

# TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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## Pope says Eucharist essential for Christians in often-hostile world

BY CINDY WOODEN

ROME (CNS) — Before leading a Corpus Christi procession with the Eucharist through the streets of Rome, Pope Benedict XVI said the sacrament is essential nourishment for Christians walking through an often-hostile world.

"For every Christian generation, the Eucharist is the indispensable nourishment that sustains them as they cross the desert of this world," he said in his June 7 homily for the feast of the Body and Blood of the Lord.

The world is "made arid by ideological and economic systems that do not promote life, but rather mortify it," he said during the Mass celebrated outside Rome's Basilica of St. John Lateran.

Ours is "a world where the logic of power and possessing dominates more than that of service and love; a world where often the culture of violence and death triumphs," the pope said.

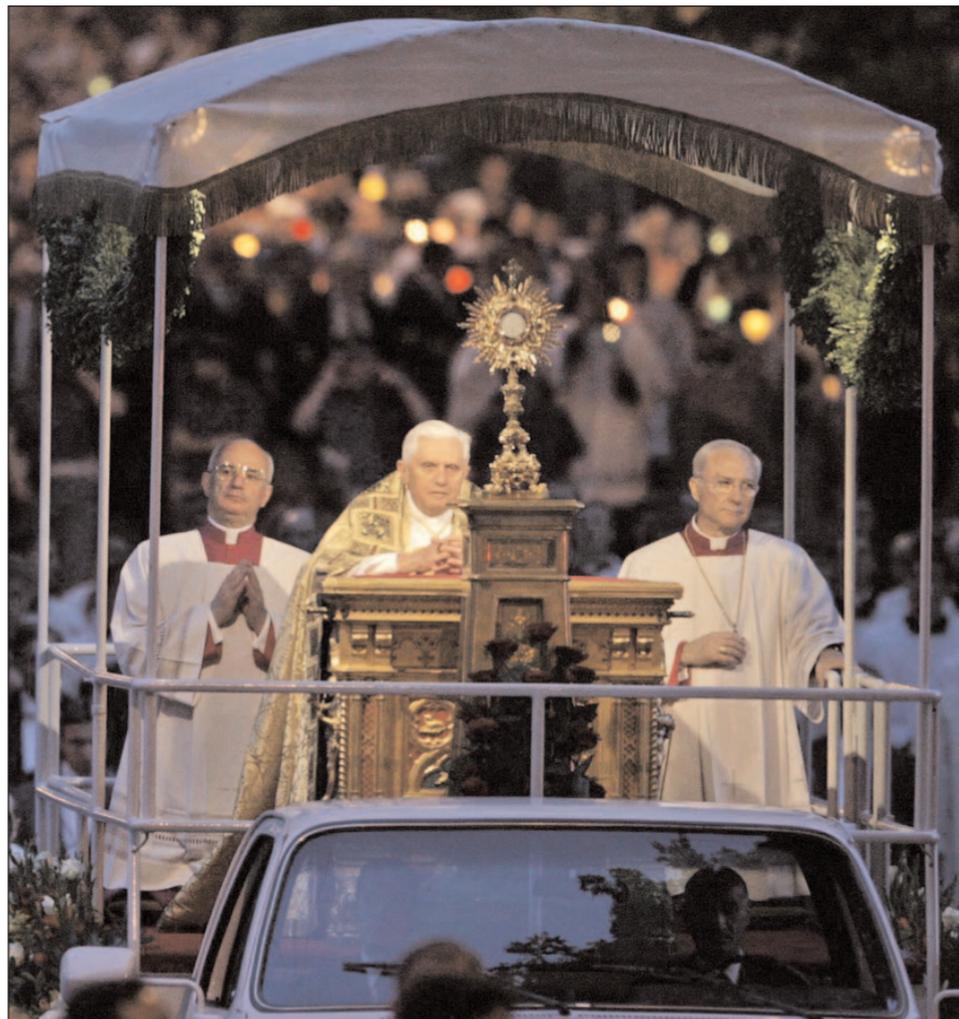
"But Jesus comes to meet us and reassure us: He himself is the bread of life," Pope Benedict said.

The pope's security team and Italian police, who are responsible for papal safety outside the Vatican, were extra attentive during the Mass and the procession to the Basilica of St. Mary Major. A day earlier, a mentally disturbed man jumped a barricade in St. Peter's Square in an attempt to reach the pope as he rode through the crowd at his weekly general audience.

Security concerns did not prevent the pope from riding in the procession in the back of an open flatbed truck. The pope knelt before the Blessed Sacrament as security officers and candle-bearing altar servers, bishops and cardinals walked beside the truck.

Because the Mass was considered a Rome diocesan

CHRISTI, PAGE 3



CNS PHOTO/CHRIS HELGREN, REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI leads a eucharistic procession in Rome on the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ June 7.

### EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION



CINDY BLACK

Nearly 100 faithful join a eucharistic procession June 10, the feast of Corpus Christi, at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne. Father John Kuzmich and Father Pius Ilechukwu led the procession while Deacon Jason Freiburger carried the monstrance containing the Blessed Sacrament. Seminarian Zach Barry carried the processional cross.

### Seeking ways to meet blood need

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — Afternoons at the ball-park, weekends at the lake and picnics in the park are activities we often associate with summer in Northeast Indiana. Unfortunately, there is a reality of summer we can not overlook: blood shortages.

Catholics nationwide, and especially diocese-wide, are encouraged to donate blood this summer as part of a collaborative effort between the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and the local American Red Cross.

#### Why donate?

"We've experienced shortages in the past but now we've been challenged by our department to think of new ways (to get people to donate)," said Marcia Robbins, who is responsible for the Red Cross' regional corporate relations.

According to the American Red Cross, every two seconds someone in our country needs blood. At least 500 units a day are

needed to meet current needs and prepare for tragedies. Blood must be ready and easily accessible for everyday personal emergencies and large-scale disasters. Currently, 50 percent of the United States population is eligible to donate, yet only 5 percent actually make the effort. Robbins said one of the factors contributing to this lack of participation is simple unawareness.

"People always need blood, but people don't investigate whether they (are eligible) to donate," she said.

Robbins said blood donation is an "unrelenting issue," but the need is more pressing during the summer months because families are busy with seasonal activities.

"Every day we need a certain amount (of blood) to supply patients in need, but everyone's busier in the summer," Robbins said.

#### Changing attitudes

According to Robbins, a change in the general public's attitude is needed to increase

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## TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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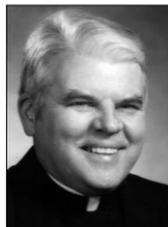
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# Priests gather for annual retreat



## NEWS & NOTES

**BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY**

### A retreat

A retreat for priests of the diocese is a time of grace. The priests gathered around their bishop, united in thanksgiving and adoration. It is a special week. Every priest is required to make a retreat each year. Those diocesan priests who, for whatever reason, prefer to make the retreat at another place are asked to inform the bishop where the retreat is made. It is a serious obligation.

This year, it was a joy to listen to the talks of Father James Steffes. Father Jim is the rector of the Immaculate Heart Seminary where our young men prepare for the priesthood on the campus of St. Mary's University in Winona, Minn.

The talks were about prayer. The retreat master helped us to take seriously the fact that we are sons of God, made so by our baptism. God looks upon us, upon every Christian, and sees Christ, his son. Thus, one is invited to prayer with a deep sense of openness to God and his grace.

We heard about St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits, and how he grew in understanding of the prompting of the Holy Spirit within and began the famous Spiritual Exercises.

We were helped to see clearly the prompting of God within our own souls, and we had lessons on being faithful to this and having the courage to accept it, that indeed it is Christ who is teaching us and calling us and giving us light.

We learned what it meant to come before God in one's poverty, and we also learned what it means to come before Him as a shepherd.

### The night of confession

I made my confession earlier in the day so as to have sufficient time for a retreat confession, which is always special. In the evening, through the hard work of Father Bob Schulte, there were a number of priests present to hear confessions. They were Franciscans from Angola, known as Conventuals, as well as the Franciscans who have a novitiate on the grounds of Marian High School, Mishawaka. It was a joy to sit in chapel and see our priests in the four corners of the chapel, and in other rooms nearby, going to confession, one after another. It seemed that every priest on retreat there received the sacrament.

### Our little chapel

We were at the Oakwood Inn, and Father Schulte, along with Jim Fitzpatrick, our interim director of the Office of Worship, made us a beautiful chapel where the Blessed Sacrament was reserved. What a joy to see the beautiful statue of Our Lady taken

from my home parish in Massachusetts. As one of the priests described to me, it was really a statue of Our Lady of Presentation. Carrying the Child with her head bowed, she reminded all of us of the one who magnified not herself, but the Lord: "My soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."

For the first time, the retreat was held at the Oakwood Inn at Lake Wawasee. A few of our priests even went for a swim. It was a comfortable facility, and we rejoiced in being together. Of course, central to this retreat was our intercessory prayer for our people whom we are privileged to serve.

### Speaking of retreats

For the second consecutive year, our seminarians will conduct a retreat for young men who wish to discern whether Christ is calling them to the priesthood. Names are flowing in from the priests of our diocese, and I am writing a personal letter of invitation to each young man. The retreat will be held at Donaldson on the last weekend of June. It is for those who have graduated from high school. Matt Coonan, one of our seminarians who is spending the summer at St. John the Evangelist Parish, Goshen, is calling those whose names we have received. So we are looking for a good turnout. Please pray for these young men, that they will be open to God's will and to his call in their life. I expect to celebrate Mass with them and give a talk as well. If you know of a young man whom you would recommend, call my office.

### A time to ponder

This is the season of the year when I sit down, face to face, with many of our diocesan priests and ask them to accept a change in the place of their mission. These assignments have now been completed, and I expect they will all be shared with our people in the July 1, 2007 issue of the diocesan newspaper, *Today's Catholic*. I have said many times, and I recall saying it to the National Advisory

Board, which made an inquiry about the "causes and context" of the great crisis which came upon the church most heavily in 2001-2002, although its roots go back 20 and 30 years earlier: I told the committee that the most important thing a bishop ever does for a parish is to send them a good priest. Linked with this, of course, is his decision about whom he accepts for the seminary and, ultimately, whom he ordains — and whom he does not accept.

I remember Archbishop Stanislaw Dziwisz who, for many years, was the assistant to Pope John Paul II and is now the cardinal archbishop of Krakow. He said to Archbishop (now Cardinal) Lustiger, the archbishop of Paris, the following words: "The Holy Father made the decision to appoint you as the archbishop of Paris on his knees." In other words, the pope had spent many hours in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament asking help and light about this most important appointment. I told this story to our Personnel Board, six priests who advise me on assignments, and said that we should have the same attitude as we discussed these appointments. The board is advisory, and the decisions are mine. I told my advisors that we certainly needed to follow Pope John Paul by committing ourselves to prayer. I, especially, have this obligation.

### Always impressive

Meeting with the priests, asking them to accept the change, seeing their willingness to do so, even when it is difficult for them, is always inspiring to me and encouraging as well.

### A trip to Gary

As we celebrate the 150th Jubilee Year of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, we should be mindful, also, of the neighboring Diocese of Gary. What is now the Diocese of Gary and also the Diocese of Lafayette were all part of what was then the Fort Wayne Diocese. Gary is celebrating its 50th anniversary. It was obligation and also a privilege to drive west on a lovely Sunday morning, accompanied by a splendid companion and official navigator, Msgr. J. William Lester. Msgr. Bill grew up in Gary, at Holy Angels Parish. He knew this city when it was a great steel town.

We arrived in good time for the beautiful Eucharist on the feast of Corpus Christi. It was held in a large hall in the middle of the city with several thousand people present. Being the feast of Corpus Christi, the Mass was followed by the carrying of the Blessed Sacrament from the Genesis Hall to the Holy Angels Cathedral. Since we were the mother diocese, I was given a place of honor, not for me but for the diocese from which Gary sprang. This was a splendid event and a great credit to Bishop Dale Melczek and the flock he serves so well.

And then the long drive home, with a stop for a turkey dinner at Strongbow Restaurant. Back in Fort Wayne at 9 p.m.

### Here come the Yankees

I am not surprised. They have gained five games on the Red Sox in a few weeks. Now the real race begins. I do not think the Red Sox are 10 games better than the Yankees. We shall see; it will make for many interesting evenings.

See you all in two weeks.

## Peter's Pence supports works of needy dioceses

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Let us make sure that none of God's children ever feels alone. This is the theme for the 2007 Peter's Pence collection that will be taken up at all parishes in the diocese next weekend, June 23 and 24. It is based on a homily given by Pope Benedict XVI last September in which he explained how those who are baptized form one family of believers who are never alone.

This worldwide collection supports the works of the Holy Father as he responds to requests from needy and struggling dioceses in many parts of the world. Perhaps the most visible and well-known initiative that the funds raised are used for is emergency relief aid for those who suffer due to war, oppression, disease and natural disasters.

There are other important but lesser-known initiatives that the Peter's Pence collection makes possible as well: "Nazareth Boys Town" in Rwanda, which takes in abandoned orphans who are mainly victims of genocide and civil war; a village for AIDS orphans in Kenya; Catholic hospitals in Sarajevo and Armenia; the Populorum Progressio Foundation for peasants and indigenous people in Latin America; another foundation which sponsors development projects in African Sub-Saharan areas in danger of desertification; and assistance to seminaries and institutes of Christian formation in many developing countries.

Through works of charity like these, the church provides a quiet but powerful witness of love and solidarity to help those who suffer in so many ways. I know that you will pray for the pope in a special way next weekend, that God may continue to give him all the gifts he needs to serve the church as the successor of Peter. I would also like to ask you to be as generous as possible with this collection, thus joining the Holy Father as he sows seeds of faith, hope and love throughout the world.

Sincerely yours in our Lord,

*John M. D'Arcy*  
Most Reverend John M. D'Arcy

# Top Vatican official: Documents show Pius XII worked to help Jews

BY JOHN THAVIS

ROME (CNS) — Thousands of Vatican documents demonstrate that Pope Pius XII worked quietly but effectively to help Jews and others during World War II, a top Vatican official said.

Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, the Vatican secretary of state, said June 5 that the documentation of papal charity is the most convincing response to the "black legend" that has depicted the late pope as indifferent toward the victims of Nazism.

The cardinal said a fair reading of history must recognize "the enormous work of charity that the pope promoted, by opening the doors of seminaries and religious institutes, welcoming refugees and the persecuted, and helping all."

"The church of Pius XII continued to work not only with a prophetic voice but above all with daily prophetic action," he said.

Cardinal Bertone made the comments in Rome at the presentation of the book, "Pius XII, Eugenio Pacelli: A Man on the Throne of Peter," by Italian journalist Andrea Tornielli.

The cardinal's lengthy talk came four weeks after the Vatican's Congregation for Saints' Causes declared that the late pope heroically lived the Christian virtues and recommended Pope Benedict XVI advance Pope Pius' sainthood cause.

Cardinal Bertone said the legend about Pope Pius' supposed "silence" during the war had its roots in the postwar period, specifically 1946-48, a time when the state of Israel was being formed and when the pope was calling for

respect and justice for Palestinian residents of the Holy Land.

Over the years, Cardinal Bertone said, the false accusation of papal unconcern for Jewish suffering under Nazism gained acceptance, despite historical evidence to the contrary. On several occasions, the pope did denounce Nazi persecutions, the cardinal said.

But the pope measured his words carefully and prudently, Cardinal Bertone said, because he was convinced that speaking more bluntly would end up causing greater harm to Jews and other groups.

He said Pope Pius explained this policy of discretion when he spoke of the Jews in a public address in 1943, saying that people should not

expect him to divulge "all we have attempted and achieved to mitigate their suffering, improve their moral and juridical conditions, (and) protect their indispensable religious rights."

In fact,

Cardinal Bertone said, former Nazi officials immediately after the war confirmed that papal denunciations would have only accelerated the killings of Jews and the church's own ministers.

For similar reasons, he said, popes chose discreet action over strident criticism during the more recent decades of persecution of Christians under communism.

"Popes do not speak with the aim of prefabricating a favorable image for posterity. They know that on their every word could depend the fate of millions of Christians; they have at heart the fate of men and women in flesh and blood, not the applause of historians," Cardinal Bertone said.

The cardinal said Pope Pius chose to give verbal instructions to his aides and others, who used the

church's resources to save many lives.

"The bishops, priests, religious and laypeople understood very well the mind of the pope and what needed urgently to be done," he said.

Cardinal Bertone said many of the church's activities on behalf of Jews and others have been detailed in published documents. But he said there also exists an immense amount of unpublished documentation in the Secretariat of State's own archives, detailing the Vatican's response to thousands of personal cases.

The cardinal said these documents are not accessible today because they have never been organized, and he suggested that the Vatican would like to do so quickly — perhaps with the help of funding from some foundation.

Even without access to all the archival information, Cardinal Bertone, people should consider the widespread thanks and recognition given to Pope Pius by European Jews after the war.

He said honesty should also compel people to reject depictions of the wartime pope as sympathetic to Nazi leaders or Italian fascists.

"When did Pius XII meet with Mussolini? ... As pope, never. When did Cardinal Pacelli meet with Chancellor Hitler? Never. When did the pope meet Mussolini and Hitler together? Never," Cardinal Bertone said.

The cardinal did not refer directly to Pope Pius' sainthood cause, but he described the pope as a shining example of personal holiness and said his pontificate was "long, fruitful and, in my opinion, heroic."

The cardinal said the debate over Pope Pius' wartime role has eclipsed his many other achievements and breakthroughs as pope, including liturgical reform, advances in Scripture study, consideration of evolutionary theory, new missionary initiatives and promotion of women's rights.

**"Popes do not speak with the aim of prefabricating a favorable image for posterity."**

CARDINAL TARCISIO BERTONE

## CHRISTI

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

san event, despite the thousands of foreigners present, Pope Benedict celebrated the liturgy, including the eucharistic prayer, in Italian rather than Latin.

The pope told people gathered for the Mass that they should not be surprised that many people have difficulty accepting church teaching that Jesus is truly present in Eucharist.

The real presence is a mystery, and "a God who becomes flesh and sacrifices himself for the life of the world puts human wisdom in crisis," he said.

But Catholics continue to proclaim the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and, in traditional Corpus Christi processions, they bear witness to their faith by carrying the Eucharist through their cities, the pope said.

Pope Benedict said Luke's

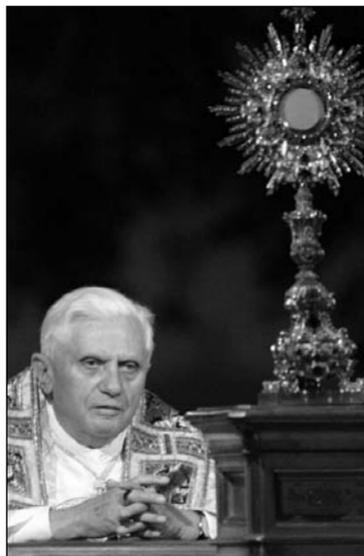
Gospel account of the miracle of the loaves and fishes emphasizes the fact that everyone present ate and was filled.

In the same way, he said, the public procession "calls attention to the fact that Christ sacrificed himself for all humanity," the pope said. "His passage between the houses and along the streets of our city will be an offering of joy, of eternal life, peace and love to those who live there."

Pope Benedict said Luke's Gospel story also emphasizes the fact that the bread and fish multiplied by Jesus were offered by people in the crowd.

"The five loaves and two fish indicate our contribution, poor but necessary, which he transforms into a gift of love for all," the pope said.

The Eucharist, he said, calls Christians to give themselves to others "because the vocation of each of us is to be, like Christ, bread broken for the life of the world."



CNS PHOTO/CHRIS HELGREN, REUTERS

**Pope Benedict XVI kneels before the Blessed Sacrament, encased in a monstrance, during the Corpus Christi procession in Rome June 7. The eucharistic procession took place between the basilicas of St. John Lateran and St. Mary Major**

# Bishop encourages blood donation this summer

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Spending time at the ballpark, going on vacation and enjoying a picnic in the park are activities many of us associate with the summer. Unfortunately, there is another reality of summer: blood shortages. With all the summer activities, many of us forget to take the time to donate blood and the American Red Cross needs your support during the summer season to ensure blood is available for patients in need.

Currently, 50 percent of the United States population is eligible to donate blood, yet only 5 percent actually do. Across the region, the Red Cross needs to collect at least 500 units of blood each day to meet the needs of patients. Since blood can be split into different components, each donation may save as many as three lives. Just think about the number of lives we could touch if each of us donated at least once this summer.

There are 2,250 hours of summer. Please spend one of those hours giving the gift of life. Giving blood is safe, simple and it saves lives. If you are at least 17 years old, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and are in good general health, you may be eligible to donate. For more information, questions about eligibility or to make your donation appointment, please call the American Red Cross at 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543).

I myself, these past four years, have donated blood; and it is my hope that you will also donate. Even if you have never given blood, I encourage you to spend an hour of your day saving a life. If you have donated blood in the past, may I remind you how rewarding and appreciated this generous act of charity can be for you as well as the recipient.

With every best wish and prayer, I remain

*John M. D'Arcy*

Sincerely yours in our Lord,  
Most Reverend John M. D'Arcy

## BLOOD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

participation year-round.

"People have the attitude of 'if I need it, it'll be there,'" she said. "We're trying to educate the public (about the need)."

The American Red Cross is especially trying to reach out to youth because they account for 14 percent of the blood supply. "Our loyal donors are aging," said Jessica Dettmer, communications coordinator for the Red Cross. "We're trying to reach out to the high school and college-age students."

Robbins has found in her experience that personal recruitment is the most effective way to motivate potential donors. Stories from recipients and donors can be particularly motivating. Giving blood is a "minimal sacrifice" because it requires only time and blood, she reminds readers.

### Diocesan campaign

In an effort to raise awareness for the need, diocesan pastors will be disseminating information with the support and direction of Bishop John M. D'Arcy. This program is not new, however, as the bishop initiated a blood donation promotion program in 2003. Following the program's success, Bishop D'Arcy and the diocese were recognized as a Sponsor Partnership Award recipient in 2005 for dedication in encouraging blood donations and efforts to support the American Red Cross.

"For the past three years,

Bishop D'Arcy has been a driving force behind a blood donation program within the diocese," said Robbins.

Kicking off the 2007 promotional campaign, Bishop D'Arcy has made a personal statement about his support for the cause.

"Even if you have never given blood, I encourage you to spend an hour of your day saving a life," he writes in this issue of *Today's Catholic*. "If you have donated blood in the past, may I remind you how rewarding and appreciated this generous act of charity can be for you as well as the recipient."

Robbins said it's difficult to quantify the success of the promotional campaign because donors do not necessarily share their source of motivation. She said, however, the statistics speak for themselves.

"It's difficult to measure the benefit of this type of program, but in the Catholic diocesan church setting we saw an increase from 700 donations in 2002 to 3,700 in 2004," she said.

### Give now, save lives!

To accommodate people's busy schedules, the two Fort Wayne donation centers (California Road and Lutheran Hospital) are open early and late hours. For more information, or to schedule your blood donation appointment, call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE to find the location of the nearest blood drive.

There are 2,250 hours of summer. Bishop D'Arcy and the American Red Cross remind you to spend at least one of these hours by giving the gift of life.

# Through counseling and personal development, men learn to be fathers

## Supporting low-income dads is key to reducing long-term poverty, says Catholic Charities USA

BY SHELLEY BORYSIEWICZ

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Many children in our country grow up not just in income poverty, but also in the poverty of absent fathers. With numerous studies showing how important fathers are to their child's development and sense of self-worth, many local Catholic Charities nationwide are offering programs to help low-income fathers become and stay engaged in the lives of their children.

"There's no question that children are better off when both parents are involved in their lives, but this is too often not the case, as nearly 14 million children under age 15 live with a single mother. And sadly, millions of these children have fallen into poverty as a result," said Father Larry Snyder, president of Catholic Charities USA. "By helping low-income dads, these local Catholic Charities programs are reducing many of the challenges that cause families to fall apart and children to fall into poverty."

One example of a local program that strives to improve the economic stability of fathers and promote the positive involvement of fathers with their children is the Catholic Family Services' Fatherhood Initiative in St. Louis. The program provides group counseling and education sessions to help fathers develop personally and socially so that they can positively affect the lives of

their children.

The St. Louis program's six-week intensive course, which meets for several hours daily, helps men learn how to engage with their children in positive ways and take on the responsibilities of fatherhood. The program also provides education on job search and interviewing skills, healthy behaviors and lifestyles, anger management, life skills, money management, substance abuse, parenting and violence prevention. In addition, the men are able to get a physical exam and routine health care, an important support since many of the men have been using drugs and eating poorly for many years.

The program also helps men understand how to interact with the legal system and the child support enforcement agency, get their names on their children's birth certificates and develop a co-parenting plan with their children's mother. Upon graduation, participants receive a \$300 stipend to be applied to child support.

### Other fatherhood programs

- Idaho Dads Matter is a statewide fatherhood initiative of Catholic Charities of Idaho (CCI). Through a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, CCI and its partners serve dads who do not have custody of their children, but need and want to be part of nurturing them into healthy and happy adulthood. Services include counseling and parenting education as well as job development and readiness activities.

- Teen fathers are the focus of Maryville Academy's Fatherhood

Initiative. Held three times a year, this program is a 12-week seminar that teaches teen dads practical child care tips and also provides information on the development of job skills, finding jobs, treatment of substance abuse, domestic violence, child support obligations and fathers' rights. The majority of the sessions are for males, although some sessions address co-parenting issues for men and women.

- The FatherLink program of Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley in Dayton, Ohio, has served over 200 fathers between the ages of 15 and 25 since 2000. The program helps teen fathers be supportive of the mother of their children and actively participate in their child's life. It also provides the young fathers information about self-sufficiency, education, employment and paternity.

### Just one piece of the puzzle of strengthening families and reducing poverty

Innovative fatherhood programs by Catholic Charities agencies are just one piece to a puzzle in supporting low-income dads and cutting U.S. poverty. Better federal policies that help low-income fathers become more active and engaged in the lives of their children are also needed.

As part of its Campaign to Reduce Poverty in America, Catholic Charities USA plans to leverage Father's Day to reignite a national dialogue about the importance fathers play in helping their children grow up in safe and supportive families. This effort will include advocating government leaders to develop policies and strategies to help low-income fathers become more active and engaged in the lives of their children.

"Our nation's public policies and programs have often left fathers out of the resources that have been made available to children," Father Snyder said. "This undermines the central role that both parents play in the stability and well being of the family, community and society. It is important for policymakers to embrace the family as a complete unit and develop policies that support, strengthen, and encourage men and women to remain connected to their children and families."

# Immigration bill stalled, not dead, backers say

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR

WASHINGTON (CNS) — With the June 7 failure of a procedural vote intended to bring the bill to a vote, the Senate's attempt to pass comprehensive immigration reform went back behind the scenes, though the bill's backers in both parties vowed to bring it to the floor again.

After the failure of a second cloture vote to cut off debate, Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said he would take the bill off the floor to allow other legislation to move along, though he did so without closing the door to reviving its consideration.

By the June 9-10 weekend, Reid and Republican leaders were saying the bill was not dead and debate would reopen, possibly before the Independence Day recess that begins July 2.

Analysts on all sides have said that if immigration reform legislation is not passed before the end of 2007 it is unlikely to get a serious shot at passage again until after the 2008 general election.

Immigrant advocates including Father Larry Snyder, president of Catholic Charities USA, and Los Angeles Cardinal Roger M. Mahony were quick to take the Senate to task for not moving the bill forward.

"Congress must not abdicate its responsibility now," said a statement from Father Snyder. "It is crucial that members of the Senate work out their differences."

Cardinal Mahony's statement said the country has a moral obligation to create an immigration system built upon the principles of fairness, opportunity and compassion.

"Achieving comprehensive immigration reform is hard work, but our senators should not be deterred by the difficulty of this enterprise," he said. "Achieving comprehensive reform this year will have great impact on the continued moral and economic health of our country for years to come." Reid said he would bring the bill back to the floor as soon as enough Republicans were on board with the goal of bringing the measure to a vote.

Some supporters of the bill accused President Bush of failing to exert enough pressure on Senate Republicans to pass the bill. The legislation was the product of months of negotiations by the White House, Democratic and Republican senators.

In a strategy urged by the White House, that bill-shaping process was followed instead of

the normal system of publicly crafting a bill in committees. It was intended to satisfy enough members of both parties to head off exactly the kind of procedural machinations that occurred in the second week of debate on the bill.

While many supporters of comprehensive immigration reform, including the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Charities USA, said the massive piece of legislation was flawed, most members of a vast alliance of faith groups, unions, civil rights groups and business organizations were urging that the bill be passed as a starting point to fixing a broken immigration system.

In a series of press conferences June 8, representatives of many of the organizations working for a broad approach to immigration reform said they believe Reid is sincere about bringing the bill to a vote and that backroom efforts could yield a viable plan for allowing more debate and a limited number of amendments.

Such an effort might satisfy enough of the senators who voted to keep debate open, effectively blocking a final vote that Reid had hoped to hold June 8, said Frank Sharry, executive director of the National Immigration Forum, which represents a broad range of interest groups.

Sharry said he was much more optimistic on June 8 about the possibility of a bill passing than he was just the night before as the cloture vote failed.

The White House said Bush would use some of his time during a previously scheduled visit to the Capitol June 12 to try to persuade more Republicans to back the bill.

Meanwhile, House leaders have said they would bring their version of immigration reform to the floor before Congress recesses in August.

In some parts of the country, Catholics used June 10 observances of the feast of Corpus Christi to pray for struggling immigrants. Los Angeles Auxiliary Bishop Oscar A. Solis led a procession to the El Pueblo National Monument for a blessing for participants in a Dreams Across America rail tour to Washington.

The Dreams Across America rail tour is actually a series of four tours intended to highlight immigrants' stories and dreams at stops across the country before concluding with visits to members of Congress. The Los Angeles train was to leave June 13, followed by groups departing later in June from Miami, Boston and Richmond, Va.

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# Pope, Bush discuss range of issues, including Christians in Iraq

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Meeting for the first time, Pope Benedict XVI and U.S. President George W. Bush spoke about the precarious situation of Christians in Iraq and a wide range of other foreign policy and moral issues.

The pope and president looked relaxed as they greeted each other and spoke briefly in front of reporters before their 35-minute private encounter June 9. Bush later held a separate 40-minute meeting with the Vatican's top foreign policy officials.

A Vatican statement described the meetings as "cordial" and said they had focused in part on "the worrisome situation in Iraq and the critical conditions in which the Christian community finds itself." Tens of thousands of Christians have fled Iraq over the last four years to escape violence and discrimination.

The talks also touched on the overall situation in the Middle East, including the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and developments in Lebanon.

"The Holy See again expressed the hope for a 'regional' and 'negotiated' solution to the conflicts and crises that are tormenting the region," the Vatican statement said.

Bush and the pope also discussed problems in Africa, the humanitarian crisis in Darfur and developments in Latin America, it said.

"Finally, there was an examination of current moral and religious questions, including those related to human rights and religious freedom, the defense and promotion of life, marriage and the family, education of new generations and sustainable development," the Vatican said.

Before the president's visit, the Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, went out of his way to praise Bush for his position on abortion and for "positive initiatives in favor of the defense of life from conception."

Bush arrived at the Vatican under very heavy security. His motorcade entered St. Peter's Square from a side street instead of along Via della Conciliazione, the wide avenue leading to the Vatican, which had been cleared of cars and was lined with curious onlookers.

In the sunny St. Damasus Courtyard, the president was greeted by U.S. Archbishop James Harvey, one of the pope's private secretaries, who escorted him past a picket of Swiss Guards and up an elevator to the fourth floor of the Apostolic Palace for the papal audience.



CNS PHOTO/PLINIO LEPRI, REUTERS

**U.S. President George W. Bush presents Pope Benedict XVI with a walking stick, which was hand-carved by a former homeless man from Texas, during their meeting at the Vatican June 9. The two leaders spoke about the precarious situation of Christians in Iraq and a wide range of other foreign policy and moral issues.**

The pope smiled broadly as he greeted Bush just outside his private library. The two men shook hands, and the pope ushered the president to a large desk. Reporters and photographers were allowed to stay for the first minute of the encounter.

"It's good to be with you sir," Bush said as he sat down opposite the pope, crossing his legs and leaning back in a white chair.

"You come from the conference in Heiligendamm?" the pope said, referring to the Group of Eight meeting of the heads of industrialized countries in Germany.

"I did, your old country. And it was successful," the president replied.

"Successful? You had some decisions? It's not so easy," the pope said. He said it was important for humanity that conferences like this produce decisions.

"It was, you know, a lot of different opinions. But it was good. It was good," Bush said.

The pope asked whether Bush's dialogue with Russian President Vladimir Putin was also good.

The president paused as photographers kept snapping photos and said: "I'll tell you in a minute." Both men laughed. Putin and Bush had sparred over a U.S. proposal to build a missile defense system in Europe.

Bush then went on to tell the pope that he had recently asked Congress for \$30 billion toward fighting the global AIDS crisis, a doubling of the previous U.S. commitment.

After reporters left, the two leaders met privately without aides or interpreters. When the doors of the library opened, Bush's entourage was led into the room and the president introduced them, one by one, to the pope. The pon-

tiff handed each of them a medalion. Among those in the 12-member U.S. delegation greeting the pontiff were Karl Rove, Bush's top political adviser; Josh Bolten, White House chief of staff; and Steve Hadley, national security adviser.

The pope and the president also exchanged gifts. Bush gave the pope a long wooden walking stick with a design representing the Ten Commandments. When the pope picked it up, Bush told him it had been made by a former homeless man in Dallas.

"The Ten Commandments?" the pope asked, looking at the inscriptions.

"Yes, sir," Bush answered.

The pope presented Bush with an engraving of St. Peter's Basilica and a gold medallion of his pontificate. The president put on his

glasses to give it a closer look and remarked, "It's beautiful, thank you very much."

Afterward, Bush and several top aides met with Cardinal Bertone and other Vatican foreign policy officials.

The Vatican's concern about Iraq was underlined in another way during the Bush visit. As the president and the pope ended their meeting, the Vatican released a statement by the newly appointed prefect of the Congregation for Eastern Churches, Archbishop Leonardo Sandri, who said many Eastern-rite Catholics were suffering in Iraq, Lebanon and elsewhere because of "war, violence or fear of an uncertain future."

"I think also of those who must leave their homeland and everything they own," Archbishop Sandri said. Church officials have been increasingly distressed at the exodus of Iraqi Catholics following the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003.

The last time Bush came for a papal audience, in 2004, Pope John Paul II told him of his deep concern for the situation in Iraq and reminded the president of the "unequivocal position" taken by the Vatican against the war.

During his first term, Bush met three times with Pope John Paul. Before coming to see Pope Benedict, Bush told reporters that he would be in a "listening mode" when he met the 80-year-old pontiff. He said a papal audience was always a "moving experience."

"Sometimes I'm not poetic enough to describe what it's like to be in the presence of the Holy Father," Bush said.

In comments to reporters after his meeting with the pope, Bush said the pope was "deeply concerned" about Christians in Iraq and

feared that they were "being mistreated by the Muslim majority."

The pope "was concerned that the society that was evolving would not tolerate the Christian religion," Bush said during a joint press conference with Prime Minister Romani Prodi at Chigi Palace, the seat of Italy's government.

"I assured (the pope) we were working hard to make sure" Iraqis would respect "that modern constitution voted on by the people that would honor people from different walks of life and different attitudes."

Bush said the pope also talked about immigration.

"He's watching the immigration debate very closely in America and I told him I was a person who strongly supports comprehensive immigration reform that, on the one hand, we will enforce our law and, on the other hand, we need to treat people with dignity," Bush said.

In a separate meeting immediately after Bush met with Pope Benedict, leaders of Rome's Sant'Egidio Community told the president of their concern for Iraq's Christians.

The president of the Catholic lay community, Marco Impagliazzo, told reporters that the leaders told Bush the Christians in Iraq were suffering and risked becoming an enclave in northern Iraq.

Bush "did not respond" with any comments, Impagliazzo told reporters.

The head of Sant'Egidio said Bush told them the pope wanted the United States "to play a leading role against suffering" in the world, to which Bush reportedly replied "and we'll do it."



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## Pope names Italian archbishop as assistant secretary of state

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has called his ambassador back from the Philippines and has named him the assistant secretary of state in charge of daily Vatican affairs. Italian Archbishop Fernando Filoni, 61, had been in the Philippines just over a year. Before that, he had served five years as the Vatican's nuncio in Jordan and in war-torn Iraq. His official job title, "substitute for general affairs," is the Vatican's description of a job often like that of a presidential chief of staff. It will be Archbishop Filoni's job to handle many internal church affairs personally and to determine which matters need to be brought to the pope's attention. Archbishop Filoni will take up his new position July 1. The appointment was announced June 9 by the Vatican, which also announced that Argentine Archbishop Leonardo Sandri, the current office holder, had been named prefect of the Congregation for Eastern Churches. Archbishop Sandri had been in the Vatican's diplomatic service since 1974 and worked at the apostolic nunciature in Washington in 1989-91.

## Honduran cardinal elected president of Caritas Internationalis

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Honduran Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga of Tegucigalpa was elected president of Caritas Internationalis, the Vatican-based confederation of Catholic relief and development agencies. Caritas delegates, gathered for their June 3-9 General Assembly in the Vatican, voted June 5 for the cardinal, who will represent the confederation on the world stage as of June 9. The 64-year-old cardinal will replace Caritas Internationalis' first lay president, Denis Vienot. Cardinal Rodriguez thanked delegates for "the trust and confidence they have shown in me." Unable to attend the assembly because of meetings with Latin American bishops, the cardinal spoke with Caritas representatives by phone June 5. "We in Caritas must work hard for the needs of the poor," he said in a June 5 statement. He said the world's resources need to be more fairly distributed and Caritas members must "stand up to overcome social injustice." Development should also be promoted as "the way to alleviate and to overcome poverty," he said. Cardinal Rodriguez is currently head of the Honduran bishops' conference. He once served as vice president of Caritas Honduras and has a long history of being an outspoken champion of human rights and the poor.

## Sources say Chinese bishop has been detained for days

HONG KONG (CNS) — Bishop Julius Jia Zhiguo of Zhengding, China, has been detained by government authorities since June 5, said various sources. A priest of the diocese in Hebei province, northern China, confirmed with UCA News,

## PRIEST INJURED IN IRAQ HONORED AT SEMINARY



CNS PHOTO/DAVE HRBACEK, THE CATHOLIC SPIRIT

Father Timothy Vakoc greets Msgr. Aloysius Callaghan, rector of the St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity of the University of St. Thomas, after receiving the 2007 Distinguished Alumnus Award at the seminary in late April in St. Paul, Minn. To the right of Father Vakoc is his mother, Phyllis Vakoc, and at left is Franciscan Brother Hilary McGee. In May 2004, Father Vakoc's Humvee was hit by a roadside bomb in Iraq.

an Asian church news agency, that Bishop Jia was taken away the morning of June 5. The priest added June 7 that surveillance at the cathedral in Wuqiu village, near the provincial capital of Shijiazhuang, has intensified since then. Another source in Zhengding said Bishop Jia was taken away "for traveling to some places for about 10 days," but no detailed reason was given. Bishop Jia's detention was first reported by the U.S.-based Cardinal Kung Foundation. Bishop Joseph Wei Jingyi of Qiqihar, who, like Bishop Jia, has not registered with the government, told UCA News June 7 that he did not think there is a high possibility of a mass arrest of nonregistered church leaders due to Pope Benedict XVI's highly anticipated letter to Chinese Catholics. However, Bishop Wei acknowledged that Bishop Jia's arrest might be an exception, because Bishop Jia frequently has been detained when important events are expected to happen. Bishop Jia was detained last June 25-Sept. 25, 2006.

## Bush vows veto of embryonic stem-cell bill; cloning bill defeated

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The House of Representatives rejected a bill June 6 that would have allowed human cloning but passed legislation the next day that would promote stem-cell research involving the destruction of human embryos. President George W. Bush vowed to veto the stem-cell measure, however, saying it "puts scientific

research and ethical principle into conflict, rather than supporting a balanced approach that advances scientific and medical frontiers without violating moral principles." Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, had urged the defeat of both bills in a June 6 letter to House members. "Embryonic stem-cell research has been as disappointing in its results as it has been divisive to our society," the cardinal wrote. "Pursuit of this destructive research will almost certainly require you to embrace more and more egregious violations of moral norms in the effort to bring its 'promise' to fruition."

## Retired Kansas Bishop Forst, 96, dies; was oldest living U.S. bishop

OLATHE, Kan. (CNS) — Retired Bishop Marion F. Forst of Dodge City, the oldest U.S. bishop, died June 2 at Olathe Medical Center. At age 96, he was the oldest U.S. bishop, and one of the world's 12 oldest bishops at the time of his death. The funeral Mass was scheduled for June 7 in the chapel of Savior Pastoral Center in Kansas City, with Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City as the main celebrant and Bishop Ronald M. Gilmore of Dodge City as the homilist. Interment was to be in Gate of Heaven Cemetery there. Bishop Forst had been one of five remaining U.S. bishops, all now retired, to have attended all four sessions of the Second Vatican Council.

## Spokane Diocese emerges from bankruptcy

SPOKANE, Wash. (CNS) — The Diocese of Spokane emerged from bankruptcy May 31, two-and-a-half years after it entered Chapter 11 federal bankruptcy proceedings. The diocese and its parishes still have to raise millions of dollars for the \$48 million fund that will be used to compensate childhood victims of clergy sexual abuse and to pay the professional fees of the bankruptcy proceeding and expenses incurred in determining the claims. The \$20 million that diocesan insurers contributed to the settlement was wired to the fund May 31. As part of the reorganization, 76 parishes were incorporated as separate entities within the diocese. Parish properties were handed over to the newly incorporated entities but are pledged as security for the \$10 million that the parishes must raise to contribute to the fund. The diocese is raising about \$5 million by selling diocesan properties, including a 1,000-acre farm it owned and the building housing its diocesan offices.

## Papal patience causes chafing among some Vatican bureaucrats, media

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — More than two years into his pontificate, Pope Benedict XVI has proven to be a very patient decision-maker — so patient that even some of his

Vatican bureaucrats are chafing a little. "There are all these decisions that you thought were already made, and then nothing happens," one Roman Curia official said in early June. The examples abound: the pope's letter to Chinese Catholics, announced in January, has yet to appear; the papal document widening use of the Tridentine Mass, reportedly ready since last fall, is still awaiting publication; a consistory to name new cardinals, expected in June by most Vatican officials, has apparently been put off until the fall; a slew of key appointments, including the replacement of several Roman Curia heads who are past retirement age, keeps getting deferred; and the streamlining of Vatican communications agencies, rumored to have been one of the pope's priorities following his election in 2005, still has not happened. Why are things taking so long? The main reason, according to those inside the Curia, is that the pope believes some of these questions call for consultation and fine-tuning, rather than snap decisions.

## In 'leap of faith,' Catholic parish builds Protestant church

FRANKLIN PARK, Pa. (CNS) — A funny thing happened to Ss. John and Paul Parish in Franklin Park, north of Pittsburgh, on its way to erecting a church — it built a Protestant church first. Ss. John and Paul and its immediate neighbor, the New Heights Church of God, shared the same problem; they each needed to build a church. But the Catholic parish didn't have enough usable land on its 12-acre property to construct a big enough structure to accommodate its 7,000 members. And New Heights, much smaller with 100 members, couldn't raise enough funds to build on its 12 acres, instead holding worship services in a nearby community building. The problem seemed insurmountable until representatives of both congregations took what all involved call a "leap of faith." And it worked. With Ss. John and Paul parishioners contributing expertise in real estate, construction, development and legal matters, the two church communities agreed to a land swap that involved Ss. John and Paul locating a new property for its neighbor, buying the land and constructing a church. In return, the Protestant community signed over its property adjacent to the Catholic parish.

## Father, son ordained at same Mass at Tennessee church

JEFFERSON CITY, Tenn. (CNS) — The first ordination Mass to take place at 10-year-old Holy Trinity Church in Jefferson City was a first-of-its-kind occurrence for the Diocese of Knoxville. During the May 18 Mass, John Riehl was ordained to the permanent diaconate while his son, diocesan seminarian Chris Riehl, was ordained a transitional deacon. Deacon John Riehl, 59, is part of the diocese's first deacon formation program. The remaining 28 men in the diaconate class of 2007 were scheduled to be ordained June 9.

## Dwenger students honored by U.S. Army Reserve

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger High School seniors Jacob M. Capito and Cristina M. Kline-Quiroz were recently honored as their school's recipients of the 2007 U.S. Army Reserve National Scholar-Athlete Award.

For more than 25 years, the Army Reserve has recognized high school students nationwide for outstanding academic and athletic accomplishments. Past recipients have included National Merit Scholarship finalists and Olympic competitors.

Capito and Kline-Quiroz were nominated for this award by guidance counselor Lora McGuire.

A National Honor Society member and winner of academic and athletic scholarships, Capito was voted the soccer team's most valuable player, and earned all-state and all-conference ranking in this sport. He also volunteers with Boys' Club/Girls' Club.

Kline-Quiroz, a National Honor Society member, competed in soccer, track and diving, ranking as an all-conference athlete. She has also served as a freshman mentor and Bishop Dwenger ambassador, was active in Spanish Club, and has volunteered with Habitat for Humanity.

## Sisters of Providence bestow honors on benefactors

SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS — The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods bestowed major awards during the annual St. Mother Theodore Guérin Dinner Saturday, June 2. The dinner is named in honor of the foundress of the Sisters of Providence who came to the United States from France in 1840.

The dinner is a way for members of the congregation to express their gratitude for the support offered by their many donors and companions.

The Sarah and Joseph Thralls Award was presented to Camille and Arthur Snyder of Decatur, Ill. The Thralls Award honors an individual, family or group that has made significant contributions of time, talent and treasure to the congregation. It is named in honor of the pioneer family that offered hospitality by way of a primitive cabin in a dense forest to Mother Theodore and her companions on their arrival at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods in 1840.

Arthur previously served on the congregation's National Development Council and currently serves as chair of its mission advisory board. The Snyders also recently hosted a donor event in their home. Arthur is the president of Indiana Institute of Technology in Fort Wayne and recently served as dean of the Tabor School of Business at Millikin University at Decatur, Ill. He had previously worked more than 20 years as a senior manager of AT&T.

# AROUND THE DIOCESE

## TEN COMMANDMENTS MONUMENT BLESSED IN NEW HAVEN



PROVIDED BY DON SHUTT

Holy Trinity Sunday was chosen to bless the newly installed Ten Commandments at St. John the Baptist Church, New Haven. This project of the Knights of Columbus Council No. 12741 was a gift to the parish and has been in planning stages for a year. This is the third monument installed in the state of Indiana by the Knights of Columbus as part of a national campaign called Operation Moses with the goal to have the Ten Commandments on display at every Catholic church in the nation. The monument was blessed by Father Paul McCarthy June 3. The procession was led by four of the 4th Degree Knights. In the photo are from left, Steve Haydock, Jim Till, Grand Knight Carl Till, Chuck Kennerk, Tad Nagy, Don Marqueling, Father Paul McCarthy, John Schaefer and Jerry Witte.

## Christian author to speak at Lindenwood retreat

DONALDSON — Debra K. Farrington, well known author of books of Christian spirituality, will be leading the conference retreat July 29 to Aug. 3 at the Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center. Her book, "The Seasons of a Restless Heart: Spiritual Guidance for Living in Transition," will be the basis for her presentations during the retreat.

Farrington will explore transitions from a spiritual perspective. Without denying the difficulty of change, Farrington will invite attendees to look for God's invitations in the midst of change. She bases her analysis on the stories on the Israelites' search for God's Promised Land in Exodus and Numbers. Farrington will help retreatants explore God's actions thousands of years ago and how God continues to invite us toward the Promised Land today.

Farrington is an Episcopalian, and was the editorial director and then publisher for Morehouse Publishing. She has authored seven books of Christian spirituality and has written for a wide variety

of journals and magazines including *The Lutheran*, *Publishers Weekly*, *Alive Now*, *Spirituality and Health*, and *U.S. Catholic*.

The conference retreat will be held at the Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center at Donaldson. Lindenwood is part of the Poor handmaids of Jesus Christ Ministry Center located eight miles west of Plymouth, 40 miles south of South Bend and 90 miles from Chicago. For further information, contact Lindenwood at (574) 935-1780 or visit [www.lindenwood.org](http://www.lindenwood.org).

## South Bend Serra Club honors altar servers

SOUTH BEND — For more than four decades, the South Bend Serra Club paid honors to both boys and girls who have served their parishes as altar servers.

This year, the Serra Club recognized 116 individuals in 19 parishes in the South Bend area with special certificates of merit as a tribute to their dedicated efforts as altar servers.

Serra Club President Ronald Moser, who is also a deacon at St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka, said,

"This is one of the largest groups of altar servers to be recognized in recent years and also continues a long-standing tradition with the Serra Club in honoring the splendid work of these youngsters."

The list of servers follows with parish name and those recognized:

- St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend — 25 servers recognized.
- Queen of Peace, Mishawaka — Ryne Bradley, Anthony Piraccini, Maria Hite, Joe Monhaut and Katie Portolese.
- Our Lady of Hungary, South Bend — Carter Lubelski and Victoria Gruber.
- St. Joseph, Mishawaka — Jacob Deitchley, Michael Furfaro, Kyle Jessup, Timothy Trippel, Timothy Wagner, Timothy Wilson, Nicole Walter and Ashley Van Avermaete.
- St. John the Baptist, South Bend — Alex Bauters, John Leszczynski, Brandon Niegodski, Dominick Romana, Nathan Rozanski and Ryan Rozanski.
- St. Jude, South Bend — Jocelyn Dugan, Lee Henry, Joey Krisch, Patrick Ramsdell, Jonathon Rectenwal, Colette Udvardy and John Weilgos.
- St. Pius X, Granger — Nicole Loeffelholz, Brandon Miller,

Theodore Rectanus, Connor O'Toole, Danny Williams and Justin Grove.

• St. Patrick-St. Hedwig, South Bend — Steven Koznia, James Koznia, Amelia Harrison, Constance Burns and Maggie Thomas.

• St. Thomas the Apostle, Elkhart — 25 servers recognized.

• St. Joseph, South Bend — Grace Maginn, Clare Maher, Stephen Hicks, Duncan Heidkamp and Kevin Barnett.

• St. Patrick, Walkerton — Emily Krohn, Adam Suter, Frank Turner, Rylan Donathen and Blake Fleece.

• Corpus Christi, South Bend — Peter Freeby and Jennifer Bals.

• Holy Family, South Bend — Alan Benhart, Grace Costella, Benjamin Paczkowski and Kayla Smith.

• St. Bavo, Mishawaka — Matthew Arterbery.

• Holy Cross-St Stanislaus, South Bend — Mollie O'Blenis, Chris Harlow, Adam Jorgenson and Adam Burns.

• St. Michael, Mishawaka — Mark Chabot, Jr. and Thomas Chabot.

• St. Adalbert, South Bend — Mario Navarette, Alex Flores, T.J. Hudak and Chris Kandzierski. — EJD

## Aquila announced as new dean at University of St. Thomas

HOUSTON — After a rigorous selection process, the University of St. Thomas in Houston, Texas, has named Dr. Dominic Aquila as the new dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.



DR. DOMINIC AQUILA

"Our selection was based on his rich background, his degrees in music, history and business and an award-studded resume in education that spans more than 35 years," said Dr. John Hittinger, vice president for academic affairs. "Dr. Aquila was our top choice because he is committed to the Catholic intellectual tradition, and he wants to see this tradition engage culture and contemporary society. I am delighted to have him on board as dean of arts and sciences."

Aquila, the founding dean of the School of Liberal Arts and tenured professor of history at the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne, arrived at the University of St. Thomas in June.

Aquila is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester. He holds a bachelor's degree in music from The Julliard School, and an MBA from New York University and a D. Litt et Phil., from the University of South Africa.

"The work I see ahead is to find ways to integrate this tradition into the entire curriculum in a way that is noninvasive and to see how that tradition informs each discipline," he said. "I want to help advance the University of St. Thomas to the next level of excellence."

## Fire extensively damages southern Indiana church

ST. ANTHONY — A 19th century Catholic Church in the Dubois County community of St. Anthony was extensively damaged by fire in the early morning hours of June 5. Neither the cause nor the amount of damage were immediately determined.

St. Anthony of Padua Church in St. Anthony was undergoing restoration. The pews, the Stations of the Cross, the sacred vessels and Mass vestments had all been removed and taken to a

former school building.

Fire was reported about 3:30 a.m. on June 5, when a passerby contacted the parish pastor.

Some 75 firefighters from six agencies responded. As of mid-day, the copper roof of the 1885 stone church was being peeled away as firefighters searched for hot spots.

The town of St. Anthony is about 60 miles east of Evansville, or about 135 miles south of Indianapolis.



MARY ANN HUGHES, THE MESSAGE, EVANSVILLE

Firefighters check for hot spots at St. Anthony Church in St. Anthony where fire caused extensive damage June 5.

## Faith and determination keep medically challenged family going

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — When you meet Heather and Rick Sosenheimer and their four children, you'll find a close-knit, loving family. Markee, 17, is a devoted sister to her younger brothers, who are often confused as triplets. Drake is eight years old, Kendrick, seven, and Hunter follows closely at six. The stair-step ages are not the only unique thing about these boys, though. They each are medically fragile due primarily to rare brain conditions known as Chiari Malformation and pseudotumor cerebri.

All three boys were born prematurely to Heather and Rick, who have been married for eight years and are parishioners of St. Charles Borromeo Parish. Developmental delays caused the family routine to include doctor's visits, testing and therapies from the start. But the Sosenheimers never bargained for what occurred in 2004. Drake was diagnosed with cysts in the brain and a hidden form of spina bifida.

Shortly following the news about Drake's condition, Kendrick was diagnosed with a rare brain dysfunction called Chiari Malformation. This condition, so rare that little research is available, concerns a growth restriction at the base of the skull. "The space for the cerebellum (the part of the brain that controls balance) is too small," explains Heather. "The cerebellum elongates into the spinal column because there's no space for it to sit." The pressure on



PROVIDED BY THE SOSENIHEIMER FAMILY

The Sosenheimer family meets challenges day to day. From left in front are, Hunter, Drake and Kendrick. In the back are Rick, Heather and Markee.

the spinal column and brain stem may affect the central nervous system causing migraine headaches, numbness, muscle weakness, paralysis and more.

And as life sometimes has it, weeks following this devastating news, Hunter was diagnosed with another brain malady known as pseudotumor cerebri, literally translated as "false tumor," where the brain produces excessive fluid to fight what it thinks is a tumor. Heather describes it this way, "The brain literally thinks it is a tumor and surrounds itself with fluid to protect itself." The excess fluid creates immense pressure on the optic nerve and spinal cord and can cause damage there. Hunter's vision has been weakened with pressure above 60 when normal pressure for his age is 15.

All this medical havoc played out first at Riley's Children's Hospital in Indianapolis where they family still travels for testing and treatment. First Kendrick underwent brain surgery to correct the spacing that holds his cerebellum. Next Hunter received a surgically implanted shunt that would drain the excess spinal fluid from his brain. The shunt includes a device implanted beneath his skin that regulates the drain.

But the story doesn't end there. The next year, the boys were being treated for complications from the surgeries, due to the rarity of the condition.

"The surgeons didn't have the experience because it's so rare. Some had never done this before," recalls Heather, who has become somewhat of an expert on the medical terminology involved. While on a visit to Riley, Heather saw a magazine article describing a young girl with Chiari Malformation. She immediately contacted the family and was referred to the chief pediatric neurologist at University of Chicago's Connor's Children's Hospital. Doctor Frim, who studies 10 other cases from around the world with this rare condition, took on their case and the family spent months in Chicago. During their stay, Hunter was diagnosed with Chiari Malformation, and an MRI confirmed Kendrick suffered from pseudotumor cerebri, leaving both boys with both conditions.

The entire family then underwent testing and it was soon learned that Drake, Markee, Heather and Rick joined the boys with the diagnosis. They became one of only two families in North America where both parents suffer



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from Chiari Malformation. All three boys have undergone surgery for the malformation with Heather following in March of 2006. Presently Markee and Rick display no symptoms and have not been treated. The Sosenheimers have networked with the other families involved with these conditions and found hope in the friendships. "We want the best for our children. It's interesting what you can learn from each other," says Heather. "You must advocate for your children," she adds.

Heather describes her medical experience with matter of fact spirit.

"That's how your life is. That's what God gives you," she says. Following her surgery in January of this year, she developed pneumonia and then bacterial meningitis. Following weeks of treatment she was found to have excess fluid on the brain which caused blood vessels in her eyes to burst. She lost 90 percent vision in her right eye and hopes healing will restore some of it soon. Currently Heather is regulating the internal shunt that she received to drain the fluid as well.

Rick, the protector and provider, stays close to his wife as she describes what sounds like a plot from a movie. He hails his employer, United Building Center, for their support and generosity. "They've been great and under-

standing," says Rick. He has missed work with all the travels to and from Indianapolis and Chicago but wouldn't change a thing. "I take it day by day," he says quietly, adding "We work together so we can take care of the kids."

His strength in adversity he says comes from God.

"He's my guiding light. He gets

in the water, where the pressure in the brain is relieved temporarily. Two of the boys are involved in Boy Scouts and all three are avid Komet Hockey fans. Kedrick, who is also challenged with autism, receives special education including speech and other therapies and he and his brothers suffer from additional medical challenges,

including mytrovalve prolapse, kidney and bladder dysfunction, loss of vision and migraines as well.

Through the chaos the Sosheimer family remains strong and optimistic. They are grateful for the

outpouring of support they have received from the community and will continue to fight the good fight. "We try and teach the boys to adapt and adjust. This can't rule their lives," says Heather, who holds the heart of the family. "All you can do is hope and pray for strength to go on. You gain strength through faith and guidance. Then you take it in stride."

**To learn more** about the Sosenheimers visit [www.caring-bridge.org/vist/thesosheimers-boys](http://www.caring-bridge.org/vist/thesosheimers-boys).

For information on Chiari Malformation and pseudotumor visit the World Arnold Chiari Malformation Association at [www.wacma.com](http://www.wacma.com).

**"I take it day by day.  
We work together  
so we can take care of the kids."**

RICK SOSEHEIMER

you through everything." The family is amazed and uplifted by the support they've received from family, friends and church. Meals, cards, a silent auction and prayers have assisted this tenacious family. And St. Charles recently hosted a pancake breakfast to help raise funds to offset the rising medical bills.

And what does the future hold for this medically challenged family? The boys are restricted from any contact sports due to muscle weakness and the obvious danger to the brain stem. High fatigue levels require the boys to rest intermittently throughout the day. The weather affects their health and activities as well. But, says Heather, they focus on what they can do. The brothers enjoy playing

## DECATUR PARISH SENDS PASTORAL MINISTER ON IRISH TRIP



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Father Dave Voors, pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Decatur, presented Sister Margaret Rose Donnelly with a gift certificate for a 10-day trip for two to Ireland. Sister Margaret Rose is celebrating 50 years of ministry, and the parish raised donations for the trip through Project Smile. Sister Margaret Rose entered the convent of the School Sisters of Notre Dame in Milwaukee at the age of 22 in 1956. She took her vows in 1958 and taught grade school and high school in Chicago and Grand Rapids, Mich. She was elected to the provincial council for nine years. Pastoral ministry has been her love for the past 23 years serving for the past 11 years at St. Mary of the Assumption. She recently commented "I am blessed in my ministry and receive so much more than I give. The people of Decatur are all part of my family."



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# Senior Spirit

**A NEW FACE OF VOLUNTEERING** Studies indicate that one-third of retiring baby boomers have intentions to participate in community service. As a general rule, Americans who volunteer during the early years of retirement do it with greater frequency than younger volunteers. A recent study followed 1,200 elderly adults over a seven-year period and found those that volunteered even a little, lived longer than those who didn't.

## Prayer shawls give love and comfort

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

**SOUTH BEND** — It all started with a positive response to an invitation. Last July, Jack Mueller, administrator of St. Paul's Retirement Community, asked Jean Burkhart if she would consider beginning a prayer shawl ministry. Thinking it had possibility, Jean agreed and thus began a ministry that has taken off with gusto and touched many lives.

Prayer shawls, sometimes called comfort shawls, are created by residents for other residents who need special comfort for a variety of reasons. Recipients are made aware that their shawls were created with loving care with them in mind.

Those who are part of this special ministry get together regularly to knit, crochet, sew and share with one another. Since this ministry began, shawls of gorgeous colors have been completed, and many of the participants are on their second or third shawl.

When asked how recipients are selected, Jean Burkhart, who is an independent resident at St. Paul's and coordinates the ministry, says, "A participant in the ministry frequently has someone in mind. While making the shawl, the participant prays for the needs of that person."

Sister John Margaret Dietzen, a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, says, "They (the shawls) may be made for a healthcare resident, a next door neighbor or anyone who has a need to feel the caring touch of another here at St. Paul's."

She goes on to point out that "often a friendship between the giver and recipient blossoms and grows. This gives 'new life' to



SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

Jean Burkhart shares with one of the recipients of a prayer shawl at St. Paul's Retirement Community in South Bend.

both. It is beautiful to experience what the sharing of talents given by God can do to create happiness, peace and a feeling of worth and respect."

The residents at St. Paul's are not the only ones affected by these special shawls. Families are as well. When a recipient dies, his or her family receives the shawl as a keepsake. It is often a great comfort and reminds the family of the special love bestowed on their loved one during their stay.

These shawls have also touched many of the staff that works at St. Paul's. One staff member who is part of the ministry said she got involved because she was so impressed at how much the shawls mean to the residents who receive them.

"This ministry really reflects the mission of Trinity Health, the

health care system to which St. Paul belongs," says Sister John Margaret. In its mission statement it says, "We serve together in Trinity Health, in the spirit of the Gospel, to heal body, mind and spirit, to improve the health of our communities and to steward the resources entrusted to us."

To emphasize the ministerial aspect of the prayer shawls, last November all those involved in the ministry and their handiwork of love were blessed in a special service in the main chapel.

According to Sister John Margaret, "The prayer shawls contribute to the healing that takes place at St. Paul's and build relationships of love and compassion. So far, 27 shawls have been given out." Many more are in process. They are one of the many things St. Paul does to build community for its residents.

## Sacred Heart sisters celebrate jubilees

**AVILLA** — Five Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart at Sacred Heart Home in Avilla are observing jubilees this year. The local celebration in Avilla will be on July 28.

**Sister Hilda Marie Kroemer, OSF — 80th jubilee.** She was born in Hindenberg, Germany, Sept. 9, 1906. As a high school student, she yearned to be a sister in a foreign land, and at age 21, she and other German aspirants left their homeland to enter the convent in Joliet, Ill. She served in education in Illinois, Indiana and California for 50 years and in Mundelein, Ill., as superior and as organist providing care to the seminarians. Upon retiring, she served in various capacities at the motherhouse, and in 2004, at age 98, she came to Sacred Heart Home as a resident. She celebrated her 100th birthday in September 2006, singing many German songs for the enjoyment of everyone. She is the only surviving German-born sister.

**Sister M. Leonore Cousino, OSF — 75th jubilee.** She was born in Sandusky, Ohio, but her family soon moved to Avilla, where she attended school at St. Mary of the Assumption. She and a classmate entered the congregation at age 14. She served in education 70 years in Illinois and Indiana. Her last teaching assignment was at St. Charles Borromeo in Fort Wayne, where she had remained 35 years until 2004, when she transferred to the Convent at Sacred Heart Home. She recalls fondly her experience in Japan where she and another sister spent several weeks providing summer religious education to the children of servicemen stationed there. At Sacred Heart, she continues an apostolate of visiting the residents in the various units.

**Sister M. Eleonore Kaydus, OSF — 70th jubilee.** She was born in Springfield, Ill. She served as

teacher in Indiana and Illinois and also at St. Vincent's Orphanage in Freeport, Ill., as housemother and teacher for many years up to when that mission was discontinued in 1978. She continued as a teacher in Illinois until she returned to the motherhouse to share her artistic creativity. After various assignments there, she came to Sacred Heart Home on Jan. 2, 2002 as a resident where she carries on a wonderful apostolate of friendliness and encouragement to the other residents.

**Sister Mary Bernard Engelman, OSF — 70th jubilee.** She was born in Tyrone, Pa. She and her twin sister and other siblings helped out in the family greenhouse as both parents were florists. She entered the convent in Joliet, Ill., in 1937 and has served in healthcare as registered nurse, lab technician, pastoral care staff member and administrative assistant. She served many years at Sacred Heart Hospital in Garrett until it was closed and then came to Sacred Heart Home where she befriended the staff and residents and continues to do so by her natural rapport with others. She is currently a resident at the home.

**Sister M Corde Miranda, OSF — 50th jubilee.** She was born in Globe, Ariz., in the mountainous area of that state. Prior to entering the convent, she spent nine years in various parts of Mexico as a bilingual secretary with a Mexico-USA commission and also in tourism. As a sister, she taught school at the primary and secondary levels in Indiana, Illinois and California. She transferred to psychiatric social work in health care in Illinois, as well as health care management. She also served as Portuguese/English interpreter in the congregation's mission in Brazil. She came to Sacred Heart Home Convent in 2000.



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# Miracles really do happen every day

BY LISA M. PETSCHÉ

Nobody likes to wait, especially for a medical diagnosis and treatment.

That's what my husband and I were doing for the past month.

It started with a routine visit to his family doctor, who didn't like his heart rate. A trip to a hospital emergency room, for a thorough assessment, followed. Signs of heart damage were discovered, suggesting a recent (silent) heart attack. The good news: my husband was in no immediate danger and could go home.

Further medical tests and consultations were booked. Meanwhile, my husband began to experience angina. He was prescribed medication and instructed to curtail his activities.

It was hard to remain patient and positive. We both knew well the insidious damage heart disease could cause and the tragic outcomes that could result. My father-in-law died prematurely from heart disease, as did a friend of mine who suffered a massive heart attack while jogging.

We were consequently relieved last week to learn that a heart catheterization (angiogram) — the final piece of the diagnostic puzzle — had been scheduled.

The patient education booklet addressed possible risks, including "a 1-in-1,000 chance of having a stroke, heart attack needing emergency open heart surgery or death." With angioplasty the risk increases to a 1-in-100 chance.

We tried to reassure our three children. They knew their grandpa had died of heart surgery complications. And they'd seen their dad make a trip to the emergency room. I encouraged them to pray that the doctor would be able to find and fix whatever was wrong.

Early the next morning my husband and I drove across town to the hospital's Heart Investigation Unit (HIU). We met some patients from out of area and realized just how fortunate we were to have a cardiac care center in our community.

The nursing staff explained everything that would happen as they prepared my husband for his catheterization. The HIU cardiologist came around to review the risks and obtain written consent. We were reassured to learn he had lots of experience.

After my husband was wheeled away, I relocated to the waiting room, where several grim-faced groups huddled together. The few people who looked to be my age clearly were offspring of patients, providing support to their other parent. I was by far the youngest spouse in the room.

Undaunted, I settled into a window seat overlooking the hospital's main entrance. I watched the comings and goings, listened to music and sipped coffee.

I felt surprisingly, inexplicably calm.

Time passed faster than I expected. Suddenly a familiar face appeared in front of me advising me that my husband was on his way to the recovery area.

His report: one coronary artery was found to be narrowed. The doctor was able to correct this through balloon angioplasty and insertion of a stent (a permanent, mesh tube made of metal). My husband could go home the next morning.

Just like that, the crisis was over.

There's a saying that miracles happen every day. When you or a loved one receive a lifesaving medical intervention, however routinely it may be performed, you know without a doubt that this is true.

The cardiologist later told us that the artery in question had been almost completely blocked. The reality is sobering.

So, too, is the diagnosis of coronary artery disease — a serious condition for which my husband will require medication and monitoring for the rest of his life. Lifestyle changes will also be needed, to help prevent another crisis. But we can deal with that.

Looking back, I can only attribute my composure to God's "amazing grace," which saved me from debilitating fear.

It would have been easy to panic. After all, the hospital where my husband received his new lease on life is the one where his dad died — on Father's Day.

I can't thank God enough that Father's Day in our family will be a joyful one this year — the best ever.

**Lisa M. Petsché** is a mother of three and a freelance writer specializing in family life.

# POPS meet at Granger for dads' guidance and spiritual support

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

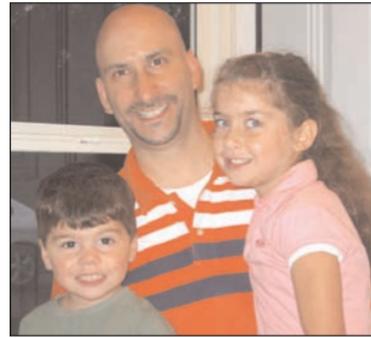
GRANGER — They are called by different names including dada, dad, daddy and father, but men just don't have groups where they can come together to share information, support and to learn. That's why St. Pius X parishioner and father, Michael A. Lacognato decided to form the Paternal Order of Pius X — or POPS — a men's group that has begun meeting once a month at the parish.

"As a father of young children myself, I always felt left out of the support group circuit," Lacognato told *Today's Catholic*. "I really didn't see anything in our parish or the community for only dads, and I know that St. Pius X is a progressive parish, so I received an opportunity to develop the program and presented it to the church. I was pretty much on my own with the developing of the program and found that young fathers very much supported my idea."

Lacognato said that around a half dozen fathers were there for their first regular meeting held recently in the evening at the parish.

The design of each meeting is based singularly, noted Lacognato, 40, a father of two, Maya, 6, and Ty, 3. Lacognato said that the main focus of forming the group is for "guidance and spiritual support to help raise my children in the Christian and Catholic community. I wanted to provide a channel to share that with other fathers who have clearly experienced what I have and also what I haven't."

The POPS leader notes that every meeting has and will have a



MICHELLE DONAGHEY

**Michael A. Lacognato enjoys spending time with his children, Ty and Maya. Lacognato has started a father's support group titled, POP, Paternal Order of Pius.**

"spiritual component, a reflection component and a stewardship component — stewardship is a component that I am very passionate about. I want to have at least one or two meetings where we as fathers — with our children — serve the community in some capacity."

To make this a reality, Lacognato has already contacted many of the not-for-profits in the community. "I want to seek out opportunities where we ... can carry out our Catholic mission to serve and grow in the Lord," he noted.

Lacognato is also seeking speakers for meetings. "They could include (topics), but are not limited to, your role as a father, raising your children in the Catholic faith, child discipline, the economics of having a family and round-table discussions."

Group membership is not limited to younger fathers either, he noted.

"The age limit is a good question," Lacognato said. "I have always couched the group in a 'young fathers' capacity. But who is to say what is young?"

"I always look at it as any father who feels that he would benefit from this," he added. "I would think that most of our dads will be of younger children, but there may be a father who is dealing with some issues with older children who could use insight and the support. And perhaps there are fathers who are older who may need something like this."

Lacognato said the group would be a good thing for any father who shares the emotions of just being a dad.

"I have had a lot of fantastic experiences that have touched the spectrum of emotions — from happiness to sadness, from feeling sky high to feeling the lowest I could feel. There has been nothing in my life that has touched me more than being a father," he said.

Lacognato hopes that St. Pius X will not be the only parish that incorporates a POPS group.

"I really hope that this takes off and that parishes start their own," Lacognato said. "As parents, we are role models, and as Catholics, we need to live what we believe. My hopes and dreams for this group are fairly simple. I would like for this group to establish itself as a foundation for all fathers as a resource of spirituality and support. I would like to know that our parish children are benefiting from this group, that our fathers have benefited from this group and that our Catholic teachings and faith can be passed on to the future of our church."

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# President Bush signs the Small Business and Work Opportunity Tax Act of 2007

## Question: What tax provisions were included in the recently passed tax bill?

Answer: On May 25, 2007, President Bush signed the Small Business and Work Opportunity Tax Act of 2007, which is part of a much larger and more controversial bill, the U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act of 2007. The new legislation targets tax incentives to small businesses and to taxpayers recovering from Hurricane Katrina. It contains provisions, which affect individuals as well as businesses. Here are some of the highlights.

**Expansion of Kiddie Tax.** A tax planning technique at one time was for wealthy parents who were in a higher tax bracket than their minor children to shift investment assets to such children who were taxed at a lower income tax rate. The result was that the tax on the income from these assets was less when taxed to these minor children.

Therefore, the "kiddie tax"

rules were then enacted, which stated that children under a certain age who had more than a certain amount of unearned income (from dividends, interest and capital gains) had to pay tax at their parents' tax rate.

More specifically, the kiddie tax applies to a child if: (1) the child has not reached a certain age by the close of the tax year and either of the child's parents is alive at such time; (2) the child's unearned income exceeds \$1,700 (for 2007); and (3) the child does not file a joint return. The kiddie tax applies regardless of whether the child may be claimed as a dependent by either or both parents.

Before the act, the kiddie tax applied to children under age 18. The act now expands the kiddie tax to apply to children who are under age 19 or who are full-time students over age 18 but under age 24. The expanded provision applies only to children whose earned income does not exceed one-half of the amount of their support. The new provision becomes effective Jan. 1, 2008.

## What planning opportunities should be considered with this new provision?

First of all, consider investments for the child that produce little or no taxable income, such as growth-oriented stocks or tax-exempt municipal bonds.

Also, parents and grandparents can invest in 529 college savings plans to help pay for college. Earnings are tax-free if distributions are used for qualified higher education expenses, and investments in these accounts are not subject to the kiddie tax. Moreover, contributions made to the Indiana College Savings Plan generate a 20 percent tax credit on the Indiana individual income tax return (starting in 2007) for a maximum credit of \$1,000.

An item to consider for a child who is age 18 or older this year and thus will not be effected by the kiddie tax in 2007, would be for the child to sell any appreciated securities this year and realize long-term capital gains at the child's lower capital gains tax rate of 5 percent.

depreciation, a taxpayer with a sufficiently small amount of depreciable tangible personal property that is purchased for use in the active conduct of a trade or business may elect to deduct or "expense" such costs currently.

Prior to the act, the maximum amount a taxpayer could expense, for tax years beginning in 2003 through 2009, was \$100,000 of the cost of qualifying property placed in service for the tax year. The \$100,000 amount is reduced (but not below zero) by the amount by which the cost of qualifying property placed in service during the tax year exceeds \$400,000. For tax years beginning in 2007, the inflation-adjusted amounts were \$112,000 and \$450,000, respectively.

Under the act, the \$100,000 and \$400,000 amounts are increased to \$125,000 and \$500,000, respectively, for tax years beginning in 2007 through 2010. These amounts are indexed for inflation in tax years beginning after 2007 and before 2011.

**Husband and Wife Business May Be Treated as Sole Proprietorship.** Under the new law, a married couple who operates a qualified

**Increase and Extension of Expensing for Small Business.** Under Code Section 179, in lieu of



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ELISA SMITH

joint venture and who files a joint return can elect not to be treated as a partnership for federal tax purposes. This treatment is available for tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 2006.

Each spouse would take into account his or her share of income, gain, loss and other items as a sole proprietor. They would not have to file a partnership return (Form 1065) and report two Schedule K-1s. Instead, couples would each report their share of income and losses in accordance with their respective interest in the venture on Form 1040, Schedule C.

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

Elisa M. Smith, CPA/PFS, is vice president and director of financial planning for STAR Wealth Management, Fort Wayne, and the director of planned giving for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

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## EDITORIAL

## Selfless giving: traits of a good husband, dad

On the feast of Christ the King, in 1948, Bishop William T. Mulloy of Covington, Ky., offered a 100-day indulgence for the following Husband's Daily Prayer: "As a husband I beseech thee, O triune God, make me unselfish, cheerful, trustful, thrifty and a devoted companion. If I am blessed by fatherhood, I ask the additional grace of helpfulness and good example. May our family be modeled upon the Holy Family. Amen."

That's good advice to husbands and fathers almost 60 years later. Certainly the world has become much more self-centered. We can use a few good men as role models who are willing to give selflessly of themselves to their wives and to their children. Call this a ticket to happiness, a happy marriage based on selfless acts of love. We only have to look to Jesus as the model for selflessness.

Trustfulness. The world needs examples of men willing to be true to their word, willing to do the right thing even when it is inconvenient.

Money difficulties are often the cause of fractures and dissolution of many marriages. Recently, Our Sunday Visitor introduced a parish-based program called Seven Steps to Financial Freedom. Phil Lenahan, who often writes for the national Catholic newspaper based in Huntington, designed the program, which involves couples, even individuals, meeting in a small faith-sharing setting.

St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Fort Wayne served as a pilot parish for the program, and its results were impressive. First, husbands and wives learned to pray together as a couple. Stewardship became a focus. Then the couples learned how to organize their finances to pay off credit card debt, reorganize their priorities and share the money management responsibilities as a couple. So thrifty in this sense becomes stewardship and using our resources in a way that reflects our faith and realizing that all that we have is a gift from God. We are the caretakers or stewards of these gifts.

A husband who is a devoted companion is willing to love his wife, as Christ loves the church. He would be willing to give his life for her. She is the center of his life and he is attentive to her.

We often hear that if a husband is devoted to his wife, the children will know their place in the family. The old phrase, "if mom isn't happy, nobody is happy" has some truth here.

Dads today often find themselves sharing duties around the home. They may cook, change diapers, empty the dishwasher, take care of laundry, clean the house, clean up messes in the middle of the night left by a sick child. This is all done to share the load, especially in an age when moms may be just as much a breadwinner as dad.

Children growing up today live in an intense, fast-changing and dangerous world. It takes a dad as devoted as St. Joseph and a mother as caring and nurturing as the Blessed Mother, to raise our families today. They too were charged with the responsibility of caring for a child in an intense, fast-changing and dangerous world. This meant migrating to Egypt. It meant sending a child out to the world to pursue his ministry. We only have to look to the Holy Family as the model of what qualities we need to be a good dad, a good mom and a selfless companion.

### Best wishes for Gary

*Today's Catholic* extends its warmest wishes to our neighbor to the west, the Diocese of Gary, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. This anniversary holds special significance because the Gary diocese was once part of the Diocese of Fort Wayne. At the time of the split, priests were asked to stay in whichever (part of the) diocese they had been serving in at that time, resulting in priests from Gary serving in our diocese for their entire careers and priests from Fort Wayne and South Bend serving in Gary for their entire careers. Today, figures like retired Gary priest Father William Peil, who now resides in his native Fort Wayne once more, remind us of this page from our shared history.

We congratulate Bishop Dale Melczek, our sister paper, *Northwest Indiana Catholic*, as well as the priests, religious and laity of the Diocese of Gary. As our diocese celebrates 150 years, our neighbors celebrate 50 years of their own.

**Today's Catholic editorial board** consists of Bishop John M. D'Arcy, Ann Carey, Don Clemmer, Father Mark Gurtner, Father Michael Heintz, Tim Johnson, Vince LaBarbera and Msgr. J. William Lester.

# 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

## Indiana Catholic Conference speaks out about execution

It is regrettable that the State of Indiana has scheduled the execution of Michael Lambert on June 15, the second person to be executed within as many months. Because taking a life is only morally justified when it is the only option in defense of life (lives), the Indiana bishops respectfully request that the life of Michael Lambert be spared and his sentence be commuted to life imprisonment without parole.

The common good and society will not be protected by taking his life. In addition, capital punishment undermines the sacredness of human life. It fails to combat crime effectively and doesn't contribute to building a society that is free from crime. Furthermore, it neither helps the victims who survive nor does it mitigate the victims' loss.

In addition to the moral concerns, a recent study by the American Bar Association, entitled "ABA Assessment of Indiana's Death Penalty" identified many problems and concerns regarding Indiana's application of the death penalty. These, along with the con-

cerns regarding the lethal injection method, add to the need to declare a moratorium on the use of the death penalty.

The church continues to pray for the family of Mr. Lambert's victim, for his family and for Mr. Lambert. May God in his mercy protect and heal all who are involved with this tragedy.

**Glenn Tebbe**  
Executive Director of Indiana Catholic Conference  
On behalf of the Indiana Catholic bishops and Board of Directors of the Indiana Catholic Conference

## A father's rosary brings a story of faith, forgiveness and survival

BY DIANE FREEBY

NOTRE DAME — It was her father's love that sent Immaculée Ilibagiza into hiding, clutching the red and white rosary he had pressed into her hands during the last frantic moments they would see each other on this earth.

It was God the Father's love that would ultimately save this young Rwandan woman during her country's darkest hours. Armed only with those rosary beads and the close company of seven other women, she hid for three months, crammed into the tiny bathroom of a nearby Protestant pastor.

Immaculée was home for Easter in the spring of 1994 when chaos broke loose in her homeland after the president's plane was shot down. Whipped into a frenzy by the Hutu-led government, neighbors and friends turned on one another in order to wipe out the entire Tutsi tribe. What followed was three months of bloody violence, with over 1 million people killed, including nearly all of Immaculée's family.

As one day faded into another, the frightened women huddled quietly in the three-by-four-foot bathroom, for fear the killers would find them. When a mob of some 200 gathered outside the pastor's home, Immaculée could hear them shouting as they waved their machetes. Then they entered the house, ripping it apart looking for anyone who might be hiding.

"My faith was completely challenged," recalled Immaculée. "I remember I said, 'God, if these people don't find us today, I will try to know who you are. I will know you exist. I will know that miracles exist.'"

The killers turned the house upside down and were about to turn the handle on the bathroom door when Immaculée heard them leave, muttering something about trusting the pastor not to hide any Tutsis.

"I don't know what you pray," the pastor later told the women, "but whatever you are doing, keep doing it. They came right to the door. I don't know what happened, and they just went back."

"I prayed the rosary from 6 a.m. until 10 p.m., when I just closed my eyes and fell asleep. It was a total escape from my anger."

Even as she meditated and prayed, Immaculée struggled spiritually. When she stopped praying, she would hear a voice telling her not to bother, that God wasn't going to save her. But when she prayed, she said she felt peace. Yet one line in the Our Father continued to challenge her: "... as we forgive those who trespass against us." So she would omit that part of her prayer.

"One time I was praying again the rosary and I saw Jesus on the cross, which I had been seeing all the time because I was really meditating on everything," Immaculée explained. "When he was suffering on the cross, and he said, 'forgive them Father,' he was telling me to forgive the killers. In that instant the pain I was feeling of hating them ... the anger ... it almost fell off my shoulder."

Forgiveness wasn't easy, but Immaculée began to pray for the killers who continued to prowl around just inches away from her on the other side of the bathroom wall.

"I cannot tell you how much good it did to me, just to let go of the anger. It was again like I'm in a paradise, feeling so happy ... feeling like I'm lying down on the lap of the Blessed Mother, like I'm a child."

After surviving three months of genocide raging just outside their walls, Immaculée and the other women were able to escape to a French camp and their eventual freedom. But the stacks of dead bodies that littered the countryside is an image that she will forever carry with her.

Immaculée says it is prayer that continues to sustain her, especially devotion to the rosary. Now married and living in America, Immaculée implores us to try to always pray with our hearts.

"The Blessed Mother says this a lot," said Immaculée, giving an example of how she meditates.

"'Hail Mary,' what does that mean? 'Full of grace, the Lord is with you,' okay, he is with you. The Lord sent you the child Jesus, and he was God and came to save the world, and you were chosen."

Immaculée is adamant that we must listen to what Mary is telling us today, citing the warnings not heeded when Mary appeared in Kibeho, Rwanda, 13 years before the genocide. Approved by the local bishop and again by the Vatican in 2001, three young women in 1981 reported seeing "a river of blood, people who killed one another and abandoned bodies with no one to bury them."

According to a July 2, 2001 Zenit news report, this awful vision was the only one of its kind. In the rest, Mary, who had dark skin, encouraged the young women to pray, fast and do penance.

The Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows in Kibeho was dedicated after the apparitions were authorized by Bishop Jean Batiste Garhamanyi in 1982. Devotion to the shrine and Mary's messages of prayer and conversion helped heal a people ravaged by evil, the bishop said.

As the Catholic Church in her homeland continues to heal, Immaculée continues to tell her story of faith, forgiveness and survival. She believes the message of a call to prayer and conversion that was revealed in Kibeho continues today.

"What she's talking about in every place she's appeared, we really have to listen," said Immaculée of the Blessed Mother. "She is the Mother of God. And God doesn't go wrong."

# Cool under pressure: Papal guards handle many pilgrims discreetly

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI's security guards are known for composure under pressure, and they showed it when a deranged German tried to jump onto the pope's jeep at a general audience.

Within seconds, 11 Vatican plainclothes agents — Swiss Guards and policemen — subdued the 27-year-old man and pinned him to the ground. He was unarmed, and the pope was unharmed in the June 6 incident.

The whole thing happened so quickly and quietly that it went unnoticed by most people in the square, including the pope. No guns were drawn and no alarms were sounded. The pope's jeep never sped up, and most of the faithful, even those right in front of the scene, just kept snapping pictures of the pontiff.

It was a classic display of the Vatican's elegant and understated approach to security, which relies more on intuitive alertness than a show of force.

But despite the official sighs of relief, episodes like this inevitably raise apprehensions. With the pope passing through tens of thousands

of people in an open jeep each Wednesday, it's very difficult to prevent an overly enthusiastic or mentally unstable person from running toward him.

Except during bad weather, popes riding through St. Peter's Square generally have not used the covered popemobile, which has bulletproof glass. Even after he was shot in the square in 1981, Pope John Paul II continued to use an open jeep for such appearances.

The whole idea, of course, is for the pope to get close to those who came to see him. The papal vehicle crisscrosses the lanes that divide seating sections in the square, about an arm's length from the people in the crowd, so that everyone can get a good look and a photo.

Tickets are required to attend the pope's general audience, but they are easily obtainable.

Since the pope insists on being out in the open, the Vatican relies on subtle layers of protection. Most importantly, before entering St. Peter's Square all pilgrims now pass through airport-style metal detectors and have their bags searched, in an operation carried

## THE VATICAN LETTER

JOHN THAVIS

out by the Italian police force assigned to the area around the square.

The metal detectors and bag checks were introduced during the Holy Year 2000, but were used much more routinely after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

The Italian police agents patrol St. Peter's Square when it's not being used for audiences, ceremonies or liturgies. But during papal events, the Vatican's own security teams take over.

The Vatican's uniformed gendarme agents and Swiss Guards are stationed throughout the crowd, and they are trained to notice potential troublemakers.

LETTER, PAGE 15

# God's mercy is given to those who ask



## THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

### 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time Lk 7:36-8:3

The first reading for this weekend's liturgy is from the Second Book of Samuel. Scholars refer to First and Second Samuel as historical books. They are not history in the sense that books of history are written today. It does not mean, therefore, that they are historically unreliable or just the creature of a writer's active imagination.

Rather, it means that they draw from the history of ancient Israel religious lessons.

In this reading, Nathan, the prophet, confronts David, the king of Israel, with his relationship with Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah, the Hittite leader. Since Bathsheba was married, as evidently was David, the relationship was adulterous. Ancient Hebrews detested adultery, and only one thing was worse, namely adultery with a pagan. Such unions weakened the commitment of Israel to the one, true God.

Nevertheless, when David admits the error of his ways, even in these grave circumstances, Nathan assures him that God forgives him.

The Epistle to the Galatians furnishes the second reading. This

passage is a profound definition of what genuine Christian living is. "I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me." This one statement, so familiar to, and beloved among, Christians, captures the intimacy of the bond between the Lord and true disciples. It is a bond created in uncompromising faith. It is a bond that brings salvation to the disciple.

St. Luke's Gospel provides us with the third reading. It too is familiar to Christians. It is the story of a "sinful" woman. The text does not describe this woman as a prostitute, but over the centuries Christians usually have assumed that she was a prostitute.

Assuming that the woman was a prostitute only underscores the depth of God's love, shown in Christ's forgiving the woman. This aspect of the story, namely God's forgiveness, is the point of this passage.

Whether the woman was a prostitute is not the point. She was gravely sinful. All, including Jesus, very much saw her as such. At the time of Jesus, in the Jewish culture the greatest sins that a woman could commit were prostitution and adultery.

Her gesture of washing the Lord's feet, and perfuming them, was a great act of deference and humility.

God's forgiveness, given in Christ's mercy, is so great and unquestioning that the Pharisee, the specialist in theology, cannot fully comprehend what was occurring. Jesus had to explain God's love in a parable.

As so often said in the Gospels, the apostles were in the Lord's company. They were Christ's special students and followers. Also in the Lord's company were several women, including Mary of Magdala, from whom seven

demons had been expelled.

The presence of the apostles verifies their future role in the development of Christianity. The presence of the women shows the outreach of Jesus. Women hardly would have been admitted to the company of male figures who called people to holiness. The women sensed their need for God, and in Jesus God responded.

## Reflection

The powerful lesson offered us by these readings is that the mercy of God is unquestioningly given those who humbly and sincerely ask for God's forgiveness of their sins.

The exact details of the sin of the woman who met Jesus are not furnished us in the Gospel. However, the sin committed by David in his liaison with the wife of Uriah, the Hittite, is clear. Together, the picture is vivid and without obscurity. All were guilty of grave sin.

Yet, mercifully, God forgave all. The key for us is to give ourselves to Christ, so that we "live not ourselves, but Christ lives in us".

## READINGS

**Sunday:** 2 Sm 12:7-10, 13 Ps 32:1-2, 5, 7, 11 Gal 2:16, 19-21 Lk 7:36-8:3

**Monday:** 2 Cor 6:1-9:10 Ps 98:1-4 Mt 5:38-42

**Tuesday:** 2 Cor 8:1-9 Ps 146:2, 5-9a Mt 5:43-48

**Wednesday:** 2 Cor 9:6-11 Ps 112:1-4, 9 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

**Thursday:** 2 Cor 11:1-11 Ps 111:1-4, 7-8 Mt 6:7-15

**Friday:** 2 Cor 11:18, 21-40 Ps 34:2-7 Mt 6:19-23

**Saturday:** 2 Cor 12:1-10 Ps 34:8-13 Mt 6:24-34

## THE CATEQUIZ'EM

by Dominic Camplisson

June 22 marks a remembrance for St. Thomas More and St. John Fisher. Both of these men fell victim to Henry VIII's intertwining of church and state. This quiz looks at what the church teaches about a Catholic's involvement in social policy.

### 1. Where is most of the Catechism of the Catholic Church's (CCC) teaching on a Catholic role in society to be found?

- in part I on the basic elements of faith
- in part III in the "Life In Christ" section
- in Part V the "How to get out the vote" appendix

### 2. The CCC tell us that the basis of government must be

- aimed at protecting the greater good even at the expense of the individual.
- geared towards the individual.
- moderately totalitarian.

### 3. One principle underlying the church's view of society is subsidiarity. This means:

- Decisions should be made at the lowest possible level.
- Decisions are not to be made unless they are unanimous.
- Decisions must always be made by the head of state.

### 4. According to the CCC, authority is:

- unnecessary
- worldly and therefore corrupt
- entirely legitimate

### 5. Authority is derived from:

- the consent of the governed
- God
- the ruling party's prerogatives

### 6. However, when governments stray

- a Catholic is not obliged to accept the rules of an immoral government.
- a Catholic must obey but will be forgiven for doing so.
- a Catholic must bring down an evil government.

### 7. The church does not advocate for one type of government only, but prefers:

- imperial systems
- a pluralistic society with balancing institutions
- separate rules for each religious group

### 8. In general Catholics should

- never vote for a non-Catholic.
- never vote.
- not shun civic engagement.

### 9. A key element of church teaching and history is

- tax-exempt churches.
- social justice.
- equal taxation of all people.

### 10. Another basic concept is Catholic social teaching is solidarity. In which country did an anti-communist trade union take this as a name?

- Italy, home of Paul VI
- Poland, home to John Paul II
- Germany, home of Benedict XVI

### 11. According to the CCC, the source of all charity is

- a belief in the equality of all classes.
- the awareness of need.
- God.

### 12. One of the key doctrines of the church in relation to its international conflicts is known as the

- "Just War" doctrine.
- civil disobedience doctrine.
- diplomatic entreaty doctrine.

### 13. It attaches several conditions to an acceptable conflict; which is not one of these?

- There has to be some hope of success.
- The force used must be proportionate to the attack or risk suffered.
- The enemy must be non-Catholics.

### 14. This Catholic principle means looking after the interests of the neediest first:

- pax et circusae
- the preferential option for the poor
- the care of souls

## ANSWERS

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

# Doctor talks about the harm of tubal ligations

## Do tubal ligations have harmful effects upon women?

The April 2007 edition of the *Journal of Reproductive Medicine* — a major mainstream OB/GYN medical journal — has published our paper showing that tubal ligation is harmful to two key measures of the sexual function of women (Warehime, M. N., Bass, L. and Pedulla, D. Effects of Tubal Ligation Among American Women; *J Reprod Med* 2007).

Using the Natural Health and Social Life Survey, an unimpeachable national health and sexual functioning survey authored by the University of Chicago, my colleagues from the University of Oklahoma Department of sociology and I found that women who have had a tubal ligation, as compared with women who had not had a tubal ligation, were more than two times as likely to report stress interfering with sex over the previous 12 months, and 1.79 times as likely to report having seen a physician about sexual problems within the previous 12 months.

These robust results were likely not to be spurious because they persisted after controlling for a variety of potentially confounding demographic and health data,

which also showed that the findings were not directly attributable to physical and/or medical complications of the sterilization procedure itself.

We speculate that tubal ligation alters the interpersonal bond between the marriage partners, probably through an interference with the type of interpersonal trust required for happy and secure spousal bonding in marriage. Also, very consistent with the previously published literature, tubal ligation likely causes damage to a woman's body image.

Women should learn the truth about these damaging and harmful procedures, and if they cannot learn it through the major media outlets, then perhaps we ourselves can disseminate the findings as widely as possible, thereby at least doing what we can to spread the news; we believe, good news.

Dr. Dominic M. Pedulla, M.D., associate clinical professor of Medicine, Oklahoma University Health Sciences Center, provided the answer to this question.

**Father, I would like your recommendation on what book/booklet to purchase for my 20-year-old daughter that discusses how Natural Family Planning works. Thank you. Cathy**

## THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

My name is Kristie Wellman, and I work at One More Soul, a nonprofit organization fostering God's plan for chastity, love, marriage and children. I'm 24 and the youth and family outreach coordinator here. Stella from the NFP Outreach forwarded your e-mail to us for our suggestions. Here are a few different suggestions:

- For a simple overview of NFP — but one that would basically teach your daughter the method, there is a small book called "Love and Fertility" that is on the Ovulation Method of NFP by Family of the Americas. It is short and to the point and easily understood.

- For another book that would actually teach your daughter the method, there is "The Billings Method." This is a much longer book. It also teaches the Ovulation Method using a different methodology. The book does go into more

detail and explanation than "Love and Fertility."

- If you are more interested in something that discusses NFP but isn't a book actually teaching the method, there are other options:

One More Soul's resource called "First Comes Love" is in newspaper format and full of testimonies, quotes, articles and more on the church's teaching on married sexuality — the blessings of children, the harms of contraception and how NFP can help marriages. It is very well put together and good for just picking up and reading bits and pieces at a time.

There is also a book called "Life-Giving Love" by Kimberly Hahn that is excellent. It discusses the church's teaching on NFP and openness to life. I love it because it is engaging to read and has stories of real-life people who either have or have not lived out this teaching in their lives and what happened.

Finally, One More Soul has two

CDs that are relevant to what you are looking for. The first is "Contraception: Why Not?" by Dr. Janet Smith, which explains the advantages of NFP. The second is "It Brought Me Back to God," the testimony of a man who reluctantly agreed to switch from contraception to NFP in his marriage and his life totally changed for the better in the process.

You can obtain all of these resources from our Web site, [www.omsoul.com](http://www.omsoul.com), and other places (Catholic bookstores, etc.).

**Today's Catholic** welcomes questions from readers. E-mail your questions to [editor@fw.diocese-fwsb.org](mailto: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.

## SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for June 17, 2007

Luke 7:36-50

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: the story of a loving woman. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

PHARISEE	WOMAN	ALABASTER
OINTMENT	WEeping	BATHE
HIS FEET	TEARS	PROPHET
TOUCHING	SINNER	SIMON
OWED	FIVE HUNDRED	MORE
I SUPPOSE	ENTERED	WATER
KISSING	GREAT LOVE	PEACE

## DEBTS AND LOVE

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

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# Christ first, last and always

A few weeks back, Bishop William Lori of Bridgeport, John Allen of the *National Catholic Reporter* and I were invited by Doubleday to help launch Pope Benedict XVI's new book, "Jesus of Nazareth," at a May 15 program in Washington. It was, among other things, a happy reunion, as I hadn't seen Brother Allen since the halcyon days of April 2005, which we both spent in Rome covering (and preparing books on) the papal transition. Since then, John has moved to New York, but his return to the Great Republic hasn't diminished his insight into papal affairs and how others perceive them — and so he began his remarks with an acute observation.

Note, he said, that the mainstream media found three bits of "news" during Benedict XVI's May trip to Brazil. There was the impromptu papal statement about politicians, abortion and the ecclesiastical sanction of excommunication. There was the papal condemnation of drug-dealing (Surprise!). And there were a few lines in an 11-page speech to the bishops of Latin America and the Caribbean in which the pope observed that both capitalism and Marxism had flaws (surprise again!). To his colleagues on the press plane, Allen remarked, these were three disconnected moments. In fact, he said, there was a "scarlet thread" running throughout Benedict XVI's speeches, homilies and remarks in Brazil, a thread that linked the Brazil trip to the publication of "Jesus of Nazareth." That thread was, and is, the pope's insistence that Jesus Christ is the revolution.

For Benedict XVI, everything else flows from that unshakable conviction. Social progress, which means political and economic sys-

tems that reflect human dignity and unleash human creativity, follows from belief in God through Christ. Liberation from enslavement to drugs and drug-dealers is possible because of belief in God through Christ. Healing from the wounds of abortion follows from faith in God through Christ. And so forth and so on, through the whole catalogue of 21st century ills.

During the discussion that followed our panel's remarks, a guest asked whether there was a difference between this radical Christocentricity of Benedict XVI and the teaching of his great predecessor, John Paul II. I suggested that it wasn't so much a matter of difference as of destination. John Paul II began his pontificate with the clarion call, "Open the doors to Christ!" Why? Because, as the pope continued, "Christ knows 'what is in man.' He alone knows it." John Paul's magisterium was intensely Christocentric, in that Karol Wojtyla was convinced that we learn that truth about our humanity in contemplating the face of Christ: his was a Christology with an anthropological destination.

Benedict XVI shares that conviction. But as he writes in "Jesus of Nazareth," getting to the truth about ourselves through "intimate friendship with Christ" is difficult today because two centuries of historical-critical dissection of the New Testament have left the face of Christ murky, even obscure. When exegetes try to reassemble the pieces after dissecting the Gospels, the result too often reflects the exegete's own concept of who Christ should be — mild-mannered liberal teacher; apocalyptic visionary; social reformer; political revolutionary — rather



GEORGE WEIGEL

## THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

than the truth about Jesus of Nazareth, his person and his message.

We need both historically sophisticated methods of interpretation and trust in order to read the Gospels properly, Pope Benedict writes. If we approach the Gospels with suspicion, we will encounter a Christ in our preferred image, not the Jesus who is the "image of the invisible God" (Col. 1.15). If we approach the Gospels with alert minds and open, trusting hearts, however, we meet a Jesus with whom "intimate friendship" becomes possible and life-transforming.

Time and again, whether he's writing about the temptations, the parables, the Lord's Prayer, or the miracles of Jesus's public ministry, Pope Benedict's method of reading the Gospels puts the edge back on stories and messages often dulled by familiarity. Reading the New Testament through the eyes of Joseph Ratzinger in Jesus of Nazareth thus becomes a way to read the Gospels afresh — and to be reminded that, whether the *New York Times* thinks it's "news" or not, the proclamation of Jesus Christ is what the church is for.

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

## LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

The more elite security contingent that accompanies the pope's jeep typically includes the head of the Vatican gendarme corps and Swiss Guards. Dressed in suits, this team of about 10 agents walks briskly alongside the moving vehicle, scanning the route and the crowd for potential problems.

Vatican security officials have hinted that on some occasions, sharpshooters keep vigilance over papal events from Vatican rooftops adjacent to the square.

Perhaps the biggest problem

facing the pope's "guardian angels" is distinguishing a real threat from a pilgrim's overexuberance. Most of the people who have tried to rush the pope — and there have been many over the years — said they only wanted to be near the pontiff.

If Vatican security seems low-profile during papal events, that is not true during visits by foreign dignitaries.

President George W. Bush, for example, saw the pope June 9. The last time he came to the Vatican, his motorcade of armor-plated SUVs roared through St. Peter's Square, which had been closed off for hours for the presidential passage.

# Sports

## Marian eyes state golf championship

SOUTH BEND — Focusing on an Indiana state prep golf championship is now in the minds of an inspired Mishawaka Marian High School team, which bagged its first regional championship since 2002.

The Knights edged their cross-town rivals, the Penn Kingsmen, by the margin of three strokes, 317 to 320, after being nipped earlier in the week by a single stroke from Penn.

Leading the Knights to victory at the regional was Adam Sumrall, who carded a 74, and won medalist honors, a feat he has been accustomed to winning several times this year in individual matches.

His teammate Colin Van Es shot a 77 after a good second round in which he made several excellent recoveries. Bryant Demeter had 81 and Stephen Sexton, 85. Nick Fitzpatrick had 87 to round out the team scoring.

Both Marian and Penn will take their rivalry to the state finals in Indianapolis where the tussle between the two teams will be just as intense as it has been during the season.

Ben Bellville and Adam Stump, both of Penn, led the Kingsmen, each shooting 77.

The championship was June 12.

## Luers girls softball loses to Andean in semistate

FORT WAYNE — The Bishop Luers girls softball team lost 4-1 to Merrillville Andean in the IHSAA semistate softball finals at Pike High School.

Luers won a streak of 13 games and made its first-time appearance in the state finals. Twelve of the 14 players will return to Luers next year.

## Saint Joseph's baseball ends successful season

SOUTH BEND — Saint Joseph's baseball Indians, under their first coach John Gumpf, wound up one of their most successful seasons ever with a 24-7 record after competing in the Indiana Class 3A tournament.

Although the Indians captured their first sectional in recent years, they were eliminated in the state semifinals by undefeated Norwell, 11-0, a game in which the undefeated Panthers stretched their winning margin to 33 games.

Norwell's star pitcher held the Indians to a pair of singles and did not permit any player to reach second base in the contest, in which the Panthers scored in every inning. — EJD

**MASONS, SHRINERS AND KNIGHTS HOST GOLF OUTING** A golfing event that has turned out to be one of the most outstanding in northern Indiana among fraternal organizations will be renewed for the 59th year on Wednesday, July 11, at the Four Lakes Country Club in Adamsville, Mich. It will bring together golfers from the Scottish Rite Masons and Shriners and the Knights of Columbus 4th Degree. A host of golfing prizes will be awarded and a steak dinner at 6:30 p.m. The event is a shotgun tournament in which all golfers start at 1 p.m. — EJD

## Despite loss to Panthers, St. John Raiders sees team improvement

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In the 2007 Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) year-end softball tournament, the St. Vincent Panthers defeated the lady Raiders from St. John New Haven.

The tournament was not seeded and the Raiders finished the regular season with a 3-3 record. The Raiders had a bye in the first round and beat St. Therese in the semifinals.

In just their second year of participating in fast pitch softball, Coach Vince Fendel was pleased with the improvement his Raiders showed from last year's season. "We still have a lot of work to do when facing the fast pitchers, but did a great job this year," said Fendel.

Fendel listed fielding as the team's main strength this season and is looking forward to a solid nucleus returning for 2008 given that his pitchers and catchers



KAYLA ZINK

were all seventh graders this year.

The assistant coaches for the Raiders this season were Jamie Hunt, Ed Leist and Randy Ulrich. The team listed 12 young ladies on the roster for 2007 including four sixth graders, Addie Ball, Amanda Fendel, Sydney Ulrich and Katie Yagodenski. The seventh graders were Kayla Fendel, Jenny Hunt and Michelle

Marquelling. Eighth graders Hailee Hunt, Kristen Oberley, Molly Smith, Katie Leist and Kayla Zink rounded out this year's lineup.

Zink, who was also busy participating in track and field this spring for the Raiders, recently, received the female Distinguished Athlete Award for her class at St. John. Coach Fendel said that Zink played several infield positions for the Raiders this season, and he was pleased with her performance.

In the championship game, Zink had two hits against the Panthers ace pitcher Andrea Filler, a feat in itself.

Zink was not only a 2007 double winner at the CYO track and field city meet in the shot put and discus, but set a new record in the shot put with a throw of 36 feet, 2 inches.

As an eighth grader, Zink was a four quarter "A" honor roll student and played basketball at St. John.

## Smallbone and Dockery on Indiana state prep team

SOUTH BEND — The rich girls' basketball tradition at Saint Joseph's High School became evident when two members of the Indiana state champion 2005 Class 3A team (and went on to help the team earn two consecutive semistate accolades) were selected on the Indiana state prep team, which will play two games with the Kentucky high school all stars.

The Saint Joseph's players selected were Sidney Smallbone, a guard who will play at Tennessee, and Kristen Dockery, a 6-foot, 4-inch standout on rebounding.

The girls reported to DePauw University with games planned at Kentucky University on June 16 and Conesco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis on June 23. — EJD

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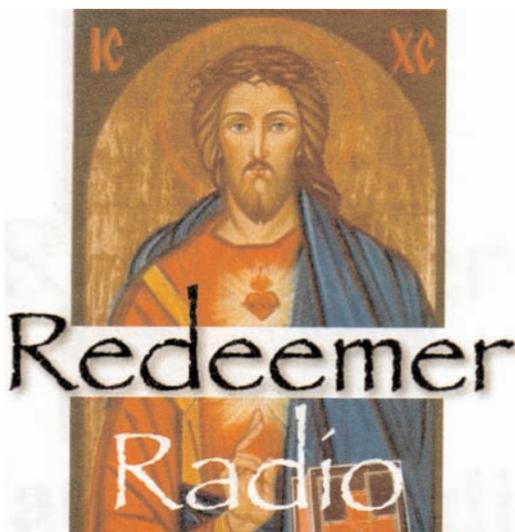
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## Arlotta family commits gift for Irish lacrosse stadium

NOTRE DAME — University of Notre Dame graduate John Arlotta, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Denver-based Coram Inc., and his wife, Bobbie, have pledged a lead gift toward a new lacrosse stadium to be built to the east of the Joyce Center as part of the University's new athletics quadrangle. The Arlottas' children — Mindy, Andy and Jon — also have pledged an additional gift from The Arlotta Family Foundation toward the project.

The lacrosse stadium, to be named Arlotta Stadium, is expected to be a \$5 million project. Construction will begin once it is fully funded and architectural design plans are available. Conceptual plans suggest a 3,000-seat, lighted stadium that would include an artificial-turf field, locker rooms, restrooms and concession areas.

"We're thrilled and grateful that the Arlottas' gift will significantly enhance the positioning of our lacrosse programs at Notre Dame,"

said Kevin White, the university's director of athletics. "Both our men's and women's programs already are nationally competitive — and a new, top-quality facility will further their abilities to attract the very best student-athletes in the sport of lacrosse."

The lacrosse project is part of the long-term athletics facilities master plan that ultimately will add a new softball stadium (groundbreaking took place last month on that facility), new stadiums for lacrosse, soccer, track and field and tennis, and three relocated football practice fields (one of them artificial turf), all in the area east and southeast of the Joyce Center. The university is actively seeking additional contributions for all of these projects.

The Arlottas said the reason for their gifts in support of the Irish lacrosse programs "was a combination of things. We absolutely fell in love with the game while living in Baltimore and, when considering how we could share some of

our blessings and good fortune with Notre Dame, we concluded that the lacrosse programs met three critical goals that we had established for our gift to the university.

"First, we wanted to do something that would help both men and women. Second, we wanted to support programs that produced great student-athletes. And third, we wanted to do something that would make a difference. The lacrosse programs at Notre Dame met all three of these criteria.

"It was a bonus that (head coaches) Kevin Corrigan and Tracy Coyne and their respective coaching staffs are wonderful people who have built their programs from scratch. Helping them add the final piece to their puzzle, and compete each year for a national championship, is very exciting for our entire family."

Arlotta is a 1971 graduate of Notre Dame who majored in marketing with a minor in transportation management.

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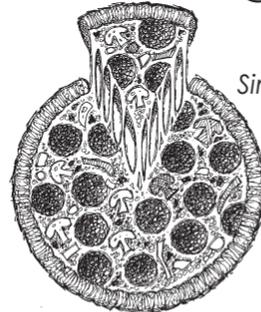
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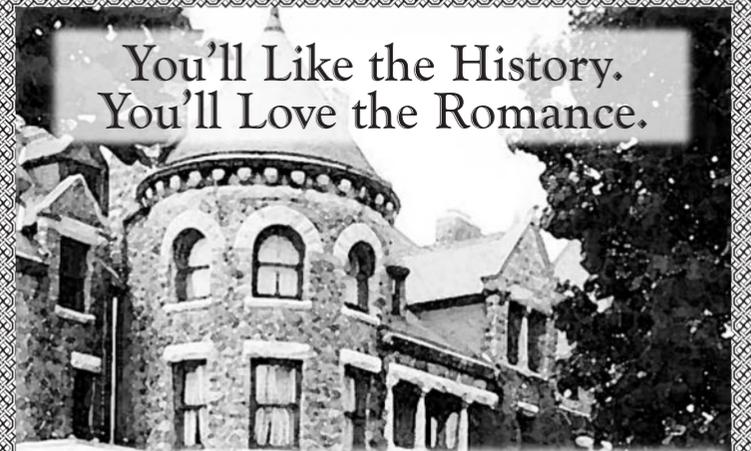
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# Summer TV choices offer some gems

BY HARRY FORBES

NEW YORK (CNS) — Here are some television program notes for the week of June 24 with their TV Parental Guidelines ratings if available. They have not been reviewed and therefore are not necessarily recommended by the Office for Film & Broadcasting.

**Sunday, June 24, 1:30-2:30 p.m. EDT (EWTN) "In Concert: 'Stabat Mater.'"** The Passion of Christ and the grief of Mary are beautifully evoked in this musical performance of Giovanni Battista Pergolesi's "Stabat Mater"; from All Saint's

Church in Aldwingle, England.  
**Monday, June 25, 9-10 p.m. EDT (PBS) "History Detectives."** The season premiere of the series that demonstrates that an object found in an attic or backyard might be anything but ordinary. Travel around the country to explore the stories behind local folklore, prominent figures and family legends. The objects in this episode include a portable projection screen that may have helped save the free world during the Cuban missile crisis; a possibly rare recording of the old radio series "Amos 'n' Andy"; and a watercolor painting printed with the words

"Official Program Woman Suffrage Procession Washington D.C. March 3, 1913" (TV-PG — parental guidance suggested).

**Tuesday, June 26, 10-11:30 p.m. EDT (PBS) "Sierra Leone's Refugee All Stars."** If the refugee is today's tragic icon of a war-ravaged world, then Sierra Leone's Refugee All Stars, a reggae-inflected band born in the camps of West Africa, represents a real-life story of survival and hope. The six-member Refugee All Stars came together in Guinea after civil war forced them from their native Sierra Leone. Traumatized by physical injuries and the brutal loss of family and

community, they fight back with the only means they have: music. The result is a tableau of tragedy transformed by the band's inspiring determination to sing and be heard. The "P.O.V." presentation was co-directed by Zach Niles and Banker White (TV-14/V — parents strongly cautioned; intense violence).

**Wednesday, June 27, 9-10:30 p.m. EDT (PBS) "Paul Simon: The Library Of Congress Gershwin Prize For Popular Song."** Paul Simon, one of America's most respected songwriters and musicians, will be the recipient of the first annual Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for

Popular Song. Taped at the Warner Theatre in Washington, DC, the all-star gala concert features appearances by Yolanda Adams, Marc Anthony, Dixie Hummingbirds, Jerry Douglas, Art Garfunkel, Alison Krauss, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Lyle Lovett, Stephen Marley, James Taylor and Buckwheat Zydeco (TV-G — general audience).

**Saturday, June 30, 8-9 p.m. EDT (EWTN) "Fourteen Flowers of Pardon."** A documentary of the life of St. Maria Goretti, who gave up her life to preserve her purity.

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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.

**Tolten Society plans luncheon**  
 South Bend — The Tolten Society of St. Augustine Parish will have a men and women's luncheon on Sunday, June 16, from 1 to 4 p.m. The speaker is Dr. John May Griffin on the topic "Heat of life can kill you if you let it." Admission is free.

**Deanery plans luncheon, meeting**  
 Warsaw — The Elkhart deanery of the Council of Catholic Women will have a luncheon meeting on Thursday, June 21, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish. The rosary will begin at 10:40 a.m. followed by Mass, lunch, meeting, entertainment and raffle. Reservations are \$8 and needed by June 18 to Rita Couture, 509 Pleasant St., Kendallville, IN 46755. Call (260) 347-4014 for information.

**Annual guest Sunday announced**  
 Huntington — Invite a friend or neighbor to Guest Sunday, at St. Mary Church, 903 N. Jefferson St. on Saturday, June 23 at 5:15 p.m. or Sunday, June 24, at 8 or 10 a.m. A commentary will explain parts of the Mass. Refreshments to follow.

**Benefit assists Hummer children**  
 Waterloo — There will be a community benefit for the Jim and Kristy Hummer children, triplets with special medical needs who were born in 2000. A barbecue dinner, drawings and bake sale are slated Friday, June 15, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Waterloo Elementary School. The Hummers are members of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Waterloo. Contact Jan Blomeke for additional information (260) 837-7115.

**Little Flower Holy Hour**  
 Fort Wayne — Deacon Kevin Bauman will celebrate the Holy Hour at MacDougal Chapel on Tuesday, June 19, at 7:15 p.m. Deacon Kevin is a diocesan seminarian. Please join us in praying for priests and for vocations.

**Spring potluck planned by ladies**  
 South Bend — The Altar and Rosary of Sacred Heart of Jesus, Lakeville, will host the Area Council of Catholic Women Spring potluck on Tuesday, June 26. Father Thomas King will offer Mass at 11 a.m. at the church, with the luncheon following. All women are welcome but reservations are needed by Sunday, June 24, to Rosemary at (574) 291-2395.

## REST IN PEACE

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Fred I. Mitchell, 45, Our Lady of Hungary

**Fort Wayne**  
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 Ella Emmons, 84, St. Bavo

Ruben M. Gonzales Sr., 57, St. Matthew Cathedral

Edward J. Hazelett Jr., 91, St. Jude

**Monroeville**  
 Bobby F. McKinnon, 63, St. Rose of Lima

John E. Dahms, 74, St. Hedwig

Mary Ann E. Pence Hofer, St. Joseph, HC

**South Bend**  
 Reathel M. French, 80, Holy Family

Oliver J. Ertel, 83, St. Anthony de Padua

Albert Torres, 79, St. Joseph

Dorothy M. Kaniewski, 90, Holy Cross

Santos Lopez Jr., 1, St. Adalbert

Nancy K. McLain, 71, St. Vincent de Paul

Martha A. Rzepka, 88, Holy Family

Rita Robakowski, 86

Anthony J. McEntee, 80, St. Vincent de Paul

Silvio A. Gardini, 60, St. Matthew Cathedral

George Zywert, 73, St. Hedwig

Steven W. Pfeiffer, 62, Most Precious Blood

David S. Hes, 64, St. Matthew Cathedral

**Warsaw**  
 Ethel M. Emerick, 90, Sacred Heart

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 Anita M. Beatty, 83, St. Pius X

Benedict Kasznia, 83, St. Adalbert

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## TV MASS GUIDE FOR JULY

DATE	FEAST	FORT WAYNE	SOUTH BEND	"Catholic Comment" airs Sundays at 7:05 a.m. on WOWO 1190 AM in Fort Wayne and at 7:30 a.m. on WSBT 960 AM in South Bend.  "Radio Rosary" airs M-F at 11 a.m. Saturday and Sunday at 7:30 a.m. on Redeemer Radio WLYV 1450 AM
		CHANNEL 33 - WISE 10:30 A.M.	CHANNEL 16 - WNDU 10:30 A.M.	
July 1	13th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Father John Pfister St. Mary Huntington	Father Cornelius Ryan, CSC Little Flower South Bend	
July 8	14th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Father Larry Kramer St. Paul of the Cross Columbia City — AIRS 6:30 a.m.	Father William Kummer St. Michael Plymouth — AIRS 6 a.m.	
July 15	15th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Father Edward Erpelding St. Mary of the Assumption Avilla	Father Edward O'Connor, CSC Corby Hall Notre Dame	
July 22	16th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Father Cyril Fernandes St. Patrick Arcola	Father Neil Wack, CSC Christ the King South Bend	
July 29	17th Sunday of Ordinary Time	Msgr. J. William Lester, PA St. Anne Home Fort Wayne	Father Patrick Maloney, CSC Corby Hall Notre Dame	

1857



2007

BY MARK WEBER

# ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS SESQUICENTENNIAL

## THE DIOCESE OF FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND

### St. Anthony of Padua, Angola, Est. 1926

At St. Anthony Church in Angola this summer, the choir may make a departure from sanctioned music.

Franciscan Father Fred Pasche, pastor, would like to hear a takeoff on Gershwin's "Summertime," with the first line changed to say "Summertime, and the givin' is easy."

Such a tune could set a mellow mood as parishioners ponder pledges for a new church building to be built on a large empty lot facing West Maumee Street.

Mass was first celebrated in Angola early in July of 1924 by Father Charles Scholl in the high school gym to accommodate summer visitors to the area.

After the lake season, the few area Catholics attended Mass in rented rooms above Elston's Shoe Store on West Maumee Street.

In July of 1926, the congregation found its first permanent home in a large brick residence at 704 East Maumee dedicated by Bishop John F. Noll as St. Rita.

In July of 1931, the Franciscan Fathers of the Order of Friars Minor Conventuals were authorized by Bishop Noll to establish a novitiate for the order in

Angola, and in the process, the Franciscans were charged with the care of St. Rita, which was then renamed St. Anthony in honor of the miracle worker from Padua.

On Oct. 11, 1940, ground was broken for a new church building on the grounds of the novitiate at 700 West Maumee.

This church had a seating capacity of 400 persons but the resort season increased the demand to more than 1,500 and in May of 1959, a second church building was erected on the property, giving St. Anthony's an "upper" church and a "lower" church.

In 1963 the "upper" church was closed and converted to classrooms for religious education and a church hall.

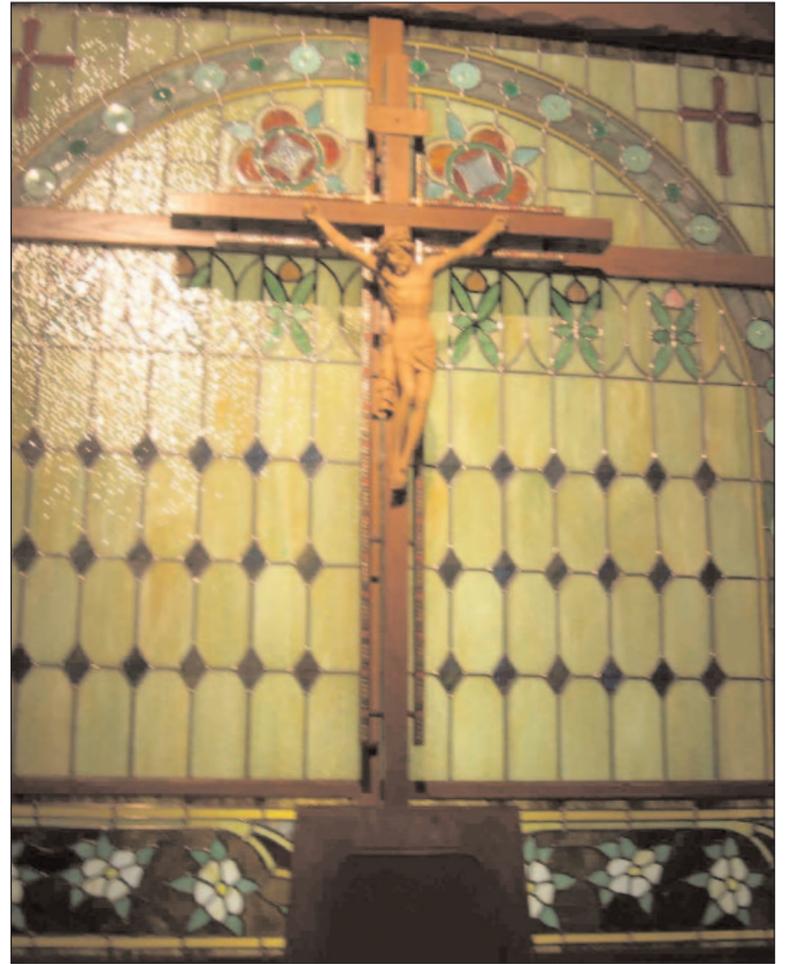
And now, St. Anthony's launches a major fundraising campaign just as the overflow of summer visitors arrive. If all goes well in that direction, Father Fred Pasche may smile and hum another Gershwin tune called "S'wonderful."



St. Anthony's "lower" church, in use since 1963, will become a youth center when the new church is built.



St. Anthony's "upper" church was dedicated in July 1941 and used until Christmas 1963 when it was converted for religious education classes.



PHOTOS BY MARK WEBER

These stained-glass panels were moved from the upper to the lower church and are in place behind the main altar at St. Anthony.

### Blessed Sacrament, Albion, Est. 1875

Twelve families made up the first Catholic congregation in Albion of what was then known as Sacred Heart Parish. They worshiped in a tiny \$2,000 church located at what is now the southeast corner of Hazel and First streets.

For its first 50 years, the small band of Catholics at Sacred Heart was served by priests from Avilla, Ege (Mass once a month, every third Sunday) Auburn and Kendallville.

By 1907 there were only nine families left in the parish, and late in 1924 the last Mass was said at Sacred Heart, and for the next five years, the faithful rode a school bus to Mass in Kendallville.

In 1929 Sacred Heart Church was torn down.

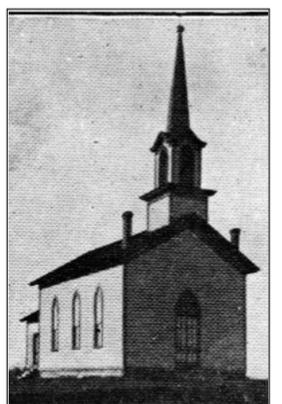
The reestablishment of a Catholic church in Albion was actually the result of a meeting in a Methodist church in LaGrange where Father William Ehrman had been invited to be a guest speaker at an open house for several denominations. Catholics in the audience met with Father Ehrman after the meeting and as a consequence, St. Joseph Parish in LaGrange was formed and on Feb. 22, 1931, the holy sacrifice of the Mass returned to Albion and was said in a room over the old post office on Orange Street. The pews were borrowed from Kneipp Springs at Rome City and Father Ehrman and a local carpenter used hand tools and second hand lumber to build the Communion rail.

For the next 10 years, the church was once again a mission of

Kendallville and then Ligonier, and as the congregation outgrew the rooms over the post office, a new church was built at the corner of North York and West Main streets and was formally dedicated on April 20, 1941.

Fifty years of further growth required another move, and in 1990 the little church just west of the courthouse was sold to Noble County and seven acres south of the city were purchased for the newest location of Blessed Sacrament in a large one story building, which was originally an IGA supermarket and was fondly nicknamed by some as "Our Lady of the Aisles."

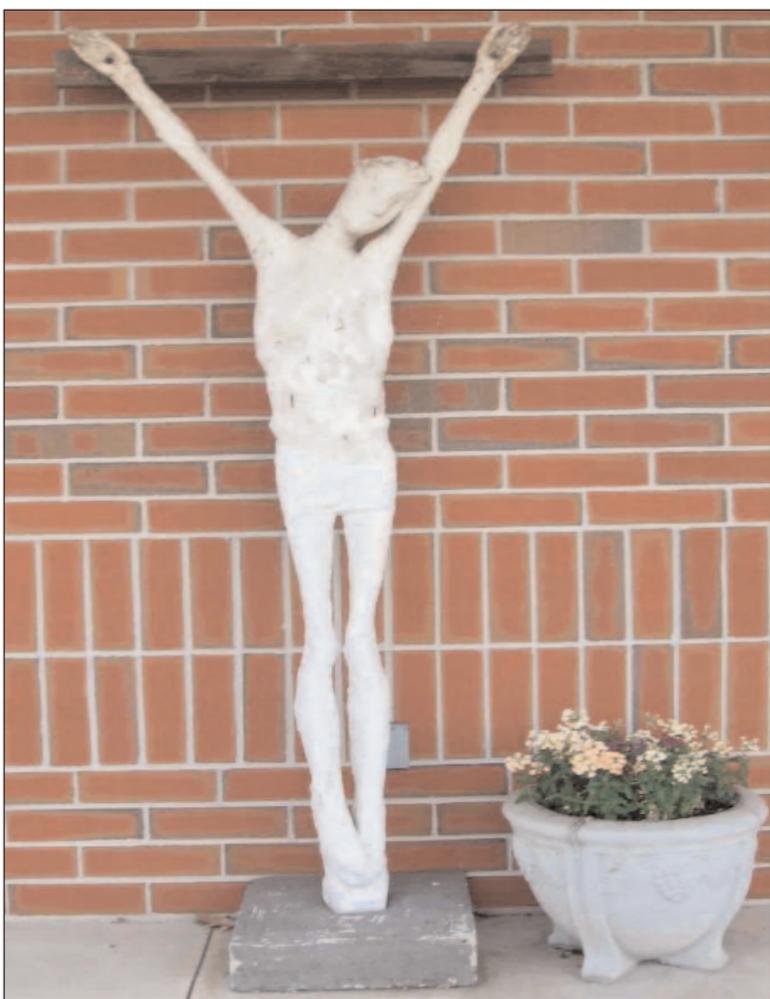
Today, Blessed Sacrament is once again a mission of St. Patrick, Ligonier. The parish is made up of about 120 families and sees a significant increase of worshipers from campers at nearby Chain O' Lakes State Park.



Above is the first Catholic church in Albion called Sacred Heart located at the southeast corner of East Hazel and First streets.

Below is the church that was home to Blessed Sacrament for 50 years in downtown Albion.

At lower left is Blessed Sacrament today on Highway 9 south of Albion.



MARK WEBER

This crucifix was moved from the downtown location to the present site.