In WYD message, pope calls on youths to evangelize, be missionaries

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — When adults have so much difficulty bringing young people to faith, it probably is a sign that God is calling youths to evangelize their peers, Pope Benedict XVI said in his message for World Youth Day 2008.

The struggle adults have in making the faith convincing “can be a sign that the Spirit intends to push you young people to take charge of this,” the pope wrote in his message, released in Italian July 21.

Pope Benedict also said he hoped a huge crowd of young people would join him in Sydney, Australia, for the July 15-20 international gathering, which will include a renewal of the promises made at baptism and confirmation.

“Together we will invoke the Holy Spirit, asking with trust in God for the gift of a new Pentecost for the church and for humanity in the third millennium,” the pope said.

The theme of World Youth Day 2008 is: “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses.”

The Holy Spirit is the spirit of love, the source of Christians’ strength and the power that helps them be coherent and attractive witnesses of Christ, the pope said.

Pope Benedict said he knows many young people have worries and questions about their lives and their futures. They are concerned about their place in a world marked by “serious injustices and sufferings” and about how they can make a difference when there is so much selfishness and violence around them, he added.

Young Christians, he said, ask themselves how they can bring into the world the fruits of the Holy Spirit —

W Y D, P A G E 2

Benedict’s summer splash

Diocesan priests react to recent documents

BY DON CLEMMER

If one thing can be said about Pope Benedict XVI, it’s that he knows when to take his vacation. As the pope left the Vatican to spend most of July in the Italian Alps, he left behind him the publication of two documents, the “motu proprio” (“on his own initiative”) allowing greater usage of the Tridentine Mass and the declaration by the Congregation on the Doctrine of the Faith affirming the Catholic Church as the one true church. Both documents made a splash in the world of faith and had an impact, really, at all,” agrees Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish in Fort Wayne.

“Where people want it, they have it.”

In our diocese, it’s not going to have an impact, really, at all,” agrees Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish in Fort Wayne. “There is a small number of Catholics who might be interested in this. There are very few priests who know how to say this Mass.”

Father James Seculoff, who regularly offered the Tridentine Mass while at St. John the Baptist Parish in South Bend, notes that, even though greater usage of it is allowed, offering the Tridentine Mass in more churches would be detrimental to the already small community of believers who gather for it.

“I wouldn’t want to split that,” he says.

Apart from its small size, Father Seculoff notes that the group of Catholics who worship at the Tridentine Mass noting that there isn’t any sort of groundswell in the diocese for wider use of it. He adds, “Where people want it, they have it.”

“In our diocese, it’s not going to have an impact, really, at all,” agrees Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish in Fort Wayne. “There is a small number of Catholics who might be interested in this. There are very few priests who know how to say this Mass.”

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S P L A S H, P A G E 3

ATLANTA ARCHBISHOP PRESIDES AT MASS

Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory presides at the July 15 closing Mass for the 10th National Black Catholic Congress in Buffalo, N.Y. The theme of the four-day event was “Christ Is With Us: Celebrating the Gifts of the Sacraments.”

CNS PHOTO/MIKE C R UPI, CATHOLIC COURIER ATLANTA
Cardinal Keeler retires; Archbishop O’Brien succeeds him in Baltimore

By Nancy Frazier O’Brien


The changes were announced in Washington by Msgr. Martin Krebs, charge d’affaires of the Vatican nunciature.

Archbishop O’Brien will be formally installed as archbishop of Baltimore Oct. 1. Cardinal Keeler, 76, had been beset with health problems in recent years, including a total knee replacement in 2005, a broken ankle resulting from a car accident in Italy in 2006 and brain surgery in June that led to related head trauma during the accident.

He has been a bishop since 1979 and had headed the Baltimore Archdiocese for more than 18 years.

Archbishop O’Brien, 68, was named an auxiliary bishop of the New York Archdiocese in 1996 and coadjutor archbishop of the U.S. military archdiocese in 1997. Less than three months after his installation, he became head of the archdiocese when Archbishop Joseph T. DImino resigned for health reasons.

As a priest he worked as a civilian chaplain at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, N.Y.; a military chaplain in Vietnam and at U.S. Army posts; vice chancellor and director of communications for the New York Archdiocese; secretary to Cardinals Terence Cooke and John J. O’Connor of New York; and seminary rector in New York and Rome.

Despite his health concerns, Cardinal Keeler remains active in leadership of the archdiocese and in a wide variety of church apostolates and social justice issues. He is known nationwide for his long-term role as episcopal moderator for Catholic-Jewish relations and also worked to improve relations with Muslims and Orthodox Christians.

But one of his proudest accomplishments in recent years was completion of the $32 million restoration of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Baltimore, which was the first Catholic cathedral in the United States when it opened in the early 19th century.

At a morning press conference with Archbishop O’Brien in the historic basilica July 12, Cardinal Keeler said another high point of his tenure in Baltimore was “the wonderful response of so many people who wanted to assist in Catholic school education” through the Partners in Excellence program, which has provided more than 18,500 scholarships to Catholic schools since 1996.

But he said Archbishop O’Brien would continue to face challenges “making known the benefits of our Catholic schools.” More than 35,000 children in prekindergarten to 12th grade attend 86 Catholic schools in the archdiocese.

Archbishop O’Brien said he was told of the papal appointment July 3 and was “bursting” to tell family and friends during the July 4 holiday and the following weekend, but was sworn to secrecy. “The song that was running through my head was, ‘(Don’t) Ask Me No Questions, I’ll Tell You No Lies,’” he said.

“Luckily, no one asked.”

He said he immediately said yes when Msgr. Krebs asked if he accepted the appointment. “I guess that’s one thing I take from the military,” he said. “When you’re given an order, you accept.”

But the archbishop’s voice broke with emotion as he spoke of the “deep sadness” he felt over leaving the military archdiocese, which includes 1.5 million Catholics serving in military installations around the world or at Veterans Affairs hospitals in the United States.

He called members of the U.S. military “a shining example of generosity” and said the approximately 300 Catholic priests in uniform were “a sterling example of the priesthood and a splendid credit to the Catholic Church.”

“I love the military. It has taught me so much,” said Archbishop O’Brien, who earned the rank of captain while serving as a chaplain in the Army from 1970 to 1973. “I hope to bring some of the gifts I’ve gained as a result of that to the Archdiocese of Baltimore.”

Cardinal Keeler deflected most of the attention at the press conference to Archbishop O’Brien, but did respond to a question about how he felt about the pope’s acceptance of his resignation, submitted when he turned 75 in March of last year.

“I’m grateful,” he said. “It’s about time.”

Continued from Page 1

love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. “Only Christ can fulfill the most intimate aspirations of the human heart...”

Pope Benedict XVI

“Only Christ can fulfill the most intimate aspirations of the human heart...”

Pope Benedict XVI
Panel at Notre Dame promotes Natural Family Planning

**NOTRE DAME —** A member of the Pontifical Academy for Life was one of two speakers at a July 15 program at the University of Notre Dame on the topic of Natural Family Planning (NFP). NFP teaches couples to identify the few days a woman’s cycle so that the couple can avoid or achieve pregnancy.

Dr. Maria del Pilar Calva Mercado, an obstetrician who teaches genetics and bioethics at the university level. She is also a member of the Commission for the Family for the Bioethics Council of the Mexican Episcopal Commission. The women accepted an invitation to include a South Bend visit at the end of their week-long trip.

Mercedes Arzú Wilson, president of the Family of the Americas Foundation, also had participated in the week-long trip. She was one of two women, but could not join the Notre Dame program because of illness in her family.

Dr. Calva Mercado talked about the relationship between bioethics, NFP and contraception. She said the Catholic Church bases decisions on the central value of freedom, and thus anything that is a freedom is determined to be correct. Another faulty kind of bioethics considers anything that advances science to be acceptable.

She criticized those faulty points of view because “the dignity of the individual is reduced to extrinsic: The person is valued according to what she has, not because she’s a person.” This kind of reasoning makes people argue that it is acceptable to abort an unborn child who may have abnormalities, so that the two freedom that would make her parents and society suffer, Dr. Calva Mercado said.

In deciding a correct course of action, she continued, a person must determine not just whether a means is efficient, but more importantly, whether it respects the dignity of the person and natural law. NFP not only provides effective, safe reproduction without side effects, she explained, it also is ethical because it respects both the unitive and procreative purposes of marriage.

The contraceptive culture began in 1960s, she continued, because of a misinterpretation of the Church teaching that contraception would reduce the rate of both abortion and unwanted births. It means, but the means incorrect, she said. Because the unitive and procreative aspects of sexual union were separated by contraceptive use, the result has been increases in divorce and abortion, as well as an increased rate of infidelity and sexually-transmitted disease.

Furthermore, this philosophy has made acceptable and even common the thought of a non-birth in a human life, with the human embryo being treated like a mere commodity, Dr. Calva Mercado said. Unfortunately, Dr. Calva Mercado said, the Church has not been outspoken about this view, either.

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President, Lady Bird Johnson had long association with Catholics

BY KAITLYNN RIELY

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Lady Bird Johnson, an Episcopalian, died just after a Catholic priest finished reciting the litany of the saints with her family at her bedside in Austin, Texas. This eucharistic interaction July 11 was not unusual for the former first lady or for her husband, former President Lyndon B. Johnson, a member of the Disciples of Christ.

Their closest Catholic relationship was with their daughter, Luci Baines Johnson Turpin. It was Turpin who called Paulist Father Robert Scott, a senior minister at St. Austin’s Parish in Austin, Texas, and at the University of Texas Catholic Center, to come to the LBJ Ranch when it became clear her mother was close to death.

In an interview with Catholic News Service July 12, Father Scott said he has known Turpin and her family for 25 years. He said Johnson attended every first Communion, confirmation and graduation for her Catholic grandchildren. And when Turpin’s daughter, Nicole Nugent, was preparing for her confirmation, Johnson invited the whole class out to the LBJ Ranch for a retreat.

In the shock and confusion following the assassination of the nation’s first and only Catholic president, John F. Kennedy, in 1963, placing his hand on a Catholic Bible aboard Air Force One, Johnson asked for God’s help in performing his duties in his first public statement following his swearing in.

Like Kennedy before him, Johnson seemed to be popular among Catholics. A Gallup Poll in 1963 said nine out of 10 Catholics questioned said they would vote for President Johnson, a Democrat, over Republican Sen. Barry Goldwater in a presidential election.

National Catholic News Service coverage of Johnson’s association with Catholics dates back to his vice presidency, when he met with Pope John XXIII.

NCNS, the precursor to CNS, enthusiastically followed Luci Johnson’s conversion to Catholicism at age 18, a decision her mother praised as sincere and serious.

Luci’s marriage to Patrick John Nugent in 1966 was widely covered, as she was the first daughter of a president to marry in a Catholic church. Her marriage at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception also marked the first time a president had visited the church. (The national shrine was named a basilica in 1990.)

The Nugents, who had four children, divorced after 13 years of marriage. The marriage was annulled in 1979. Now 60, Luci has been married to Canadian financier Ian Turpin since 1984. Her sister, Lynda Bird, 63, is married to Charles S. Robb, a former Virginia governor and U.S. senator.


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Beloved Goshen deacon, Art Bleau, dies

BY DENISE FEDOROW

GOSHEN — Deacon N. Arthur “Deacon Art” Bleau, 80, of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Goshen died in his sleep at his residence on July 10. Deacon Bleau recently celebrated his 80th birthday and continued to serve as deacon until his last days, serving at Mass on the Sunday before his death.

Born on May 14, 1927 in Burlington, Vt., to Juan T. Bleau and Benedina (St. John) Bleau, he moved to Maine where he met and married his “beloved Vickie” Vivian A. (Levesque) on Sept. 9, 1950 in Brunswick. The couple had three children: a son, David, who preceded him in death, a son Mark of Wilmington, Ohio and a daughter, Geri Ann Eash of St. Charles, Ill. Vickie preceded her husband in death June 29, 2004.

Bleau graduated from the University of Maine in 1950 with a degree in parks and recreation, history and English. He worked for the parks and recreation departments in Brunswick, Maine, Groversville, N.Y., Westbury, N.Y., onkens, N.Y., Westport, Conn., and director of parks and recreation in Goshen, retiring from that position in 1992.

Bleau often told the story of how clinched his decision to move to the Goshen area in 1978. A Goshen attorney, Gordon Lord, was on the parks and recreation board at that time. When Bleau received a message stating, “Call Lord back,” he said he knew that was a sign he should come to Goshen.

Deacon Art was ordained June 11, 1983 to the diaconate of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Several fellow deacons who attended the class with him were present at his funeral, which was held Saturday, June 14, at St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen. Deacon Bleau also served on committees with the diocesan Office of Worship.

Deacon Bleau was a 4th-Degree Knight, trained the eucharistic ministers and, with his wife, was responsible for starting a Monday evening prayer group and Bible study 20 years ago at St. John the Evangelist.

Longtime member of that group Patricia Turco spoke of Deacon Bleau: “He was a very special man. He always had a smile on his face and was always ready to listen.”

Harold and Joan Wakefield were longtime friends with the deacon and his late wife and shared many memories. Joan said she would miss Deacon Bleau’s “great big hug because sometimes you needed one.”

Harold said Deacon Bleau had a lot of respect for the priest who trained him to be a deacon. He said of Deacon Bleau, “He was an individual who lived, rather than just preached his faith.”

Father Ed Kraso came to know Deacon Bleau when he became pastor of St. John’s in 1990. Kraso retired in 1999, but the two men continued their friendship, meeting for lunch who ever Deacon Bleau was present himself. Father Kraso said, “In those nine years he was my guardian angel so to speak ... he had a way about him, he was a good listener and was always available to do whatever I asked him. He was a wonderful man with a great sense of humor. I admired his spirituality and the prayer life he led.”

Parish secretary Veronica Gouker said of Deacon Bleau, “I just adored him. I feel like so many of us were so blessed that God put him in our path to show us how to live our faith. He was an inspiration and he carried his cross so bravely and with such grace and dignity,” she said. “He was a servant in every way, a living saint, we were totally in his prayers and he taught us how important it is to live a prayerful life. ‘Pray, pray, pray,’ he’d say. We don’t know how our prayers were answered because he was praying for us.”

Father Delaney also spoke of the deacon’s great love for his children and said though Deacon Bleau was very easygoing; he could be firm in matters of important matters. “Art did not compromise his relationship with God back,” he said he knew that was a sign he should come to Goshen. Father Delaney added, “At Sunday Mass following the funeral, Father Christopher Smith, pastor, had a tribute that was read in place of the homily that Deacon Bleau was scheduled to give that day. ‘Our parish family has been blessed for many years with the fatherly care, love, and devotion of a simple yet exceedingly holy man, Deacon Art Bleau. Deacon Art has been a constant at St. John’s since 1978, and I believe that we are a better parish because of his steady, quiet presence. He was truly a man of deep prayer and one need only to spend a little time with him to sense his close relationship with God.’

Father Smith said he reflected on the words of the Gospel, “You shall love the Lord your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.”

“One would only need to receive one of his great bear hugs and see the twinkle in his eye to know that Deacon Art loved his neighbor.”

Deacon Bleau will be laid to rest at Long Island National Cemetery, Pine Lawn, N.Y. Memorial contributions may be made to the Retirement Fund for the Religious, c/o St. John the Evangelist Church.
New York Archdiocese says pope to address U.N. next spring

NEW YORK (CNS) — The Archdiocese of New York said it was delighted that Pope Benedict XVI “will be addressing the United Nations here in New York this coming spring.”

The announcement was issued July 16 by Joseph Zwillinger, New York archdiocesan communications director, was apparently the first official indication that such a visit would take place in the spring. Earlier reports only had the pope possibly coming sometime next year.

Zwillinger told Catholic News Service July 16 that unannounced sources said Pope Benedict would be visiting in the spring instead of late September, when the new session of the U.N. General Assembly opens, because of next year’s presidential elections. The mid-July news reports on the possible papal trip to New York were triggered by comments by the Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi. He told reporters in Lecce, Italy, where the pope was vacationing in July, that in addition to the planned papal trip to Australia next summer for World Youth Day, the Vatican also is looking at other possible trips next year, including a U.N. visit.

Archdiocese reaches agreement with more than 500 abuse claimants

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — The Los Angeles Archdiocese July 15 announced it had reached a new settlement in a group of sexual abuse lawsuits to date, agreeing to pay more than 500 alleged victims a total of $660 million. Before noon the next day, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Haley Fromholz had approved the settlement, calling it “the right result.” He said settling the cases was “the right thing to do.”

Cardinal Roger M. Mahony again offered his personal apology to every victim of sexual abuse by a priest, religious, deacon or lay employee of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. “It is the shared hope of everyone in our local church that these victims, many of whom suffered in silence for decades, may find a measure of healing and some sense of closure with today’s announcement,” he said in a statement July 15. “Although financial compensation in itself is inadequate to make up for the damage their experiences have caused them and their families, still this compensation does provide a meaningful outreach to assist the victims to rebuild their lives and to move forward,” he said.

Cardinals want Vatican to reveal Chinese bishops united with Holy See

HONG KONG (CNS) — The Vatican should consider disclosing the names of Chinese bishops who are in communion with the Holy See, said Cardinal Joseph Zen Ze- kiuin of Hong Kong. “The names of those Chinese bishops in communion with the pope could not be too open in the past; otherwise, they would be imprisoned,” the cardinal said at a July 16 meeting with about 200 Hong Kong Catholics. “Now, the Vatican should consider disclosing their names.” The cardinal was meeting with the group to promote Pope Benedict XVI’s June 30 letter to Catholics in mainland China. The letter established new guidelines to favor cooperation between clandestine Catholic communities and those officially registered with the Chinese government. In the past, some clandestine Catholics were hesitant to participate in sacraments or Masses with bishops registered with the government, since they did not know if those bishops were in communion with the Holy See. The cardinal assured them that fewer than 10 Chinese bishops were not in communion with the Holy See.

An airplane takes off above a group of priests and clergy of different religious as they hold a July 20 ecumenical service in memory of the victims of the TAM airlines flight that crashed in Sao Paulo, Brazil, July 17. The service was held near the crash site where as many as 200 people were killed.

Kaczynski urged the church July 10 to take action against Father Rydzek, saying insults aimed at Polish leaders were a matter of government-church relations, reported Reuters.

Pontifical College Josephinum establishes institute for diaconate

COLUMBUS, Ohio (CNS) — The Pontifical College Josephinum, the only pontifical seminary in North America, has announced the establishment of the Institute for the Formation and Ministry of the Permanent Deaconate at its campus in Columbus.

Father Christopher Schreck was named the founding executive director of the institute. Ordained in 1977 for the Diocese of Savannah, Ga., Father Schreck served as vice rector of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia from 2002 to 2004 and before that was vice rector for educational administration from 1996 to 2002. Since then he has been a distinguished professor of sacred Scripture there. His programs and retreats for deacons have been popular for many years. The Josephinum also will introduce a distance-learning program in September, which was developed in cooperation with the National Association of Diocesan Directors.

Pope appoints Bishop Zubik of Green Bay to head Pittsburgh Diocese

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has named Bishop David A. Zubik of Green Bay, Wis., the head of the Pittsburgh Diocese, where he once was an auxiliary bishop. The appointment was announced in Washington July 18 by Msgr. Martin Krebs, charge d’affaires of the Vatican nunciature. Auxiliary Bishop Paul J. Bradley has been administrator of the Pittsburgh Diocese since June 2006. He was named the diocese’s apostolic pro-visionary post after then-Bishop Donald W. Wuerl was installed to head the Washington Archdiocese. “I was truly honored to serve the wonderful people of Green Bay,” Bishop Zubik said in a statement. “Green Bay became my new home. Now Pittsburgh is my home again,” he said. "I love the church of Pittsburgh. I love being a part of the presbyterate of Pittsburgh once again. I love the people of Pittsburgh. It is a beautiful church — very much alive in Christ.”

Catholics to celebrate feast of St. Patrick two days earlier in 2008

DUBLIN, Ireland (CNS) — Catholics worldwide will celebrate the feast of St. Patrick two days earlier next year, as the Irish parliament voted July 15 to avoid a conflict with Holy Week. Traditionally St. Patrick and all Irish saints are celebrated on March 17. However, in 2008, March 17 falls on the Monday of Holy Week and, according to church law, the day when church services cannot rank above all others, so the solemnity of St. Patrick must be moved to another date. When the conflict became apparent, officials from the Irish bishops’ conference wrote the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the liturgy, which approved the move earlier this year, but it only was made official in mid-July. A source at the Irish bishops’ conference who did not wish to be named told Catholic News Service that the bishops were “keen to keep a link with the civic celebrations by moving the feast to the nearest Saturday, in this case March 15.”

Vatican accepts donation to make it first carbon-neutral state

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Calling for “a new culture, new attitudes and new lifestyles that make people aware of their role as custodians” of the earth, Cardinal Paul Poupard said July 9 it had set up a team to make the Vatican “the world’s first carbon-neutral sovereign state.”

The U.S.-based Planktos Inc. and its Hungarian partner, KlimaFa, will designate part of a reforestation project in Hungary as the Vatican forest in cooperation with the National Association of Forest Rangers, founder and president of the Pontifical Council for Culture. The council had publicly announced its intention to plant 10,000 trees in Hungary in mid-July. The council and the two companies announced it publicly July 12. In the past, the July 16 letter added, the Vatican forest would be close to the people and to better government-church relations, reported Reuters.

An airplane takes off above a group of priests and clergy of different religious as they hold a July 20 ecumenical service in memory of the victims of the TAM airlines flight that crashed in Sao Paulo, Brazil, July 17. The service was held near the crash site where as many as 200 people were killed.

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**A R O U N D  T H E  D I O C E S E**

**“Life is precious. For you and your baby.”**

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**Lend a HAND to benefit The Franciscan Center**

FORT WAYNE — It’s time again to lend a HAND — Saturday, Aug. 11, from 9 a.m. to noon. In partnership with Star 88.3, The Franciscan Center will be holding its seventh Annual Help A Neighbor Drive, or HAND, to benefit those in need with donations of much needed nonperishable food and personal healthcare items.

“This event has provided a great deal of assistance to our programs over the past six years,” explains Sally Ley, founder and CEO of The Franciscan Center, “we are very grateful to the staff and listeners of Star 88.3 for their support of our work on the south side of Fort Wayne. We operate a weekly sack lunch program, a food pantry and a medicine cabinet; with over 1,500 clients every week needing our assistance, this boost from Star 88.3 is immeasurable.”

Star 88.3 on-air personalities will be broadcasting live from the following drop sites from 9 a.m. to noon; please note that two of the three sites are new this year.

- **Sonrise United Methodist Church, 10125 Illinois Rd.**
- **St. Vincent De Paul Catholic Church, 1502 E. Wallen Rd.**
- **The Anchor Room Bookstore and Café, 4530 Lahmeyer Rd.**

Volunteers will be on hand to help collect donations of food, over-the-counter medicine, paper towels, diapers, toothbrushes, etc. Collection bins will be provided by Citywide Delivery.

This year the HAND event is also introducing the first annual Youth Group Challenge. The rules are simple: local Youth Groups can start raising cash for food, tubes of toothpaste, rolls of toilet paper, etc. as soon as possible. They then bring their total collection to one of the drop sites (making sure to mark their Youth Group name on each box), and the group with the most items will win an “End of Summer” pizza party.

For more information or to register your Youth Group for the Challenge, please call Kris at (260) 744-3977 or visit the Web at www.thefranciscancenter.org.

**Families encouraged to welcome foreign exchange students**

SOUTH BEND — Every year a group of foreign teens are welcomed to diocesan high schools to be guests in the High School Foreign Student Exchange Program. In partnership with the DMD Private High School Program, Saint Joseph’s and Marian high schools have witnessed the success of welcoming foreign teens into their schools for a number of years. A $350 per month stipend is offered to host families as well.

“We coordinate with foreign exchange students to families without children to retired folks as well are invited to open their home,” explains Warren Feece offers students and their hosts a wealth of enriching opportunities that educate and introduce the foreign guests to America. Monthly social gatherings, field trips and optional trips to destinations from Washington, D.C., and New York City to California and Hawaii are also offered.

Contact Feece at (219) 921-0114 to learn more.

**Holy Cross College adds teacher education program**

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross College will add a teacher education program to its growing list of baccalaureate degree options this fall. The new program, which is sponsored by the University of Notre Dame’s ACE (Alliance for Catholic Education) program, will prepare elementary school teachers with a dual license and special focus in English language learning and bilingual education.

“One of the reasons that I went into higher education was because I was really excited about the changes and working with future teachers to have an even greater impact on children,” says Devetski.

Holy Cross College is now accepting applications for the teacher education program for the fall 2007 semester. For more information, contact Susan Devetski, Ph.D., at sdevetski@hcc.nd.edu or (574) 239-8355.

**A hot job market for 2007 graduates**

NOTRE DAME — A remarkable 88 percent of the University of Notre Dame’s class of 2007 graduated with plans in place for employment or further education, according to the annual survey of graduates conducted by the Office of Institutional Research.

“The job market has been hot for Notre Dame’s new grads, says Lee Svete, director of the Career Center. “Only 12 percent are still seeking employment. That’s the lowest (percentage) in years,” he says. “Last year we had 14 percent seeking at this time, the year before that, 18 percent.”

Job activity was strong in financial services, health care, consulting and investment banking, he says. “Technology came roaring back, and advertising, communications and media were strong.” Hiring was also up in the field of homeland security.

Starting salaries are up as much as 8-10 percent over last year as well, Svete notes. Engineering graduates received the highest median salary offers at $57,500, followed by business ($55,000), science ($53,000), architecture ($45,500) and Arts and Letters ($45,000).

Thirty-five percent of graduates have accepted employment offers, and another 34 percent plan to attend graduate or professional schools, according to Svete. Of those who were surveyed, 17 percent will go on to graduate school or other advanced education; 11 percent will be attending law school, and another 5 percent medical or dental school.

The quality of Notre Dame’s graduates is reflected in the high rate of acceptance into graduate and professional programs. In business, 96 percent of grads were accepted into at least one program of their choice, while 92 percent of arts and letters graduates were accepted. Engineering (93 percent) and science (87 percent) also had high acceptance rates.

In addition, about 200 students (11 percent) have chosen to do one or two years of service rather than accepting a job offer. “It’s incredible in this economy for 200 students a year to give up a lucrative career to make a difference in the world or in people’s lives,” Svete says.

“The pace of job activity came as no surprise to Svete — things have been busy at the Career Center all year, with the office handling a record-breaking 4,600 appointments with students and young alumni. The annual Career Fair at the Joyce Athletic and Convocation Center also broke records, with 171 employers and 375 recruiters attending.

**Joseph Moorman to perform at Sacred Heart**

WARSAW — Joseph C. Moorman returns from New Zealand to present “Songs of Praise and Devotion,” a benefit concert for the Serra Club of Sacred Heart, Warsaw, on Sunday Aug. 5, at 2 p.m.

Moorman has been performing professionally since 1985, doing concert, light opera and musical theater throughout the world. His resume includes roles in several operas and musicals.

“As part of the concert, songs may be purchased as a tribute to a loved one, living or deceased. A short tribute note may be added by Moorman before each song is sung. The song list includes “Humbly We Pray,” “The Lord’s Prayer,” “Mary’s Little Boy Child,” “Tys Maria Nasa Radost,” “St. Joseph’s Lullaby,” “Immaculate Mary,” “The Virgin’s Slumber Song,” “Gloria,” “Be Not Afraid,” “On Eagle’s Wings,” “You Raise Me Up,” “Pater Noster,” “Ave Maria,” “Pans Angelicus,” “Prayer of St. Francis,” “Shepherd Me O’ My God!” “Via Dolorosa,” “You Are Mine” and “You’ll Never Walk Alone.”

To reserve a song contact Ida List for Serra Club of Warsaw.

A freewill offering will be taken up during the concert. Intermission will feature refreshments and many of the prints available for bidding on. Proceeds from the event will help offset the costs of pilgrimages attending World Youth Day in Australia in 2008.

**Serrans to announce 60th anniversary plans**

SOUTH BEND — Plans for a special observance of the 60th anniversary in 2008 of the Serra Club of South Bend will be announced at the annual reception for priests, religious brothers and sisters on Saturday, July 29, at the Ave Maria Council on South Ironwood Drive.

The club has invited all priests, religious brothers and sisters of its parishes and their associates as well as deacons, seminarians, religious brothers and sisters from the Diocese.

“Come on down and have a look at what Serra is all about,” said Pres. Ronald Moser, a deacon at St. Joseph Parish, Mishawaka, said. “Serra’s focus is on the men and their vocations, which is the goal of all Serra clubs in the United States. We also have a dedicated program of daily prayer for vocations as well as attracting new members for Serra.”

The South Bend Serra Club was the first Serra club to be formed in the state, including the two largest in South Bend and Fort Wayne. EJD
St. Joseph Community Health Foundation announces $541,949 in local grants

FORT WAYNE — The St. Joseph Community Health Foundation, operated by the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, announces $541,949 in grants to local organizations to improve health and health care access for the low-income, underinsured and uninsured in Allen County.

The St. Joseph Community Health Foundation was re-organized as an independent Foundation in 1998 with proceeds from the sale of St. Joseph Medical Center to maintain the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ 139-year commitment to help everyone in the Allen County Community access quality medical care.

Unrestricted funds

- AIDS Task Force $9,000
- Allen County Department of Health $35,195
- Allen County Department of Health $4,500
- Allen County Department of Health $32,500
- CANI — Community Action of Northeast Indiana, Inc. $8,500
- Catholic Charities $25,000
- Catholic Charities $2,000
- Catholic Charities $20,000
- Catholic Charities $15,000
- CTN — Community Transportation Network, Inc. $4,000
- Easter Seal ARC of Northeast Indiana, Inc. $20,000
- Fort Wayne African-American Cancer Alliance, Inc. $27,600
- Fort Wayne African-American Cancer Alliance, Inc. $20,000
- Fort Wayne Rescue Mission Ministries $2,680
- Franciscan Center, Inc. $1,500
- Healthier Moms and Babies $15,000
- IPFW — Dental Hygiene Program $950
- Junior League of Fort Wayne, Inc. $1,300
- Mental Health America in Allen County $15,000
- Midwest Alliance for Health Education $40,000
- Purdue Cooperative Extension Service $6,114
- Society of St. Vincent DePaul $25,500
- True Life Choice, Inc. $10,000
- YMCA/Youth Service Bureau Branch $5,000
- YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne $16,000

Schneider Fellowship:
- Children’s Autism Center, Inc. $2,000
- East Allen Family Resource Center, Inc. $2,000
- East Allen Family Resource Center, Inc. $2,000
- Garden Club $1,500
- Fort Wayne Rescue Mission Ministries — Chair’s House $1,500
- Franciscan Center, Inc. $1,500
- The Guardian Angel Society $1,500
- Homebound Meals, Inc. $1,500
- Interfaith Hospitality Network of Greater Fort Wayne, Inc. $1,500
- International House, Inc. $1,500
- Marywood Senior Living $1,500
- Salvation Army $1,500
- The Society of St. Andrew, Inc. $1,500
- Wellspring Interfaith Social Services, Inc. $1,500
- YMCA of Fort Wayne $1,500

Blessed Katherine Kasper Award for Outstanding Service to the Poor:
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Northeast Indiana $1,500
- Children’s Hope, Inc. $1,500
- Christ Child Society of Fort Wayne, Inc. $1,500
- Community Harvest Food Bank $1,500
- Early Childhood Alliance $1,500
- East Allen Family Resource Center, Inc. $1,500
- Euell A. Wilson Center $1,500
- Fort Wayne Rescue Mission Ministries — Chair’s House $1,500
- Franciscan Center, Inc. $1,500
- The Guardian Angel Society $1,500
- Homebound Meals, Inc. $1,500
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- YMCA of Fort Wayne $1,500

Serrans and Knights partner on dinners, announce activities

SOUTH BEND — Partnerships create success, and many hands make it easy.

A perfect example was the Archdiocese John Carroll Knights of Columbus of the Serra Club of South Bend, which collaborated on two spaghetti dinners and raised over $3,000. More than 300 persons attended the successful fund-raising dinner.

The proceeds will help the Knights sponsor Catholic education scholarships and the Serra Club will continue their efforts towards religious vocation programs.

On Sunday, July 29, the Serra Club will sponsor their time honored traditional program to host area priests, religious brothers and sisters and brother seminarians with an outing and reception at the Ave Maria Council of the Knights of Columbus on South Ironwood Drive beginning at 2 p.m.

Then on Aug. 18, the Serra Club of South Bend and the Fort Wayne club will participate in the diocesan Eucharistic Congress at the University of Notre Dame.

Both clubs will have a combined display of Serra artifacts that will highlight the many programs conducted by the two organizations.

One of them will be a huge wall display of the 19 missions founded on the California coast by Father Junipero Serra, the Franciscan priest after whom the clubs were named. This rare display is the property of the South Bend Serra Club. — EJD

Santa Maria Knights elect officers, plan roast

SOUTH BEND — South Bend’s first and oldest Knights of Columbus Council, known as Santa Maria Council 553, has elected Kevin Large as its grand knight for the forthcoming year.

Santa Maria Council 553, chartered in Indiana on Jan. 6, 1901, is the council’s annual family corn and sausage roast will be Aug. 19 at the council headquarters in downtown South Bend. — EJD

Lehner installed as faithful navigator

SOUTH BEND — John J. Lehner was formally installed as faithful navigator of the 10-council Father Julius A. Nieuwendam Assembly, 4th Degree, Knights of Columbus at a colorful installation in the auditorium of the Santa Maria Council.

Lehner was the 43rd navigator of the assembly, which is one of the largest in Indiana. Although the assembly was originally established in 1904 as the South Bend Assembly, it was reorganized in 1943 when it adopted the name of Father Julius Arthur Nieuwendam, then the pastor of Sacred Heart Church on West Thomas Street and a professor of organic chemistry at the University of Notre Dame.

Father Charles Herman, associate pastor of Holy Family Church, celebrated the Mass. Indiana Master of the 4th Degree Robert Lynch, of Indianapolis, conducted the installation ceremonies.

Other officers installed were the following: James R. Berger, captain; Stephen Elek, Jr., admiral; Kevin Large, pilot; Raymond Sommer, commissary; Larry Landy, purser; William C. Wright, scribe; Charles Baumgartner, Jr., Joseph Ortega and William G. Walmsley, sentinels; Thomas Arata; Thomas A. Leskanic and William E. Szaiko, trustees. — EJD
The congregation applauds Sister Amy, left, after she professes her perpetual vows. Ghanaian sister, Margaret Mary Nimo, serenades her with her drum.

It wasn’t that I was against the idea, but I had never thought about it!”

From that day on she could not stop thinking about it. Finally, she got up enough courage to talk about her desire with a friend who is also a Holy Cross priest. He encouraged her to do some investigating and put her in touch with one of the sisters he knew at Saint Mary’s. From that time on, she took advantage of “Come and See” opportunities and got to know the sisters and began a serious process of discernment.

On Aug. 15, 1999, she was welcomed into the candidacy program of the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

After her year as a candidate in South Bend, Sister Amy was then a novice for two years in the congregation’s novitate formation program in Los Angeles and made her initial profession in July 2002 in Ventura, Calif. She then spent 20 months in Jinja, Uganda, East Africa, where she taught at the Queen of Apostles Philosophy Centre. After this apostolic experience she returned to Saint Mary’s where she is currently an assistant professor of political science at Saint Mary’s College.

Sister Amy’s journey to Holy Cross is a true daughter of Father Moreau, who will be beatified on Sept. 14, 2007, in Le Mans, France. Sister Amy in her dedication to Holy Cross is a true daughter of Father Moreau.

The Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross is an international community of women religious located at Saint Mary’s in Notre Dame. Founded in 1841 in Le Mans, France, the congregation numbers more than 500 members worldwide and has sisters ministering in the United States, Mexico, Brazil, Peru, Uganda, Ghana, Bangladesh and India.

For information go to www.cscsisters.org.
A wish fulfilled
She wanted to be just like her Aunt Dorothy, and look what happened ...

BY MARK WEBER

FORT WAYNE — When Dottie Carpenter was a little girl, she had tremendous admiration for her Aunt Dorothy, who was a generous and caring person who helped others in any way she could. These acts of kindness so influenced Dottie that eventually she began to take food to people’s homes and helped others in small ways when the needs arose.

Dottie’s frequent visits with her Aunt Dorothy, who was a parishioner at St. Mary’s in Fort Wayne, led to Dottie’s becoming a volunteer at St. Mary’s clothing bank. In reward for her unpaid efforts, Dottie was asked to become director of the clothing bank in 1992.

In the fall of 1993, with the need for winter clothing looming, the unforgettable fire that destroyed St. Mary Church set the future of the clothing bank in another direction.

As all activities at St. Mary’s underwent recovery, the clothing bank set up temporary quarters in a basement room a block away from St. Mary’s, but after a new church was in place, Father Tom O’Connor announced that the clothing bank would be discontinued.

For Dottie, this news was an unwelcome fallout of the fire. She knew that the needs of her clients would not be discontinued with a sudden announcement.

The search for a new location was difficult and included barriers that conflicted with Dottie’s formula for charity, which followed as closely as possible the example of our Savior when he was on earth — to heal and walk on, to give and forgive, to assist and look for the next need.

Dottie Carpenter sees herself as a “charity broker.” What she received was given to her because she knew who needed it, so she saw no need for markup or paperwork, which was held to a minimum. Dottie preferred a handshake or a blessing to a receipt.

The search for a new location led only to more dead ends and then came a call on heaven’s hotline. Jean Streicher, from St. Patrick’s Parish, called with the message that Father Jim Koons was open to the idea of having the clothing bank at St. Patrick’s.

Dottie was elated when Father Koons said that she could have the entire first floor of the vacant school. It was everything she wanted; well lighted classrooms, restrooms and plenty of parking.

The clothing bank now became St. Patrick’s Closet, assisting an average of 100 families per week that received baby clothing, baby formula, baby beds, books, clothing, household accessories, games, toys and miscellaneous items.

Dottie, with her legion of volunteers, built a Christmas gifts program, which eventually provided presents for nearly 1,000 children. Although it was known as St. Patrick’s Closet, Dottie Carpenter emphasized that most of her volunteers and contributors were from every part of Fort Wayne and some from Ohio and represented a variety of faiths.

After 24 years of helping others, 13 years at St. Mary’s and 11 at St. Patrick’s, Dottie could no longer be a full-time director of a mission, which began as a part-time assistant to Aunt Dorothy, so this spring saw things wind down at the closet and concluded with an appreciation banquet for volunteers on June 29.

Odds and ends left at St. Patrick’s were given to another local charity, and Dottie announced that she was ready for a long rest, and then added, “but I do think it would be cool to be a volunteer at the Embassy Theater.”
There’s no place like home at Villa of the Woods

BY JENNIFER MURRAY

FORT WAYNE — No work. No cooking. No cleaning. No laundry. These are just a few of the many benefits of living at Villa of the Woods, a retirement center that developed as one of the many programs of Catholic Charities.

For three residents — Jeanette McArdle, Sandy Rhoades and Nancy Bartlett — the Villa of the Woods has been home for 20 years or more.

You might expect that in 20 years these three women have seen a lot of changes taking place at the Villa. And they have.

In February 2001, remodeling and an expansion began. Nancy can still remember how excited she was on the day of the groundbreaking. She was part of the “crew” that took the first shovel-fulls of dirt out of the ground so the construction could begin.

Nancy took her role very seriously, especially because she was holding one handle of a double-handed shovel, and on the other side was none other than Bishop John M. D’Arcy. Nancy remembers she started shaking a little. “I was so nervous because bishop was on the other side, but he said it will be all right, Nancy.” Together they dug into the ground and scooped out the soil.

The residents were very much the active participants of this construction project. The Villa of the Woods belonged to them and they wanted to oversee things. They became known to the construction workers as “sidewalk supervisors.” And the residents even chose the color of paint for their rooms.

When it was all said and done, the facilities had an improved kitchen, a larger patio, a nice activity room, a beautiful lobby and individual bathrooms so that each resident would have a private shower and no longer had to share with the others. This was a definite improvement, at least for most of them. Nancy admits to missing the camaraderie that came with sharing the bathroom with the other ladies. But she has adjusted and overall she is very pleased with the changes.

One thing that hasn’t changed so much in the past 20 years is the staff. Surprisingly, many of the faces that greeted these three women when they first arrived 20 years ago are still there.

“Employees become part of your family,” Nancy said. It is easy to see how true that is as the residents interact with the administrator, Cheryl Smith, who knows them so well. They have many fond memories of the family picnics and holidays spent with the staff and other residents.

There was an “out of this world” hog roast that Cheryl’s husband put together one year, which is still remembered with happiness.

Of course, residents form strong friendships with each other also. Jeanette and Sandy arrived within one year of each other.

Sandy says, “We are like sisters” and they have been from nearly the beginning. When they are not doing needlepoint and crocheting, they love to walk outside.

The Villa of the Woods is located across from Bishop Luers High School. Within walking distance, they have a park, a library branch and a shopping center. Because Villa of the Woods is not a nursing home but a retirement facility, the residents maintain their independence. They take walks on their own whenever they want. They do volunteer work and go to their own church.

Jeanette knows there are people there to help when she needs it, but she loves her independence too. “I can go to my room when I want or come talk to others when I want.”

When residents want to be social, they can come to the activity room or sit by the fireplace and find someone to talk to or play a game with. It is always easy to find a friend there.

But when they need to be alone, they can go to their private room or take a walk. They have a variety of activities sponsored by the facility that they can enjoy such as the Diner’s Club for those who want to sample the different restaurants each month. And of course, there is bingo, a big favorite of Sandy’s.

But these are independent people with their own chosen schedules. When asked to describe a typical day, they didn’t have one. Their days are as varied as their personalities because they have the freedom to decide how they spend those days.

Yet there is a feeling of safety and security, of well-being, for the residents. For both Sandy and Jeanette this is an important issue. There is a comfort here at Villa of the Woods that not all senior citizens experience.

Unlike many retirement communities, Villa of the Woods does not require a down payment or an upfront cost. And the rates are affordable so that senior citizens can live with the dignity they deserve without the overwhelming costs normally associated with independent living facilities.

Nancy, Sandy and Jeanette have lived here for 20 years. They could choose to live elsewhere. They stay. Not because of the wonderful meals someone else cooks or the laundry someone else washes. Well, maybe that’s part of it. But there is really only one reason they have chosen to stay at Villa of the Woods for so many years.

They’re home.
Our Lady of Hungary alumni dedicate legacy walkway

BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

SOUTH BEND — Tom Mauro wants to help other kids have the same kind of experience he did.

And seemingly some of the best times he had were when he was a student at Our Lady of Hungary (OLH) Catholic School. The 1955 graduate recently traveled from DeWitt, Mich., to help dedicate a Legacy Walkway in South Bend.

According to Jaques, who helped organize the event and is a member of the alumni committee, “After the turnout at the reunion, we decided to keep it going and keep all the connections,” said Kristi Richard, another member of the alumni committee.

And while keeping those connections is important to them, it’s paramount, they said, to support the school and parish in a tangible way, which is why they decided to form the OLH Alumni Association.

The reunion raised more than $6,000 for the school last year, according to Jaques, who helped organize the event and is a member of the alumni committee.

“The diocese has sent me $1,000 every year since to help support my ministry.”

After 15 years of operation, the Primary Day School closed in 1986. The next year she went home to take care of her aging parents, and a year later she was back in the same neighborhood where she then began her adult education program where she has been ever since. There she has helped many people who would otherwise be trapped in the poverty of illiteracy.

When asked what gives her the most satisfaction in her ministry, she declares, “I want to help people who need help. I don’t want to sit around in a rocking chair all day.”

One can be sure that she does not spend much time in a rocking chair. She is too busy doing the Lord’s work and helping people improve their lives.

Anyone wishing to help or find out more about her program can call St. Augustine Parish at (574) 234-7082.

Sister Marita Stoffel — carrying on the mission of Francis

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

SOUTH BEND — The charism of St. Francis of Assisi is to work with the poor. Sister Marita Stoffel, a Sister of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, has dedicated her life to promoting justice and eradicating the poverty of being uneducated. At 93, full of energy and spirit, she continues this work by teaching adults; especially those who seek to get their GED or improve their basic reading, writing and math skills.

Sister Marita’s education center is located in the old St. Augustine rectory on Thomas Street in South Bend. She can be found there between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Some often question her presence in this rough part of town. To this concern she responds, “One of my students from the neighborhood was murdered, and I had to decide whether or not I was going to be scared.” Her decision was that she wasn’t. She wants to be where her services are most needed and accessible.

Her story is captivating. Born in Huntington, Sister Marita was the eldest of nine children. Her parents were third order Franciscans and helped serve soup with Venerable Solanus Casey, a Capuchin priest noted for his work with the poor.

“I actually shook his hand,” she says proudly.

While very young she was quick to figure out that no black people were allowed to live in Huntington. They could work there, but not stay overnight. This bothered her immensely. Thus was planted the seed of her lifelong quest to fight racism.

Sister Marita entered the Sisters of St. Francis in 1931. When asked what she would like to do for her ministry, she said she wanted to be a cook. Not granted her wish, she was soon sent out to teach. Like so many of her peers at that time, she continued to minister while taking college classes and eventually received her doctorate from Purdue University. Afterwards she landed a position at Marquette University in Milwaukee where she received a government grant to develop a conceptual education program in the public schools.

After eight years in Milwaukee, she came to this area hoping to get her program into the inner city public schools of South Bend. Many stumbling blocks were put in her way so she decided to start her own school. Thus in 1969 was born the Primary Day School. It was a three-year private school for “bright children who failed,” for those “written off” by the public schools.

She was offered space, rent free, on the second floor of school building in St. Stephen’s Parish. With little or no money and a lot of faith, she began with 30 students she recruited by knocking on doors in the neighborhood. “By November all of them could read,” she says with a twinkle in her eyes.

One time Bishop Leo Pursley came to see what she was doing and was so impressed by the progress of the children that he took out his wallet and wrote her a check for $1,000. She is quick to add, “The diocese has sent me $1,000 every year since to help support my ministry.”

After 15 years of operation, the Primary Day School closed in 1986. The next year she went home to take care of her aging parents, and a year later she was back in the same neighborhood where she then began her adult education program where she has been ever since. There she has helped many people who would otherwise be trapped in the poverty of illiteracy.

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Sister Marita Stoffel, a Sister of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, is shown with a student at the Center for Learning in South Bend, located at St. Augustine Parish.

Our Lady of Hungary alumni dedicate legacy walkway

BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

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After 15 years of operation, the Primary Day School closed in 1986. The next year she went home to take care of her aging parents, and a year later she was back in the same neighborhood where she then began her adult education program where she has been ever since. There she has helped many people who would otherwise be trapped in the poverty of illiteracy.

When asked what gives her the most satisfaction in her ministry, she declares, “I want to help people who need help. I don’t want to sit around in a rocking chair all day.”

One can be sure that she does not spend much time in a rocking chair. She is too busy doing the Lord’s work and helping people improve their lives.

Anyone wishing to help or find out more about her program can call St. Augustine Parish at (574) 234-7082.

Sister Marita Stoffel, a Sister of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, is shown with a student at the Center for Learning in South Bend, located at St. Augustine Parish.

Our Lady of Hungary alumni dedicate legacy walkway

BY JENNIFER OCHSTEIN

SOUTH BEND — Tom Mauro wants to help other kids have the same experience he did.

And seemingly some of the best times he had were when he was a student at Our Lady of Hungary (OLH) Catholic School. The 1955 graduate recently traveled from DeWitt, Mich., to help dedicate a Legacy Walkway in South Bend.

According to Jaques, who helped organize the event and is a member of the alumni committee, “After the turnout at the reunion, we decided to keep it going and keep all the connections,” said Kristi Richard, another member of the alumni committee.

And while keeping those connections is important to them, it’s paramount, they said, to support the school and parish in a tangible way, which is why they decided to form the OLH Alumni Association.

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The summer vacation for our students is quickly coming to an end. Back to school sales are in full swing. On behalf of the over 1,000 teacher and administrators, we welcome you to the 2007-2008 school year.

It is truly our honor to assist you in teaching your children and above all sharing the teachings of Jesus Christ. This year our theme is “Light the Way.” As our students learn about Christ, they truly “light the way” with their faith and knowledge that are developed in our schools.

It is always good to review who we are and how our schools make a difference in our diocese. Last year 13,186 students were enrolled in our 44 schools, which ranks us 15 among the 300 school districts in Indiana. Our schools represent multiple cultures: 88 percent white, 5 percent Hispanic, 3 percent multiracial, 2 percent black and 2 percent Asian. Eleven percent of our students qualify for the federal free-reduced lunch program and textbook assistance from the state. Many of our students receive some form of assistance in tuition from their parishes or the diocese.

For the past six years, the new word in education has been accountability. More than ever schools are under the microscope on how they are improving. All of our schools are accredited through the state and have to follow the same legal standards of all other schools. Part of those legal standards is participating in the Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress (ISTEP). Our students continue to perform better than the state average. Last year 83 percent of our students passed both the English/language arts and mathematics tests. The state average is 64 percent.

No Child Left Behind, the federal law that was passed in 2001, requires schools to focus on improvement and mandates that all schools strive to reach 100 percent on state exams by 2014. Every year schools are placed into categories on how they are improving. Our schools continue to express our commitment to serving students out of 44 received the highest rating of “exemplary” improvement. This is a reflection of students, teachers and parents working hard to strive for the best that our schools offer.

These statistics are very important for the diocese. Some would say that we as Catholic schools receive no government money, this is false. Each year we receive funds from both the state and federal No Child Left Behind funds. Even though they are a fraction of what public schools receive, they are very important to our programs for school improvement. This school year, our Catholic schools will receive more than $215,000 from the state for teacher professional development that is now required by law. We will also receive more than $1 million in federal funds under the No Child Left Behind Act. These funds are used for instructional needs of students on free-reduced lunch, professional development of teachers, safe and drug free schools, library and technology needs.

So, how are our schools “Lighting the Way” this year? It will be a year filled with many things. The wonderful thing will be growth. If you visit St. Pius X in Granger you will see a construction site where a new school will open its doors next year. Holy Cross School continues its expansion of its addition. St. Vincent School in Fort Wayne is studying the expansion of their school with a vibrant kindergarten program. Full-day kindergarten has and will become an integral part of an elementary education with new state standards for reading, math, social studies and science at the kindergarten grade level. Planning for the future and school improvement continue to be a focus for us.

Our teachers will continue to focus on curriculum and instruction. In 2000, the state introduced standards for each grade level. Schools should send these standards home at the beginning of the year. The ISTEP tests mastery of these standards. Textbooks and curriculum had to adjust to these new standards. To help us, teachers have been working on mapping our curriculum. Completed over the Internet, teachers track their lessons and are able to view other lessons taught by teachers across the diocese. We are committed to not just being satisfied with the minimum standards but to challenge our students to their levels of ability. We also want to ensure that our curriculum is infused with our faith and beliefs.

Sharing instructional strategies between teachers will increase our ability to be the best we can in the diocese.

I hope this short writing shows the wonderful things that are going on in our schools on a daily basis. We invite you whether you are a parent, friend or parishioner to come and see how our students learn and grow.

“Catholic Schools Light the Way” highlights the special role Catholic schools play in the positive growth of our students. Our schools light the way by providing a faith-based education that supports the whole child in improved learning and in leading a fulfilling, balanced and meaningful life.

Have a great school year.

Father Stephen Kempinger, CSC, is the superintendent of diocesan Catholic Schools.
New jobs bring changes for Warsaw, Walkerton principals

BY DON CLEMMER

Among the new diocesan principals this year, two of them, Mary Ann Irwin of Sacred Heart, Warsaw, and Jerry Garrett of St. Patrick, Walkerton, are experiencing a change of pace, as they come from work as a superintendent and college professor, respectively, to embrace the challenge of running a Catholic grade school.

This challenge was something Mary Ann Irwin deliberated about. After four years as superintendent of Mount Pleasant Township Schools in Yorktown, Irwin was ready for a change, as well as something closer to her home in Warsaw, where she and Jim, her husband of 42 years, have lived for most of their lives.

Naturally, she was excited when the position at Sacred Heart became available. It seemed like the perfect place to spend a few good years on the heels of an eventful career.

“I’ve been very, very fortunate to have a lot of wonderful opportunities to work in education,” Irwin notes. She started an administrative career at St. Ambrose School in Anderson in the Diocese of Lafayette-Indiana. She was then director of adult and community education at Ivy Tech State College for five years and has spent over 20 years in public education. In that time, her jobs have included teacher, principal, director of curriculum, assistant superintendent and superintendent.

“I think I’ve held just about every job there could possibly be in administration in a school corporation,” Irwin says.

Along with this wealth of experience, education is also a family affair for Irwin. Six years ago, her husband Jim retired after 37 years of teaching. All four of their children are now teachers and are all married to teachers. Irwin has 13 grandchildren.

Being principal at Sacred Heart also feels like a natural fit to Irwin because Sacred Heart is her home parish. This gives her a feel for the parish that will only deepen as she becomes more familiar with the school and builds a relationship with teachers and students. “I’m gradually meeting the young people and their families as they just happen to stop by church or here while I’m in my office,” she says. “I think it’s going to be fun, and I look forward to the experience of finishing out my career here at Sacred Heart.”

Jerry Garrett comes to his job as principal of St. Patrick School in Walkerton after six years as a professor in the education department at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne.

A native of Indianapolis, Garrett’s experiences as a foster child instilled in him a concern for the care of children. He is interested in education and psychology, having nearly completed a second masters in counseling and a second doctorate in clinical psychology.

Garrett brings to St. Patrick a background of experience as a teacher, principal and professor in both Catholic and public schools. This includes work as a principal in Hammond and in the Columbus area. He worked as an elementary teacher for five years. On the Catholic side, he has served as a principal at St. Stephen School in East Grand Rapids, Mich., and as a professor at St. Joseph’s College, Rensselaer.

Garrett and Becky, his wife of 34 years, also spent their first year teaching at a Catholic school in Minnesota. “Our best years have been in the Catholic settings,” Garrett notes.

Garrett’s wife is a teacher for 37 years of teaching. All four of their children are now teachers and are all married to teachers. She, along with two other teachers, was offered the opportunity to develop a gifted and talented program for the Penn-Harris-Madison School District. She then moved on to become the coordinator of the Career Development Options Program (CDOP) where she says “teachers teach teachers.”

As her two daughters went off to college and Larry was deeply involved in his work, Holmes returned to advance her education at Indiana University of South Bend where she earned her administration license. She is also a graduate of the two-year Indiana Principal Leadership Academy Program.

Her first experience as principal was a two-year commitment at Mary Frank Elementary, followed by five years as administrator of Peaure Vista Elementary. The past three years Holmes has enjoyed holding the position of principal at Schmucker Middle School.

When asked why she became interested in an administrative position of St. Pius X School, Holmes says, “Father Schooler approached me after Mass one Sunday and told me he was interviewing for principal for the year before the school opened.”

Following much thought and prayer Holmes decided to seek the position. “It’s always a dream of mine to be on the ground floor of opening a school, I think I could use the talents of mine to open the school,” she says enthusiastically, adding, “It’s my parish school, too!”

Father Bill Schooler, pastor of St. Pius X, says “a good principal is critical,” as he oversees the construction of the parish education center that will contain the school. He is “thrilled” to be working with Holmes as they prepare through-out this year for the August 2008 opening of the school.

“Elaine is highly respected in the education community. I have respect for her as a parishioner. She knows the local school system and understands the mission and philosophy of the parish. She’s got faith, experience and vision. She’s the right person for this job,” he says.

Ground has been broken west of the present building where the sewer and water lines are in place and pouring the foundation has begun.

Five years ago a parish committee was formed to address the needs of the entire parish. After much study, a recommendation was made for a parochial school. “The recommendation was accepted by the diocese as part of a broader effort to meet the parish and educational needs,” says Father Schooler.

The parish boasts the largest religious education program in the diocese with 1,200 students enrolled and is developing an RCTA program as well as addressing the needs of preschoolers, teens and adults alike. “Right
New principals for Queen of Peace, St. Adalbert enrolled in ACE Leadership program

BY ANN CAREY

SOUTH BEND — Chad Berndt is the new principal of Queen of Peace School in Mishawaka. He will lead a growing school of 260 students in grades pre-kindergarten through 8. Berndt comes to Queen of Peace from St. Thomas School in Elkhart, where he taught computer classes for all grades for the past four years and was sixth grade homeroom teacher. He is a member of St. Monica Parish, Mishawaka.

Berndt grew up in Mishawaka and attended Mishawaka High School, where he played football. He attended Earlham College in Richmond where he also played football while pursuing a degree in history, with the intention of becoming an elementary school teacher.

While teaching at St. Thomas, Berndt earned a master of education degree from the University of Notre Dame next year. He will receive a master of educational administration from Notre Dame. Berndt told Today's Catholic that he was encouraged to enter Catholic school administration by his mentor at St. Thomas School, Principal Fred Stump. Berndt is looking forward to the opportunity to lead Queen of Peace School along with the parish’s new pastor, Father Daniel Scheidt.

The new principal won’t be idle on his days off, either, for on Notre Dame football Saturdays, Berndt will be in the press box at Notre Dame Stadium, where he is a statistician for home football games.

In addition to starting a new job, Berndt will be starting a new life with his fiancé, since the couple is planning a Dec. 1 wedding.

Elizabeth Bridge is the new principal of St. Adalbert School in South Bend. St. Adalbert presently has 138 students and also is a growing school.

Bridge is a native of Texas, where she was a teacher for 11 years, mostly in Catholic schools. She recently moved to Indiana to be near her grandchildren and was encouraged by her educational mentor in Texas to go into Catholic school administration.

For Bridge, being a Catholic school principal is a dream-come-true and an opportunity to put her Catholic faith into practice while providing children with a strong faith foundation and a feeling of security and love.

She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Texas and her master of education degree from Indiana University at South Bend. Like Chad Berndt, she is enrolled in the Notre Dame ACE Leadership program, leading to administrative certification and a master of educational administration.

Principal Bridge told Today’s Catholic that the ACE program has made her more aware of the mission and vision of the Catholic Church and the role of Catholic schools and teachers in Catholic identity. She is pleased that the majority of faculty at St. Adalbert are graduates of the teaching segment of ACE, and thus share this vision.

St. Adalbert is located in an economically disadvantaged neighborhood, but Bridge looks upon that fact not as a challenge, but rather an opportunity to participate in the Catholic Church’s mission to help the poor.

Principal Bridge told Today’s Catholic, “Everyone is so excited about this school.” She recently moved to Indiana to be near her grandchildren and was encouraged by her educational mentor in Texas to go into Catholic school administration.

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St. Anthony teacher reflects on years teaching, looks ahead to retirement

By Jennifer Ochstein

GRANGER — Joan Stanley isn’t quite sure yet that retired life is for her, but she says it’s time.

The petite 73-year-old physical education teacher has taught kids at St. Anthony de Padua Catholic School in South Bend for more than 35 years.

“I think it’s time” to retire, she reflected. “I’m scared of it, but I think it’s time. I’m not exactly sure what I’m going to do yet, but I’ll probably do work at the hospital.”

At this point, she’s simply confident she wants to help people.

“But it’s scary,” said Stanley, who darts around her home like a woman half her age. “I’ll have been teaching 50 years.”

She officially retires after the 2007-2008 school year.

Since her sophomore year in high school growing up in Chicago, Stanley said she knew she was going to be a physical education (P.E.) teacher. She was active in sports at a time when girls weren’t supposed to like sports or even be active. Sweating was seemingly a faux pas.

But it was the boys who were always playing the games she wanted to play while the girls sat on the sidelines seemingly looking pale, windsed and tired. She wanted none of that.

As a child, her beloved mother seemed out-of-sorts with her. Stanley’s mother would try to make her sit still and work on her stitching.

“I wasn’t interested,” Stanley remembered. “I’d sit for a half hour, and then I’d be long gone.”

She eventually went to college at De Paul, the sport of choice was volleyball, though she did play some basketball. But in the early 1950s, a girl in college had little opportunity to play organized sports as we know them today.

“Girls didn’t do that,” Stanley said.

So they organized themselves into intramural volleyball and basketball teams. They played competitively, but mostly for themselves and not on the scale available to women today. And over the years, Stanley said she’s welcomed the realization that women are capable of playing sports and are competitive.

Girls were thought of as fragile, not able to handle the rigors of sports.

And when she began her first year of teaching, girls and boys were separated during P.E. because people didn’t think girls could do all boys could do.

Over the years, she said, society has come to realize that women can be just as tough as men. And these days P.E. classes are mixed with both boys and girls both playing and learning different sports together on mixed teams.

“The girls are tough, too,” she said.

And, she confided, those tough, competitive girls “are my kind of girls.”

When Stanley graduated college, she went on to teach at several different schools in and around Chicago and later in Iowa. During that time, she began to have children of her own and took a few years off here and there to give them a good start.

Eventually, her husband was transferred for his job to South Bend, where she taught at Saint Joseph’s High School for two years and then took time off to have another child. When she did go back, she was hired at St. Anthony de Padua.

“I’ve been there ever since,” she said. Even her four children — two boys and two girls — all passed through the halls of St. Anthony.

“I like it so much,” Stanley said of why she’s stayed at the school for so long. “It’s a comfortable place to work, and the kids are great. It’s just a really good environment.”

She appreciated her own children’s education at the school so much that she often tries to recruit others to send their own children.

“Kids come out of there knowledgeable about what they need to know for high school,” Stanley said.

But school has changed, she said.

“I think we’re giving them a better education now than we ever did,” she said, adding that kids are learning things today she was learning in college. “Children are learning a whole lot more than I ever did.”

Today, she said, are pushed to be more intelligent, to excel and go deeper into their studies.

And she likes that all kids now are able to participate in sports.

But the kids have also changed in other ways.

“There’s so few, but some of them just have bad attitudes,” Stanley said.

And she’s noticed that those who are negative often come from families who’ve had to deal with divorce.

All in all, though, Stanley’s had a good run.

Despite the changes families have undergone, she said she’ll miss the kids the most when she retires after this year.

“I really like being with the kids,” Stanley said. “They keep you full of vim, vigor and vitality. You have to be on your toes. They keep you alive.”

Joan Stanley, 73, has been teaching at St. Anthony de Padua Catholic School in South Bend for more than 35 years. She plans to retire after the 2007-2008 school year.

But she had a brother who didn’t think there was a thing wrong with her being a “tomboy,” and if she wanted to play ball he was right by her side.

Turned out she was able to make a career of the activity that was always bursting to get out of her as a child.

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Joan Stanley’s tips for a successful school year:

“Always have breakfast,” she advises.

Breakfast is the most important and should be the most nourishing meal of the day.

She says she even thinks breakfast is even more important than dinner. But she doesn’t discount the importance of lunch either.

“They should have good fruit for lunch,” she says, adding that people don’t eat nearly as much fruit as they should.

Apart from good eating habits, Stanley says students should go to bed at reasonable hours.

And a part of being able to go to bed at a reasonable hour is not spending so much time in front of the computer.

Instead of spending so much time on the computer, Stanley suggests getting outside and playing.

“They should be able to use their body, go out and get their body’s moving,” she says. “That’s why so many kids are so heavy because they don’t get off the chair.”

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An ugly activity

Atlanta Falcon Quarterback Michael Vick’s recent indictment on federal charges relating to dog fighting enterprises dat-

ing back six years has brought the ugly blood sport into the public eye. Vick’s attorneys say the practice is nothing new. It is, in fact, growing in popularity along with other forms of animal cruelty, such as cock fighting within our diocese, and even dog fighting.

Dog fighting is illegal in all 50 states and a felony in every one but Idaho and Wyoming.

The illegal yet multimillion-dollar activity is increasing nationwide, partly because it’s glamorized in the entertainment industry. It has become a big-time sport, and professional and semi-professional dog fighting is nothing new. For fighting can be worth thousands of dollars to their owners, who sometimes sell videotapes of the bloody matches.

We don’t need to provide the ugly details describing what goes on before, during and after a typical battle. Suffice it to say, hundreds of dogs are either killed or injured so severely they’re “scratched” from the match. What’s left of their life usually is beyond rehabilitation and socialization, so they either are destroyed by their owners or have to be euthanized at a local shelter. Many urban animal shelters, including Fort Wayne Animal Care & Control, often are overrun with pit bulls, the most popular fighting breeds.

In preparation for the Dog Fighting Weekend, the diocese states “animals are God’s creatures. He surrounds them with his providential care. By their mere existence they bless him and give him glory.” (2416) In the gentleness with which saints such as Francis of Assisi and Philip Neri treated animals, Furthermore, “it is contrary to human dignity to cause animals to suffer or die needlessly.” (2418)

Vick’s dog fighting has been expected to face a stern federal judge this week in Virginia not impressed with his celebrity status. If convicted, the gifted NFL competitor could face up to six years in prison and fines exceeding $300,000. Hopefully, the allegations against Vick will be untrue, and he will be able to continue his football career. If found guilty, however, we hope the penalties against this professional sports superstar will not be diminished due to his lofty status.

Our Catholic education never stops

Although there are a few weeks before students head back to the classrooms, this week’s special section, Back to School, only serves as a reminder of how quickly time passes.

Soon our young people will be back in school learning the basics and the more complex studies. Our Catholic school students will be learning about their faith, even taking a part in school liturgies, which often acts as a catalyst to prompt our young people to think about their role in the church — perhaps even a religious vocation.

For all of us who have completed school, we may be reminded that our education and formation in the faith does not end at confirmation, or with the Baltimore catechism.

Our Catholicism can be vibrant and our holiness enriched when we grow in the faith and teachings of the church. Our 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

Ugandan mission trip offers time to learn, love and worship

BY KELCI SCHMIDT AND STACEY BRANDT

Throughout the past 20 years, many people from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend have witnessed firsthand the love the church has for the people of Uganda. Through these efforts, along with generous donations from the students and parishioners of Holy Family Parish, several other parishes and corporations, and contributions from Our Sunday Visitor and Bishop John M. D’Arcy, we raised over $18,000.

During the trip, we were blessed by the presence of Father Joseph and two of his friends: Father Stephen Kigundu, a newly ordained priest, and Ambrose Ggombwa, a seminani-

an. With them, we celebrated daily Mass and visited mission churches, schools and after-school programs. We also shared school and medical supplies, clothing and toys.

The Mission to Uganda in Luwero began the construction of a church in 1981, but it has stood vacant because villagers lacked the money to secure the final panel. The entire parish watched and cheered as it was completed. Their prayers for a permanent place to worship had finally been answered, and many people shouted “chayumye,” it’s a miracle.

We then celebrated the occasion with a feast including roasted goat. After lunch, the school children shared a program of dance and song that had been preparing for months. We added to the program with a couple songs of our own. As we departed for the day, we hugged each other tearfully as we truly felt God’s presence among us.

A few days later, we arrived at the Kibuku Mission, where we were able to witness the digging of a water well, which was also funded through the gifts of our diocese.

The mission was very poor and had no electricity or clean water source. The children all had to walk several miles each morning and evening with buckets to collect water for their families from a watering hole, which was shared with the animals of the community.

The new well is being dug near the school for the convenience of the village and we got to gather the daily water for their families.

Participants on the trip included Carsten, Renee, and Kelci Schmidt, Sister Clare Marie Klein (seventh grade teacher at Holy Family School), Sister Marilyn Minter, Janet Alex Burlingame, Andrea DeLee, Shelly Matthys, Inge and Molly Gladieux, Jim and Janet Hall, Kirby and Claudia Falkenberg, Donna Carsten, Alex Jones, Alex Burlingame, Andrea DeLee, Linda Lemieux, Stacey Brandt, Richard Holloway and Wolfgang Schmidt. The group represented seven parishes in our diocese.
VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Seven weeks after Pope Benedict XVI praised Vatican caravans for their work in “our little state, from the most visible to the most hidden,” the state unveiled its own Web site.

The site — www.vatican.va — is linked to and works closely with the Vatican’s main Web site, www.vat- ican.va, but provides more information and tools that help run the state, as opposed to the church.

Officially launched July 19 in Italian, English, French, German and Spanish, the site includes live pictures from five webcams. With a click on their computer, Internet users can join pilgrims praying at Pope John Paul II’s tomb in the grotto of St. Peter’s Basilica. A camera high on the Vatican hill points toward the dome of St. Peter’s Basilica. And a webcam outside the Vatican Gardens and the third at three webcams have been set up on the roof of the Vatican’s St. Peter’s Basilica.

In an e-mail message July 18, the new webmaster said, “An exact date for the shopping has not been set,” but the governor’s office is working with the Vatican bank, formally the Institute for the Works of Religion, to make sure the site is user friendly and secure for credit-card transactions from around the world.

Oddly enough, the highly efficient Vatican postal service, which presumably would ship the goods, does not have its own section on the site, but the Vatican Telephone Service and the Vatican Pharmacy do.

The site includes a brief introduction to the government of Vatican City State, explaining that it is “an absolute monarchy. The head of state is the pope, who holds full legislative, executive and judicial powers.”

Between the death of one pope and the election of another, the powers are assumed by the pope generally delegates a portion of his powers to ensure the smooth governance of the state and the promulgation of laws regulating life for its 800 residents, its employees and visitors.

The site’s goal was to present a very brief description, but the 130-LETTER, PAGE 16-

1. Although the authorship of some epistles is disputed, scholars agree that Romans was written by
a. St. Peter.
  b. St Paul.
  c. Tertullian.

2. This is not contradicted by the fact that chapter 16 of Romans writes “I, Tertius, the writer of this letter, greet you in the Lord.” Why not?
  a. Because Tertullian is the Hebrew form of Peter.
  b. Because Tertullian is a pseudonym used by Paul.
  c. Because it was standard practice to dictate letters to a scribe.

3. Dealing with the sensitive issue of following Jewish dietary laws, Romans makes clear that
  a. there is no such thing as unclean food.
  b. everyone must keep koshers.
  c. only fast food is to be avoided.

4. But, nevertheless, anyone who insists on following narrow rules is to be
  a. expelled from the community.
  b. castigated as a fusspot.
  c. respected and allowed to follow their rules.

5. The closing verses of the epistle (16:25-27) are often referred to as the
  a. doxology
  b. requiem
  c. song of songs

6. The person who is to bring the letter to the Christian community in Rome is named in the letter, and is
  a. Postius.
  b. Phoebe.
  c. Mercury.

7. This verse, “All who sin outside the law will also perish without reference to it, and all who sin under the law will be judged in accordance with it.” shows clearly that
  a. both gentile and Jewish Christians must be judged by their actions.
  b. only breaking the law counts as sin.
  c. no evil act is of significance for those who believe.

8. A major theme of Romans is justification. Where does it state that people are justified by faith alone?
  a. In the first and 15th chapters.
  b. Only in the Greek translation.
  c. Nowhere.

9. Paul announces his travel plans. Where does he wish to go to?
  a. Spain.
  b. Mexico.
  c. Sicily.

10. Most scholars agree that the letter to the Romans was written in this Greek city by an isthmus:
  a. Corinth.
  b. Sparta.
  c. Athens.

11. This epistle was composed during a period of 90 days during these years:
  a. B.C. 52.
  b. 56 AD to 57 AD.
  c. 102 AD to 103 AD.

12. This was right before Paul’s planned trip to
  a. Alexandria.
  b. France.
  c. Jerusalem.

13. The letter clearly demonstrates this fact:
  a. There was already a Christian community in Rome before Paul went there.
  b. Peter had become the first bishop of Rome and established a gentle church.
  c. The Romans were actually more tolerant of Jews than the Muslims.

14. The community Paul wrote to was
  a. of mixed gentile and Jewish elements.
  b. the only purely Jewish church in the Old World.
  c. converted from the Muslim faith.

15. The canonicity of Romans
  a. was proven, as a boost to the Spanish, by the conquest of Iberia by the Moors.
  b. is accepted by the Orthodox and Catholics, but not Protestants.
  c. has never been seriously challenged.

ANSWERS:
1.b, c; 2.a, b; 3.c; 4.b; 5.a; 6.b; 7.a, c; 8.b; 9.a; 10.c; 11.c, b; 12.a, c; 13.a; 14.a, d; 15.c.
Catholic culture gives Washington neighborhood ‘Little Rome’ identity

By Andrea Slivka

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Catholics don’t have to go to Italy to visit Rome.

Tucked away in a little section of Washington, the Brookland neighborhood around The Catholic University of America is known as “Little Rome” and “Little Vatican,” according to local legend and District of Columbia guidebooks.

Just as the center of the Vatican is St. Peter’s, the center of Little Rome is Catholic University, founded by the U.S. bishops in 1887 to be the national Catholic university.

Many other Catholic institutions later moved into the area around the university, creating a distinctively Catholic culture in which it’s not uncommon to see a colorful variety of religious habits in a single day.

About 20 religious communities from around the world, including the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, are all located near the university.

Father George McLean, an Oblate of Mary Immaculate, has lived in the Brookland neighborhood since 1956 and remembers when the area has had a higher concentration of Catholic culture and communities.

In 1956, the area had at least 50 men’s and women’s religious communities, about a dozen schools of theology for particular men and women’s orders and 70 houses for graduate students of the various orders, he said.

Using reason alone, we can say that angels are likely to exist.

Father Richard Hire, pastor of St. Martin de Porres Parish, Summit, New Jersey, answered this week’s question.

Today’s Catholic welcomes questions from readers. E-mail your questions to editor@fw.diocceseny.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.

SCÆRITURE SEARCH

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: Jesus’ teaching about prayer life. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

PRAYER LESSONS


LETTER

Continued from Page 15

member Vatican police force gets a new name. Perhaps because the police uniforms are not as famous as those worn by the Swiss Guard, or even photographs are included.

The Vatican fire department also falls under the responsibility of the governor’s office, but it initially did not have its own section on the newly launched site.

With Pope Benedict XVI set to arrive July 27 in Castel Gandolfo, the home of his summer residence south of Rome, visitors to the new Web site could check out the villa’s supermanicured gardens.

Like most official government Web sites, the Vatican City State also includes an explanation and history of the Vatican flag and Vatican City.a number. Of course, there are links to sound files, giving visitors the option of hearing the anthem in its standard marching-band version or the much slower, fancier orchestral track.
Contraceptive contradictions

The Catholic Church remains almost a lone voice in our age defending the view that contraceptive sexual activity is wrong. Many young Catholic couples either are not aware of this teaching or simply choose to ignore it.

When asked, he can explain the reasons behind it. Some venture to say that the church opposes sex in general, and cheapening the order and meaning of his own body, and cheapening the mutual exploitation — a lifeless, self-focused, needs-centered apparatus.

The problem here is clear: marital sexuality is actually all about love, concern, mutual self-giving, and flowing in a continue which calls for a complete self-giving.

A person does not put on gloves to touch a beloved one tenderly, unless one thinks that some disease may be communicated. But is pregnancy a disease? And is not the use of condoms, diaphragms, spermicidal jellies, and the like similar to putting on gloves? Do husband and wife really become ‘one flesh’ if they must arm themselves with protective gear before ‘giving’ themselves to one another genital ly?

What is the best part of being Mary Magdalene?

Mary Magdalene is the woman from whom Jesus expelled seven demons. J. Finegan says this may refer to epilepsy, for this condition was commonly attributed to possession by evil spirits. Mary Magdalene gave financial help and disc met the need of her husband and their married partner by altering its usage. In the language of trying to have sex, but not really having it; of using our body in its most integral design. The one who dines in this way is seeking in a sense both to eat and not eat at the same time. The one who reflexively spoils sex, he is engaging in a damaging and contradicting behavior, violating the inner order and meaning of his own body, and cheapening the basic and quintessential human activity of eating. This destructive behavior crosses a real moral line insofar as a person freely and knowingly chooses to do it.

Contraception involves this same sort of destructive and contradictory behavior. Unlike the case of the vomitorium, however, sex is an inherently relational activity involving two people. For that reason, the damage done by engaging in contraceptive sex as a couple will extend beyond the fabric of their individual persons and trigger damage at the heart of that delicate relationship which is their marriage.

The choice to use a condom during sexual intimacy speaks the same contradictory language of the vomitorium: the language of trying to have sex, but not really having it; of trying to do it, without really doing it. One is misleading directly against the sexual act itself, violating its inner order and harmony by actively flustering its obvious life-giving designs. Contraception, thus, always involves an objectively contradictory language, namely, that of not giving oneself totally to the other in the face of that innate language of sex which calls for a complete self-giving.

What interests or hobbies do you have?

Reading and traveling, an interest in history of nations and politics.

Do you have a pet?

no

What do you do for relaxation?

Going out to eat and watching TV.

What is your favorite reading material?

History novels, history of nations and politics.

What was your primary influence in college?

History novels, history of nations and politics.

What is your favorite food?

seafood

What is something interesting about yourself that most people might not know?

I carried a turkey for 17 years for Parkview Hospital and answered most emergency calls.

How do you prefer to be addressed?

I like to be called Father Bob, as my family generally calls me.

Meet the Priest

Father Robert Traub
Ordained June 3, 1939
Retired, Fort Wayne

What was your primary influence in your decision to become a priest?

Sisters and priests in the parish and priests in high school and college.

What is the most rewarding part of being a priest?

Helping people on the way to salvation.

Being sure of salvation and having Jesus with us.

What is your favorite prayer?

The Memorare

Who is your favorite pope?

John Paul II

What is your favorite food?

seafood

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Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did postdoctoral work at Harvard. He is a priest of the Diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

Making Sense of Bioethics

BY FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

Hire History

FATHER RICHARD HIRE

Occupying this strategic junction, Magdala probably had a guard tower or fortress. The name Magdala may come from the Hebrew ‘migdal’ or tower. The Jewish Talmud this town Migdal Nunaya or fish tower. Magdala is now an archaeological site. Magdala was a center of fishing, fish packing and fish salting. Magdala was the largest of about 10 sizable towns around the Sea of Galilee in the time of Jesus.

The first-century Jewish historian Josephus speaks of the town of Tarichea, derived from the Greek word ‘tarichos,’ meaning salted fish. J. Finegan and Father J. McKenzie say this is probably another name for Magdala. J. Finegan mentions that early travel writers sometimes spelled Magdala. Identifying places on the north-west shore of the Sea of Galilee, coming down from the north, Epiphanus (d. 800 A.D.) names Heptapegon and then says ‘two miles farther is a church in which the house of the Magdala is at the place called Magdala. There the Lord healed her.’

Excavations in the 1970s, says J. Finegan, show that Magdala was laid out as a Roman city with a main north-south street intersected by east-west streets. There was a Roman army camp there. At Magdala is a probable first-century A.D. Syrian synagogue with rows of columns. This synagogue is similar in style to a synagogue at the city of Gamla, on the east side of the Sea of Galilee, that was destroyed by the Romans in 67 A.D. and never resettled. At Magdala there is also a villa with mosaics, a Roman mosaic marble, and the ruins of a Byzantine monastery.

Josephus describes the beauty of the land surrounding Magdala. ‘There is not a plant which its fierce and flow from profound considerations regarding the integral design of human sexuality. Pope John Paul II put it well when he stressed how couples who use contraception in their marriage presume to, ‘act as ‘arbiters’ of the divine plan and they ‘manipulate’ and degrade human sexuality and with it themselves and their married partner by altering its value of ‘total’ self-giving.”

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Stewardship comes alive at a tender age

BY KAT COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Seven-year-old Miguel Hernandez and his grandmother watched in horror as the TV news reported a fire on a school playground on June 12. Fortunately school had been out for summer recess for nearly a week.

Witnesses had seen several youth lighting fireworks within the wooden playground structure behind Queen of Angels School when the mulch was ignited. The fire spread quickly throughout the dry woody area. Firefighters contained the blaze, but the playground structure and surrounding mulched area were charred.

Hernandez, who recently completed his first grade at Whispering Meadows Elementary School, knew of Queen of Angels where his neighbors attended pre-school but had never been there. He insisted he visit the playground after days of lamenting over the loss the students suffered.

His grandmother, Dr. Ann Hernandez, a professor at the University of Saint Francis and member of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, drove him to the school. The impact of that visit inspired the young boy and the Pennys for Playground Project was born.

“I felt really bad for them. I was thinking I should do something for them,” said Miguel, no stranger to the notion of stewardship. The tenderhearted boy, who volunteers his time to hospital visits, fundraising and community activities, quickly formed a plan to collect funds to offer the school in hopes that they might purchase new equipment for the students.

Miguel spent close to a week walking door to door throughout his neighborhood requesting donations to fill his “magic box,” a small container decorated with brightly colored balloons outside and shining stars inside. It was, his grandma says, magical because it contained the money that might help the school renew its playground.

Following his neighborhood walk, he visited the Saint Francis campus. The response to his plea was so generous that he raised $87.75. “The people were so nice,” Miguel says, “that I had an idea that I wanted to give them something in return.”

His idea grew into a trip to a craft store for supplies to make soap for the playground beneficiaries, where the cashier, upon hearing his story, donated to the cause as well.

Miguel and his grandmother have made soaps in shell and flower shapes colored yellow, pink and purple to present to the donors. Of this generous act he humbly replies, “Think of all the people giving money for this big situation.” And Miguel adds this advice matter-of-factly: “I want to tell everyone if there’s a problem, try to help.”

According to Queen of Angels Principal Marsha Jordan, the cost of the original playground equipment was raised over a three-year period by parents and through grants. “It was constructed in 1998, built through the summer and was a great stewardship effort. It took 1,000 man-hours to build. Parentioners and parents volunteered,” says Jordan, adding that much thought and effort was put into the project.

“The group researched national insurance codes for safety, size and standards,” she says. Currently there are no playground codes in the state of Indiana, an important issue for the 290 students who attend Queen of Angels School.

Of Miguel’s efforts, Jordan says, “I’m really touched that this little boy thought so much of the kids that he collected money.” She accepted the cash donation personally from Miguel and is saving the magic box as a keepsake.

Father Gary Sigler, pastor of Queen of Angels Parish agrees with Jordan, saying, “I am very amazed and impressed that someone so young can work with such a project. I am so grateful to people like Miguel and all who have offered to help to rebuild our playground.”

Since the news report of the fire, Principal Jordan is amazed at the number of people who have contacted her to help. “We appreciate the phone calls, thoughts and donations. We ask that they continue to keep us in prayer. And we hope to construct something as nice as the one we previously had.”

Miguel’s grandmother is proud of her grandson and his determination to help. “He’s an amazing kid and we’re proud of him. Miguel is a giver, he loves to help. It’s part of his nature,” she says tenderly. The two hope to return to the school with tools when it’s time to build the new playground.

In the meantime, Miguel, who enjoys tap dancing classes, soccer and spending time with his dad David, is pleased with his efforts and says smiling broadly, “My life is helping other people. Jesus said, ‘You’re doing great. And you might do it again.’ I usually have fun doing these things. I feel good inside. And then it sticks on other people.” Out of the mouths of babes.

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**Playground update and fund raising**

Insurance will not be able to cover a new playground that will meet the current requirements. Students will be collecting pledges for the first two weeks of school. Students will then participate in a walk-a-thon on Aug. 31. Other fund raisers are in the works but details are not available at this time. If anyone wishes to help Queen of Angels and its students rebuild this playground please send any donation to:

Attention: Kurt Homan
Queen of Angels School
1600 West State Blvd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46808
Christian perspective can be found in Harry Potter series

BY PEGGY WEBER

WESTFIELD, Mass. (CNS) — July has been a big month for Harry Potter fans and Father Michael Bernier, parochial vicar at St. Mary Parish in Westfield, proudly counts himself among the myriad of Potter devotees.

In fact, he described himself as a “Pottermaniac” at a talk he gave in May about God and Harry Potter. And he, like millions more, looked forward to July 21 when the seventh and final book, “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows,” was released and July 13 when the fifth and final book, “Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix,” premiered.

“Pottermania” is once again expected to sweep through bookstores and movie theaters this summer, and Father Bernier told those gathered for his talk at St. Mary High School that Christians should not fear this devotion to stories about a boy wizard.

“On the surface level it does sound suspect and does raise red flags,” he said. However, he said the magic in Harry Potter is not sorcery. And he noted that the original title of the first book was “Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone.” The title was changed to “Sorcerer’s Stone” for the book’s release in the United States.

“I happen to be one of the people who believes that there’s a great deal of Christian imagery and symbolism in the books. And I think it answers, at least in parts, a longing we have for Christ,” he said.

Throughout his talk, Father Bernier quoted from “Looking for God in Harry Potter” by John Granger which emphasizes that the Harry Potter books focus on the triumph of love over death. For example, Dumbledore says to the villain Voldemort: “Indeed, your failure to understand that there are things much worse than death has always been your greatest weakness.”

A majority of those attending the priest’s talk were Harry Potter fans. A few joked that they arrived up to 24 hours early, 656 days a year.

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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, PO. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or e-mail: flogan@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.

Garage sale time
Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels will hold a garage sale on Friday, Aug. 3, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 4, from 8 a.m. to noon in the Activities Center, 1600 W. State Blvd. Donations accepted 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Aug. 1 and 2. Handicap Accessible.

Summerfest announced
Yoder — St. Aloysius Parish will hold its Summerfest on Saturday, Aug. 11, from 9 to noon in South Bend or information, call Chester Mackowiak,

Central Catholic High plans reunion
Fort Wayne — A reunion is planned for all alumni of Central Catholic High School Sunday, Sept. 16. Mass at the cathedral at 11:30 a.m. and party at the original high school site from 1 to 4 p.m. Call (260) 485-6164.

Golf Tournament planned
South Bend — St. Augustine Parish will have a Jim Freels Golf Tournament, Saturday, Aug. 25, at 10 a.m. Shotgun start, 18 hole scramble. New car hole-in-one prize, men and women longest drive and closest to the pin prizes. Cost is $60 per player and includes cart, greens fees and lunch buffet. Contact Kevin Irvin at (574) 273-3778 or Father Chuck Lavelle at (574) 234-7082.

Luers oldies reunion
Fort Wayne — Graduates of the classes 1962-1971 will be celebrating the first 10 years on Saturday, Aug. 4, at the home of Ken Hensch, 7421 Maples Rd. Hosted by the class of 1965. For information contact Ken Hensch at (260) 447-2294 or e-mail KenAesthetic@aol.com.

Beginning Experience Weekend
Mishawaka — A Beginning Experience retreat for widowed, divorced and separated persons will be held at Bethel College, from 7 p.m. Friday, July 27, to 3 p.m. Sunday, July 29. This Christian-based program assists persons to work through deep feelings of grief, anger, depression and loss. Register by July 14 to Rachel at (574) 271-1699 or e-mail at r.e.lady@uno.com or Becky at (260) 768-7350. The next weekend is Nov. 16-18.

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TV Mass Guide for August

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<td>Ss. Peter and Paul Huntington</td>
<td>Holy Family South Bend</td>
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Rummage sale
Kendallville — Immaculate Conception Parish will have a rummage sale on Friday, Aug. 10 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 11, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. $1.50 a bag sale on Saturday.

Call or stop by today for a glass of lemonade and a tour.

Redefining Senior “HOME”

Whether it’s our pets to residence, our flowering plants or our staff that acts more like family than caregivers, Sunrise Senior Living provides everyday experiences that make our communities simply, more livable.

At Sunrise, we understand that the transition to a senior community isn’t always easy. So, we focus on the details of living, from beautifully appointed living spaces to delicious meals, engaging social activities, transportation, and personalized assistance and care.

Visit or call Sunrise of Fort Wayne, to see what we do to make our community into a place seniors can call home. In Fort Wayne we offer Assisted Living and Alzheimer’s Care.

For more information and a FREE online newsletter, visit www.sunrisetoomiling.com
The image contains text that describes the history and events related to two Catholic parishes in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. The text is divided into two main sections:

**St. Paul Chapel, Clear Lake — Est. 1940**

- The peaceful surroundings and the beauty of God’s creation can enhance the mood for attending Mass, and in the process, awaken the sense of thanksgiving for being among those present, then St. Paul’s Chapel at Clear Lake does just that.
- Famous for the clarity of its water and its majesty, this huge lake in Steuben County, close enough to splash into Michigan and Ohio becomes Nirvana, Indiana, for thousands in summertime.
- As one observes the luxurious lake homes and lavish lake toys on all shores of Clear Lake, it requires a nearly whimsical turn of mind to believe the original grounds of St. Paul Chapel at Clear Lake, prior to the establishment of St. Paul’s Chapel, Clear Lake residents attended Mass in Angola at St. Anthony of Padua Church, which was administered by Franciscan friars who have a novitiate there.
- On July 27, 1941, Conventual Franciscan Father Leonard Wren blessed the building and celebrated the first Mass at St. Paul Chapel. About 200 people attended and contributed $47.26 in the collection.
- The country was sunk in the Great Depression, and with no signs of recovery on the horizon, the enterprise lacked appeal.
- Perhaps as a reward for his zeal, the probated mission was known as the Pleasant View School, two miles north of Lakeville, he cleaned the place, washed the blackboards, fired up a Round Oak heating stove and made ready the way of the Lord.
- Father Miner spent the winter evenings in the homes of parishioners giving religious instruction to children and preparing older ones for their first communion.
- From the choir loft at Sacred Heart of Jesus, Lakeville, St. Isadore, in stained glass, patron saint of farmers, looks out over the peaceful grounds of this rural parish.

**Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Lakeville — Est. 1933**

- Penny postcards with a handwritten message that the new Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish would have its first Mass on Dec. 18, 1932, told 40 households that they were now members of this new parish.
- The country was sunk in the Great Depression, and with no signs of recovery on the horizon, the enterprise lacked appeal.
- Over the years, Sacred Heart has grown with the addition of a parish hall and CCD classrooms, the acquisition of a neighboring 82-acre farm, three acres of which became a parish cemetery called Mount Calvary, and now in its 75th year the days of this parish are numbered.
- At the Masses on July 22, 2007, an announcement of the pending merger of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish with nearby St. Jude Parish, which just recently absorbed St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, was made.
- Where and when the new parish will be located have not been determined. Meanwhile and in stained glass, the image of St. Isadore, patron saint of farmers, gazes over the grounds of this peaceful place which has never lost the feeling of a “country parish.”