-life stories and discussion to help young people in grades 7 and 8 reflect on the relationship with Christ and help them to have a personal conversation with him, a habit which parents can continue to encourage at home.

SESSION III: 4 – 5 p.m.
82. Ahora que nacieron, ¿Qué hacemos con ellos?
Tami DeLucenay
Este grupo de líderes de nuestra diócesis tiene una idea de cómo ayudarte a comunicarte más efectivamente con tus hijos y cómo crear un mejor ambiente de familia en la que todos tienen algo que aportar. Ven y acompañanos en esta discusión familiar. (Niños de 10 años en adelante con sus padres pueden asistir a la plática.)

REGISTRATION

BISHOP D’ARCY’S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Join recording artist Amanda Vernon for an hour of music and storytelling for parents and children ages pre-school through grade 8. This 19-year old young woman has developed a vibrant music ministry to share the Catholic faith with young people and has performed at many youth rallies in the Midwest. (Children preschool to grade 8 are welcome to attend this workshop with their parents.)

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100. Heroes
Mark Hart a.k.a. The Bible Geek
The Bible Geek retells his favorite action-filled stories of Scripture that reveal how ordinary people can be empowered by God to save each other and save the world.

101. SURVIVOR: Winning the Dating Game
Father Dan Scheidt
Rise to the challenge with “Father Dan’s Top 10 Dating Tips” as he shares how to foster immunity and form strong alliances in your romantic relationships.

102. Who is Mary?
Dignified Mother NOT Desperate Housewife
Deacon Drew Curry
Many Christians deny Mary’s perpetual virginity and sinlessness. Deacon Drew shares insights into Mary’s role in God’s plan for salvation and as our mother how she tenderly guides us toward Jesus.

103. God’s Anatomy:
Understanding the Language of our Bodies
Seminarians Kevin Bauman and Andy Budzinski
Join seminarians Kevin and Andy as they connect all the parts of John Paul II’s theology of the body on the beauty of human sexuality.

104. Deal, No Deal or the Real Deal?
Seminarians Gabriel Hernandez, Fernando Jimenez and Jake Runnion
In this introduction to Catholic apologetics, third-year seminarians Gabriel, Fernando and Jake demonstrate how you can make the case for your Catholic faith. A question-and-answer format allows you to ask questions you have or need help answering about our Catholic faith.

105. Extreme Makeover: For Girls Only
Mary Bielski
Make an appointment with Mary Bielski who will share how Jesus, our divine surgeon, can mold you with a nip of the noise and distractions in the world, we can hear his holiness is God’s desire for each of us and, even amid all your conscience and a tuck of your concupiscence into the woman of God you were created to be.

106. Lost?
Bob Kloska
You are never lost and alone when it comes to making decisions great or small. From whether to stay in a relationship, to where to go to college, to your vocation, Bob of Holy Cross College will show you how to seek and discern God’s will in every situation.

107. My Name is Earl (and Tyler and Emily and...)
Seminarian Matt Coonan
We should not simply try to become better persons, like TV’s Earl, but holy persons. Seminarian Matt explains that holiness is God’s desire for each of us and, even amid all the noise and distractions in the world, we can hear his voice and respond to his grace to grow ever more holy.

108. MSI: Mass Scene Investigation
Seminarians Terrence “Tink” Coonan and Chris Lapp
Join seminarians Tink and Chris as they investigate the evidence that Mass is not only the highest form of worship but it allows us to experience heaven on earth.

109. Survivor: Winning the Dating Game
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Rise to the challenge with “Father Dan’s Top 10 Dating Tips” as he shares how to foster immunity and form strong alliances in your romantic relationships.

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Join seminarians Tink and Chris as they investigate the evidence that Mass is not only the highest form of worship but it allows us to experience heaven on earth.

117. Esperando por la vida de mis sueños
con Humberto Delgado
El compartir la vida con alguien más no solo requiere bailar, cantar, o actuar y así ganar la vida perfecta como si estuvieran en un concurs. Requiere de respeto, de valentía, de paciencia y sobre todo el amor a sí mismo y a su pareja. El mundo nos llama a un “reality show” de mues-trame ahora como me amas, pero Dios nos llama a una VIDA entregada al AMOR verdadero y no a un “reality show” lleno de mentiras.

118. Mundo de Fieras
con Rosa Iseela Hernández
El mundo de fieras que los jóvenes viven, esta lleno de engaños, mentiras, odio, venganza, envidia, egoísmo, y maldad. Los jóvenes se tratan como fieras salvajes el uno al otro, aplastando, rasgando y destruyendo los sueños, reputaciones, metas, y esperanzas de ellos mismos y de los demás. Entierran el cuchillo en la espalda pero fallan en ver la cara de Cristo en ellos mismos y en la de sus com-pañeros.

119. Otro Rollo
con Pbro. Wilson Caro
Como jóvenes el trabajar con y para Dios es Otro Rollo. Muchas veces no queremos oír el “Monólogo” del llamado de Dios en nuestra vidas y discernir los “Puntos de nuestra vocación” para así aprender y aceptar el camino a donde Dios no llama. Preferimos seguir “los reportajes de Yordi” en la tele, que la voz de Dios en nuestras vidas.

120. Despierta Juventud de América
con Humberto Delgado
¿Te encuentras dormido? Ven y despierta con Dios todos los días. Tomate un café de esperanza y toma una ducha de fe, para que así vivas tu día a la plenitud y esperes lo mejor de ti y del mundo. No dejes que se te peguen las sabanas del conformismo y del aburrimiento. NO TENGAS MIEDO de esperar lo mejor del mundo para ti.
## Schedule of Days Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Information Table — Joyce Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m.</td>
<td>Ecumenical Prayer Service — Basilica of the Sacred Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Workshops and forums — Session I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 – 2 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch on your own (picnic or food for purchase)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 – 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Workshops and forums — Session II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Prelude for Celebration of the Holy Eucharist — Joyce Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Celebration of the Holy Eucharist at the Joyce Center. Doors open at 3:30 pm. Overflow seating available in the adjacent fieldhouse where the Mass will be televised on closed-circuit TV. Bishop D'Arcy's Birthday Reception — Joyce Center fieldhouse</td>
</tr>
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<td>Continuous Rosary at the Grotto led by various groups.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Stations of the Cross can be prayed on your own throughout the day, either in the Basilica or around St. Mary Lake. The last rosary will begin at 3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Tours of Snite Museum — Each 30-minute tour accommodates 25 people. The last tour begins at 3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 AM - 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Reconciliation — There will be 45 reconciliation sites located throughout the campus. Five sites will be located in the Basilica. Bilingual confessors will be available.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(See youth section for senior and junior high sessions.)

### Ongoing events:

- **10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.** Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Alumni Hall
- **10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.** Continuous Rosary at the Grotto led by various groups.
- **10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.** Stations of the Cross can be prayed on your own throughout the day, either in the Basilica or around St. Mary Lake.
- **10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.** Tours of Snite Museum — Each 30-minute tour accommodates 25 people. The last tour begins at 3 p.m.
- **11 AM - 3 p.m.** Reconciliation — There will be 45 reconciliation sites located throughout the campus. Five sites will be located in the Basilica. Bilingual confessors will be available.

### Registration Form

**Name**
**Number in Family**
**Additional Family names:**
**City**
**State**
**Zip**
**Phone number**
**Parish Name**

Mail to:
Catholic Communications
915 S. Clinton St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46802

**No registration fee:** A free-will donation will gladly be accepted. Make checks payable to: Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Registration is necessary for us to plan for the workshops.

Online registration is preferred and may be done at www.dioceefwb.org

**Transportation:**
- **How many cars**
- **How many arriving by car**
- **Arriving by bus**
- **Will you bring a picnic lunch? Yes**
- **Will you purchase food on campus? Yes**
- **Will you attend 6:30 p.m. reception for Bishop D'Arcy's birthday?**
- **How many will attend Mass?**

Registration for Mass is strongly recommended, but not required, so that we can plan for seating.

Please indicate workshop choice from each session and place in order of preference for each person attending.

**Registration deadline is June 24, 2007**
Walk the miles with the seminarians

Pilgrimage-retreat for men invites participants to journey in Christ to holiness

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

Walking in prayer, worship and fellowship of Jesus Christ being led by seminarians, Catholics across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will be walking nine days from June 9-17 from St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the diocese. A Catholic pilgrimage-retreat for men, ages 18 and older, “Journey in Christ” participants will be praying for the growth in holiness of all the faithful of the diocese as well as for growth in praisability and religious vocations.

Seminarian and organizer Drew Curry hopes that anyone who wishes to participate will do so in any way that they can whether they are interested in religious life or are simply interested laypersons. “This is definitely a journey to be made in the love and joy of Jesus Christ,” says Curry. “Our hope is that as many people show up as possible. We know there will be at least 14 seminarians walking. Although the focus of the pilgrimage is for men over 18 years of age, all faithful men and women are invited to walk with us during the day trips from morning prayer to evening prayer. So if anyone would like to meet with us for morning prayer and then walk with us during the day and then say evening prayer at our final destination, we definitely will welcome all to join us on this great pilgrimage.”

The concept for the over-100-mile walk was born last summer while the seminarians met at a local lake as they do every year. “The guys (seminarians) were interested, and we had another priest who said he was interested in helping out,” says Curry. Diocesan Vocation Director Father Bernard Galic and Bishop John M. D’Arcy approved it within a matter of days. “The idea for a pilgrimage comes from looking at the life of Christ whose life as you read in the Gospel is a pilgrimage as Son of God becoming man,” says Curry. “His first destination is in the arms of Mary and the house of Joseph where he lives for 30 years. Then he moves on and he heals and gathers disciples by the power of the Holy Spirit. Then he moves on to the crucifixion where he accepts death. His next movement is to the Resurrection, which St. Augustine considers to be God’s greatest work. To that movement, he ascends to the right hand of the Father.”

Curry notes that in the course of Christian history, pilgrimages have been held as a sign of the condition of the disciples of Christ in this world, journeys that are assigned by God that not only bring a person to a physical place, but into the presence of God. “Now pilgrimages are usually considered a drive or flight to a holy site where you spend a week praying. We are, instead, walking,” notes Curry.

The South Bend to Fort Wayne walk will be longer than a typical drive between the two cities. “It’s 90 miles by car to Fort Wayne from here (South Bend). You have to add to that because we are walking, and we aren’t following the normal driving route.”

The walk will begin at the St. Matthew Cathedral on Miami Street in South Bend the first day with the pilgrims spending the night as guests at the Sisters of Perpetual Adoration facility on Dragon Trail. During the remaining eight days of the pilgrimage, the group will be visiting at least 25 parishes along the route, which will travel east to Elkhart, south to Warsaw and east again to Fort Wayne. Each day, while the schedule has not been set down in stone, Curry said that they will be having morning prayers and Mass and will be stopping for prayers along the way. At noontime they hope to have guest speakers each day lined up.

“When we pull in (walking) each evening, we will be having Evening Prayer and then will go back to our host family’s home overnight,” notes Curry.

Seminarians, Andy Budzinski and Drew Curry look over the possible schedule and information to be released for the Journey in Christ pilgrimage-retreat that will be held June 9-17, which will have pilgrims walking from the St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

Those who would like to learn more about the pilgrimage should contact the Office of Vocations of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend at (574) 546-0687 or visit the Web site at www.diocese-fwsb.org.
‘You might get affirmation for religious or married life’

Novices find peace in their community and service to others

BY DENISE FEDOROW

MISHAWAKA — Driving up the hilly, tree-lined drive towards the grotto at St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka, one senses the serenity surrounding the property. So, it’s easy to relate when the novices at Sisters of St. Francis say they were drawn to the peace of the convent.

Sister Mary Michael and Sister Gianna Marie, both second-year novices, will profess temporary vows in August. They will profess those temporary vows for three years and renew them for another two for a total of five years as a “junior sister” as Sister Mary Michael said. Sister Veronica and Sister Lisetta are both first-year novices. Sister Lisetta is originally from Missouri and was led to St. Francis via Purdue University. While attending Purdue, she met the sisters at St. Boniface in Lafayette, which Sister Lisetta explained was the first foundation to the United States when the sisters came over to America. She said, while in college, she didn’t really know her faith though she went through the motions.

“I had to come back to my faith first,” Sister Lisetta said. “I met a strong pastor, and he gave it to me straight.”

Sister Lisetta said she didn’t visit any other convents before deciding on St. Francis and said God’s will led her to stay. Sister Veronica said she was very involved in her home parish of St. Joseph in Hammond and worked in homeless ministries and volunteered in a free clinic run by a Franciscan priest. She said her decision to enter religious life was a long process that “didn’t happen overnight” and began with growing closer to the Lord and developing a closer relationship with Jesus.

Sister Veronica said her calling came out through eucharistic adoration and through “walking among the poor.”

“One challenge for me was seeing religious life as a married state, but you’re espoused to Christ,” she said. Once she was able to see that she said it gave her strength to take the next step — becoming a sister is “a state in life people don’t talk a lot about. I knew about the married state. The thing I needed to see was that it (becoming a sister) is a motherhood — it’s a spiritual motherhood. We have spiritual children, God sends you a lot of kids!”

Sister Veronica said she was attracted to the Franciscan order because “the poor have always had a deep place in my heart.”

Other reasons Sister Veronica chose the Franciscans is because of their eucharistic order, loyalty to the magisterium, faithful to the teachings of the church and the fact that they wear habits — something all the novices agreed was important to them.

Sister Gianna Marie’s calling to religious life also came with a return to the faith. Although a baptized Catholic, she hadn’t received the other sacraments. She said as she got older she wanted to know more about the religious life “beyond ‘The Sound of Music.’”

“I was looking for truth,” Sister Gianna Marie said and was unable to find it in nature or relationships. “The only thing that can fulfill it is God.”

Sister Gianna Marie, who is originally from Ohio, went through Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults and received the sacraments of Communion, confession and confirmation and joined a parish with a Dominican order. She said she began watching EWTN and “the whole Catholic world opened up to me and I began learning about the lives of the saints, especially the religious saints.”

Sister Gianna Marie said through God’s plan, the liturgy and eucharist she received affirmation that continued to lead her to religious life. She visited four convents, her first a Dominican order community.

“But this is the first one where when I drove up the hill I felt that I was home,” she said. “I prayed to St. Dominic and I prayed to St. Francis, asking for one to step forward and one to step back.”

Sister Gianna Marie explained that a difference between the Dominican order and the Franciscan order is the Dominicans are called to study and to preach and the Franciscans “preach the Gospel every day.”

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Notre Dame, IN 46556
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Since 1842

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

APRIL 29, 2007
middle school, “But in high school, the idea was not going away, although at times I wanted to fit in and be ‘normal,’” she laughed.

Meeting one of the sisters on a mission trip in Mexico made a lasting impression on her. “She was such an example of joy and of love. Loving you and others because she first loved Christ. It was something so beautiful; you really wanted that — that singular love for Christ.”

Sister Mary Michael said she didn’t want to go visit other communities, and the second time she visited St. Francis, “I felt a great sense of coming home — a familiar peace in a place that I wasn’t that familiar with.”

The joy and peace that is apparent among the sisters was also attractive to Sister Veronica who mentioned a sister she met while working at a hospital, who she said “had a joy and peace about herself.”

“One of the other sisters, the joy and the peace that they have even when they’ve been in religious life over 50 years, they still have that,” Sister Veronica said.

One other commonality among the novices is that they all had a close relative, a mother or an aunt who almost entered religious life. And for those young women who might be having similar thoughts, the novices encourage they seek it out.

“Search it out, don’t be afraid, just do it. And don’t get discouraged,” Sister Veronica encouraged.

Sister Lisetta’s advice was simple, “Pray.”

“Be brave enough to check it out,” Sister Gianna Marie said. “It’s an eight-year formation process, so even if you feel 51 percent, don’t hold back. You might get affirmation for religious life or for married life.”

The novices said especially the first three years the community is also looking at the young women. “Because it is a family and they want you to be happy too,” Sister Gianna Marie said.

Putting in that contemplative time will determine a calling or a discernment that one is not being called to religious life and Sister Gianna Marie said that those who do leave probably feel at peace about it. “It’s a beautiful time of growth.”

Sister Veronica agreed, saying her aunt left St. Francis many years ago and felt her time there prepared her better for married life.

Sister May Michael said, “Don’t be afraid. You have to trust the Lord is guiding you, whether it’s to religious life, married life or single life. The Lord will open a door or close a door. His guidance of you will never fail if you trust him.”

“It’s a real adventure,” Sister Lisetta said. “A life to look forward to.”

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Designer finds call in brochure’s design

BY ALEX SCHEIDLER

NOTRE DAME — Michael Lewis, a first-year professed seminarian with the Congregation of Holy Cross at the University of Notre Dame, was not even considering joining the order.

“I remember picking up a brochure once on a lark,” he said. Perhaps unsurprisingly, it was during a visit to see the football team compete.

“I wanted to see how they designed their stuff for vocations,” Lewis continued, “because I was thinking of redoing some of our brochures down in Florida.”

Lewis was living in a parish in Naples, Fla., taking classes at Barry University in Miami and considering the diocesan priesthood. He was also the page editor and Web site designer at a local paper there.

“It was shortly thereafter,” Lewis recounts about his parish experience in Florida, “that I realized, ‘Wait a minute ... I don’t think this is the place where I’m supposed to be.’”

Although Lewis enjoyed the diocesan formation and parish life, it was missing camaraderie. He knew of Notre Dame, but up until that point it was but a mythical land.

Then a coworker and friend introduced him to Notre Dame, and he later discovered the Congregation of Holy Cross through the brochure he had accidentally happened upon. After scheduling a visit to the congregation, he found the kind of fraternity that had been missing from his experience in the diocesan formation.

“Holy Cross has a very specific and intentional way of living in community,” said Lewis, “and it’s that community life, which brought me here.”

“It’s not perfect,” he continued. “It’s just like any other family. You’ve got good times. You’ve got bad times. ... But it’s a family. It’s a brotherhood.”

Lewis has completed three years of formation, beginning with a year of candidacy, which is a phase in which to discern the call as well as prepare for the second year novitiate.

“The novitiate, or second year of formation, is in Colorado Springs, Colo.— near Pike’s Peak. Lewis described it as “a year apart — a yearlong retreat.” During other phases of formation, or later in priestly life, much of the focus may be dedicated to apostolic work.

However, in the novitiate at Holy Cross, the hardest work is done on one’s own interior life.

“It’s an incredibly introspective year where you spend 12 months looking inside yourself,” Lewis explained. “So it’s a lot of prayer, and a lot of spiritual reading, and a lot ... of interior work.”

Now in his third year, or first year professed, it will likely be another three to four years before he is ordained to the priesthood.

Lewis first began thinking of priesthood in grade school, but it was not until high school that he strongly considered it. His dad was in the Army, and an Army chaplain came to Fort Bliss to give an impassioned homily. Lewis was struck deeply.

From then on, it was a roller coaster ride where he would wrestle with thoughts of married life, the idea of having children, working with the newspaper and the life of priesthood.

After high school, Lewis worked at the Herald Post in El Paso while attending the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) where he was studying communications. He envisioned himself as editor of the Herald Post one day, although he continued to wrestle with the possibility of a call to the priesthood.

“I was forced into a decision when they closed the newspaper,” Lewis said. “At that point, I had a couple options.”

He referred to choosing between attending school full time, joining the seminary or working with another newspaper. Lewis chose to work for the Naples Daily News in Naples, Fla., where he was online editor and Web page designer.

Lewis also got involved with parish life in Naples at St. Ann’s Parish, primarily through youth ministry. This involvement led him to wonder how he could become more involved with church ministry, which eventually steered him toward becoming a diocesan seminarian.

Now at Notre Dame, Lewis will finish earning his master’s degree in divinity before making final vows. While studying, he balances a life of prayer and studies as well as ministry. He rises each day for morning prayers with his community at 7:10 a.m. during the week. Breakfast follows, then classes and ministerial duties, which he currently performs at the Women’s Care Center. The seminarians come together for Mass at 5:05 p.m. each evening before community dinner. They also pray vespers together in the evening. Later at night they pray night prayers together before ending the day.

Religious in Holy Cross do personal prayers on their own — especially before and after meals, before and after Mass. They also pray the Blessed Sacrament, spiritual reading, contemplation and other devotions.

The congregation looks for people who are well grounded, as well as people who love the church and love working in the church. “People who are looking to become active in the church should not be thinking, ‘I should become a priest first,’” Lewis said. “It should be, ‘What’s out there that I can help with now in my parish?’”

“We want people who have hobbies. We want people who have interests outside of the seminary.”

“I came into Holy Cross with a great love of technology, and I am now trying to use that for the congregation — for the church.”

Michael Lewis is a seminarian discerning a vocation to the priesthood with the Congregation of Holy Cross. He is shown in the Lady Chapel in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

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ALEX SCHEIDLER
Are they out of their minds?

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

Being a vocation director for a religious congregation these days is like being a publicist, a marketer, a coach, a recruiter, a cheerleader and Dear Abby. To say it is a challenge is to put it mildly. It is also a challenge to the one who discerns a call to the religious life.

A reaction many discerners get is “Are you out of your mind?” How could anyone, especially in this great land of opportunity, desire to be a sister, brother or a priest? Why, in some people’s estimation, would they want to throw their lives away?

Let’s think about it. Why would a young woman or man trade a spouse and a family for the whole human family? Why would a person exchange a good-paying job with lots of perks for the freedom and support to work with the poor and needy? Why would anyone choose the playground of the world for the relative stability of familiar surroundings?

Furthermore, why would one exchange a carefree life of independence for a community where the members are interdependent and rely on one another?

Also, who in his or her right mind would give up a life filled with constant busyness and action for a life that provides time for reflection and prayer? Lastly, why would a person leave a carefree life for the challenge to make a difference in the church and in the world? It might be because God is calling them.

Religious life today is by no means passé. It takes energetic, open people with a spirit and desire to make God and God’s work the center of their lives. It is an opportunity to be part of something bigger than oneself. It is to be caught up in the mission to bring Christ and the values of the Gospel, especially love and justice, to a world that sorely needs them.

Religious life is not a place for those who cannot find a significant other to share life together. Those consecrated persons who live religious life have found their man — Jesus Christ. To become deeper and deeper in love with him and his people is their quest. He is the center of their lives.

The life of a sister, brother or priest is not for wimps or rejects. God chooses the cream of the crop to live this life and gives them what they need for ministry. He calls people who are willing to discover and use their gifts for his agenda.

When we focus on church vocations I ask all those who are contemplating God’s call to keep their options open. Don’t pick one way of life without at least considering the others. Most of us are meant to follow the vocation of marriage, but not all. Listen to the deepest desires of your heart and if you want to give yourself totally to God, contact the nearest vocation director. Take that step. You will be glad you did.
A pro-life win and a model for the future

Chances are, prior to the recent decision by the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold a federal ban on partial-birth abortion, Anthony Kennedy had not viewed himself as a hero to the pro-life movement. A moderate of the conservative justices on the court, he was more likely held in suspense as the unreliable swing justice — in the role recently held by Sandra Day O’Connor — who could gat up the whole house by providing a fifth vote to the justices who wanted to overturn the ban.

But he instead cast the swing vote with Justices Scalia, Thomas, Roberts and Alito — all of them Catholic — to uphold the ban. Many Catholic leaders credit this long-overdue decision for their cause to Roberts and Alito, the new conservative voices on the court. But the decision itself came from Kennedy, a moderate conservative. And it is significant that he would be the person who would truly make a difference on this issue.

For instance, reports are already circulating that both the pro-life and pro-choice communities have been fired up by this decision. The pro-life movement will push on, seeking a complete overturning of Roe v. Wade, and pro-choice advocates will push all the harder for their agenda, which would probably include one day reversing the partial-birth decision.

Depending on who controls the Congress, the White House and, subsequently, the Supreme Court, the struggle could go on for decades, with both sides competing to ram through legislation, stack the Supreme Court and essentially do, undo and redo their own agenda, whatever their agenda’s work.

One look at this frustrating and endless cycle should make it clear how important a moderating figure like Justice Kennedy could become in the abortion debate. Perhaps it is time for both sides to stop competing for the one-and-done argument to stamp out the evil of abortion in American society. Only through dialogue and cooperation will this issue continue to move forward rather than in circles.

Reach out early and often

In the wake of the tragedy of the Virginia Tech massacre, stories have filtered into the media about how the killer, Cho Seung-Hui, had lived a troubled life. He was labeled as a social outcast, and some have suggested that he was a threat to others on the Virginia Tech campus. Now that the tragedy is over, some would say that there is nothing to do except be more vigilant in looking for these warning signs in other people in the future.

But there is more that can be done — and at the root of the problem. For instance, other news stories have suggested that Cho was not only a brooding and isolated figure in college, but in high school and middle school before that. Account have surfaced of Cho being teased and shunned by his middle school classmates. They didn’t have anything to do with him because he seemed different and odd. This early treatment could have been what began the strain that would eventually lead to Cho’s ultimate breakdown.

One can only wonder if tragedy could have been avoided if someone had reached out years ago and become his friend, providing the human contact and the compassion to stave off the isolation and anger that seemed to serve as a catalyst. Christians have the example of Christ reaching out in love to those considered different and undesirable.

Vigilance and watchfulness are good. But stopping the isolation and anger that played a part in the destructive behavior of Cho Seung-Hui could be one effective Christian response to this tragedy.

Eucharistic Congress will be a highlight

If you attended the Eucharistic Congress in the Great Jubilee Year 2000, you will remember the day as a special highlight of the year. This year’s celebration on Aug. 18 at the University of Notre Dame promises to be just as grand and a wonderful opportunity to grow spiritually as well as pray with parishioners from all across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Please check the registration and workshop information to plan your day. We expect most people to register via the Web site, www.dowesfb.org. If you do not have access to the Internet, please fill in the registration form and return it as soon as possible. Throughout the summer, Today’s Catholic will provide updates on the congress for our subscribers.

Once again, we use the subscription and registered parishioner lists. If you do not receive multiple copies of Today’s Catholic, first we apologize. We also encourage you to share this gift of the newspaper with a friend who did not receive the paper or as a tool of evangelization.
MINISTRY VIEW: Participants publish their side of brain death debate

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Breaching normal protocol, several participants in a 2005 Vatican-sponsored conference over the ethics of declaring someone brain dead have published the papers they delivered at the debate.

Many of the papers reproduced in “Finis Vitae: Is Brain Death Still Life?” argue that the concept of brain death was devised mainly to expand the availability of organs for transplant and claim that some patients who had been pronounced brain dead continued to live for months or even years.

Publication of the papers, which the Vatican had decided not to publish, is evidence of the strong feelings about brain death held by a minority of the members of the Pontifical Academy for Life.

Roberto De Mattei, vice president of the National Research Council of Italy who is not a member of the academy, said he held by a minority of the members strong feelings about brain death to publish, is evidence of the

In the 2005 meeting included in “Finis Vitae,” asked how the Catholic Church can accept a lack of brain function as a definition of death yet still oppose the willful destruction of human embryos, which have not yet developed a brain.

The question was part of the discussion at a 2006 Vatican meeting; the Pontifical Academy of Sciences decided to publish the 2006 papers and transcripts of the discussion, while it decided not to publish those from the 2005 meeting.

“The embryo has a potential brain under development,” said Bishop Marcelo Sanchez Sorondo, chancellor of the science academy.

Word of Jesus and salvation continues

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

4th Sunday of Easter

The Acts of the Apostles supplies the first reading. This reading gives a glimpse into the modus vivendi of St. Paul as he moved across Asia Minor in his proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus. He evidently first went to synagogues. It is not surprising. After all, he was of Jewish descent and background, and he was well educated in the Jewish culture and religion of the time.

Quite likely, he would have been more comfortable, but also more likely to be heard, in such surroundings as synagogues. It also is clear that he was not always met by universal acceptance, although it would not be accurate to say that he attracted no converts from among the Jews whom he met. He drew many of them into the ranks of Christians. He also attracted gentiles. However, these details are only secondary to the story. The point of this passage is that the word of God, pronounced by Jesus, continued to be spoken, and received, long after the Ascension.

It was proclaimed by an apostle, and by Barnabas, a disciple of an apostle. Salvation went on, and goes on. Through the apostles, Jesus still spoke.

The Book of Revelation furnishes the next reading. It is very symbolic, but its meaning is clear. Among those saved by Jesus are people from every nation. Their number is great. They are baptized, wearing the white robes of baptism. They carry the palm branches of martyrs. They have kept their faith despite persecution. Their sins have been washed away from Lord, precisely by the sacrificial blood shed by the Lord on Calvary.

The Good Shepherd leads them. He rescues them from the heat of the day and the dryness of earthly life.

St. John’s Gospel provides the last reading. This Gospel reading, read immediately after the passage from Acts, also presents Jesus as the Good Shepherd. For an audience overwhelmingly agrarian, as was the audience to which Jesus preached, imagery built on sheep herding and shepherd was very familiar and well understood.

This reading states that the sheep know the shepherd. In turn, the shepherd knows them. It implies a relationship of closeness and of trust. Moving beyond the symbolism, the readings say that this shepherd gives eternal life. Possessing this life, the sheep will never perish.

Furthermore, no one can snatch them away from the shepherd. The reason is that they belong to the shepherd because of the will of the Father. Then, in a great testament of self-identity, Jesus proclaims one-ness with the Father.

Reflection

This weekend, the church calls us to celebrate the Resurrection once again. It begins the fourth week of proclaiming the excited news that it first pronounced at Easter. He lives!

With the readings this weekend, and with those of the preceding weeks of Easter, the church essentially makes two points.

The first point is that Jesus lives, literally, and that in the subtext of Resurrection is evidence that Jesus is God, the Son of God, the eternal Father. As risen, Jesus is totally unique among humans. As God, Jesus is the bearer of life, truth, peace and joy. There is no substitute for the Lord.

The second point, made this weekend and in past weeks, is that the word of Jesus, and the salvation given by Jesus, continue. They did not cease with the Ascension. Jesus lives in the preaching and the good works of the Apostles, and of their followers and successors.

Through Paul, and then through Barnabas, Jesus touched people needing hope and salvation, needing to know God.

By emphasizing these points, the church presents us with its basic belief, Jesus is God. In Jesus is truth and life. It also reassures us. Jesus is with us still.


THE VATICAN LETTER


CINDY WOODEN

the 2005 meeting is included in “Finis Vitae,” asked how the Catholic Church can accept a lack of brain function as a definition of death yet still oppose the willful destruction of human embryos, which have not yet developed a brain.

The question was part of the discussion at a 2006 Vatican meeting; the Pontifical Academy of Sciences decided to publish the 2006 papers and transcripts of the discussion, while it decided not to publish those from the 2005 meeting.

“One baby, with a potential brain under development,” said Bishop Marcelo Sanchez Sorondo, chancellor of the science academy.

ANSWERS:

1. What is a doctor of the church?
   a. a bishop who has a doctorate
   b. any cleric who is an MD
   c. a saint with this special title

2. What (amongst other things) do you have to be to be a doctor of the church?
   a. licensed
   b. a male
   c. dead

3. What does the designation “doctor” actually mean?
   a. The person lived a saintly life.
   b. Their teachings or writings are determined by the church to have value.
   c. They are known to have performed miracles.

4. How does time play a factor in the process of being named doctor of the church?
   a. before becoming a doctor of the church.
   b. It doesn’t, as time is relative, and many clerics have no relatives.
   c. Their writing or preaching is determined to have value to any age of the church.

5. How infallible are the writings of a doctor of the church?
   a. They may include infallible teaching, but the status of doctor does not confer that.
   b. As infallible as the popes, only harder to prove.
   c. Not at all, in fact the writings contain hardly any truths at all.

6. Are there doctors of the church who are not saints?
   a. no
   b. yes
   c. only if they are so voted by acclamation by the College of Cardinals

7. In the Middle Ages only this many doctors were recognized:
   a. four
   b. six
   c. twelve

8. Which of these men were amongst them?
   a. Jude the Obscure
   b. Agustine
   c. Julian the Apostle

9. Which of these men were not included in the medieval doctors?
   a. Abelard
   b. Ambrose
   c. Jerome

10. When other doctors were added, this third to fourth century apostol was added:
    a. John the Evangelist
    b. Justin Martyr
    c. Athanasius

11. Which doctor is referred to as the Syrian?
    a. St. Assad
    b. St. Ephraem
    c. St. Joppa

12. This doctor is named for the birthplace of the church:
    a. St. Cyril of Jerusalem
    b. Jeffrey of Nazareth
    c. Francis of Rome

13. This doctor even has his own adjective:
    a. Carolus Thesius (Thesitic)
    b. Thomas Aquinas (Thomistic)
    c. Leo the Munificent (Leonine)

14. Catherine of Siena is part of a minority among church doctors; why?
    a. Most are gentiles.
    b. Most were single.
    c. Most are male.

15. Despite dying very young and living a mostly sheltered life as a nun, this saint was named doctor of the church in the 20th century:
    a. Mother Teresa of Calcutta
    b. Maria Young of Salt Lake City
    c. St.Thérèse of Lisieux

CATEQUIZ’EM

By Dominic Campbell

This quiz looks at doctors of the church.

ANSWERS:


READINGS


Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26 Ps 87:1-7 Jn 10:22-30


Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-8 Ps 19:2-5 Jn 14:16-46

Friday: Acts 13:26-33 Ps 26-11 Jn 14:1-6

More than academics, football

On June 13, 1979, the "good" envelope from Notre Dame arrived. It was the "good" envelope that was distinctly different than the "bad" envelope that had arrived one year earlier. The good envelope was slightly larger than an unfolded 8 1/2 x 11 letter. The bad envelope was the size of a folded letter.

The bad envelope said the student couldn’t enroll at Notre Dame in the fall of ’78, so he packed his bags and headed to Indianapolis for a year of higher education. The good envelope said the student could attend the University of Notre Dame in the fall of ’79 for his sophomore year.

On March 30, 2007, another one of those good envelopes arrived at my home, some 28 years after the first. The joy I felt that day back in ’79 was nothing compared to the pride associated with the news that our son, a senior at Notre Dame, and one of his extended family, we chuckle at this notion, not because choosing a school other than Notre Dame is wrong, but because we realize how much responsibility encompasses the Basilsa of the Sacred Heart. Notre Dame is more than a college with impeccable academic credentials and the most storied college football program. It’s not about the cachet of a Notre Dame diploma, which, undoubtedly, carries considerable weight when entering the job market. That’s important too. But it’s not the only criteria that, or at least, it’s not about that alone.

As Catholics, it’s about the moral weight of our conscience. RCIA classes, marriage prep classes, trips to campus, pillow talk. Good and bad experiences are necessary for us. We are formed by these experiences.

Between the two envelopes, two years, there are the victims of silence at the pulpit. People get hurt when there is confusion about right and wrong, and there is a great confusion today about the moral evil of contraception and sterilization. Children do not understand the language we use when discussing capital punishment, euthanasia or experimentation on human embryos. They take from a homily what they need. If they have questions, they can ask their parents for an explanation suited to their level of comprehension.

The “bad” envelope was the one that had arrived a year earlier. The “good” envelope was the one that had arrived in March of 2007. This year, our son will be a freshman at Notre Dame. He received an acceptance letter. The good envelope was the one that arrived June 13, 1979, and it was distinctly different than the “bad” envelope that had arrived one year earlier.

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As Catholics, it’s about the moral weight of our conscience. RCIA classes, marriage prep classes, trips to campus, pillow talk. Good and bad experiences are necessary for us. We are formed by these experiences.
Some couples flounder through it until the kids are gone. Then they split.

What happened to the Jews after the death of Alexander the Great?

After the death of Alexander the Great, who had no heir, his empire was divided among his generals: Ptolemy in Egypt, Seleucus in Asia, and Cassander in Macedon. The division of the empire led to the rise of the Ptolemaic kingdom in Egypt and the Seleucid empire in Asia. The Jews, who had been under Persian rule during Alexander’s reign, were now divided between the two kingdoms.

Ptolemy I, the first ruler of the Ptolemaic kingdom, was a Hellenized Jew who sided with the Egyptians against the Persians. He founded Alexandria, one of the Seven Wonders of the World, and even established elephant-hunting lodges in the upper Orontes River. Alexandria developed into a major city and a hub of the Greek world.

The Ptolemaic kingdom was characterized by a high degree of cultural and religious tolerance, but it also faced internal conflicts and external threats. The Jewish community in Alexandria was able to maintain its identity and culture, but it was also exposed to Hellenistic influences.

During the reign of Ptolemy II (283-246 B.C.), many Jews appear settled as garrison. During the reign of Ptolemy III. There are two carvings of the god Serapis, a god brought together his Egyptian and Greek cultures. Ptolemy III invented as a way of bringing together his Egyptian and Greek subjects in shared worship. This god was associated with healing and fertility.

The Hellenistic influence was evident in the city’s architecture, art, and literature. Greek was the language of the kingdom, and the city was a center of learning and culture. However, the Jewish community in Alexandria continued to preserve its identity and traditions.

The Ptolemaic kingdom was eventually defeated by the Roman Empire in 30 B.C., and the Jews in Alexandria remained under Roman rule. The Jewish community was able to maintain its identity and culture, but it was also exposed to Roman influences.

The Jewish community in Alexandria was able to maintain its identity and culture, but it was also exposed to Hellenistic influences. The Ptolemaic kingdom was characterized by a high degree of cultural and religious tolerance, but it also faced internal conflicts and external threats. The Jews, who had been under Persian rule during Alexander’s reign, were now divided between the two kingdoms.

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New Haven team dominates CYO track and field  

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In their first Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) track and field meet of the 2007 season, St. John New Haven totally dominated the field sweeping both the boys’ and girls’ competition. The meet was held on Monday, April 16, at Bishop Luers High School.

In girls’ action, the Raiders took first place in eight out of the 12 events including the hurdles, 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash, shot put, high jump, discus and both relay races and finished with 142 points. The St. Charles team came in second with 100 points while St. Jude tallied up 61 points and St. John Fort Wayne finished with 54.

The final scores for the boys’ were the following: St. John New Haven 165; St. Jude 89; St. John Fort Wayne 72; and St. Charles 41. The Raiders placed first in nine events while St. Jude grabbed the other three.

Led by triple crowns from Holley Taylor, Jacob Torkeo and Nick Deiser, St. Joseph-St. Jude reversed a sparkling three-hit performance for the Raiders in the John Bosco Division.

To keep their records unblemished as a result, St. Thomas of Elkhart City Catholic League (ICCL), and retain winning streaks St. Anthony and St. Thomas are unblemished.

St. Thomas, St. Anthony retain winning streaks  

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — Spring-like weather provided spirited baseball action for all teams in the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL), and as a result, St. Thomas of Elkhart and St. Anthony Marian were able to keep their records unblemished in the John Bosco Division.

St. Thomas went on a slugfest by pounding out a 14-0 victory over Holy Cross and St. Anthony Maroon followed up with the whitewashing of Holy Family, 9-0.

St. Thomas followed its early shutout by nipping Christ the King, 11-1, with Jordan Grise twirling a two hitter. Taylor Krugh smashed out a triple with two on and later followed up with a single to lead the victorious Elkhart team.

Coley Schultes turned in a sparkling three-hit performance for St. Joseph of Mishawaka as they downed Holy Family Blue, 8-2. Mike Rosen Hoffman and Corey Samuels cracked out three hits each in leading St. Jude to a 13-3 win over St. Joseph, South Bend.

Dylan McMahon and Andy Klinek combined their pitching efforts for a one hitter as Corpus Christi defeated Christ the King, 10-0.

In another free for all game, St. Matthew beat St. Anthony Gold, 25-16.
**WHAT’S HAPPENING?**

WHAT’S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today’s Catholic, PO Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or e-mail: ftagan@fdw.diocesefw.org. Events that require an admission charge or payment to participate will receive one free listing. For additional listings of that event, please call our advertising sales staff at (260) 456-2824 to purchase space.

**DEVOTIONS**

Tatiana coming in concert in May
Fort Wayne — A Creation singer who grew up in Communist Yugoslavia and gave her life to Christ will be at three parishes in May. On Wednesday, May 16, Most Precious Blood, call (260) 424-5535; On Thursday, May 17, St. Joseph, Garrett, call (260) 357-3122; and on Friday, May 18, St. Charles Borromeo, call (260) 482-2186. All performances will be at 7 p.m. A free-will offering will be taken.

**FIRST Sunday and Monday rosaries planned**
Fort Wayne — First Sunday rosary for families will be Sunday, May 6, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at MacDougal Chapel. A first Monday rosary for all the souls in purgatory will be Monday, May 7, at 7 p.m. at MacDougal Chapel.

Little Flower Holy Hour
Fort Wayne — Msgr. William Lester will celebrate the Holy Hour at MacDougal Chapel on Tuesday, May 1, at 7:15 p.m. Msgr. Lester is serving as administrator of St. Therese Parish in Fort Wayne. Join in praying for priests and for vocations.

**MISC. HAPPENINGS**

Chicken dinners support Luers
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will sell Nelson’s carry out chicken dinners on Saturday, April 28, at the Apple Glen Wal-Mart from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dinner includes BBQ chicken, potato chips, roll and butter. Dinners are $6.50 each and is purchased by calling Bishop Luers High School at (260) 456-1261.

Daughters of Isabella plan sale and silent auction
South Bend — A white elephant sale and silent auction will be held by the Daughters of Isabella, Notre Dame Circle 572 on Monday, May 7. The event and meeting will start at 6 p.m. in the Peterson Room at Corpus Christi Church. Guests are asked to bring a couple of items to be bid on or to sell.

Most Precious Blood School to present spring musical
Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood School will present “Guys and Dolls Jr.” May 3 and 4 at 7 p.m. in the school gym. Tickets are $2.75 for students, $4.75 for adults and a family pass is available at the school office through May 1 for $13.25. The family pass will not be sold at the door.

** Executive Director**

St. Vincent De Paul Society of St. Joseph County - South Bend, Indiana

Direct all district council operations, including supervision of management employees. Provide leadership to accomplish our faith-based mission, vision, goals and objectives. Act as primary spokesperson and advocate for resources for program development and implementation. Requires Bachelor degree with minimum of three years of senior level not-for-profit management experience (or equivalent). Knowledge of business operations, including annual budget development, and demonstrated fundraising experience is essential. The St. Vincent De Paul Society is a Catholic lay organization serving those in need in the name of Jesus. Visit our web site www.stvinnes.org, for more information and a detailed job description. Send resume with salary requirements to:

St. Vincent De Paul Society - attn: Executive Committee, 3408 Ardmore Trail, South Bend, IN 46628-1302 or stvincent@kconline.com

“TODAY’S CATHOLIC” \-----

**Make the most of every moment!**

*Question:*

Should I wait for our physician to raise the possibility of hospice, or should I raise it first?

*Answer:*

The patient and family should feel free to discuss hospice care at any time with their physician, other health care professionals, clergy or friends. Sometimes patients suffer needlessly because no one takes the initiative to discuss the benefits of hospice care.

We’ve been taking care of patients and their families for more than 100 years. We provide care in your home, or in a nursing home, or at our Hospice Home. Our staff trained and equipped to respond quickly to the needs of patients and family members.

“Thank you so much for the love, concern, and care given to Mother and me. Thanks for the follow-up phone calls telling me that I was welcome to avail myself to the grief programs that you have. Thank you for everything.”

One of our Hospice families
St. Michael, Plymouth, Est. 1865

Just as Jesus, in his time, entered a village quietly and began to preach, so did the faith arrive in Plymouth, Ind. With no flourish or fanfare about 10 years before any kind of a church building was even a consideration, St. Michael’s was a mission post, where visiting priests arrived quietly by horseback or railroad and said Mass in a private home, and in Plymouth, sometimes in a cleared area of a lumber yard.

If the visitor bought news from the outside, it was probably about spotty conflicts between pro-slavery forces and abolitionists; events which would lead to the Civil War.

The first St. Michael Church was a wood-frame building at the northwest corner between Madison and Monroe streets where St. Michael School now stands. It was dedicated by Bishop John Henry Luers and the first permanent pastor was Father Gabriel Volkert. The first parish organization was the St. Boniface Benevolent Society, reflecting the large number of parishioners of German heritage with devotion to their homeland’s patron saint.

Under the leadership of Father George Zurwellen, the first St. Michael’s Academy was built for $12,000 with a faculty staffed by Sisters of The Holy Cross. Originally it was for boys only, and later, girls were admitted.

Father Zurwellen, anticipating the growth of the parish, arranged in November 1872, to buy three lots across the street, now the present site of St. Michael Church.

In 1953, the State Fire Marshall dropped a virtual bomb on the parish with a finding that the students and the sisters in the living quarters in the rear of the school were at high risk because of the age and conditions of the school building. The pastor at that time, Father Lawrence Eberle, was in failing health and unable to handle the full responsibility of this crisis. However, with the combined efforts of the parish trustees and parishioners, plans were made, funds were raised, and under the direction of a newly arrived pastor, Msgr. Adrian Brandehoff, a new school was built and dedicated in September of 1954.

In 2000, more refinements were made to this building including enhancements such as broadcast capabilities and 15 laptop computers in the student computer lab.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Warsaw, Est. 1972

Consistent with the lowly status of Juan Diego, who was seen as a pet by the Mexican clergy but as a messenger by the Blessed Mother, the origins of Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish began with a stepchild status.

In Milford, Ind., at the corner of Fourth St. and Main, a former Chevy garage honored the Queen of Heaven as a humble home for Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish. Parishioners came from Elkhart, Goshen, Ligonier, Bremen and Warsaw.

The first expansion plans called for a church to be built on a seven acre plot on State Road 15, south of Milford, and for years, a

At left is a reproduction of the tilma (garment) worn by Juan Diego with a miraculously imprinted image of the Blessed Mother. The original tilma was a poor quality cactus-cloth, which should have deteriorated in 20 years, but shows no sign of decay 475 years later. At upper right, Our Lady of Guadalupe’s first church in Milford was originally a Chevrolet garage.

The Holy Cross. Originally it was for boys only, and later, girls were admitted.

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