

TODAY'S CATHOLIC



Pope tells Latin Americans to meet challenges by focusing on Jesus

BY JOHN THAVIS

APARECIDA, Brazil (CNS) — On a five-day visit to Latin America, Pope Benedict XVI identified a host of social and religious challenges and said the church should respond by focusing more clearly on the person of Jesus Christ.

"This is the faith that has made America the 'continent of hope.' Not a political ideology, not a social movement, not an economic system: faith in the God who is love — who took flesh, died and rose in Jesus Christ," the pope said on the final day of his May 9-13 visit to Brazil.

It was a comment echoed in many of his encounters, which included a rally with young people, the canonization of the first Brazilian-born saint, and the inauguration of the Fifth General Conference of the Bishops of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The pope cited inroads by secularism, threats against the family and the institution of marriage, and an erosion of traditional Latin America values and said that in response the church needs to put greater emphasis on the religious education of its own members.

One big reason the evangelical sects have attracted Catholics, he told Brazilian bishops, is that many Catholics are insufficiently evangelized and their faith is weak, confused and easily shaken.

In a country where televangelists have had great success with simplistic religious messages, the pope did not hold out any easy solutions.

Instead, he said, the church should conduct "a methodical evangelization aimed at personal and communal fidelity to Christ." Firm doctrinal content is essential to faith formation, he said, and at nearly every stop he suggested wider use of the Catechism

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CNS PHOTO/TONY GENTILE, REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI embraces a group of children during his visit to Fazenda da Esperanca (Farm of Hope) drug rehabilitation center in Guaratingueta, Brazil, May 12. The Franciscan-founded facility treats mostly those who have failed to kick their addiction in other programs.

SERRANS BESTOW AWARDS



DON CLEMMER

The Serra Club of Fort Wayne honored graduating seniors from Bishop Dwenger and Bishop Luers high schools with the 2007 Christian Leadership Award at a May 4 luncheon in Fort Wayne. Left to right are Bishop Dwenger students Kathryn Coonan and Reid Leazier and Bishop Luers students Aaron Ware and Molly Schall.

Bishop and priests anoint sick at regional anointing

BY ALEX SCHEIDLER

SOUTH BEND — Bishop John M. D'Arcy and eight priests from around the diocese anointed the sick at St. Matthew Cathedral. The event was one of two regional anointings of the sick, an event that is part of the diocesan Sesquicentennial Jubilee Year. The Fort Wayne regional anointing was April 29.

In his homily, Bishop D'Arcy said it was fitting to do the anointing during this Easter season, which he called "the season of the sacraments."

There were over 150 people of all ages attending the liturgy and anointing. The bishop encouraged the infirm to embrace their cross.

"We pray for healing, but we also pray for an increase of faith so that we may accept our suffering in Jesus Christ," Bishop D'Arcy said.

"In addition to the anointing of the sick,

the church offers those who are going to leave this life the Eucharist as viaticum ... that is, food for the journey," he continued.

After the homily, the bishop and his priests came into the congregation and anointed the sick with oil on the head and palms, praying over them and giving them a blessing. Later during the Liturgy of the Eucharist, the bishop and priests took Communion out into each of the pews throughout the church.

Holy Cross Father Brad Metz was one of the eight priests on hand to help the bishop with the sacrament of the anointing. Father Brad's father has been sick and in a wheelchair for over 20 years.

When asked what the sacrament meant to him as a priest, he responded by saying "The sacrament of anointing has been a pretty powerful sacrament as a priest visiting the sick in hospitals and their own homes, bring-

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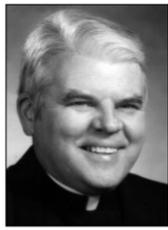
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Do we really hear the word of God with our hearts and ears?



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Ascension and Pentecost

If you listen carefully to the Scripture during these days, what we hear from Christ are words of consolation. Remember, when the Gospel is read in the church, Jesus Christ is speaking to his people. The events described are never only a past event. These are the words written under the power of the Holy Spirit and presented through the church to our hearts, especially at the Sunday liturgy. Christ is saying something to us. There is no wonder that the next international Synod of Bishops will have as its topic "The Word of God." Do we really hear it on Sunday morning — with our hearts as well as with our ears?

What Christ is saying in these readings is an effort to console. In a sense what was being conveyed to the apostles and to us is that they, and we, should not mourn for the time when Christ walked the earth and showed his visibility clearly to some — but only to a few when you consider all those who have allowed themselves to be drawn to intimacy with Jesus Christ over the centuries since the Ascension. What is being conveyed — that the time to come, that is, the time in which we live — is in a sense better than the time when Christ walked the earth. Then, a few people knew him face to face. Now, anyone who opens their heart to faith and baptism can be drawn into intimacy with him. Thus, we heard last Sunday: "Whoever loves me, will keep my word, and my Father will love him. We will come to him and make our dwelling with him." A promise of intimacy.

Through the instrumentality of the sacraments and the word of God, prayer and faith, the Holy Trinity lives within us. The call to intimacy now is for everyone.

We also heard, "Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid... I am going away and will come back to you. If you love me, you will rejoice that I am going to the Father."

In the writings of the Fathers of the Church, in the Second Vatican Council and the Catechism of the Catholic Church, we learn that the church was born from the wound in the side of Christ. From that wound, comes the love of God poured out into the world, making possible an intimacy that God's chosen people had never known, at least the fulfillment of what is first promised in Ezekiel: "I will put a new heart in you."

Ascension

By the way, I voted to keep Ascension on Thursday. I have always found that these holy days present for us an opportunity, and I have always been thrilled with the numbers who attend Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at noontime on holy days. Alas, I was not successful, so we celebrate Ascension on Sunday in Indiana. At any rate, the mystery of the Ascension indicates that the Holy Spirit will come upon them. They are asked, "Stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high." The gift of the Holy Spirit is ongoing and continues. The promise of Christ should be accepted with joy. St. Augustine has placed the mystery of the Ascension in all its beauty:

"For just as he remained with us after his ascension, so we, too, are already in heaven with him, even though what is promised to us has not yet been fulfilled in our bodies.

"He did not leave heaven when he came down to us; nor did he withdraw from us when he went up again to heaven."

A special retreat

I left South Bend late on a Saturday afternoon and found my way down Highways 6 and 15 to Camp Mack for a special retreat. It was under the direction of our Hispanic Ministry Office, guided by Humberto Delgado and Lupita Zepeda and Enid Roman-DeJesus.

There were more than 200 Hispanic teenagers. I gave a talk on the sacrament of penance and afterward was joined by seven or eight other priests, all of whom are fluent in Spanish. We heard confessions until

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in years ahead
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and catechesis of our Hispanic Catholics.

10 p.m. when I left to drive the country roads back to South Bend.

There is no question that a big part of our effort in years ahead will be for the religious instruction and catechesis of our Hispanic Catholics. The young people came from St. Adalbert, South Bend; Our Lady of Guadalupe, Warsaw; St. John, Goshen; St. Patrick, Fort Wayne; St. Michael, Plymouth, and other parishes. I am not fluent in Spanish, but I know it is important for the bishop to be with all our young people. And the sacrament of penance is always a privilege for any priest.

Speaking of young people

It was a joy to be at Marian High School Friday, May 11, for the dedication of their new athletic facilities. You know it is not easy for high schools to compete with the public high schools from the point of view of athletics. If we are building a gym or a new baseball diamond, we usually have to have some kind of a major fund-raising drive. How grateful we are then for what took place on a song of a day at Marian in Mishawaka.

Remember that the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration have been a blessing for this diocese. Many years ago, they gave us the land on which Marian High School is situated. More recently, for a very modest price they sold a large portion of land to the diocese. Immediately, Peter and Nancy Baranay, who have children at Marian, went to work. They have erected 10 tennis courts, two softball courts (one named after the bishop, can you believe that?!) and a huge soccer field with other adjoining fields. It is not only a blessing for Marian but also for all our elementary schools. When you go by there on a Sunday, the area is filled with young people from all our schools at play.

In the Catholic Church, we honor all human gifts. Marian has a great art department under Kathryn Gunty. They won the Quiz Bowl for the whole city. Some of the questions concerned Greek. There are courses there on the Greek New Testament, on the Greek Fathers. These are given by Father Mike Heintz. There is an excellent course by Father Dan Scheidt on great Catholic thinkers that is very popular. At the retreat for teenage Hispanics, a young woman wearing a Marian jersey told me how much she has been helped by the courses on morality taught by Sister Marie Morgan, OSF. My deep gratitude to Nancy and Peter Baranay for the substantial funds they gave to this project. They recruited others who helped, and it was a joy to be there and dedicate these beautiful fields which will be used, please God, by generations yet to come at Marian High School.

Important coming attraction

For the second consecutive year, our seminarians will be leading a vocational retreat. This year, it will be held at Donaldson, Ind. It is for high school graduates who might be interested in the priesthood. There also will be a talk on the vocation of marriage. Any young men who are graduating from high school will be most welcome. Send me their names, and I will send them a personal letter of invitation.

Can you believe it? Twenty-six and 11 — and eight and one-half games ahead of the Yankees. What a beautiful springtime. See you all next week.

St. Matthew Cathedral honors Bishop D'Arcy for 50 years of priesthood

BY ALEX SCHEIDLER

SOUTH BEND — *The South Bend Tribune* displayed a front page article and picture of Bishop John M. D'Arcy on Mother's Day. It was fitting, as it was the day he was honored at South Bend's cathedral, St. Matthew, for completing 50 years of priesthood.

Bishop D'Arcy presided at the 11 a.m. Mass and gave the homily, which he began by quoting the Gospel of John where Jesus exhorts to his disciples, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

For 50 years, Bishop D'Arcy has been not only keeping commandments, he has been preaching and teaching them even as he has drawn others to Christ in the church.

Throughout the homily, the bishop touched on various aspects of the church especially close to the priesthood, such as the ability to make Christ present through the Eucharist, the gift of celibacy as a total commitment to Christ and the priest representing the person of Jesus Christ in a special way.

He spoke of the priesthood as a great adventure that means more to him now than it has meant ever before.

"Sometimes, when reflecting on what a gift it is," Bishop D'Arcy said, "I almost wish I could start over again. It has been such a joy."

Canon Law stipulates that bishops offer their resignation

after completing their 75th year. The pope may accept or decline this offer. Bishop D'Arcy plans to send that letter when he turns 75 Aug. 18.

Bishop D'Arcy spoke in his homily of the great treasure the priests of the diocese have been. He also highlighted that there are 18 seminarians in the diocese studying for the priesthood — the largest number of seminarians since he was ordained himself.

The bishop requested that if anyone were to give him a gift in appreciation for the 50 years of priesthood, that the gift be prayers for good vocations to the priesthood.

After Mass, the cathedral hosted a reception in the cafeteria with hot food, dips and sweets. Many of those attending Mass celebrated the bishop at the reception, where he met and greeted people until the last person left.

One man attending the day's events was Joseph Szalay who has lived in the diocese for 40 years. Joseph moved to the area from Hungary. He was the leader of the local Serra Club when Bishop D'Arcy came to the diocese. The two met and made an immediate connection.

Szalay had two wishes of the bishop. "Number one, stay with us," Szalay said, as he became audibly moved. "Second, continue to pray for us and help us in as many ways as possible. He is a blessing for our diocese."

Stephen Freddoso was impressed with the number of years the bishop has been a

priest. "Fifty years... that's more than twice my lifetime," he said. "I can't even imagine..."

Freddoso recalled the all-school Masses Bishop D'Arcy would celebrate at the JACC (Joyce Athletic Convocation Center) at the University of Notre Dame.

"In his homily he talked about vocations," Freddoso said. "Not only vocations to the priesthood, but the idea that (you) would only be happy if you found what God wanted for (you)."

Freddoso remembered a prayer the bishop taught during these Masses at the JACC: "Lord please help me to know what you want me to do with my life, for only then will I be truly happy," he said.

Freddoso added, "I think he works really hard to keep the diocese running well. I would like to thank him."

Since the days before he was in seminary, Father Michael Heintz, rector of St. Matthew Cathedral, has known Bishop D'Arcy.

"He ordained me — accepted me into the seminary — so I've known him since the age of 17," Father Heintz said.

"(Bishop D'Arcy) has been fortunate enough to ordain (priests) who are happy — good (priests), I think — and that draws other people who are balanced and happy," Father Heintz said. "I wish him all the best. I'd love to keep him here for another 10 years."

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of the Catholic Church.

The crowds that showed up for papal events were enthusiastic but smaller than foreseen by trip planners in Brazil, the largest Catholic country in the world. There were empty spaces at both of his outdoor Masses, and the crowds along some of his motorcade routes were sparse.

The papal trip began May 9 with an inflight press conference that prompted controversy when the pope, in response to a question, appeared to support the idea of excommunication for pro-abortion politicians. The Vatican later released a toned-down version of the papal comments.

In Brazil, where pressures have been growing for legalized abortion, the pope mentioned protection of the unborn at several of his events, including a Sao Paulo airport welcoming ceremony attended by Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. The pope told the president and assembled dignitaries that he had come to help reinforce Christian values and counter new threats to the poor, the abandoned and the unborn.

"I am well aware that the soul of this people, as of all Latin America, safeguards values that are radically Christian, which will never be eradicated," he said.

On May 10, the pope joined some 40,000 young people in a Sao Paulo soccer stadium for song, dance, prayer and a lengthy papal speech that laid out arguments for Christian virtue.

He warned against sexual infidelity, drug use and unethical routes to success and told the youths to live their lives "with enthusiasm and with joy, but most of all with a sense of responsibility."

The choreographed encounter was billed as an emotional highlight of the papal visit. The pope hugged some of the young people who spoke, but looked somewhat reserved throughout the event.

At a Mass May 11 on a Sao Paulo airfield, the pope canonized St. Antonio Galvao, an 18th-century Franciscan known for his charitable work among the poor and sick. The pope said the saint's dedication to God and purity should be exemplary in a modern age "so full of hedonism."

"The world needs transparent lives, clear souls, pure minds that refuse to be perceived as mere objects of pleasure. It is necessary to oppose those elements of the media that ridicule the sanctity of marriage and virginity before mar-

riage," he said.

On May 12 the pope rode deep into the Brazilian countryside to visit Fazenda da Esperanca, or Farm of Hope, a church-run drug rehabilitation center. After listening to emotional testimonials from recovering addicts, the pope warned drug dealers that they will face God's judgment for the human damage they have inflicted.

Compared to the first days of the trip, the pope looked more at ease on the grounds of the farm, where he was cheered by 3,000 volunteers and residents and was given a group hug by four children.

That evening, he was even more animated when he met with thousands of priests, seminarians, religious and lay movement members in the Basilica of Our Lady Aparecida, Latin America's biggest Marian shrine.

After praying the rosary, the pope gave a spiritual pep talk that was repeatedly interrupted by applause, telling the congregation: "The church is our home. This is our home. In the Catholic Church we find all that is good."

At Mass outside the basilica the next day, the pope appeared to draw a distinction between the Catholic Church's missionary approach and the aggressive proselytizing by evangelical sects, which have flourished in Latin America.

"The church does not engage in proselytism. Instead, she grows by attraction," the pope said.

By living charity day in and day out, he said, Christians release "an irresistible power which is the power of holiness." This is the center of the missionary task, he said.

Before leaving Brazil, the pope delivered a lengthy opening address to the bishops' general conference, a speech that was greatly anticipated by the more than 260 participants.

The pope made several points:

- The church best contributes to solving social and political problems by promoting a moral consensus on fundamental values — which must come before the construction of just social structures.

- Among Catholics, the bishops should give priority to Sunday Mass and more intense faith formation of young people and adults.

- Both Marxism and capitalism have failed to deliver on their ideological promises to build a better world, largely because they are systems divorced from individual morality. Along with his critique of capitalism and the growing rich-poor gap, the pope warned that globalization risks creating vast monopolies and treating profit as "the supreme value."

Sainthood congregation recommends Pope Pius XII be named venerable

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Members of the Congregation for Saints' Causes met May 8 to consider the cause of Pope Pius XII and apparently voted to recommend that Pope Benedict XVI formally declare him venerable.

Passionist Father Ciro Benedettini, vice director of the Vatican press office, confirmed the congregation had met, but since the result of the vote still had to be presented to the pope he would not say May 9 what the result was.

However, Jesuit Father Peter Gumpel, who has spent years officially shepherding the cause through its various stages, told Catholic News Service May 11 that the vote was "unanimous and totally positive."

Father Gumpel said 13 cardinals and archbishops took part in the May 8 discussion and urged the pope to declare that Pope Pius heroically lived the Christian virtues.

The German Jesuit said he confirmed the result with four



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ing them comfort and healing, but also to help them know they're part of the Catholic community."

Father Brad went on to explain, "And (it is great) to bring them comfort and assurance that God will see them through anything."

Greg Zehnpfenning attended the event to receive healing of mind and soul. He is 44 years old and suffering through alcoholism.

"You have to embrace the cross," Greg said, "in order to get fully healed."

"You have to embrace everything about Christ, and that's part of it," he continued.

"Understanding that he died for us, our sins, that's a big part of it."

Greg asks others to pray for the sick. "That's what today's all about — to pray for the sick. Taking them meals or being there for them to talk to them, that means a lot to people who are sick, just having someone there to comfort them."

Area teachers recognized for years of dedicated service

BY KAY COZAD

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has seen Catholic education flourish with the exceptional teachers who staff the elementary and secondary schools in the area. Several of these caring teachers who have devoted their careers to the children they teach are retiring at the end of this school term. *Today's Catholic* joins the Catholic Schools Office, the schools, parents and students in thanking them for their dedicated years of teaching.

Aniela Berreth has been in teaching for 29 years, 28 of which she spent at St. Joseph School in Mishawaka as the sixth grade social studies and English teacher. She will miss the students and says the best thing about teaching is, "being able to incorporate religion with social studies." She and her husband Larry have five children and 10 grandchildren and are looking forward to traveling in the future.

Retirement will not be easy for 36-years plus teaching veteran **Jean Hahn**, but she says it's time to put her grandchildren first. Her career includes 30 years at St. John the Baptist School teaching history to seventh and eighth graders and six years with upperclassmen at Bishop Luers in Fort Wayne. The greatest thrill in teaching she says, "Working with generations of the same families. Seeing them grow up is hope for the future."

Ruth Johnson is retiring with 25 years of library service to the diocese. She has been part of the staffs at St. Vincent de Paul

School as well as Southside High School and St. Jude School. She will miss the students and choosing books for the library. But Johnson is looking forward to visiting her four children and six grandchildren more often, traveling and spending time doing crafts.

Thirty-five years have passed quickly for **Vicki Kuker**, social studies teacher at Bishop Dwenger in Fort Wayne. Her career includes 13 years teaching eighth grade social studies and grammar at St. Jude School, 22 years at Dwenger and coaching cheer leading. She will miss the energy and enthusiasm of the students but hopes to spend more time with her four grandchildren and spending time volunteering within the community. She also hopes to judge cheer competitions on a national basis.

Bill Landrigan will retire after 41 years in teaching and administration. He has taught a variety of subjects at Central Catholic and Bristol High Schools and Warsaw Middle School, as well as counseling for seven years. Landrigan became assistant principal of Warsaw Middle School in 1975 and in 1986 became principal of the freshman school there. He took the assistant principal position for Warsaw High School from 1991 to 1996. In 2003 he accepted the interim principal position at Sacred Heart School and is stepping down this year. Landrigan enjoys working with the students and instilling a sense of the true value of life and their own value. He will continue to work with the pro-life movement in his retirement as well as become more involved in his parish.

Teachers noted for years of service

Other teachers in the Catholic schools honored for years of service include the following:

- **Five years** — Anita Laughlin, Nicole O'Hara, Christina Govorko, Tara Love, Heather Maller, Stephen Donndelinger, Keith Foley, Frances Kent, Jennifer Matchett, Michele Wolff, Kelly Hofferth, Kimberly Brown, Nancy Catanzarite, Kerri Thilman and Tara Lundy.
- **Ten years** — Erica Fox, Kathleen MacDonald, Michele Pawlak, Jean Watts, Susan Remmo, Barbara Echard, Kristine Holland, Donna Beasley, Marit Kuczanski, Linda Larson, Teresa Pairitz, Vicki Schwab, Alvin Wylie, Nancy Huffman, Alexis Turnock, Gina Lehmann, Stephanie Ritchie, Joan Kraska, Jill Lindley, Sheila Wilcox and Gertrude Nawara.
- **Fifteen years** — Anita Manuszak, JoAnn Goepfrich, Tammie Hagedorn, Marilynn Williams, Maureen Hamel, Rhonda Menting, Jacqueline Nifong and Victoria Krohn.
- **Twenty years** — Janet Pethick, Beth Troyer, Angela Budzinski, Suzanne Schlemmer and Sharon Byorni.
- **Twenty-five years** — Kathleen Leyes, Marie-Rose McKenna, Julia Chismar, Charlotte Garrison, Catherine Knabenshue and Sister Pat Gavin, SSND.
- **Thirty years** — Mary Kay Dance, Michael Piechnik, Jane Goldsberry, Donna Hemmerlein, Theresa Lolmaugh and Donna Quinn.
- **Thirty-five years** — Janice Brunner.

Joanne Miller is stepping down this year after 30 years in teaching to travel and enjoy her nine grandchildren. Miller has taught second, third and fourth grades at Queen of Angels and St. John the Baptist, New Haven. She says of her years of teaching, "I'll miss being with the boys and girls and seeing how they develop and grow. I'll espe-

cially miss second grade with the eagerness to receive the sacraments."

Jackie Pokrzywinski will retire from St. John the Baptist in New Haven this year as well. She spent 29 years teaching second grade there and says, "St. John's is like family. I got to teach two generations." Pokrzywinski will miss that sense of family and hopes to volunteer her time at area charities

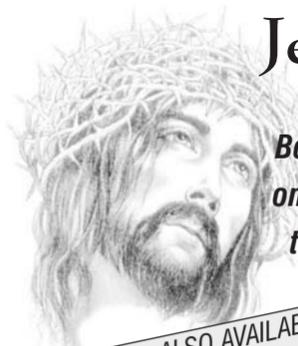
as well as read for the library. She extends a big "thank you" for the time she shared with the children of St. John's.

Three other teachers retiring this year are **Brother Ed Foken**, history teacher at Saint Joseph's High School, South Bend, **Sister Mary Annette Krych**, first grade teacher at Holy Family School, South Bend and **Frances Leffert**, from St. Bavo School in Mishawaka.

Jesus of Nazareth by Pope Benedict XVI

Will be in the Cathedral Bookstore on May 15, 2007.

Because of the importance of this book, (the pope's own thoughts on Jesus Christ) the Bookstore offers a 25% discount on this book through the end of June. Price is \$24.95...with discount \$18.71



•ALSO AVAILABLE
Scott Hahn's new book on Apologetics (released May 8) will be discounted 20% through the end of May.
REASONS TO BELIEVE...\$21.95 with discount \$17.56

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Catholic, Jewish communities welcome Eugene Fisher

BY DON CLEMMER

FORT WAYNE — One of the leading voices in the field of Catholic-Jewish relations spoke in Fort Wayne when Dr. Eugene J. Fisher, associate director of the Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), spoke at Achduth Vesholom Reform Jewish Temple on May 9.

The ongoing Catholic-Jewish Dialogue between St. Mary's Catholic Church, Fort Wayne, and Congregation Achduth Vesholom sponsored Fisher's visit, which proved timely, as only days earlier, April 29, Fisher had been honored with the Anti-Defamation League's Dr. Joseph L. Lichten Award in Catholic-Jewish Relations in recognition of his 30 years of work in this area for the USCCB. Fisher will retire from his post July 1.

Welcoming Fisher to the diocese, Father Bob Schulte, vicar general of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, said that he had long followed the Fort Wayne

Catholic-Jewish Dialogue from a distance and thought it was wonderful that a figure such as Fisher was contributing to their ongoing discussion.

Rabbi Jonathan Katz of Congregation Achduth Vesholom said, "I was always impressed with the presence of Fisher," noting that he had long encountered him via scholarly articles and documentaries, always "serving as a bridge, respected and trusted by both Jews and Catholics."

Fisher opened his talk by seizing on this image and humorously stating that he did not see himself so much as a bridge, but as the large rubber tires often strapped to docks to keep boats from smashing into them. Fisher attributed part of this success in Catholic-Jewish relations to his ability to "speak Catholic" and "speak Jewish," or to grasp the subtle nuances in word usage between the two religions.

For the main portion of his talk, Fisher offered "20 centuries in 20 minutes," an overview of Catholic-Jewish relations over the years.

"My illustrious predecessor, Ed Flannery, used to say that we



DON CLEMMER

Dr. Eugene Fisher, associate director of the Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, speaks at Achduth Vesholom Reform Jewish Temple in Fort Wayne May 9. Fisher, a leading expert on Catholic-Jewish relations, offered insights into the intertwining histories of Christianity and Judaism and shared frequently overlooked facts about the relationship shared by the two religions.

Christians have torn out of our history books all the pages Jews remember. I think that's true," Fisher said of the importance of understanding the historical context, adding, "It's also true that Jews have lost some of the pages about Christians and Christianity that they probably should remember."

Starting with the early church,

Fisher noted that Christianity as depicted in the New Testament is actually a Jewish sect, one struggling for power and influence with other sects. Therefore, anything that might be perceived as anti-Semitism in the New Testament is actually more reflective of an internal family quarrel.

"The New Testament is written by Jews about Jews mostly for

other Jews to tell them what Judaism really is," Fisher concluded.

He proceeded to elaborate instances in the early centuries of the church where, even though Christianity and Judaism had gone on to split into two religions, Jews were still respected by Christians. For instance, the first declared heresy of the church was against the notion of abandoning the Jewish Scriptures.

"You cannot make sense out of Christianity or the New Testament, except in its reflex relationship with the Hebrew Scriptures and Judaism," Fisher noted. "Centuries later, when the Second Vatican Council took a look at that, they noted the fact is, when the church looks into her own mystery, she encounters the mystery of Israel — a very profound statement."

Respect and protection for the Jews, even within the canon law of the church, did not begin to break down until the year 1096 with the first Crusade, Fisher noted.

Growing anti-Semitism over the centuries would result in expulsions and other acts of intolerance over the centuries, culminating with the Holocaust.

The topic of the Holocaust raised the question of whether the sainthood cause of Pope Pius XII should be advanced before the release of the Vatican archives for the years of World War II, at which time the full extent of the pope's actions would be known.

"If they beatify Pope Pius XII before the archives through 1945 are out, we're going to have a huge controversy," Fisher offered as his professional judgment. "So it would be better not to do it. You don't need another controversy."

PIUS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

congregation members and "it is absolutely false that some cardinals had asked for a delay."

The Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera* had reported May 9 that a minority of the congregation members had voted "no," urging

Pope Benedict to delay issuing a decree until there is "a more favorable climate," particularly regarding the ongoing controversy over Pope Pius' actions during World War II.

Once the pope issues a decree recognizing heroic virtues, the candidate is referred to as venerable.

Before a candidate can be beatified, the pope also must issue a decree recognizing a miracle attributed to the candidate's intercession. A second miracle is needed for canonization.

Pope Pius led the Catholic Church from 1939 to 1958; immediately before his election, the then-Cardinal Eugenio Pacelli was the Vatican secretary of state.

For years, controversy has raged over whether Pope Pius did and said enough in defense of the Jews and other victims of the Nazis.

The May 8 vote of the congregation members was based on a review of a six-volume, 3,000-page "positio" or position paper prepared by the promoters of Pope Pius' sainthood cause. The report, given to the Vatican in 2004, included sworn testimony from witnesses, historical documents

and a review of literature — both neutral and negative — pertaining to the Vatican's actions during World War II.

In New York, Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, urged Pope Benedict to indefinitely suspend the canonization process for Pope Pius

until secret World War II Vatican archives are declassified and fully examined "so that the full record of the pope's actions during the Holocaust may finally be known."

Until then, Foxman said May 10, Pope Pius' record with the Jews during the Holocaust will "continue to be shrouded and a source of controversy and contention."

For years, controversy has raged over whether Pope Pius did and said enough in defense of the Jews and other victims of the Nazis.

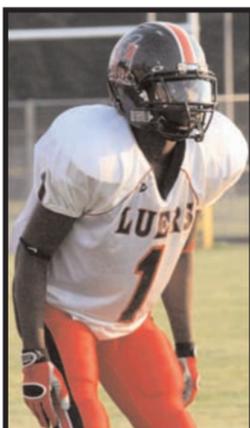
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Grades Pre K - 8
12:45 - 3:30 p.m.

FOOTBALL
July 16 -19 Grades 5-12
8:00 - 11:00 a.m.

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Ages 8-13: 4:00-5:30 p.m.
Ages 14-18: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

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June 18-21 Grades 5-12

VOLLEYBALL
June 4-7 Grades 5-8
5:00 - 7:30 p.m.
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June 18-21 Grades 10-12
7:00 - 9:15 p.m.



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Pope OKs stricter norms for mandatory feast days in church calendar

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has approved stricter guidelines for determining which saints will be remembered with mandatory feast days. The General Roman Calendar, the universal schedule of holy days and feast days for the Latin rite of the Catholic Church, is so packed that more selectivity is needed, according to new norms and a commentary published in the official bulletin of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments. The pope determines who makes the universal calendar based on recommendations from the congregation, the commentary said. And, according to the new norms published in the bulletin in mid-May, those recommendations will be more difficult to obtain. "A saint can be inserted in the general calendar because of the significant and universal importance of his or her spiritual message and effectiveness as an example for a broad category of members of the church," said the norms, approved by Pope Benedict in December.

Bishops get draft of guidelines for education in chaste living

WASHINGTON (CNS) — "Education for chastity is more than a call to abstinence," says a draft document being studied by the U.S. Catholic bishops in preparation for a vote this fall. Sent out to the bishops at the end of April, the draft is titled "Catechetical Formation in Chaste Living: Guidelines for Curriculum Design and Publication." "Parents are called to ensure that their children's education in human sexuality occurs within the context of the moral principles and truths of the church," it says. It adds that parents are "the primary but not the exclusive educators of their children" and that the invitation to other educators "to carry out their responsibilities in the name of the parents arises from the consent and authorization of the parents." It says, "Education for chastity, sustained by parental example and prayer, is absolutely essential to develop authentic maturity, teach respect for the body and foster an understanding of the nuptial meaning of the body." The 14-page draft document was developed by the Committee on Catechesis of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, chaired by Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl of Washington.

Cardinal: Church recognizes immigrants' God-given human rights

PHILADELPHIA (CNS) — The basic moral principle that everyone is entitled to God-given human rights is the key to understanding the Catholic Church's support for immigrants, said Los Angeles Cardinal Roger M. Mahony May 8 in the annual John M. Templeton Jr. Lecture on Economic Liberties and the Constitution in Philadelphia. The current U.S. immigration system accepts the labor, taxes and purchasing power of immigrants

CANADIAN ARCHBISHOP MARCEL GERVAIS



CNS PHOTO/ART BABYCH

Pope Benedict XVI has accepted the resignation of Ottawa Archbishop Marcel Gervais, 75. The Vatican made the announcement May 14. The pope named Archbishop Terrence Prendergast of Halifax, Nova Scotia, as his successor. Archbishop Gervais is pictured in a 2004 file photo.

who are separated from their families, Cardinal Mahony said, and yet millions of them who are in the country illegally are not protected by laws. "While such a system might meet our economic needs in the narrow measurement of monetary gain, it fails to meet the broad definition of 'oikonomia,' or the call of Scripture," he said. "Oikonomia" is the Greek word at the root of the word "economy" but which first means the arrangement of a household, he explained. In early Christian history, "oikonomia" referred to the way God's household — in which holiness, truth, justice, love and peace prevailed — is ordered, he said.

Climate change an ethical, environmental issue, U.N. nuncio says

UNITED NATIONS (CNS) — Global warming is not just an environmental issue but must be seen in "ethical, economic, social and political terms as well," Archbishop Celestino Migliore told a gathering of high-ranking development officials at the United Nations May 10. The Vatican nuncio's statement to the international body warned that global warming and energy shortages could have a disproportionate effect on the world's poor. "The consequences of climate change ... will impact first and foremost the poorest and weakest who, even if they are among the least responsible for global warming, are the most vulnerable because they have limited resources or live in areas at greater risk," he said. "Many of the most vulnerable societies, already facing energy problems, rely upon agriculture, the very sector most likely to suffer from climatic shifts."

Arab-American group honors Cardinal McCarrick for his work for peace

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, the retired archbishop of Washington, received a top honor from an Arab-American civic and political organization for his work of supporting human rights and social justice measures. He was awarded the Kahlil Gibran "Spirit of Humanity" Award for individual achievement by the Arab American Institute Foundation at an April 25 gala dinner in Washington. James Zogby, founder and president of the Arab American Institute, told about 800 gala attendees that Cardinal McCarrick not only served his own community while he was archbishop of Washington, but he also spoke out against war and was an advocate for several issues including Palestinian rights, an Israeli-Palestinian peace, immigrant rights and Muslim-Christian dialogue. "Not fearing controversy, he has always chosen to do what is right, serving the powerless who needed protection and a voice. His work and life have been exemplary," Zogby said.

Vatican official: Nations must disarm to stop spread of nukes

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — If the world is to help stop the spread of nuclear weapons, nations must take positive steps toward nuclear disarmament, a Vatican official said. Nuclear disarmament and nuclear nonproliferation "are interdependent and mutually reinforcing," said Msgr. Michael W. Banach, the

Vatican's representative to the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization. "Responsible implementation" of international agreements concerning nuclear weapons represents a crucial step "in the fight against nuclear terrorism" and promoting "a culture of life," peace and human development, he said in a May 1 address. The U.S. monsignor spoke in Vienna, Austria, at the April 30-May 11 proceedings of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference. The Vatican released a copy of Msgr. Banach's text May 11.

Senator, archbishop discuss faith and politics at Jewish school

ATLANTA (CNS) — In a presentation at a Jewish academy in Atlanta, a U.S. senator and an archbishop spoke about the role of faith in public life, how it shapes their outlook on public service and how faith should inform but not dictate a politician's position. The keynote speakers, Sen. Joe Lieberman, I-Conn., and Atlanta Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory, spoke at a fundraising event at the Katherine and Jacob Greenfield Hebrew Academy of Atlanta, which is headed by Matt Lieberman, the senator's son. The event, sponsored April 29 by the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta and Greenfield Academy, raised more than \$130,000 for a fund for teacher excellence for the Jewish school founded in 1953. Matt Lieberman opened the event by saying, "What unites us as a people of faith is so much more important than what divides, so we are very, very honored to be presenting a dialogue

that speaks directly to unity among faiths."

Israeli archaeologists say they have found King Herod's tomb

HERODIUM, West Bank (CNS) — After three and a half decades of scouring this dusty, heat-scorched mountainside, Israeli archaeologists said they have finally found the elusive tomb of King Herod the Great. The location and unique nature of the finds as well as the historical record leave no doubt that the finds are the remains of the king's burial site, despite there being no inscriptions, said Ehud Netzer, the Hebrew University professor of archaeology who has led the excavations at Herodium since 1972. The dig uncovered the various buildings at the towering cone-shaped site which King Herod, who ruled Judea on behalf of Rome from 37 B.C. to 4 B.C., had constructed. Only one or two other sarcophagi of this monumental size and quality have been discovered, he said.

Colombian court rules in favor of archbishop sued by ex-seminarian

BOGOTA, Colombia (CNS) — A Colombian court has ruled in favor of an archbishop sued by an ex-seminarian who was demanding an explanation for his expulsion from an archdiocesan seminary. The provincial court ruled against the ex-seminarian May 5 on a technicality, finding that the lower courts had not appropriately evaluated certain evidence in the case. The Rev. Juan Mejia, currently 27 and an Anglican priest, late last year sued Archbishop Fabio Betancur Tirado of Manizales, a city in western Colombia's mountains. The one-time student was expelled from the seminary in 1999 and argued that seminary officials justified their action by saying that he was gay and a thief. Rev. Mejia said the claims were false and first sent a letter to the archdiocese asking for an explanation of his expulsion and the return of belongings he had left at the seminary. Upon receiving no response, the ex-seminarian sued the archbishop.

Bishop Pierre Duprey, expert on Christian unity, dies at age 84

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Bishop Pierre Duprey, who served at the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity for more than 35 years, died in his apartment near the Vatican May 13 at the age of 84. His funeral was scheduled for May 18 in St. Peter's Basilica. Bishop Duprey, who retired in 1999, was an expert on the Eastern Christian churches, particularly those of the Middle East. A member of the Missionaries of Africa, the Frenchman was trained at the order's novitiate in Algeria and was ordained to the priesthood in Tunisia in 1950. After earning his doctorate at the Pontifical Oriental Institute in Rome, he was appointed to serve at the Melkite seminary in Jerusalem, according to a biography published by the Missionaries of Africa.

CDM to hold annual conference at Notre Dame

NOTRE DAME — Catholic Divorce Ministry's (CDM) annual International Conference, "Water in the Desert" will be held July 5-7 at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend. In addition, a pre-conference Ministry Leadership Seminar will take place July 2-5.

"There is something for everyone at the conference," says Kathy Yonker, CDM regional representative for Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin. "Ministry leaders will get reenergized and divorced Catholics will find comfort and strength through their faith."

Divorced Catholics need to know they are not alone in their struggle," added Yonker, who is a parishioner at St. Mary Immaculate in Plainfield, Ill.

In addition to presentations by two keynote speakers, participants can choose to attend three of over 15 workshops available. Workshops will focus on healing, spiritual development, helping children cope with divorce, how to choose healthy relationships, forgiveness and information on the annulment process.

"Our conference will lead participants to a desert experience of healing and hope through spirituality, education, camaraderie, social events, music and more," says Sheila O'Donnell, CDM president and a parishioner of Christ the King in Lombard, Ill.

CDM, a nonprofit organization, is formerly known as the North American Conference of Separated and Divorced Catholics (NACSDC). "We chose to simplify the name, but our mission remains the same," added O'Donnell.

CDM's mission is the following:

- To search out those who have left the Catholic Church because of separation, divorce or remarriage and to work toward their reconciliation;
- To promote the formation and continued development of local support groups and peer ministry;
- To provide educational programs and resources to all who engage in this ministry;
- To foster the spiritual and emotional maturity of those who separate, divorce or remarry;
- To welcome separated and divorced persons of other faiths who request our support;
- To consult and maintain liaisons with organizations, individuals and institutions whose purposes are similar to those of CDM.

The conference is open to all those who are separated, divorced, widowed, single, clergy, religious and pastoral professionals. For on-campus housing, participants should register by June 1.

For additional information please visit the CDM Web site at www.nacsd.org or call (906) 482-0494.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

BISHOP DWENGER RECOGNIZES TOP 10 STUDENTS



PROVIDED BY BISHOP DWENGER HIGH SCHOOL

Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne has recognized its top 10 academic students. They include Dan Voors, Jason Reinhart, Kevin Fogler, David Elden, Rich Schroeder (valedictorian) Alexandria Donovan, Sophia Binz (salutatorian), Mary Andorfer, Mollie Bobay and Cristina Kline-Quiroz.

Cathedral hosts end-of-life medical decisions talk

FORT WAYNE — Rosie Lahrman will speak on end-of-life medical decisions from a Catholic perspective at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at the Cathedral Center, 1122 S. Clinton, on Wednesday, May 23, at 7 p.m.

Lahrman's talk will include the use of the statutory living will, advance directives and appointing a health care representative. Lahrman is a member of the board of directors at St. Anne Home and Retirement Community, and she has completed a yearlong certification program in health care ethics sponsored by the National Catholic Bioethics Center.

Luers student name 2007 Indiana Academic All-Star

FORT WAYNE — Kevin Schwartz, a senior from from Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne, was chosen as a 2007 Indiana Academic All-Star. The all-stars were honored along with their parents, their high school principals and the educator having the most influence on their academic careers at a luncheon held in Indianapolis on April 11.

Schwartz was selected because of his outstanding academic achievement, which includes academic letter, National Honor Society and National Merit Commended Student.

During his time at Bishop Luers, Schwartz has been involved in soccer, wrestling, academic team

(English, math and interdisciplinary), Academic Super Bowl, journalism (coeditor in chief), peer tutoring and peer mentoring.

Because of her teaching methods, Schwartz chose Diane Karst as the teacher who had most influenced him. Karst is the head of the math department at Bishop Luers. She teaches by student discovery rather than simple memorization of rules.

After graduation this May, Schwartz plans to attend Indiana University. He is the son of Denis and Mary Schwartz.

Saint Mary's College gala honors area volunteers

NOTRE DAME — Saint Mary's College will host Down the Avenue, a benefit gala, on Tuesday evening, June 12 in the Student Center and Noble Family Dining Hall. Members of the Michiana community will gather to recognize local volunteers for their work and to celebrate the ways in which Saint Mary's College and the community work together to help those in need.

Saint Mary's will honor three women with the Spirit of Service Award for their volunteerism: South Bend resident Ernestine M. Raclin, Saint Mary's College graduating senior Angeline Johnson and Holy Cross Sister Mary Edith Daley.

Proceeds from Down the Avenue will benefit the Office for Civic and Social Engagement (OCSE), a volunteer services program at Saint Mary's College. Proceeds from 2007 Down the Avenue will make it possible for OCSE to expand its summer intern-

ship partnership with local agencies and enhance its Marquette Primary Center After School Program.

In addition, the college will endow a Spirit of Service Scholarship in honor of Ernestine Raclin for a Saint Mary's student who is an active volunteer in the Michiana community.

This is the third Down the Avenue at Saint Mary's. Nearly \$250,000 was raised for OCSE from the 2002 and 2005 Down the Avenue events.

The public is invited to purchase tickets to the event. Ticket prices begin at \$150 for one person and \$500 for two. For reservations or more information, please call Saint Mary's College at (574) 284-4591 or e-mail downtheavenue@saintmarys.edu.

Supreme Court Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr. to speak at Saint Mary's commencement

NOTRE DAME — United States Supreme Court Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr. will deliver the 2007 commencement address at Saint Mary's College. Commencement takes place at noon on Saturday, May 19, in front of LeMans Hall.

Alito was nominated to the Supreme Court by President George W. Bush, and was sworn in on Jan. 31, 2006. He previously served as a judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, having been appointed by President George H. Bush in 1990.

Alito grew up in New Jersey and graduated from Princeton University in 1972 before attending

Yale Law School.

Alito is the 11th Catholic to serve on the Supreme Court and the fifth on the current court, along with Chief Justice Roberts and Associate Justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy and Clarence Thomas.

Honorary degree recipients at the commencement are Sister Mary Scullion and Dr. Bernard McGinn.

St. Vincent de Paul Society to hold annual Mass, Top Hat Awards

MISHAWAKA — Members, families and friends of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Joseph County will assemble for their annual corporate holy Communion and Mass at 8:15 a.m. Sunday in St. Joseph Church, Mishawaka.

Father Terry Fisher, pastor, will celebrate. After Mass, a breakfast will be held, which will see the awarding of the Top Hat Awards to outstanding volunteers in the society.

The Top Hat Awards are named in honor of the French aristocrat Frederick Ozanam who distributed his fabulous wealth in his native Paris to the poor and underprivileged.

Roy Miller, president of the board of directors, will be the speaker at the breakfast. — EJD

St. Joseph, Decatur, presents scholarships

DECATUR — St. Joseph School, Decatur, presented scholarships and awards to several students based on their Christian attitude on May 11. All the candidates were nominated by the staff of St. Joseph School.

Presenting five \$200 awards on behalf of the St. Vincent DePaul Society was member Dick Stimpson. The awards are given in memory of departed members who worked and gave so much of their lives helping the poor. The money will be applied to next year's tuition. Because of their Christian attitude, seventh grader Amber Fuhrman, sixth grader Chelsea Custer, sixth grader Justin Villagomez, sixth grader Adam Ralston and fifth grader Austin Alberson were chosen as the recipients for the awards.

Three additional students received a \$1,000 Dan Klepper Memorial Scholarship. A Decatur Catholic High School graduate Robert Klepper, established this scholarship fund in memory of his son, Dan Klepper, who was killed in a car-train accident. The scholarships will help with tuition for the 2007-2008 school year. This year's winners, based on their Christian attitudes, are seventh grader Jessica Hain, sixth grader Amber Loshe and sixth grader Lance Vergara.

In addition, two St. Joseph students were presented the Al Lindahl All American Scholarships by Charlotte Lindahl, Al's wife, and Mary Friedt, Al's daughter. This award is in memory of Al Lindahl who was very active both at church and the school. All American Award winners were based on not only academic excellence but also Christian attitude and an interest in athletics. The winners are seventh graders Ariel Davison and Brian Hakes. Each of these students will receive \$200 towards next year's tuition.

Rededicated Fatima shrine

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

NOTRE DAME — Ninety years ago, May 13, Mary appeared to the children in Fatima, Portugal. She spoke of the need for prayer, especially the rosary, for world peace. What better day could there be to rededicate the shrine of Our Lady of Fatima at Notre Dame?

Many members of Holy Cross, as well as others from the surrounding community, gathered in the chapel of Fatima House for a liturgy of the word. Holy Cross Father David T. Tyson, provincial superior of the Indiana Province, led the people in prayer. Parishioners from local Holy Cross parishes proclaimed the readings and prayed the intercessions.

In his homily, Father Tyson said that for 55 years the shrine has provided a "place of pilgrimage, prayer and repose" for thousands of people. He spoke of Mary as a role model for living the Christian virtues and a peaceful life. "As we rededicate the shrine we also rededicate ourselves to peace," he said.

At the conclusion of the prayer the people, young and old, processed in song to the shrine



SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

The statue of the Blessed Mother is crowned with flowers at the rededication of the shrine of Our Lady of Fatima on the grounds of Notre Dame. Seminarian Drew Gawrych, CSC, and Father Robert Nogosek, CSC are shown at the statue. Holy Cross Father David Tyson, provincial superior of the Indiana province, led the liturgy and encouraged all to rededicate themselves to peace.

where they prayed the rosary under a beautiful blue Indiana sky. Members of Christ the King, St. Adalbert, St. Casimir, St. Joseph, Holy Cross, St. Stanislaus and St. Augustine parishes, led each decade preceded by a reflection from Father Patrick Peyton's "Rosary Prayer Book."

At the conclusion of the

rosary, Father Tyson blessed the shrine and then Emily Colorado, a student from St. Adalbert's, with the help of her father, crowned the Blessed Mother.

Following the ceremony all were invited to a reception in the Our Lady of Fatima House where tours of the remodeled residence were available.

ST. JOSEPH COURTYARD DEDICATED AT HOLY CROSS VILLAGE



BROTHER CHARLES MCBRIDE, CSC

The Brothers of Holy Cross at Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame dedicated St. Joseph Court on the feast day of St. Joseph the Worker, May 1. The statue of St. Joseph and courtyard are next to the new chapel of Our Lady of Holy Cross at Holy Cross Village. The statue and courtyard are dedicated in loving memory of Dorothy M. Pfeil. The statue and courtyard were a gift of Bob, Mike and Jim Pfeil. Pictured from left to right are Holy Cross Brother Thomas Shaughnessy, president of the Holy Cross Village board; Jim Pfeil and his wife Gretchen (Jim is the son of Bob Pfeil), Holy Cross Father Kenneth Grabner, chaplain of Holy Cross Village; and Holy Cross Brother Robert Fillmore, provincial, Midwest Province, Brothers of Holy Cross.

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GRADUATION:

The road home, O God, seems long and at times is difficult and painful. Grant me a holy communion, a companionship with others, as I journey homeward to you. By this communion of holy ones may I be daily challenged to greater compassion and charity as I walk the way of the pilgrim.

Edward Hays
Prayers for a Planetary Pilgrim

Bishop Dwenger High School

Richard Schroeder



Valedictorian

Hometown: Fort Wayne
Attending: University of Notre Dame
Intended major:

Biology and Spanish are my majors. I plan on going into medicine or medical research.

Who have been your guides?

My sister Annie has always been a major role model for me throughout high school. I talk with her about school, religion, my career and many other things. She has inspired me through her depth and her actions for all of high school.

What have been your favorite classes?

My favorite class was AP chemistry. It was hard but very interesting, and we had a great teacher, Mrs. Fairchild. I also have really enjoyed marine biology, which included a trip to Costa Rica.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like playing music and reading. I am usually pretty busy with sports teams — swimming and running. I like being outside, and we have a pretty big garden at my house that I like working in.

What are your favorite memories of high school?

I have a great memory of swimming in Caitlyn Ehinger's pond sophomore year. Another fun time has been salsa dancing with my friends. Cross country camps were awesome as well.

What is your dream in life?

My dreams are pretty basic. I want to live an honest life and raise a good family. Apart from that, I would love to take part in service work in South America like my parents do. I plan on living in Fort Wayne when I grow up.

What do you feel is the value of a Catholic education?

I really valued religion classes because they prompted me to ask questions and to explore religion and philosophy. It's been a great environment to grow up in.

Sophia Binz



Salutatorian

Hometown: Garrett
Attending: Catholic University of America
Intended major: Chemistry and English for medical research (doctor)

Who have been your guides?

My parents and my sister have always been supportive of me. They encourage my studying and helped me get through the chaotic course of choosing a college. All of my teachers have made class, whether English or science, absolutely fascinating, which actually made picking a major much more difficult.

What have your favorite classes been?

I have loved my chemistry classes, especially when we had to write a story about an element. My story was a Harry Potter parody titled Harry Potash and the Potassium Stone. Making ice cream was also exciting. I love my AP English class even though we only read depressing books. I guess you truly do learn more from tragedy than from any other type of writing. I also really enjoy statistics class. We learn everything we need to learn for the AP test while still finding time to have fun in class. I can't leave out calculus or Spanish though, because I have the best teachers in both subjects.

What do you do in your spare time?

Even though it is associated with school, I love working on the newspaper. Whether it is trying to create the perfect title for an article or figuring out a tricky layout, I love working the paper. I love going to see movies with my friends or family. I recently saw "Disturbia," which I couldn't wait to see once I found out it was based on Rear Window, starring Jimmy Stewart. I love both old and new movies. I am also a member of the Greater Garrett Tennis Association. When the weather is nice, we play tennis. There are people as young as me in this group, and one member is over 80 years old. Doc Dirkson taught me how to play. He is Garrett's local veterinarian. Not many people can say they have been repeatedly beaten by tennis aficionados over 80 years old, but I sure can. I have also learned five different ways to serve since five different members told me a separate way to serve each week.

What are your favorite memories of high school?

In AP English class, we had a mock trial to determine Medea's guilt at the time she commenced her violent outrage that resulted in four deaths, two of which were her own children. I was randomly assigned to defend Medea, and I actually got to be Medea when she was called to the stand. Amazingly, we won, and Medea was found not guilty.

What is your dream for your life?

I really want to be a medical researcher, but I have no clue what type of research I'll be involved in performing. I would be happy searching for cures to deadly diseases or even something such as creating a more protective sunscreen. I have also always wanted to write a mystery novel ever since I read my first Nancy Drew book. I would also like to get married and have kids.

What do you feel is the value of a Catholic education?

A Catholic education allows me to obtain the best academic education as I simultaneously learn to develop a virtuous character. In a Catholic education, God is not only the center of my life, but the center of curriculum.

Saint Joseph's High School

Vinay Patel

Valedictorian

Hometown: London, England
Attending: University of Michigan
Intended Major: Biology/Chemistry — although my plans are extraordinary fluid and could easily change in college, I'm particularly intrigued at the possibility of becoming a heart surgeon.

Who have been your guides throughout high school?

My helpers and guides throughout high school have undoubtedly been my many teachers, who have instructed me and taught me so much. Without them, I could never have thrived the way I have in the past four years. Mr. Dillon, especially, not only made the subject matter simple, but was available to talk anytime about anything. He always provided a place for me to go about anything, and his support has been invaluable to me.

What have your favorite classes been?

My mathematics and science courses have been my favorite classes — not only because of my affinity to these subjects, but also the teachers who had a particularly large impact on me, particularly Mr. Dillon, Mr. Kloser and Dr. Loughran.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Since I am fascinated by science, I enjoy reading and learning about scientific discoveries, as well as — of course — playing games and an occasional nap.

What are your favorite memories of high school?

Perhaps some of my favorite memories I have experienced have happened this year — right in my physics class. Although I will probably not forget my teacher's karaoke lessons, or what happens when an old picture of him is revealed to the class, his energy and love of teaching made the subject matter not only easy to grasp, but immensely enjoyable for me, and I could not have had a better experience anywhere else.

What is your dream for your life?

My life's dream is to use my abilities in a manner that helps as many people as possible, perhaps through medicine, or perhaps another field.

What do you feel is the value of a Catholic education?

Although I am not a Catholic, I was very interested in learning about one of the largest faiths in the world. While I sometimes had to work hard in my theology classes than my friends who had actually opened a Bible before the ninth grade, the experience helped me learn a great deal about a religion about which I previously knew nothing. What struck me most was how similar our faiths were, and this allowed me to feel much more connected to all my Christian friends, knowing that, though our religions' names may be different, we share the same ethics, ideals and vision. I also learned, through the vastly increased religious dialogue with both my theology teachers and my friends, a great

deal more about the basis of my own faith and how it relates to my life as well as my worldview.

Zach Stangebye

Salutatorian

Hometown: Niles, Mich.
Attending: University of Michigan
Intended Major: Psychology and philosophy — I would like to go somewhere in the church, either teaching, counseling or perhaps preaching/mission work.

Who have been your guides throughout high school?

My parents — they have supported me in everything and have never pushed me too hard into anything. I cannot thank them enough. My close friends — they have stuck with me through thick and thin, even when I was not able to be there for them. The theology teachers — they really opened up an entirely new way of looking at Christianity for me, and it helped me in my spiritual struggle.

What have your favorite classes been?

AP chemistry, morality, great Catholic thinkers and AP English

What do you do in your spare time?

I spent my entire high school career in St. Joe Theatre, and our three shows a year kept me fairly busy. I also participated in mock trial for three years, and in Fed Challenge my senior year. I spend as much time as I can working for my parents, with my family, playing guitar and reading.

What are your favorite memories of high school?

Forming close friendships with new friends and deepening old ones, particularly in mock trial and St. Joe Theatre, discovering our team was state runner-up at Mock Trial State, discovering our team was state and district champion at Fed Challenge and, thus far, senior year midwinter dance.

What is your dream for your life?

I would like to go somewhere in the church. I do not know exactly where, but I much enjoy theology, so perhaps either teaching or counseling. Mission work is also a possibility, but I cannot say I know exactly what I want at this point.

What do you feel is the value of a Catholic education?

Simple — we are allowed to discuss what is true in life without being restricted by laws. This is such an incredible help when one is struggling spiritually as an adolescent. It really sets a firm foundation for faithfulness later in life.



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Kevin Schwartz



Valedictorian
Hometown:
Fort Wayne
Attending:
Indiana University
Intended Major: Pre-med

Who have been your guides through your time in high school?

My parents and sisters have been very supportive of me and have always been there whenever I needed help or advice. My friends have always been there for me throughout high school as well.

What have your favorite classes been?

I really liked chemistry and journalism the best. The projects in physics were a lot of fun.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I love to listen to music, play my guitar and play video games. I also love to hang out with my friends.

What are your favorite memories of high school?

I had an amazing time at prom this year. One of the funniest memories I have is when some of my friends and I drove around Jefferson Pointe blasting K-Fed. We got some funny looks.

What is your dream in life?

Ultimately, I would like to make a difference in our world. I want to leave the world better than it was when I came into it.

What do you feel is the value of a Catholic education?

Having a Catholic education has really given me teachers that care how I do and really want to see me succeed.

Brian Barker



Salutatorian
Hometown:
Fort Wayne
Attending:
Purdue University
Intended Major: Computer science

Who have been your guides throughout high school?

My parents, because they have always been supportive, no matter what grades I have gotten.

What have your favorite classes been?

I have liked math classes and science classes like physics.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I hang out with friends. I play video games and tennis.

What are your favorite memories of high school?

My favorite memories are of the funny things that have happened, like when Joe Rowan thought his car was stolen at the basketball game a couple years ago.

What is your dream for your life?

Just to be happy with what I am doing.

What do you feel is the value of a Catholic education?

I think it is valuable because it made me more responsible and prepared for college.

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Marian High School

Deanna Lind



Co-Valedictorian
Hometown:
Granger
Attending:
Purdue University

Intended major: doctor of pharmacy degree, pharmacist
Who have been your guides throughout high school?

The primary guides in my life have been my parents.

What have your favorite classes been?

My favorite classes have been my science classes, especially chemistry and advanced research, which has allowed me to conduct research projects at Notre Dame and Bethel.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

reading and art

What are your favorite memories of high school?

the times I've shared with my friends

What is your dream for your life?

to fulfill the church's mission of service and charity through my vocation

What is the value of a Catholic education?

I believe that a Catholic education establishes a firm foundation of values and morals within each student, and in turn, inspires service-oriented members of society.

ing ballet, jazz and pilates classes.

What are your favorite memories of high school?

Many of my most special memories revolve around our dance team. I will always remember the excitement of dancing at basketball games, getting ready for competitions, working on choreography at practice and developing friendships with a group of amazing girls. Other very special memories are those of our high school dances and the time spent with my friends.

What is your dream for your life?

My dream is go to college and medical school, study abroad, become a doctor and start a family.

What do you feel is the value of a Catholic education?

Not only have I learned about my faith, but Marian has shaped my character, helped me realize the value of serving others and shown me what it means to develop your talents to serve God and the community.

Catherine Flynn



Salutatorian
Hometown:
South Bend
Attending:
University of Notre Dame

Intended major: business and film, theater and television
Who have been your guides throughout high school?

My family has provided support and love throughout high school. They have inspired me to put my heart into everything I do. I wish to thank all of my teachers, especially, Mrs. McKenna, my French teacher, who challenged me for the past four years as well as displayed a caring attitude, my pom coach, Mrs. Ton, who demonstrated complete dedication to our team, and Mr. Loesch, our principal, who continually provides a true example of Catholic leadership through his encouragement and actions.

What have your favorite classes been?

My favorite classes over the last four years include U.S. history, government, exploratory teaching, and Introduction to 2-D art.

What do you like to do for relaxation/hobbies/spare time?

I absolutely love to bake. I spend hours in the kitchen baking cookies and decorating cakes. I also love to sing and dance. I take several dance classes during the week including hip hop, ballroom, jazz, and tap.

What are your favorite memories of high school?

With his infectious sense of humor, Mr. Rethlake, my government teacher, always puts a smile

on my face when I pass him in the hall or enter his classroom. Performing on stage in the spring musicals and at pom competitions, especially at nationals this past March in Orlando, Fla. Lastly, my senior prom was a wonderful last hurrah spending time dancing and singing with

my friends.

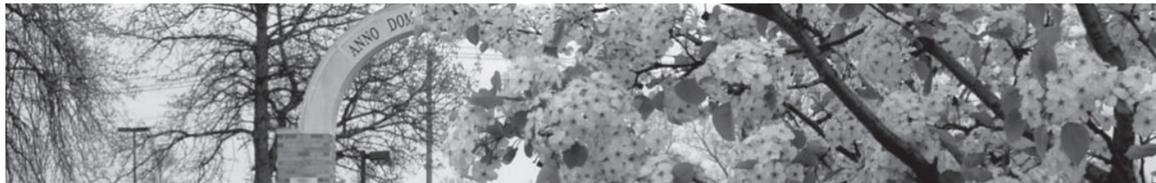
What is your dream for your life?

My dream is to be an actress, spreading laughter and joy to my audiences as well as helping those less fortunate. A personal goal of mine is to be Glinda in "Wicked."

What do you feel is the value of a

Catholic education?

A Catholic education not only provides a student with knowledge but with love. The values instilled in Catholic school students including self-discipline, compassion, friendship, honesty, loyalty and faith are what makes a Catholic education valuable.



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Jamie Canter



Co-Valedictorian
Hometown:
Granger
Attending:
Purdue University

Intended major: Biomedical engineering. Physician.

Who have been your helpers and guides throughout high school?

The support and love of my parents and family has fostered the sense of hard work and determination that has helped make my dreams a reality. My teachers have always encouraged me to do my best and have challenged me to learn inside and outside the classroom.

What have your favorite classes been?

I have really enjoyed all of my science classes, biology, chemistry and physics, because I have had excellent teachers and because of the opportunity to apply knowledge in the lab. Another of my favorite classes is French, which has inspired me to study abroad in college.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

My favorite extracurricular activity is dancing. I have been on my high school dance team for four years, and I also enjoy tak-

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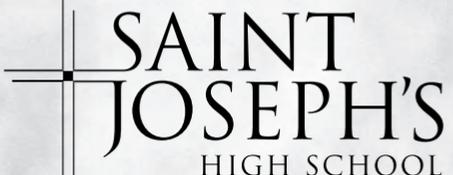
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EDITORIAL

No substitute for the real thing

It was brought to our attention last week of some confession-based Web sites that invite people to "air" their transgressions. Although the sites claimed they were not affiliated with a religion and obviously could not offer absolution, it brought out some thoughts about reconciliation.

As Catholics we are very fortunate to have Christ come to us through the sacraments. Unlike the Internet, where our sins would be for public display and in some instances poorly critiqued with "counseling," in confession, we tell our sins to the priest and what we share remains secret and is completely wiped away. Through the sacrament of reconciliation, we receive counsel through a theologically trained source — the priest — who then through the power of God offers absolution. If anonymity is desired, the traditional screen, rather than face-to-face reconciliation, is available. With a good confession, we are returned to the full embrace of God's love and his promise of abundant life.

This cannot be done through the Internet. The sacraments touch us in a live way. Through the priesthood, Christ comes to us whether it be in the Eucharist or through the power of forgiveness of sins. Despite all the advances in technology — television, radio, the Internet — the sacraments are living events and technology cannot replace being physically present to receive the grace of a sacrament.

That's right — he went there

The power of personal presence was also apparent in Pope Benedict XVI's recent trip to Brazil. As communication technology has exploded in the last century, the church has provided the necessary countercultural balance by having the role of the pope expand into that of a global pastor, who more and more reaches out to the faithful in person. This was first seen with the early trips of Paul VI to the almost nonstop world travel of John Paul II. Now, Benedict XVI, a man who thought he wouldn't be a traveling pope, carries on his predecessor's tradition with foreign trip after foreign trip and no end in sight. It's almost as if the Holy Spirit intervened to show how important it is in today's world for the pope to be a worldwide presence.

That presence is no mere warm fuzzy either. In pure Benedict XVI fashion, the pope has used his international visits to deliver some strong and uncompromising messages of the faith, from his remarks on faith and reason that caused an uproar among the world's Muslims last fall to his statements against abortion and premarital sex during his trip to Brazil.

Graduation time

With an emphasis on graduation this week in *Today's Catholic*, we are reminded of the importance of these milestones. In many ways, graduation marks an accomplishment of a goal — eighth grade, high school, college, etc.

With graduation, there always stands the question, where do we go now? Sometimes the future can be scary. These words from Thomas Merton's Prayer offers some solace about the challenges of the unforeseen:

**My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going.
I do not see the road ahead of me.
I cannot know for certain where it will end.
Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so.
But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you.
And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.
I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.
And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it.
Therefore will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.
I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.**

— Thomas Merton, "Thoughts in Solitude."

This prayer reminds us that we must always keep prayer a part of our lives. We need to pray to know our vocation. We need to pray to ask God what he wants of our lives. And we need to listen for his call.

Today's Catholic editorial board consists of Ann Carey, Don Clemmer, Father Mark Gurtner, Father Michael Heintz, Tim Johnson and Vince LaBarbera.

COMMENTARY

TODAY'S CATHOLIC welcomes letters from readers. All letters must be signed and include a phone number and address for verification. Today's Catholic reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. Address letters to: Today's Catholic • P.O. Box 11169 • Fort Wayne, IN • 46856-1169 or e-mail to: editor@fw.diocesefwsb.org

Msgr. Contant remembered at Scout camp

I read with a deep sense of loss of the passing of Msgr. Robert Contant. I met Msgr. Contant in the summer of 1944 at Camp Big Island on Sylvan Lake in Rome City, Ind., where I was spending a week trying to qualify for the Boy Scout Life Saving Merit Badge. Msgr. Contant was the waterfront director and the one who gave the instructions and with whom you had to pass the test.

Although I didn't know it at the time, he must have also been a seminarian, but he never mentioned it. Although I was not a strong swimmer, monsignor was, and he taught me well.

For the final test for a Life Saving Merit Badge, we had to swim out about 30 yards to a "drowning" Msgr. Contant and "save" him. This was a daunting task since the monsignor was strong and a strong swimmer and assured us that he would emulate a drowning person who would grab on with a death grip to anyone attempting to rescue him.

He always told us that we had better follow the instructions he had given us well or "we would have a nice chat on the bottom of the lake." I am happy to report that none of us had a chat and that we all "saved" the monsignor.

Another requirement of passing the test for the Life Saving Merit

Badge was to teach others to swim. At the beginning of the week, monsignor took me aside and pointed to a young boy who was so afraid of the water that he would not put his face in it. My task during the week, was to teach him to swim. On the last day of the week during the general swim, I was standing on the dock with monsignor in the tower observing all of the Boy Scouts swimming. About half way through the swim session, I heard monsignor calling down to me quietly through his megaphone. When I looked up he pointed at the boy that I had been teaching for a week. The boy was floating with his head down in the water, kicking his feet and his hands outstretched. Monsignor gave me the thumbs up sign.

Msgr. Robert Contant was an exemplary priest, but I knew him before he became a priest and I will always remember him in my heart as an exemplary good person.

Otto M. Bonahoom
Fort Wayne

Reading choices may confuse those without theological background

I am writing with regard to the Meet the Priest feature in the May 13 issue of *Today's Catholic*. I always enjoy reading about the priests of our diocese, and I am thankful for retired Father Edward Ruetz's service to our diocese.

However, I had some concerns about his answer to the question about his favorite reading material and authors.

Father Ruetz likes to read the *National Catholic Reporter* and *Commonweal*. Both publications commonly write against various aspects of Catholic teaching. For example, in the April 27 issue of the *National Catholic Reporter*, the editor writes of his opinion that the church has an "obsession with virginity or, more generally, with not having sex." In a later section, he writes of the "wish for a change in the ordained ministry to include married men or women or both."

Among Father Ruetz's favorite theologian authors, Kung, Scillebeeckx and Curran have all come under scrutiny from the Vatican for the unorthodoxy of their theology.

I have attended a lecture by Rosemary (Radford) Ruether, and her work with the women-priests organization and Catholics For A Free Choice clearly makes her a less-than-orthodox theologian.

I realize Father Ruetz was merely listing these as his preferred reading, and not necessarily recommending that others read these publications or authors.

Still, in case anyone might pick up some of his reading choices out of curiosity, it is best to know that such reading material might be confusing or misleading to those without a strong background in the theology of the church.

Kelly Mayfield
South Bend

Lies and consequences

BY THERESA NOTARE

In 1901 H.G. Wells made a prediction. He said that by 2000, moral standards would be "shifting and uncertain," that "monogamy would dissolve and sexual standards would alter greatly." Traditional moral codes would "remain nominally operative in sentiment and practice, while being practically disregarded."

His predictions reveal the power of an effective lie. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries Wells and his friends were part of a very small group of intellectuals who thought it would be good for society if sex were freed from marriage and procreation. In many ways, they laid the foundation for the modern sexual revolution, advocating birth control, easy divorce laws, trial marriage and sexual freedom. Although a minority in their time, they wrote incessantly about the tyranny of marriage and family life and the oppressive teachings of Christianity, which they saw as a culturally created institution whose authority should be opposed. Their lie — that people would be happy

er and fulfilled if sexual intercourse were set free of all constraints — touched a deep chord in the human heart. The idea spread.

In 2007, reams of data expose the lie of the modern sexual revolution. When sex is taken out of marriage, and human fertility is manipulated by contraception, unforeseen and dangerous consequences ensue. The substantial increase in non-marital sexual intercourse may seem innocuous, and today the estimated number of sexual partners before marriage for women is 5-8. For men, it's 10. But research shows that multiple non-marital sexual partners are associated with the following problems:

- The 40-50 percent divorce rate
- More children (1 in 3) are born to single mothers and therefore are at greater risk of living in poverty, having a poor education and engaging in risky behavior as teens
- The tenfold increase in cohabitation over the last four decades and its continuing rise; less than half of these partnerships end in marriage, and among those who marry, the divorce rate is 46 percent higher than in the general population

• Among sexually active adolescents, higher rates of depression and attempted suicide

Despite this damaging evidence, there is a conspiracy of silence in the public square. No one wants to challenge the lie that "contraceptive sex outside of marriage is beneficial." People are being hurt by the lies of the sexual revolution.

Sex separated from marriage and procreation is not fulfilling. It is harmful. As the U.S. bishops say in their statement *Married Love and the Gift of Life*: "The desire and ability of a man and woman to form a lasting bond of love and life in marriage are written into their nature." It reflects God's desire for our happiness. By following this way of love, we can "receive the gift of God's love and care, and to let this gift inform and transform us, so we may share that love with each other and with the world."

Theresa Notare is the assistant director of the Diocesan Development Program for Natural Family Planning, Pro-Life Secretariat, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Fatima: The secret's out, despite claims to the contrary

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Despite claims there are still secrets connected to the apparition of Our Lady of Fatima, Pope Benedict XVI and his secretary of state said the entire message has been published and has been interpreted accurately.

The Marian apparitions to three children in Fatima, Portugal, began 90 years ago May 13, and Pope John Paul II ordered the so-called "third secret" of Fatima to be published in 2000.

As the Fatima anniversary approached, the Vatican bookstore was selling copies of "The Last Fatima Visionary: My Meetings With Sister Lucia." The 140-page, Italian-language interview with Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, Vatican secretary of state, opens with a letter of presentation from Pope Benedict.

The two men worked with Pope John Paul to publish the "third secret" and to write an official commentary on it, describing its depiction of a "man dressed in white" shot down amid the rubble of a ruined city as a prophetic vision of the 1981 attempt to assassinate Pope John Paul.

In the new book, Cardinal Bertone said Carmelite Sister Lucia dos Santos, at the time the last surviving visionary, confirmed the Vatican's interpretation.

He also said Pope John Paul felt that since the assassination attempt had already taken place and he survived, the 2000 beatification of Sister Lucia's cousins, Francisco and Jacinta Marto, was an appropriate occasion for announcing the publication of the secret.

The continuing rumors that the Vatican is still hiding something puzzle Cardinal Bertone and, he said, they irritated Sister Lucia, who died in February 2005 at the age of 97.

In the book, Cardinal Bertone said, "The most diehard 'Fatimists,' like those who follow Father Nicholas Gruner's *Fatima Crusader* magazine, remain disappointed."

Father Gruner, a priest based in Canada, repeatedly has said that the Vatican's text does not match other accounts by Sister Lucia and, basically, does not contain anything worrying enough to have prevented Popes John XXIII, Paul

THE VATICAN LETTER

CINDY WOODEN

VI and John Paul II from publishing it earlier.

The strange thing, Cardinal Bertone said in the new book, is that Pope John Paul decided to publish the secret precisely to put an end to the wild speculation that had surrounded it.

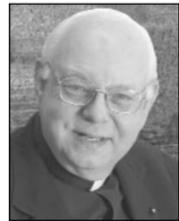
"The pressure from the 'Fatimists' was extremely strong," the cardinal said.

"The most absurd theses" were being spread, mainly presuming that the secret predicted catastrophic world events or widespread heresy at the top levels of the church, Cardinal Bertone said.

"Clearing up the question was a pastoral concern," he said.

LETTER, PAGE 15

Jesus lives still in the church



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Ascension of the Lord Lk 24:46-53

The Acts of the Apostles supplies the first reading, the story of the ascension of the Lord from earth into heaven.

This passage is the beginning of Acts. As is the case with the Gospel of Luke, Acts seems to have been a work composed for one person. The name of this person is Theophilus. It is not known, however, if this was a proper name, or was it a title. In Greek, it means "friend of God." Were Luke and Acts written to a pious person who had a proper name not recorded in these Scriptures?

In any case, these first 11 verses of Acts have a powerful message. Resplendent in the message, of course, is the ascension of Jesus into heaven, or the lifting of Jesus from earthly space and time to return to heaven. This act of ascending, not of being assumed, reveals, as the Resurrection, that Jesus came from God, is with God, is eternal, and possesses the power of God. He is God.

Other points are important. The reading gives the credentials of the apostles. Jesus chose them. It was a divine act. The Holy Spirit was in their selection. Furthermore, Jesus taught the apostles as no one else was taught. They were special students, especially trained

because they had a unique mission. Jesus guided and directed them. They obeyed him. They witnessed the Ascension.

They were humans. They were confused. But Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would give them insight and wisdom.

Then, to underscore the divinity of Jesus and the divine mission of Jesus, angels appear after the Ascension to tell the apostles that they should now go on with their mission.

The apostles' mission was to preach the Gospel and to bring into the world the mercy, love and presence of God in Jesus.

The Epistle to the Ephesians, the source of the second reading, is a beautiful prayer, asking God to give the followers of Jesus wisdom and insight. God's wisdom and strength, the reading states, will be "distributed among the members of the church." It counsels believers to put everything under the feet of Jesus, the "head of the church."

St. Matthew's Gospel, the last reading, offers an Ascension narrative. Jesus leads the apostles to a place near Bethany. (The Mount of Olives, traditionally said to have been the site of the Ascension, is near Bethany.) Jesus tells the apostles that the Scriptures have been fulfilled. This is proof of the identity of Jesus, of course.

It also is proof of God's communication with people through the centuries and of God's mercy.

Matthew also establishes the apostles as the chief witnesses and primary students of the Lord. The Spirit will come.

Determined, and committed, the apostles watch the Ascension of Jesus and then return to the city, where they pray in the temple constantly and proclaim the praises of God.

Reflection

The readings powerfully testify that Jesus is God. He, although crucified and dead, rose again to life. Then, Jesus ascended into heaven. The word is "ascension," not "assumption." He went to heaven, breaking the bonds of earth, with the power of God. He was not taken into heaven.

The readings are strongly ecclesial. They stress the identity of the apostles, both in the first and in the third readings. They learned from Jesus. The Spirit would come to guide them. Important for us today, they formed the church of which true believers are part. Through them, in Christ, God lives in the church and touches us still through the church.

The Easter story, and the salvation story, are approaching the climax. The readings tell us that Jesus lives still in the church. He has not gone from us.

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 1:1-11 Ps 47:2-3,6-9 Eph 1:17-23 Lk 24:46-53

Monday: Acts 19:1-8 Ps 68:2-5ac, 6-7ab Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27 Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38 Ps 68:29-30,33-36c Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30;23:6-11 Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11 Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21 Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: Acts 28:16-20,30-31 Ps 114:5,7 Jn 21:20-25

CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

May 1 commemorates Joseph the Laborer. But this quiz looks at a much earlier Joseph — one who liked wearing colorful coats!

- The name Joseph is first mentioned in this book:**
 - Genesis
 - Exodus
 - Revelation
- Whose son was he?**
 - Esau's
 - Abraham's
 - Jacob's
- The family was large but dysfunctional. What was wrong?**
 - The father drank milk and ate fish, both off limits to Jews.
 - Joseph's brothers all hated him.
 - Joseph's mom was a compulsive gambler.
- To make matters worse, Joseph's father**
 - was a hard drinker who fermented goat cheese beer.
 - avored Joseph above his other sons.
 - gave his wife a dowry which she spent on the Israeli lottery.
- What was a sign of this (4 above)?**
 - Joseph's father gave him a special robe with long sleeves.
 - Joseph's father imprisoned the boy in a pit.
 - Joseph's mother was cast out for losing the family fatted foal.
- What did Joseph do that annoyed his family more?**
 - He had a habit of slapping people's food away as they were about to eat it.
 - He stayed up all night playing the lyre, and people hate a lyre.
 - He reported dreams that seemed to suggest his family would bow down to him.
- The brothers, as a result, resolved to do this:**
 - kill Joseph
 - frame Joseph for a crime
 - send Joseph to the Roman military school in Gaza
- In the end they relented, but they did do this:**
 - They made him watch Israeli Idol as a punishment.
 - They threw him into a dried up well (or pit).
 - They sent him into exile in Edom.
- Joseph eventually arrived in Egypt, but in this condition:**
 - He was mummified.
 - He was a slave.
 - He was a mercenary.
- He was fortunate enough to be assigned to work for this important official:**
 - Thutmoses
 - Sinue
 - Potiphar
- Despite good service, Joseph ended up in prison. Why?**
 - He crossed Potiphar's wife by refusing to return her affection.
 - He drove a chariot while drunk.
 - He failed to recognize the effigy of Thutmoses in the temple at Amarna.
- He was saved from prison by this unusual gift:**
 - He could balance on two feet.
 - He could accurately interpret dreams.
 - He could foresee the future by gazing into still waters.
- Specifically he was able to accurately forecast this:**
 - That Egypt would face an armed invasion by Hittites aided by Assyrians.
 - That the Kingdom of Kush would be the origin of the next three Pharaohs.
 - That Egypt would experience seven years of plenty and seven of famine.
- Joseph's success in this arena led to a reunion with his brothers. How did he act?**
 - After at first playing pranks on them, he reconciled with them.
 - He had all 13 executed and buried upside down as a lesson to the surviving family members.
 - He had them enslaved to build the pyramids.
- Joseph, on his deathbed, had this request:**
 - That he be buried in the amazing technicolor dream coat.
 - That when they left, the Hebrews would take his bones to the Promised Land.
 - That they would always worship him as a god (a common Egyptian practice).

ANSWERS:

1.a, 2.c, 3.b, 4.b, 5.a, 6.c, 7.a, 8.b, 9.b, 10.c, 11.a, 12.b, 13.c, 14.a, 15.b

More reservations about addressing NFP from the pulpit

Father Matthew Habiger, OSB, addresses additional reservations why some clergy remain silent at the pulpit on the beauty of NFP and the damage done by contraception.

"People will go to another church because they don't want to hear this."

Sad to say, not every parish is on the same page when dealing with matters of sexuality, marriage and the family. Some parishes simply ignore whatever is politically incorrect. They allow dissenting elements within the parish to determine what parts of the Gospel can be proclaimed there. This, in turn, means that forces within the secular society exert an influence over some parishioners, who bring that to bear upon the entire parish. Instead of being countercultural, such a parish becomes a mere reflection of the secular culture.

But this is the land of the free and the home of the brave. What is there to prevent a clergyman from proclaiming God's beautiful plan for human love, life, marriage and family? We are not to worry about those who may reject the truth and leave. Our Lord did not change his teaching about the Eucharist when many in his audience found this a

hard saying and walked away. He respected their freedom and let them walk. But they had to respect his freedom also and his responsibility to proclaim the message the Father gave him, which is for the life of the world. If all the clergy were clearly teaching good moral principles, then our people would not go shopping for the preacher who suits their ears.

"The recent clergy sex scandals make it impossible for me to talk about sex today. I have no credibility."

The false perception "You have no credibility" is very much the intent of some forces in the secular society, which want to muzzle the pulpits on matters of sexual morality. They don't want us to teach about God's plan for human sexuality. But there is no such thing as a moral vacuum. If good morality is not being taught, then other varieties of sexual ideology will be taught. We see it today in the push for acceptance of single-sex marriages, in advocating "safe" sex for our young people and in trivializing committed relationships.

The clergy sex scandals call for greater, not less, emphasis upon sexual morality. If there had been

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

greater clarity on these matters from the pulpit in the past, then everyone would know the standards, which apply to everyone, and we would have been spared much grief. Our young people would not have been victimized. Dioceses would not be in danger of bankruptcy. Respect for the clergy would not be at an all-time low. Bishops would not be faulted for their lack of oversight. Scandals erupt when there is no clarity of moral teaching coming from the pulpit. Our times call for more, not less, moral teaching from the pulpit.

Both the clergy and the laity have to clean up their act. The abuse of young people by 1-3 percent of the clergy is indeed a scandal. The abuse of sexuality by 80 percent of Catholic couples that are using birth control or are sterilized is also a great scandal. Before

one group can throw stones at the other, they must first clean up their act.

God is chastising his people because of violations against his sexual code. He chastises the clergy by not providing vocations to religious life and the priesthood. He chastises the laity by weak marriages, a 50 percent divorce rate, lots of unhappiness, and children who bear the brunt of their parent's selfishness. So both the clergy and the laity need to hold the other accountable. We are not beating up on each other; rather, we are confronting the truth together.

The responsibility of the clergy and the religious is to hand on the deposit of the faith as preached by the apostles, which includes teaching moral truths. Their duty is to explain why God's plan is so good for us, and so deserving of our efforts to comply with it. The responsibility of the laity is to inte-

grate good moral principles into their lives and actions. Then they are to take these values out into the broader society, and help shape the culture with these Gospel values. This is part of the new evangelization.

Father Matthew Habiger, OSB, answered this week's question. He may be contacted at Mhabiger@kansasmonks.org.

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

Catholic challenges in Latin America

With Pope Benedict XVI heading for Brazil in mid-May to open the fifth general meeting of CELAM, the pan-continental conference of Latin American bishops, the focus of international Catholic attention will rightly turn to one-half the world's Catholic population, its problems and its prospects.

CELAM meetings have tended toward the rambunctious. The meeting in Medellin, Colombia, in 1968 was deeply influenced by the nascent liberation theology movement; the 1979 Puebla, Mexico, meeting was opened by John Paul II's trenchant critique theologies that presented Jesus as "the subversive man from Nazareth." Reports from veteran observers of Latin American Church affairs suggest that the Medellin forces plan a comeback this year. Those same observers worry that this CELAM session has been poorly prepared, in both Latin America and Rome, and that the meeting's working document is a hodge-podge that, by trying to please everyone, risks confusing everything.

The Italian newspaper, *Il Foglio*, recently asked me what I expected from Pope Benedict's visit and the CELAM conference. Here, *Il Foglio* suggested, was an opportunity for genuine drama, as the pope — a sharp critic of aspects of the theologies of liberation during his days as prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith — confronted the hangovers from that movement that are still found among many Latin American churchmen. I replied that I hoped the CELAM conference would cast its net more widely, moving beyond the left-right debates of the past 40 years to a new vision of Catholic possibility in the new demographic

center of the world church.

To that end, I hoped that three ideas would frame the discussions in Brazil.

First, Latin American Catholicism, like Latin America itself, must become the protagonist, the subject, of its own history. For more than half a millennium, Latin America has thought of itself as the object of history-made-elsewhere: first, the history made by the colonial power of Spain and Portugal; later, the history made by the giant beyond the Rio Grande, El Norte, the United States. This instinctive self-deprecation — this sense of being on the receiving end of history, rather than the forging end — has to stop. Latin America is a diverse, rich continent of cultures formed by the unique interaction of native, Iberian and African peoples. It is a cornucopia of natural and human resources. Yet it never seems to be able to gather itself for civilizational greatness — in part, because of this ingrained habit of thinking of itself as a victim. If Pope Benedict manages to ignite the idea that Latin Americans must take charge of their own history — which means, among other things, confronting the shadow-side of that history, including the rampant corruption and statism that block economic and political progress throughout the continent today — he will have done Latin America a great favor.

Second, Latin American Catholics must recognize that the gains made throughout the continent by evangelical and pentecostal Protestantism are, in part, the result of Catholic failures — not of some dark plot from El Norte. A sober reckoning with the fact that evangelicalism "works" in Latin America because it instills



GEORGE WEIGEL

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

virtues that Catholicism has found it difficult to inculcate — sobriety, respect for family, thrift, responsibility — would be a good place to start the examination of ecclesial conscience.

Third, Latin American Catholic leaders should recognize that the real enemy is not evangelicalism, but secularism. In 1992, anyone who suggested that "gay marriage" would be an issue in Latin America would have been thought insane. Yet it's on the books in Buenos Aires and likely to come soon to parts of Mexico. In resisting the secularist tide as well its crypto-Marxist cousin, the back-to-1968 politics of Venezuela's Hugo Chavez, evangelicals are the allies of the Catholic Church, not our enemies.

None of this is very original — not least because I have absorbed most of it from Latin American churchmen over the years. May the bishops and theologians who have internalized the John Paul II Revolution carry the day in Brazil with the aid of Benedict XVI, who once reminded liberation theologians enamored of "Marxist analysis" that "God wishes to be adored by people who are free."

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for Ascension, 2007

Luke 24:41-53

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the feast of the Ascension: Cycle C, Jesus' final words before he ascended into heaven. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

THUS IT IS	SUFFER	RISE
THE DEAD	THIRD	REPENTANCE
FORGIVENESS	SINS	NAME
NATIONS	WITNESSES	THESE THINGS
FATHER	STAY	CLOTHED
POWER	ON HIGH	BETHANY
BLESSED	GREAT JOY	TEMPLE

ASCENDED

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

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

Pope Benedict's letter, written in late February, reflects that concern.

The publication of the third secret "was a time of light, not only because the message could be known by all, but also because it unveiled the truth amid the confused framework of apocalyptic interpretations and speculation circulating in the church, upsetting the faithful rather than asking

them for prayers and repentance," Pope Benedict wrote.

The pope, as prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, said he wrote the Vatican commentary "after having prayed intensely and meditated deeply on the authentic words of the third part of the secret of Fatima, contained on sheets written by Sister Lucia."

Pope Benedict said that for him the secret can be summarized "by the consoling promise of the Most Holy Virgin: 'My immaculate heart will triumph.'"

Sports

SAINT FRANCIS GRABS FIRST-PLACE ATTENTION OF 2007 NAIA SPRING FOOTBALL TOP 25 Defending NAIA Football National Champion Sioux Falls (S.D.) earned 15 first-place votes to edge out its championship game competitor, the University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, in the first-ever NAIA Spring Football Top 25 Coaches' Poll. Saint Francis was the only other institution to grab first-place consideration, pulling two votes away from Sioux Falls, while Missouri Valley remained at No. 3, where it ended in the post-season poll conducted in early January at the AFCA convention in San Antonio, Texas.

St. Jude boys and girls crowned CYO champs

Boys take title in overtime

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — The Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) championship boys' soccer match was held at the Fort Wayne Sports Club on May 10. This year the blue-and-gold Eagles from St. Jude were crowned champions.

The Eagles experienced a very successful regular season finishing 6-1-1. This record earned them co-ownership of the first-place league title with the eighth grade team from St. Charles.

St. Jude's roster consisted of 14 players this season, which included four seventh graders and 10 eighth graders. Many of these players have been competing together since first grade. The team was coached by Dan Motherwell and Tim Goheen. Both coaches stressed significant playing time for every player and the importance of playing different positions during the regular season. They have been coaching this same group of young men for many years.

The team objectives included have fun, positive attitude, show respect, use their manners, gain experience, practice reverence, build self esteem and display good sportsmanship. The team goal was to win the CYO championship and they were able to accomplish just that.

In the first round of tournament play, St. Jude beat St. Vincent 7 by a score of 4-0. Coach Motherwell felt the Panthers were a sound team who will be very competitive as eighth graders. Next on the road to the championship were the well-coached boys from St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth. The hard fought battle



PROVIDED BY ST. JUDE SCHOOL

The 2007 CYO boy's soccer champions were William Toenges, Carter Delaney, Aaron Bender, Corey Ng, Christian Houser, Matt Goheen, Nick Feipel, Andy McGuire, Stephen Motherwell, Josh Hagelberger, Wilson Ganga, Sam Nussbaum, Craig Monnier, Aaron Dykhuizen, Coach Dan Motherwell and Coach Tim Goheen.

ended with St. Jude on top 2-1.

The championship game pitted St. Jude against the eighth-grade Cardinals from St. Charles. "We knew this would be a great soccer match up between two even teams," said Coach Goheen. The Eagles won the regular season show down 3-2 against the Cardinals.

With the title on the line, St. Jude scored the first goal in the championship match. St. Charles answered back with two goals. St. Jude's second goal came on a beautiful, top-left corner shot tying the score at 2 at the end of regulation. During the 10-minute overtime, St. Jude's Andy McGuire scored on a penalty kick to win the

game 3-2. Coach Motherwell reports that both teams played an outstanding game with strong defense and great offense while both goalies were credited with key saves.

"I am very proud of this team. They stood the test against some very tough competition this season," he said. He also congratulated the tough team from St. Charles.

The victory was made extra sweet when the girls' team from St. Jude also took top honors in their tournament beating St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth for the championship. The Lady Cardinals from St. Charles 8 were the league champs for 2007.

ICCL baseball teams move into post season tournament

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — Two of the most consistent hitting and defensive baseball teams in the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL), St. Jude Green and St. Anthony Maroon, won the coveted division championships with identical 6-1 records. They are now looking ahead for possible repeat performances in the forthcoming post-season tournament.

St. Jude Green topped the eight-team Martin de Porres Division and St. Anthony snared the John Bosco Division title. Both teams will receive 4th Degree Knights of Columbus trophies at the end of the tournament.

St. Jude Green capped its final regular season contest by cranking out a 16-1 verdict over St.

Monica of Mishawaka as Mark Downs turned in a spectacular two-hit performance with 10 strikeouts. Michael Murphy led St. Jude's blistering 14-hit attack by clubbing out four hits.

In another slugfest, St. Anthony Maroon topped St. Matthew, 18-1, in its final regular season contest.

Corpus Christi edged St. Joseph of Mishawaka, 8-2, as Joe Ryal and Tate Bellegante each collected two hits.

In other regular season final games, Holy Family Blue defeated Holy Cross, 4-3; and Holy Family came back to win the second game of a twin bill by beating Christ the King, 9-1. St. Jude trounced St. Anthony Gold, 16-2. St. Thomas Gold of Elkhart beat St. Joseph of South Bend, 16-6, and St. Thomas defeated Corpus Christi-Christ the King, 10-0.



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St. Pius young people find spiritual intimacy at Friday morning Mass 'tradition'

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

GRANGER — Most high school students would find getting up early in the morning a difficult task. But some high school seniors from St. Pius X Parish in Granger have made the weekly Friday 6:45 a.m. Mass a priority, and they hope students at other parishes will be inspired to do the same.

"You can never pray enough and thank God enough. Plus if you get to go with your friends, that is even better. I felt and knew it was a good thing to do," said Brandon Miller, one of the seniors in the group.

Jason (Jay) Wright, another senior who "loved it" said going to a weekday Mass gave him much more than he thought when he first attended.

"It gave me confidence throughout the day, especially on game day. I know that it is not God's responsibility to help or make me perform well or give me an advantage, but I knew that God was and is on my side and that I would be well protected from injury. And even if I failed, I knew that God would help me through rough times," said Jay.

"I can honestly say that I will miss our Friday Mass.

Over the past two years, I have enhanced my faith tremendously because of the teachings of Father Bill (Schooler)," said Danny Williams, another senior from Penn High School.

"It's been really a positive thing. Anybody can do it," added Terry Williams, mom of Danny.

Danny Williams, Nick Keim, Nick Freihofer, Jason Wright and Brandon Miller have been attending Friday morning Mass regularly for a few years before heading off to school. Since they started their Mass tradition a few years ago, their attendance has caused younger high school students at the parish to do the same with at least two to four other high schools attending now alongside them before they head off to school.

"It has grown. It really has been a great thing," noted Terry who says that now a couple of basketball players and a girl from the band are regular Friday Mass attendees.

"I really can't remember why we started going, but I am pretty sure it had something to do with our parents getting together and forming a plan," laughed Danny who said that the senior group started to go to the Friday Mass regularly around two years ago.

Getting up for a weekday Mass wasn't always easy, but it sure made for some great memories.

"It's always funny to see somebody running in a little late and trying to be ever so sly when walking into the church. We all

know that some mornings it's just too hard to get up. Father Bill was the first to tell you that, 'If I didn't have to run the Mass, I would probably be late too,'" laughed Danny relating the words of the priest.

"One time, we had a two-hour delay, but since we were going to church real early in the morning, the news had not been put on the bottom of the screen that P-H-M (Penn-Harris-Madison) had a two-hour delay, so after church when I went to the school, I was the only car in the parking lot," said Jay.

While it really took an effort for them to go to Friday Mass, especially when the snow was blowing or the rain was pouring down, the kids kept their attendance regular when they could, giving them the nickname "Father's (Schooler's) Boys."

"Father Bill has always and does make it (homilies) personal to them. It used to be hard for them to get up, but not now," said Terry.

Jay reflected on how the priest can get "you to smile right when you walk into the church. He is a great man. I love it how he got to know and respect us."

"Father Bill's funny homilies and Mr. Williams always throwing 'the deuce' or peace sign from across the chapel at the

sign of peace" are some of Nick's fondest memories at Mass. But his "favorite memory happened outside of Mass when Father Bill came to watch our football game against Saint Joe. I guess we prayed harder that morning because we ended up winning the game. I just thought it was cool of father to come out and support us even though I'm sure it was a minor conflict of interest for him," said Nick.

While the students have fond memories, some of their parents who have also attended the weekday morning Mass also have found their attendance to be very fulfilling.

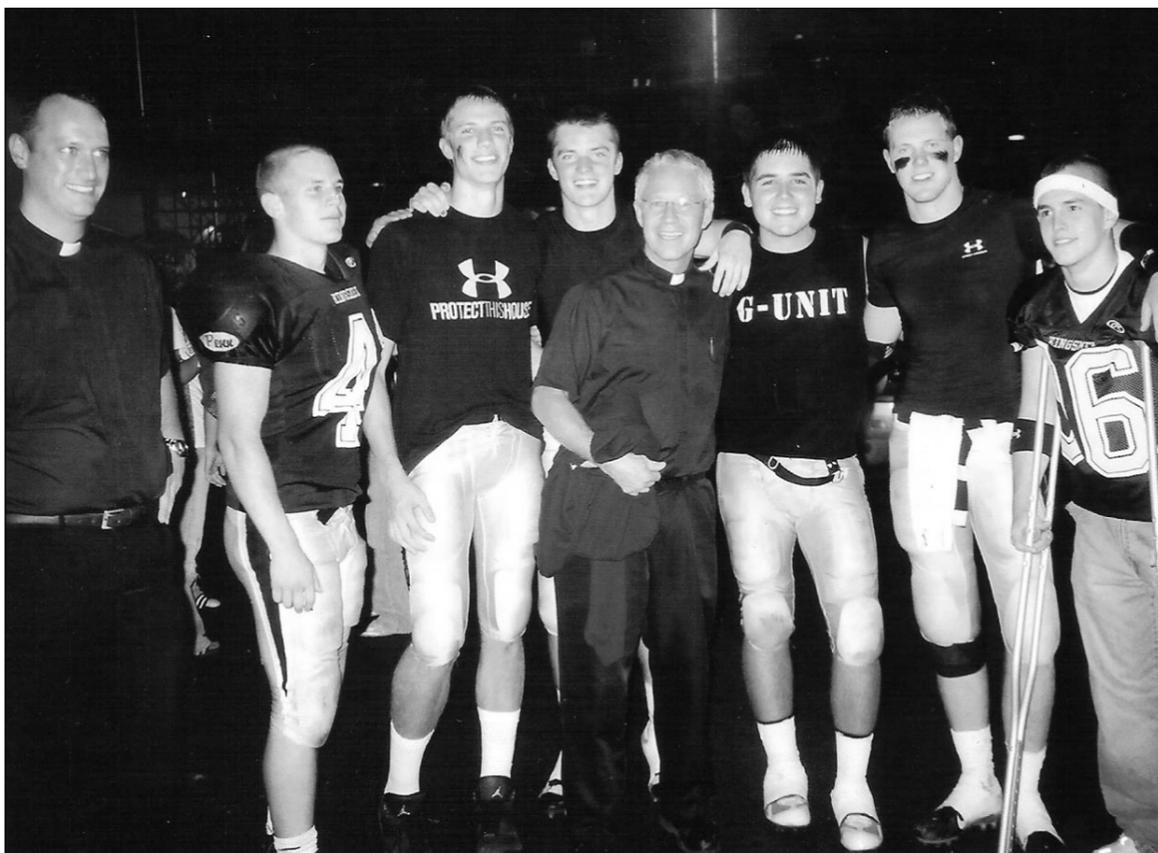
"Bringing together the young Catholics and their parents and some of the regular weekday Mass attendees has made a large parish seem small, more intimate," noted Terry. She said that the experience of the Friday Masses with her son and friends has been "so neat for all of us. I really have cherished my Friday mornings," she noted.

Looking back on the past few years, the seniors say they will cherish the memories they have made by taking time to go to church.

"Mass just won't be the same when I am off at college, but I will be sure to be up bright and early for any Friday morning I will be home," said Danny.

"I will miss going to Mass on Fridays," added Jay who will be "all the way in Annapolis, Md." He added, "It's going to be very hard, especially on game days."

Terry and Nick hope that other



PROVIDED BY JASON WRIGHT

Hugging each other after their winning game at Penn against Saint Joseph High School were St. Pius students with Father Chris Young, pastor of St. Patrick, Walkerton, left, Nick Freihofer, Brandon Miller, Jason Wright, Father Bill Schooler, Nick Keim, Danny Williams and friend Matt Toth, who also attended the Friday Mass.

parishes will be inspired to get their young people to make a weekly morning Mass a tradition.

"We're trying at St. Pius to get more kids to go. If someone sees someone else doing it, they will think, 'Hey, I can take my child too.' Remember, often you don't

make it their choice at first," she added with a smile.

"Attending Mass on Fridays has had a lot of appeal to me just because how the Mass is run (for example minimal singing, not a lot of people and its conciseness). It turned out to be a bonus that we all

built a good relationship with Father Bill. I would recommend that kids go to Mass on Fridays (or when they can during the week) just to get a more personal experience than what they are probably used to," suggested Nick.

Men's Discernment Retreat

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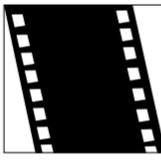
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MOVIE CAPSULES

NEW YORK (CNS) – Following are recent capsule reviews issued by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Office for Film and Broadcasting.

"Georgia Rule" (Universal)

Uneven drama (with some comic moments) about a San Francisco mother (Felicity Huffman) who leaves her deeply troubled 17-year-old daughter (an impressive Lindsay Lohan) in the

care of a stern but loving, God-fearing grandmother (Jane Fonda) in small-town Idaho. Director Garry Marshall's glossy soap opera is well acted, and ultimately delivers a pro-family message, along with other positive themes of inter-generational bonding and forgiveness, but the formulaic plot, insufficiently defined characters and tawdry elements like the granddaughter's blatant sexuality and gutter language, a major sexual abuse theme and patronizing view of the pious Mormon townspeople are detriments. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is L — limited adult audience, films whose problematic content many adults would find troubling. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

"Civic Duty" (Freestyle)

An out-of-work accountant (Peter Krause) begins to suspect that his next-door neighbor, a Muslim student (Khaled Abol Naga), may be a terrorist and reports him to a skeptical FBI agent (Richard Schiff), much to the consternation of his wife (Kari Matchett), who scoffs at his unfounded suspicions. Jeff Renfroe directs with requisite tension and Krause is especially good mixing his average-Joe with loony paranoia, but although Andrew Joiner's script grapples with some interesting post-Sept. 11 themes, the intentional ambiguity of certain plot elements undermines the message. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

WHAT'S HAPPENING carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or e-mail: fhogan@fw.diocesefwsb.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

German Mass and dinner

Fort Wayne — St. Peter Church, 500 E. Dewald St., will open German Fest with a Mass at 11 a.m. on Sunday, June 3. Father Charles Herman will be the celebrant, with Jeffery Manns directing the Fort Wayne Mannerchor and Dammenchor in German music. Following Mass a traditional dinner of bratwurst, sauerkraut, German potato salad, dessert and beverages will be served in the Pavilion for \$7. The Pavilion is handicapped accessible.

Day of Reflection

Mishawaka — A Day of Reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) on Wednesday, May 30, from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is "Blessed Be." Please bring your Bible. The cost of the day is \$15 and includes lunch. Register by Friday, May 25, to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

Rosary rally planned

Fort Wayne — A rosary rally with litany of the Blessed Mother and benediction will be held Saturday, May 19, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Ecumenical prayer service held at former abortion facility

Fort Wayne — The Donegal Corridor will host an ecumenical prayer service at 827 Webster St. Saturday, May 19, at 9 a.m. The Donegal Corridor recently purchased the former abortion facility and plans to locate an institute dedicated to the culture of life in the building. The building will be open through 2:30 p.m. Representatives will be on hand to discuss their vision for building.

FUND RAISERS

Knights plan spaghetti dinner

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, May 18, from 5-7 p.m. Adults \$6, children (5-12) \$3. Dinner includes spaghetti, salad, garlic toast and coffee. Carry-out available.

Pancake breakfast supports youth concert

South Bend — Corpus Christi Parish will have a pancake breakfast after all Sunday Masses May 20 from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Peterson Room. All-you-can-eat pancakes, eggs and sausage plus juice and coffee. Save a dollar buying tickets in advance by calling Diane at (574) 243-9879. At the door, tickets are \$6 for ages 11 and up, \$5 for senior citizens, \$2.50 for ages 3-10, ages 3 and under are free. A family package feeds a family of six for \$30 (advance purchase only). Proceeds support Rock-n-Soul Fest '07, a Catholic youth concert held in June. Catholic t-shirts and other merchandise proceeds will also benefit the concert.

Breakfast supports Sosenheimer family

Fort Wayne — A pancake breakfast and silent auction will be held Saturday, May 19, from 8-11 a.m. at the St. Charles cafeteria. All proceeds will benefit Rick and Heather Sosenheimer who have three boys with Chiari malformation of the brain. To make a donation contact the St. Charles Parish office.

Funfest announced at Precious Blood

Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood Parish will have Funfest 2007 on Friday, June 1, with a hotdog and hamburger picnic from 5-7:30 p.m. and music by Jim Didier and friends from 6-9 p.m. Saturday, June 2, beginning at 11 a.m. will feature children's

games, raffle, bingo, crafts, a beer tent and a hog roast from 5-7:30 p.m. with music by Loose Change from 8-11 p.m.

RUMMAGE SALES

Luers loot on sale

Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will have a rummage sale on Saturday, June 2, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Bishop Luers cafeteria. A bag sale will begin at 1 p.m.

Royal Fest weekend announced

Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Parish will have Royal Fest on Friday, May 18, from 5-9 p.m. with a family carnival environment and on Saturday, May 19, from 6-11 p.m. with a Hawaiian casino night for those 18 and older. Silent auction both days. Permit number 110407.

Christ Child Society plans sale

Fort Wayne — The Christ Child Society will have a garage sale on Friday, June 8, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on Saturday, June 9, from 8 a.m. to noon at Queen of Angels Activities Center, 1500 W. State.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

GAP group still meeting

Fort Wayne — The GAP, a social group for Catholic singles in the 40-60ish range, will meet on Friday, May 18, at 7 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish hall for fun and fellowship. For more information, call (260) 432-7346 or e-mail gap4565@msn.com.

Marian to host 'Spectacular'

Mishawaka — Marian High School will host the Sound System (Show Choir) at the sixth annual "Spectacular" in the gymnasium at 8 p.m. on Friday, May 18, and Saturday, May 19. The Marian Knights Sound System is a group of Marian students with a variety of interests and goals who come together through their love of music to sing, dance and entertain.

REST IN PEACE

Bremen

Rita Rose Fodor, 88, St. Dominic

Elkhart

Charles E. Nagy, 83, St. Thomas the Apostle

Fort Wayne

Marjorie A. Doak, 78, Most Precious Blood

Richard P. Alt, 81, St. Therese

Robin Lynn Kell Connett, 35, St. Joseph

Eileen R. Shoudel, 87, St. Jude

Goshen

Francisco Valtierra, 42, St. John the Evangelist

Huntington

Benny Bowen, 66, St. Mary

Sister Trinidad Luna, OLVM, 94, Victory Noll Chapel

Mishawaka

Ceaser Tordi, 97, St. Bavo

Henry Mostaert, 83, St. Bavo

Mary M. Ransom, 89, Queen of Peace

Mary L. Kalil, St. Monica

Notre Dame

Sister M. Dolata Vennekamp, CSC, 91, Our Lady of Loretto

Plymouth

Rita L. Faulstich, 85, St. Michael

South Bend

Shirley M. Deranek, 72, St. Adalbert

Ervin S. Rybicki, 78, St. John the Baptist

Marie Jackowiak, 88, St. Adalbert

Evelyn L. Higgins, 78, Holy Cross

John W. Kowalski Jr., 64, St. Matthew Cathedral

Andrew A. Toppel, 90, St. Matthew Cathedral

Yoder

Myron J. Freiburger, 78, St. Aloysius

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers needed for Hospice Home

Fort Wayne — Volunteers are needed to assist the agency in a variety of roles. Duties include patient support and clerical support. Garden volunteers are also needed to maintain the Seasons of Life perennial garden. Volunteer training is being planned. Call Ann Blue at (260) 435-3235 or visit www.vnhh.org for information.

Volunteers needed

Fort Wayne — The Franciscan Center Clothes Closet is in need of volunteers. Call Doris Bermes at (260) 744-3977 for information.

St. Joseph School seeks alumni records

Monroeville — St. Joseph School is preparing for its 100th anniversary and is seeking records for the following years: All classes from 1912-1935, 1937, 38, 40-70, 78, 83, 85, 89, 98, 01 and 06. Call (260) 623-3605 for information.

Single and looking for more?

Adrian, Mich. — The Adrian Dominican Sisters will have a "Come and See" weekend June 1-3 at the Weber Retreat and Conference Center. For information contact Sister Carleen Maly, OP at (866) 744-0005 or e-mail vocations@adriandominicans.org. Deadline for registration is May 18.

DONATIONS

Mustard Seed Furniture Bank can use your donations

Fort Wayne — The Mustard Seed Furniture Bank is in need of furniture. Donations may be picked up by calling (260) 471-5802. The Mustard Seed is dedicated to providing household furnishings to those in need.

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Baranay Sports Complex dedicated in Mishawaka

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWAKA — “Glorious day, glorious day” was mumbled, spoken and shouted as the warm spring morning saw the student body of Marian High School enjoy a field day of monumental proportions ending with the dedication of the Baranay Sports Complex and the Bishop D’Arcy Softball Diamonds.

The field day included events in kickball, capture the flag, soccer, volleyball, relays and a wet and wild relay, but the centerpiece of the day’s activities was the 20 developed acres that officially became the Peter and Nancy Baranay Sports Complex.

“This is simply a wonderful blessing for the Marian Community and the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL),” said Carl Loesch, Marian High School principal. “The Baranay family, the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration and all other families that worked so hard to make this a possibility can see how the students are enjoying the superb surroundings and beautiful day.”

While the day was glorious in terms of weather and circumstances, it wasn’t that easy to pull the entire vision together in a very short time-frame with varying roadblocks and detours standing in the way.

“There are four important factors when developing property for

this function,” explained Peter Baranay, the project’s guardian. “First you need flat land, sandy soil, property conglutinated to the school and cost of the acreage.

“The land was neither flat nor sandy, we needed to make that happen,” continued Baranay. “The city of Mishawaka and Mayor Jeff Rae allowed the connection of the campus to be achieved with and egress easement and the Sisters of St. Francis sold the property at a low cost providing that the area was used not only by Marian High School but all the Catholic grade schools.

“With a vision in place, turning the property into a state-of-the-art facility would traditionally take a capital campaign and add years to the development,” remarked Baranay. “I went at this with the ‘kid’s years’ approach. When you are a parent and have children, time goes by so very fast, ‘kid’s years.’ It was important to get this up and going and not lose that time.

“Every year that it would take from the initial planning in 2000 to the first contest held in the fall of 2005 would be a year that hundreds of kids would miss out on,” Baranay said. “Everything just fell into place with the help of our wonderful supporters and the exuberance of our contractors.”

The 36 total acres of hilly farm land has been reconstructed and delicately manicured to handle a



Peter Baranay, left, discusses the newly dedicated Bishop D’Arcy Softball fields at the Baranay Sports Complex with Bishop John M. D’Arcy and Holy Cross Father Stephen Kempinger, superintendent of Catholic schools for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

vast assortment of athletic venues.

“We now have a state-of-the-art soccer stadium, 10 tennis courts, two softball fields, five full soccer/lacrosse practice fields that can be converted into six ICCL soccer fields, cross country loop and a mechanical building,” commented Reggie Glon, Marian’s athletic director. “We are adding a softball press box, concessions and rest-rooms, potential golf driving range and numerous multipurpose fields.”

The Marian students have not

been the only recipients of the new facilities, the children of the ICCL have piled in on Sundays for the last two fall campaigns.

“The fields have been a god-send, we have been honored and happy with the project and what it means to the Catholic grade school children,” stated Tony Violi, president of the ICCL. “It really bailed us out for soccer, the kids love it and it has been nothing but a positive for our entire league.”

“This is really a time of reflec-

tion,” explained Bishop John D’Arcy. “Being Catholic is embracing everything that is human; the arts, scholastics, theater and sport, everything with the exception of sin.

“Marian is a community of scholars with a patronage to Our Lady,” remarked Bishop D’Arcy. “Marian is one of the true gems of the diocese and her best years are just beginning.

“Marian has seen extraordinary growth in my 20 years from a school of 360 to 370 expanding to 800 students today,” Bishop D’Arcy said. “This complex isn’t just for the students that attend Marian today but for all the future generations of Catholic grade school and high school pupils.

“I have been delighted with the growth of all of our diocese’s high schools, we have raised the salaries of our hardworking teachers and will continue to do so,” commented Bishop D’Arcy.

After a banner was unfurled marking the new Bishop D’Arcy Softball Diamonds the bishop spoke about days past when he played a solid second base and tripped with the bases loaded.

“I still remember that hit and the feeling it gave me, and I envision the experiences that the future athletes will enjoy while playing at this complex,” Bishop D’Arcy said. “This is a red letter day for the city of Mishawaka, the diocese and of course for the Marian Knights.



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