Bishop celebrates mystery of love with South Bend jubilee couples

**BY SUSAN BAXTER**

SOUTH BEND — Resplendent in white robes laced with gold, Bishop John M. D’Arcy celebrated a jubilee Mass for 38 South Bend couples who had reached their 25th or 50th wedding anniversaries. The joyful celebration included music from the Mass of Creation, emphasizing the bishop’s message that the sacrament of marriage is distinctly pro-life.

“Look at young children; their faith in God is so strong.” Bishop D’Arcy said in his homily. “Their belief in the presence of God in the Eucharist is strong. What is the basis for this faith? The grace of God, certainly.

“But it also lies in the fact that their parents told them that is what they believe. When children see parents give themselves so unselfishly, it gets through to the children that God cares. Their parents become a sign of how Jesus Christ loves his church.”

Fred and Lisa Everett, of the diocesan Office of Family Life, proclaimed the readings, and Father Michael Heintz, rector of the cathedral, proclaimed the Gospel according to John. The Epistle, from first Corinthians, calls married people to love as Christ loves his church. But bishop said that the first reading, Gen 2:18-24, has special significance in illustrating that love, and in the mystery of Jesus as bridegroom.

“We heard that as Adam slept, God opened his side so that he could create for him a perfect partner, Eve, and so that the two could truly be one flesh and give birth to children.

“As Jesus Christ slept on the cross,” he said, “His side was opened. And from his side flowed blood and water, and the church was born.

“You made a promise to one another, and you have kept that promise. So rejoice! Jesus made a promise to his beloved. He has not abandoned us; he has given us

**JUBILEE, PAGE 4**

At Marian shrine, pope says Jesus shows strength of faith

**BY JOHN THAVIS**

MARIAZELL, Austria (CNS) — Inspired by a small wooden statue of Mary and the child Jesus, Pope Benedict XVI appealed on behalf of the world’s suffering children, including the poor, the orphaned and those forced to fight in wars.

The pope spoke during Mass Sept. 8 for some 30,000 pilgrims at the Austrian shrine of Mariazell, where a linden wood statue of Madonna and child has been revered for 850 years. The liturgy was the centerpiece of the pontiff’s three-day trip to Austria.

The pope knelt in prayer before the statue, which is kept in a sanctuary chapel where a Benedictine monk first brought it in 1157. The carved image depicts Jesus holding an apple as he sits on Mary’s lap.

At an outdoor Mass celebrated under intermittent rain, the pope said it was important to remember that Christ came as a child — not with “external force,” but in the “powerlessness of his love, which is where his true strength lies.”

“He places himself in our hands. He asks for our love. He invites us to become small ourselves, to come down from our high thrones and to learn to be childlike before God,” he said.

The child Jesus should remind people of all the children in the world, “children who live in poverty; who are exploited as soldiers; who have never been able to experience the love of parents; sick and suffering children, but also those who are joyful and healthy,” he said.

The pope then chided Europe, saying attention to children is diminishing and alluded to its low birth rate.

“Europe has become child-poor: We want

**JUBILEE, PAGE 4**

Workers descend on a crane with the cross from atop the steeple of St. Peter Church, Fort Wayne, on Sept. 10. The steel steeple, constructed in 1967, was recently found to be in poor condition and will be replaced with a conventional steeple and a second steeple.
Desperate pain, Mary Caprio’s trust in God never wavered

TO D A Y’ S C A T H O L I C

September 16, 2007

Official newspaper of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
P.O. Box 11169
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PUBLISHER: Bishop John M. D’Arcy
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TODAY’S CATHOLIC

Today’s Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46856

A mission of love

To be at the side of a dear loved one whom you have known from the beginning of your life and who is near death, while touched by pain, is a privileged moment. It was my intention to fly out on Labor Day to spend a few hours with my sister thinking that I would be visiting her at home. When she went to the hospital, I went on Saturday, Sept. 1. I landed at Boston’s Logan Airport, rented a car and drove north, arriving at St. Joseph’s Hospital, Nashua, at 9:30 p.m. “You are early,” said Mary. I was pleased she could speak because on the phone she only said a few words with great difficulty. I told her that the Lord and Mary were coming for her. I would be at her side so she could hear it, “Hope they come fast,” she said. “I hope they come fast.” I explained to her that I thought she would go right to heaven. Two or three times she replied, “I hope so.”

I stayed at my family house that night in Brighton. I returned Sunday morning and celebrated Mass in her room with her husband, Vito, and her children, Jacinta and Francis. Jacinta’s husband, David, my sisters, Joan and Sister Anne, and Joan’s boys, Patrick, D’Arcy and Vito. We all packed into a small hospital room.

Then began a long vigil — Sunday to Wednesday for me. We recited the Liturgy of the Dying and no one spoke except for Vito. Mary received holy Communion each day.

Wednesday I returned to this diocese to take up my work and wait for the call that could not be far away, and I prayed and waited. The call came on Friday afternoon. I was in my office. My sister, Anne, was with her, which she told me later was a great privilege. I left the ritual with the prayers of the dying on the dining room table at our home and informed Anne about it. So, she recited the Liturgy of the Dying all through the day.

I celebrated the first Friday Mass for the faithful and asked for their prayers. Then I placed the Eucharist out for eucharistic adoration. I closed my office door to be alone with Jesus and Mary.

I returned to the cathedral again to pray. So far away and yet so close. I thought of how devoted Mary had been to me, a devotion of which I felt myself to be most unworthy.

When our seminarians studied in Boston, she used to take them to lunch and often provided Red Sox tickets for them.

Her goal was to be at the ordination of Tony Steinacker. She kept her promise. Her major goal was to be at the jubilee at her brother’s funeral. She came and did the first reading. She had hoped to come to the Eucharistic Congress, but it was not possible.

A life of faith

I think we learn a lot about someone when they are dying, especially if there is suffering there, was for me. The particular cancer she had brought much pain. She refused to take the palliatives for a long time. She wanted to stay alert. Sometimes the pain was so great that she would cry over the phone. “It will get better,” she said.

What I learned about her, and was certainly God’s message for those who loved her, was how the instruments of faith — the sacraments, holy Communion and the rosary — were her constant companions. In the recent crisis the church suffered about five years ago, she said the rosary every day for me and for the church.

She went to Mass almost every day. Her husband, Vito, and her daughter, Jacinta, told me how much holy Communion meant to her.

When I visited her last summer and celebrated Mass in her parish church, I met many people who loved her and were impressed with her. When I returned to her apartment after Mass, she took out a book called “Ten Prayers that God Always Answers.” She read some of it to me. Spiritual reading, the rosary, holy Communion, the sacrament of penance — these things were all around her.

She continued on with life. There was nothing more important than having her two beautiful grandchildren, Michael and Cameron. She got a little more wind in her sails.

Today’s Catholic

Her birthday and anniversary presents to me usually arrived weeks, if not months, ahead of time. She was a worrier. When I got back from spending some days with my family, there would always be a message waiting for me making sure that I had arrived safely. Sometime, the concern was “Is everything taken care of from heaven that she would pray for me. Every prayer card I sent to her about

Mary, the great worrier, did not wish to die and leave her husband, children, grandchildren and her original family. Despite the pain, trust in God and his goodness never wavered. She who worried about everything did not worry about whether or not she would see God. “I hope so,” she said. “I hope they came fast.” It didn’t seem fast as the days wore on, but it really was.

Another mission

I have now completed a weekend in the South Bend end of the diocese. Installation of Father Daniel Scheidt as pastor of Queen of Peace Parish in Mishawaka, the meeting with the lawyers and judges in the morning and then Mass for jubilarian of marriage in the afternoon. Tonight, I will fly to my home-town, Chicago, to attend the Holy Name Society Convention in the Hampshire for the wake on Tuesday and the Mass of Christian Burial on Wednesday.

Mary loved this diocese. She not only read my columns, but she also wrote to others. She read it on the Internet before I even read myself. May I ask all the good people, religious and laity of the diocese to pray for my dear sister, Mary, and for my family.

I will be back on Thursday and see you again next week.

TODAY’S CATHOLIC

Please note the following:

Mary Caprio was the youngest of a large family of seven children, six of whom are deceased, and, most of all, her husband, Vito.

A life of love

She was always the smartest in the family — brilliant. No grade below A. She attained advanced degrees in nursing and became a teacher of nurses, which she continued after leaving the convent.

Her devotion to her mother and father and the memory of them remained strong for her. In 1946, she told my dad, as the great war ended, that he should go home to visit his mother and father. He listened to her and went. It remained a memory of a lifetime. She would go to Ireland herself later and visit the homes and churches of her parents.

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Upcoming events

At the request of Bishop John M. D’Arcy, the Apostolic Penitentiary has granted an extension of the places and times where the plenary indulgence can be received during this Jubilee Year. Among these events are the two regional confirmations to be held at the University of Notre Dame on Sept. 16, 2007 and at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum on Sept. 30, 2007. All those who are attending as official guests of the confirmandi at either of these two events receive a plenary indulgence under the usual conditions; namely, the reception of holy Communion and prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father.

A full catechesis on the meaning of a plenary indulgence was presented in a special edition of Today’s Catholic for the Eucharistic Congress, and will be repeated in a future edition. The listing of the opportunities for receiving a plenary indulgence for the rest of the Jubilee Year will be given also in that edition.

Today’s Catholic publishes a weekly edition of the Catholic New Times in South Bend and is available on request. Single copy 50¢. Subscription rates: Domestic in advance, one year $20. Bundle rates in advance, one year $20. Bundle rates in

The listing of the opportuni-}

Today’s Catholic
Deacon Joseph R. Zickgraf remembered for his love of people, politics, and the church

COLUMBIA CITY — When Deacon Joseph R. Zickgraf died Aug. 31 at the age of 80, he left behind multiple legacies. One was as a three-term mayor of Columbia City, along with his other civic work in the city, court judge and Democratic precinct committeeman.

Another was as a man who cared for the needs of the sick, whether through his work in a pharmaceutical sales force, or, more likely, through his countless visits to the sick and home-bound as permanent deacon. He was also a man who loved his church, serving it as a deacon and through organizations like Catholic Charities.

“He just really truly cared about people,” says Jeanne Stefanko, of Columbia City, who sat in the rain for a little over an hour in the pouring down rain to assist with Deacon Zickgraf in the early 1980s, when the diocese was training Zickgraf’s class of permanent deacons.

“This friendship with Christ or being a deacon, the cathedral, remembers Zickgraf as an outgoing person with a great sense of humor and a great desire to be helpful. Father Schulte also recalls Zickgraf, before Mass, talking to people he knew before processing down the aisle. He was just a first person who liked to be around people.”

Zickgraf was first elected mayor of Columbia City, and the potential clash between religious politics was a concern for Zickgraf.

“He would say, ‘What happens if a priest gets a speeding ticket coming through Columbia City?’” recalls Father Schulte with a laugh.

At Zickgraf’s funeral, which was well attended by Catholics and non-Catholics alike, Father Schulte got to see another side of how the late deacon and mayor had touched the community.

“We were going to the cemetery, and we went by the fire station,” Father Schulte recalls. “And they had all the firetrucks out, and the firemen were saluting. We went by city hall, and they had traffic stopped, and the policemen were saluting.”

Zickgraf’s wife, Judy, explained that it was Zickgraf himself who had instituted this protocol for former mayors.

“I think he was trying to blend in the respect for the church and religion as well as respect for the civil authority,” Father Schulte notes. “I think that was part of Zickgraf’s instruction and insight.”

One ministry in which this talking found expression was the marriage preparation course at the cathedral. Msgr. Wolf adds that Zickgraf loved the spirituality of people and, ultimately, needed to be helpful. Father Schulte also remembers the man as an outgoing person with a great sense of humor.

“Some people have called my office a local memorial for my dear sister, Mary D’Arcy Caprio,” Bishop D’Arcy told the paper.”

“My dear sister, Mary D’Arcy Caprio, died Friday, Sept. 7, after a lengthy and courageous battle with cancer.”

Mrs. Caprio was born in Brighton, Mass., on April 18, 1931, a daughter of the late Michael J. and Margaret M. (Moran) D’Arcy. She was the wife of Vito A. Caprio of Nashua.

Mary Caprio, an accomplished seamstress and businesswoman, had been employed as a designer and was a nursing instructor at St. Joseph School of Nursing in Nashua.

She also had assisted her husband at his business, the former Carter’s Men’s Shop on Main St. in Nashua.

Besides her husband of 33 years, Msrs. Caprio is survived by one daughter, Jacinta Lang, and her husband David of Merrimack, N.H.; and one son, Frank Caprio, of Nashua; three grandchildren — Michael Lang, Catherine Lang and John F. Caprio — her brother, the Most Rev. John M. D’Arcy, Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend; and two sisters, Sister Anne M. D’Arcy, CSJ, of West Roxbury, Mass., and Joan D. Sheridan and her husband Hugh of Needham, Mass.; and also several nieces and nephews.

Visiting hours were on Tuesday, Sept. 11, in Immaculate Conception Church, Nashua. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Wednesday, Sept. 12, in Immaculate Conception Church.

Burial followed in St. Patrick Cemetery, Hudson.

“Some people have called my office a local memorial for my dear sister, Mary D’Arcy Caprio,” Bishop D’Arcy told the paper. “I know that what she wants and I want is that you pray for the repose of her soul. It will be a great joy to have prayers said for her in all the parishes of this diocese this coming Sunday. Prayer indeed is the best memorial.”

If anyone feels prompted to give something in Mary D’Arcy Caprio’s honor, a gift may be made to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Catholic Education Fund, which provides grants for children who otherwise would not be able to attend diocesan Catholic schools.

Mary Caprio, dies at 76

SEPTEMBER 16, 2007

TODAY’S CATHOLIC 3

BY DON CLEMMER

CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, COLUMBIA CITY, INDIANA

The important thing is that the truth prevails not through outside force, but by humility, love and the inner strength of its own genuineness, he said.

The paper said the church firmly believes in the enduring lessons of the Ten Commandments, and the commandments “yes” to life, family, justice and responsible love. But it would be wrong to see Christianity merely as a set of rules, he said.

“Christianity is more than and different from a moral code, a series of requirements and laws. It is the gift of a friendship that lasts through life and death,” he said.

This friendship with Christ should be the focus of Marian devotion at Mariazell, he said, adding that modern pilgrimages should be like early Christians, who had a “restless heart” and were looking for deeper meaning in life, and found it in Christ.

At the end of the liturgy, the pope presented representatives of Austrian parish councils with New Testament books, and encouraged them to continue their work of spiritual renewal in the church.

“Go with care and joy toward all, to communicate to them the gifts of salvation,” he told them. After the liturgy, the pope blessed and placed his hands on a replica of the Mariazell statue that was to be sent to China at the request of the bishop of Shanghai. Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, Vatican spokesman, told reporters the pope was pleased to see the Chinese Catholic community remembered during his pilgrimage.

Deacon Zickgraf remembered for his love of people, politics, and the church

SHRINE

Everything for ourselves and place little trust in the future,” he said.

Pilgrims in rain ponchos filled three buses that turned in some watching the pope on giant TV screens. Many of them were young people who had hiked, biked or taken buses to the remote site in the Austrian hills.

“Point today is that proclaiming one’s faith in the truth might lead to intolerance, he said. That fear is historically well-grounded, he said. But by humility, love and the inner strength of its own genuineness, he said.

‘Go with care and joy toward all’

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Beneficent Father Karl Schauer, right, and a volunteer adjust the statue of Our Lady of Mariazell before the Mass with Pope Benedict XVI in Mariazell, Austria, Sept. 8. The Linden wood statue of the Madonna and child has been revered for 850 years.
In Austria, pope sticks to core theme of Christian values

By John Thavis

VIENNA, Austria (CNS) — On a three-day pilgrimage to Austria, Pope Benedict XVI brought a core theme of his pontificate to Central Europe, warning that a drift away from Christian values is leaving society unfilled, less charitable and without a real future.

Although the pope’s events during the Sept. 7-9 visit were low-key, his message was not.

To diverse audiences of Catholic faithful, politicians, church ministers and volunteers, he argued that Europe risks adopting a godless vision that will inevitably lead to a spiritual, social and demographic dead end.

One of the pope’s most telling speeches came in Vienna on the first day of his trip, when he addressed a group that included scores of international diplomats and representatives. Instead of covering the usual list of global trouble spots, the pope made a strong pro-life appeal, zeroing in on the problems of abortion and demographic dead end.

Focusing on the modern tensions among religious truth, interreligious sensitivity and the fear of intolerance, he said.

“This does not mean that we despise other religions, nor are we arrogantly absolutizing our own ideas,” he said.

Rather, he said, it means the church will never accept an “attitude of resignation” toward the truth, the assumption that truth cannot be known. It is this attitude that “lies at the heart of the crisis of the West, the crisis of Europe,” he said.

The pope then emphasized a point that has become a touchstone of his pontificate: the Christian conviction that “at the origin of everything is the creative reason of God.” This is the principle that has shaped Europe’s history and must orient its future, he said.

More than once, the pope slammed specific remarks about other religions, but insisted that the church can and must proclaim Christ as the universal savior.

“Randy’s parents were Catholics but not practicing Catholics (when we met),” Roberta said. “I was very devout in my faith.”

“And that was something I was searching for,” Randy said. “She’s really the one that helped me get back in with the faith. I had the yearning for it but didn’t have anyone to help get me there.”

“We feel it’s important to celebrate this 25th at this Mass, because not everybody makes it...” Roberta said. “It doesn’t mean we don’t have issues and problems... it means we persevere together.”

Other jubilee couples concurred. Tony and Leone Michel, of Sacred Heart Parish at Notre Dame, celebrated 50 years together. They said marriage means acceptance.

“You accept the person you marry as a gift,” Leone said. “You look to his good qualities, and just accept the rest.”

“I keep thinking about how fast it all went,” Tony said. “Not everything in marriage turns out the way you want — but the important things do. You celebrate that, that’s what you’re grateful for.”

For Bob and Debbie Meyer, of St. Thomas Parish in Elkhart, the Mass took them back through 25 years of marriage.

“That day, and everything that happened as well,” Bob said. Debbie added that sharing the day with other couples was an added blessing.

“It was great to see all the other couples... to share all the wonderful times marriage has brought us.” And not just any other couples... the Meyers’ came with Bob’s parents.

“My parents are here,” Bob said. “They did this a couple years ago so it was great to share our jubilee with them.”

During his homily, Bishop D’Arcy said that this jubilee was unique for him. Since he celebrated his golden jubilee as a priest last year so it was great to share our jubilee with them,” Bob’s parents.

JUBILEE

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Catholic Schools Office releases enrollment figures for 2007-2008 school year

By Vince LaBarbera

Total enrollment for all diocesan Catholic schools for the 2007-2008 school year amounts to 13,062 students, a decrease of 293 students compared to last year’s total enrollment of 13,355 students according to figures released by the Catholic Schools Office.

The Schools Office reported, however, that pre-kindergarten enrollment figures are included, the total enrollment for the diocece amounts to an additional 729 students, or a total enrollment of 13,791.

Enrollment in the four Catholic high schools of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend increased from 3,218 students last year to 3,224 students this year. The high school enrollment figures are: Saint Joseph’s, South Bend, 546 students — an increase of 50 students; Marian, Mishawaka, 769 students — a decrease of 32 students; Bishop Dwenger, Fort Wayne, 1,067 students — a decrease of six students; and Bishop Luers, Fort Wayne, 546 students — a decrease of six students.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy established a procedure years ago stipulating any high school that increased its grade 9 enrollment from the previous year would receive a $1,000 bonus. This year amounts to an additional 729 students.

The total Catholic elementary school enrollment for all Allen County is 3,974 students.

Outlying Fort Wayne area schools:

• Noble County: St. Mary (Avilla), 141
• DeKalb County: St. Joseph (Garrett), 102
• Adams County: St. Joseph (Decatur), 282
• Huntington County: Huntington Catholic (Huntington), 172

South Bend area (St. Joseph County):

• Christ the King, 511; Corpus Christi, 343; Holy Cross, 319; Holy Family, 356; Our Lady of Hungary, 88; St. Adalbert, 142; St. Anthony De Pauw, 372; St. John the Baptist, 155; St. Joseph, 438; St. Jude, 173; and St. Matthew, 380. In Mishawaka — Queen of Peace, 206; St. Bavo, 183; St. Joseph, 173; St. Monica, 164 and St. Patrick (Walkerton), 36.

The total Catholic elementary school enrollment for all of St. Joseph County is 4,049 students.

Elkhart County:

• St. Thomas, 432
• St. Vincent of Paul, 115
• St. John (Goshen), 111

Marshall County:

• St. Michael (Plymouth), 197

The total enrollment for all South Bend Area Catholic elementary schools is 4,004.

USF purchases 26 acres for development of athletic complex

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis (USF) has announced the purchase of 26.25 acres of farm land adjacent to the university’s campus in northwest Fort Wayne with the intention of developing an athletic complex named in honor of James Shields on the site.

Plans for the acreage include athletic fields for baseball, softball and soccer as well as tennis courts and a track. The site will be known as the Shields Athletic Complex.

James Shields is a member of the university board of trustees’ athletic committee and a long-time supporter of the university and its athletic programs. He has made significant contributions to the Fort Wayne community as a business leader and supporter of Catholic education. Shields is chairman emeritus and founder of WaterFurnace International and serves on the boards of the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum and St. Anne’s Home and Retirement Community in Fort Wayne.

Speaking at the Sept. 7 announcement of the purchase, Shields said that the university has come a long way under the leadership of Sister Elise Kriss, OSF, its president. Flanked by his wife, children and grandchildren, Shields noted that he felt it was particularly special that the university allows middle school students to play games in the university’s football facility, Bishop D’Arcy Stadium.

“That are all future students,” he said, adding that the experience of playing in a stadium of that size as a middle schooler would have “made the year” for him.

The relocation of the university’s existing athletic fields on the east side of campus will allow for future academic growth.

The acreage is part of the historic Fahlsing-Schneider Farm across Lindenwood Avenue from Bishop D’Arcy Stadium on the west side of campus.

Don Clemmer contributed to this story.
**Chinese-elected bishop to be ordained Sept. 8 with Vatican approval**

HONG KONG (CNS) — Bishop-designate Paul Xiao Zejiang was to be ordained Sept. 8 by the bishop of Guizhou and appointed to the diocese of Wanxian by the pope as the first bishop from China elected by the laity and the first Chinese Catholic priest since 1953 to serve in the Vatican’s Congregation for the Clergy. The pope also named Bishop Xiao to be the bishop-designate of the Chinese diocese of Hanzhong.

**San Diego Bishop announces abuse settlement**

San Diego Bishop Robert H. Brom speaks during a Sept. 7 press conference announcing an agreement to pay $198.1 million to settle lawsuits with 144 victims of sexual abuse by priests in the diocese.

**Top Vatican official appeals for life of Texas death-row inmate**

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A top Vatican official appealed for the life of a Texas death-row inmate whose execution was scheduled for Sept. 13 in Texas. Cardinal Renato Martino, president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, urged Texas government authorities Sept. 7 to commute the death sentence of Joseph Lave, 42, who has been on death row for 13 years. He was convicted of the brutal murders in 1992 of two 16-year-old clerks, Frederick Banzhaf and Justin Marquart. During a Sept. 5-12 international meeting in Rome on the pastoral care of prisoners, Cardinal Martino asked for Lave’s release “to be made in view of the need for a stay of execution,” said a release from the justice and peace council. The cardinal called the death penalty an “immoral and abhorrent form of punishment that also ‘impoveryishes the society that legitimizes and practices it,’” the release said.

**Hunger, development key to foreign aid, says joint letter to Senate**

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In a joint letter to members of the Senate, the head of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on International Policy and the president of Catholic Relief Services called increased funding for hunger relief and development grants key in an upcoming foreign aid bill.

“...the persistence of abject hunger, poverty and disease in God’s world is a significant moral challenge,” said Sept. 6 letter from Cardinal Theodore E. McCarrick, Archdiocese of Washington, and CRS President紧凑的

**Many come to celebrate feast of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta**

CALCUTTA, India (CNS) — It was still dark, almost an hour before sunrise Sept. 5, but the freshly decorated white marble tomb of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta gleamed as the feast day of the nun began. Activities began early in the morning with the arrival of more than 150 women, men and children from slum areas where Mother Teresa had begun her mission among the poorest of the poor. They moved, each with a lighted candle, praying the rosary in the local Bengali language and singing Bengali and Hindi songs praising God and Mother Teresa. Reported the Indian church news agency UCA News. Some played percussion instruments, some swayed to the music, others clapped as they walked past the tomb that sits inside the headquarters of the Missionaries of Charity congregation where the Nobel Peace Prize laureate once lived. The activities marked the 100th anniversary of the death of the world-renowned nun, who lived in this eastern Indian city of Calcutta.

**Omaha archbishop voices support for Creighton president, mission**

OMAHA, Neb. (CNS) — The relationship between the Archdiocese of Omaha and Creighton University remains strong, despite some media accounts to the contrary, said a refutation of a speaker at Creighton part of a “growing rift” between the university and the archdiocese, “I would like to reiterate, in view of recent events, that the Archdiocese of Omaha and Creighton University have an excellent working relationship,” said Omaha Archbishop Elden F. Curtiss Aug. 30, in a statement to the media. “I am supportive personally of (Creighton president) Jesuit Father John Schlegel and the mission of the university.” The recent events to which the archbishop referred revolved around Creighton’s decision to cancel a speech by best-selling author Anne Lamott as part of a women’s health lecture series sponsored by the Center for Health, Policy and Ethics at the Creighton University Medical Center. University officials said last week that they learned then that in a book published this spring Lamott wrote about helping a friend with cancer die. She also is an advocate of keeping abortion legal.

**New Vatican official wants cultural due to become due of dialogue**

**Pope meets Israeli president, expresses hope for Mideast peace**

CASTEL GANDOLFO, Italy (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI met with Israeli President Shimon Peres and expressed hope that new diplomatic moves can bring peace in the Middle East. After 60 years of suffering endured by the peoples of the region, it is imperative to make “every effort” to find a just settlement, the Vatican said after the Sept. 7 meeting. Following his 35-minute private audience with the pope, Peres held separate talks with Cardinal Tarsicio Bertone, Vatican secretary of state, and Bishop Dominique Mamberti, the Vatican’s top foreign affairs official, to discuss the Middle East and church-state relations in Israel. The encounters came as Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert were preparing to renegotiate. Meanwhile, diplomats were setting the stage for a U.S.-sponsored international conference on the Middle East in November. The Vatican statement said the prospect of an international conference raised new hopes and created a “particularly favorable context” for progress.

**Pope mourns death of Pavarotti, praises Italian tenor for his talent**

MODENA, Italy (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI expressed in a telegram his “deep feelings of mourning and sorrow” at the death of Luciano Pavarotti and praised the Italian tenor for his extraordinary talent. In a telegram sent to Pavarotti’s family in Modena-Novellara, the pope offered his condolences for the death of this “world-renowned and acclaimed artist who honored the divine gift of music through his extraordinary interpretative talent.” The archbishop read the message Sept. 8 during the Catholic Funeral Mass held in the city’s cathedral, where Pavarotti had sung in the choir. Catholic News Service obtained a copy of the telegram from the Vatican Sept. 10. Thousands of mourners turned out for the ceremony to honor Pavarotti, who died Sept. 6 at the age of 71 after a long battle with pancreatic cancer. Former U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan was present, along with Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi, numerous Italian pop stars, and U2 singer Bono. Pavarotti was married and remarried; his first wife of more than 30 years, his widow and his children were also present.
domestic or international, all of the couples want to educate people outside of the core group and disperse some of the myths adoption brings to mind by talking about their own experiences with adoption.

There are a lot of children today who need homes. Society often places great value on biological births, but God might be calling some to prayerfully consider adopting from another culture. Those interested in learning more about cross-cultural and trans-racial adoptions are invited to attend the meeting on Sept. 27, or contact Dan and Krista Stockman at (260) 420-2171 for more information. — DW

Kennelly receives Notre Dame's Reynolds award

NOTRE DAME — The Joanne B. Kennelly Institute at the University of Notre Dame was honored for his dedication to the lives of youth when he received Notre Dame’s William D. Reynolds Award for 2007.

Kennelly is the chairman and founder of HSF Chicago Scholars, a nonprofit corporation created to help economically disadvantaged Chicago high school students who show academic and leadership promise in their educational goals. Through Kennelly’s leadership, HSF has raised millions of dollars over the last 15 years to provide scholarships, tutors and mentors for thousands of students.

Kennelly is one of the founders of Huron Consulting Group, a business consulting group launched in 2002. He and his wife, Stephanie, have a son, Joshua, and a daughter, Jaden.

The William D. Reynolds Award is conferred on a graduate of the University of Notre Dame who has performed exceptional work with youth for the betterment of the quality of life.

Joan B. Kroc Institute will present dialogue, lectures on war, peace building

NOTRE DAME — The Joan B. Kroc Institute at the University of Notre Dame will present the following events during the month of September.

- What is War? will be held Sept. 14-15, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. on Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies Auditorium.

At this two-day conference, a distinguished roster of soldiers, political scientists, international lawyers, space researchers, war correspondents, ethicists and historians will consider the question: how do we define war? A full list of speakers, biographies and the conference schedule can be found at http://kroc.nd.edu/events.

- Exit or No Exit? Morality and the Conduct of War will be held Sept. 19-20, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. on Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies Auditorium.

The discussion will broadcast live on the Internet at Notre Dame. All the above events are free and open to the public.

Students and staff of Queen of Angels School in Fort Wayne participated in a walk-a-thon to raise money for the playground, which caught on fire and burned in early June.

Students asked for pledges and walked for over an hour on Aug. 31. Students were able to collect over $10,000. Businesses and individuals who would like to donate may call Queen of Angels School at (260) 483-8214.

Fall lecture series features events in international affairs

FORT WAYNE — XLT will host four events of prayer, adoration and praise music, and utilize the theme, “Consume Me,” at St. Therese Church, 2171 S. Fletcher Rd., Fort Wayne on Tuesday, Sept. 27, at 7 p.m.

XLT is coordinated by the diocesan Office of Youth Ministry and Spiritual Formation, but diocesan youth director Cindy Black adds, “Everyone who wants to praise and worship Jesus is encouraged to come.”
BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

NOTRE DAME — When Sisters of the Holy Cross, Michaelene Frieders and Gladys Marie Martin left Mary’s Solitude, where they conducted vocation retreats, they wanted to find a new ministry working with the poor and disadvantaged. And that is exactly what they did as they now live on the west side of South Bend and work with the people in St. Adalbert Parish. They were also delighted to carry on the vision of their founder, Father Basil Moreau, who encouraged the members of his congregation to collaborate with one another.

“Father Chris Cox, pastor, (who is a Holy Cross Father) welcomed us and involved us in a variety of issues or situations at the parish,” said Sister Michaeleen.

One such issue was the question of immigration and the accompanying problems many parishioners and their families and friends face. The recent crackdown on undocumented persons and the raid of the Janco plant earlier in the year have alarmed the neighborhood. People are afraid to leave the area and involved in a variety of issues or situations at the parish, said Sister Michaeleen.

A water ritual was used as a reminder of the grace and love of God that flows through each person. A water ritual was used as a reminder of the grace and love of God that flows through each person.

Sister Rose Virginia Burt, CSC, center, and Sister Gladys Marie Martin, CSC, left, chat with one of the women on the St. Adalbert retreat.

Our Lady of Guadalupe and after they blessed themselves with the water, received a card with her image and a prayer. It was a special day, being the birthday of the Blessed Mother. Following the prayer, the women, many of whom had never been to Saint Mary’s, were taken on a tour of the convent and the college campus. This was led by Annie Moo, a Saint Mary’s senior, and Anamilea Dillon, an outreach nurse from Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center. Dillon is one of the staff on Saint Joseph’s Medical Mobile Unit and works with the women of St. Adalbert’s on health issues.

After the tour, the women ate dinner with the sisters and then gathered for some sharing of experiences. Annie Moo, who is Hispanic herself, was overcome with emotion when she spoke of the great sacrifices her parents made to send her to Saint Mary’s College.

The day concluded with a Spanish Mass, celebrated in the Church of Our Lady of Loretto by Holy Cross Father Paulino Iñes, a recently ordained Mexican priest who is studying English at Indiana University, South Bend. The beautiful smiles on the faces of the women and their expressions of gratitude were a sure sign that the day was a success and just what many of them needed to refresh their spirits. There was a resonating “si” when asked if they would like a similar experience again.
Eucharistic Congress talk explored theology of the body for teens

BY DIANE FREEBY

NOTRE DAME — Teens joined their parents to hear just what God intended for man and woman, and how Pope John Paul II addressed this in theology of the body.

Popular Saint Joseph’s High School teacher Mike Hamann took this dense body of work and broke it down in his Catholic parenting talk, “Theology of the Body for Teens” at the diocesan Eucharistic Congress on Aug. 18.

Hamann, who studied theology of the body at Notre Dame, says teens can benefit from the pope’s work. He pointed out how Christ quoted Genesis, and Pope John Paul II really unpacked it.

“Things were perfect in the beginning,” said Hamann. “Adam and Eve did not see each other as objects, and they never lost sight of the other as a person. Then came the fall, and everything changed. But Jesus offered the remedy, introducing chastity as the virtue by where men and women see each other as a person made in the image and likeness of God.”

Hamann went on to explain that while chastity can be tough, we do have God’s grace and the sacraments to attain this happiness.

“And giving yourself to another,” said Hamann, “being willing to lay down your life for the other and nurture that person spiritually, you attain grace and grow in holiness.”

Mike Hamann, a Saint Joseph’s High school teacher, provided a workshop on Catholic parenting at the Eucharistic Congress exploring the theology of the body as it applies to teens.

Bishop D’Arcy distributes appeal funds to South Bend charities

BY SUSAN BAXTER

MISHAWAKA — Bishop John M. D’Arcy celebrated Mass at Queen of Peace in Mishawaka Saturday, as he installed Father Daniel Scheidt as pastor. After Mass, he awarded checks for grants made by the Annual Bishop’s Appeal to South Bend Charities.

Sister Marita Stoffel, OSF, exchanged some good-natured quips with Bishop D’Arcy before accepting $1,000 from the appeal.

Sister Marita represents South Bend’s Center for Basic Learning Skills, where she works six days each week with men and women to help them get their GEDs.

Some are coming out of prison and can’t read, Bishop D’Arcy said.

Also accepting grants were Patrick Russel for Catholic Charities ($23,000), which helps those in need with everything from food and clothing assistance to adoption services; and Bobby Williams, for Women’s Care Center ($10,000), which, Bishop D’Arcy said, “does more than perhaps any agency in the country to prevent abortion and save children.”

And $9,000 went to the Chapin Street Clinic, accepted by Brother Frederick Raehsler, CSC, on behalf of its founder, Sister Maura Braniff, CSC. Another $9,000 grant was awarded by Adam Kronk of South Bend’s Center for the Homeless, and $3,000 was accepted by Matt Marion for Hannah’s House.

And $2,000 was awarded to the South Bend Christ Child Society and accepted by Jan Williamson. Bill Dillon of St. Augustine’s Soup Kitchen, Matt Vigneault of St. Vincent de Paul Society, Bob Palmer of the Logan Center and Greg and Jean Mee of the Little Flower Food Pantry each accepted gifts of $1,000 for their agencies.

Tom Kroll accepted $500 for Chiara House, founded in 1990 by Sister Gretchen Clark to provide respite care services for families of individuals with special needs. Daria Godfrey, also accepted $500 for Life Athletes, an organization of more than 300 professional and Olympic athletes who, through education, use their celebrity to inspire young people to live lives of virtue, abstinence and respect for life.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy awarded grants from the Annual Bishop’s Appeal to South Bend agencies at Queen of Peace in Mishawaka Saturday. Front row, from left, are Greg and Jean Mee of the Little Flower Food Pantry in South Bend, Sister Marita Stoffel, OSF, of the Center for Basic Learning Skills, Jan Williamson of the South Bend Christ Child Society, Daria Godfrey of Life Athletes; and back row, Bill Dillon, St. Augustine’s Soup Kitchen, Matt Vigneault of St. Vincent de Paul Society, Tom Kroll of Chiara House and Matt Vigneault of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Not present for this photo were Adam Kronk of the Center for the Homeless and Matt Marion of Hannah’s House.

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The history begins in 1956

BY DEB WAGNER

FORT WAYNE — The origins of St. Henry Catholic Church date back to June of 1956 when Father Robert J. Hoevel was appointed as its first pastor. The parish boundaries were set as Rudolf Boulevard on the north, Adams Center Road on the east, Maples Road on the south and Anthony Boulevard on the west.

Benjamin W. and Marie Hoevel, Father Hoevel’s parents, donated six acres of land to the newly formed parish. Benjamin’s father, Henry, had dreamed of seeing a Catholic church being built on this site for several years. While some speculate as to why Benjamin’s grandson, Robert, was chosen, Hoevel insists that the donation of land had no bearing on the appointment as first pastor.

The church and school are still located at the corner of Hessen Cassel and Paulding roads in southeast Fort Wayne. At that time, the area was just beginning to feel the effects of rapid growth associated with post World War II in southeast Fort Wayne. Today, the memories associated with the names of St. Henry and Hoevel remain. Hoevelwood Drive named after the benefactors is perpendicular to St. Henry Lane. St. Henry, patron saint of Bamberg, where he was born, was famous for building monasteries and churches. At his death, he willed his personal wealth to the cathedral church of Bamberg, where he was buried in 1024. Pope Eugene III enrolled among the saints in 1146. His feast day is celebrated July 13.

Construction costs for this undertaking were estimated at $400,000. Original members of the building committee were Roy Westrick, Henry Hoevel, Albert Zuber, Richard Doster, Frank Young, Frank Helmsing and Fred Kuentzel. Architect James J. McCarron designed the three-floor building that housed both the church and the school. It was to be built of reinforced concrete with lift slab construction.

Lift slab construction means that the concrete floors were poured on the ground, one on top of the other, and then lifted into place. This method of construction attracted media attention in 1957 since St. Henry was the first building of this type to be erected in Fort Wayne.

On Oct. 8, 1957, Bishop Leo J. Puslesky dedicated the church. The altar stone, containing the relics of Sts. Verecundus and Theophilus were laid into place in the altar, and Father Hoevel celebrated the first Mass in the new church on Christmas Eve of that same year.

The rectory was also built during this time. Furnishings for the rectory were purchased with the help of a $1,000 gift from Our Sunday Visitor, a customary gift at that time for each new parish in the diocese.

In conjunction with the rectory and church construction, the new convent just north of the rectory was erected. Father Hoevel, now 91 years old and a resident of St. Anne’s Home in Fort Wayne, recalled his first tasks as pastor with parishioner, Mark Linehan, during a recent interview.

Father Hoevel said he needed to look for sisters for the school, so he collaborated with his great aunt who was a mother superior of an order of sisters. He also recalled with smile the motto of his successful bus campaign: “Why all the fuss? We need a bus.”

On Aug. 18, 1958 and two weeks prior to the start of school, four Sisters of St. Agnes arrived and called St. Henry home. The parish began with 278 families and 248 children who would be attending St. Henry Catholic School for grades 1-6. Sister Mary Joellen, CSA, was the first principal of the school. A seventh grade was added in the fall of 1959, and eighth grade was added the following year. By 1962 the parish had grown much and needed to expand its facilities. Since there were now 599 children enrolled in the school and 495 families registered in the parish, a building project was implemented.

A large wing costing $175,000 was added to the school with the lower level of the new wing becoming the present church. Rumor back in the day was that the current location of the church was temporary until a stand-alone church could be built nearby. The upper floor became the gymnasium. The former church was converted to more classrooms. By the time Sister M. Anthelma, CSA, arrived in August of 1964 as the new principal of the school, enrollment had soared to 747 students.

Father Hoevel spearheaded this period of “spiritual regeneration” in the mid-to-late 1960s through the parish’s Holy Name Society, the Rosary Sodality, the Legion of Mary, the St. Vincent De Paul Society, and “Life Groups,” which gathered together a total of about 500 parishioners.

In 1967, the parish acknowledged the need for a larger convent, a 12-room brick structure just north of the school at a cost of just over $100,000. The old convent was sold to long-time parishioners Gene and Joan Mount and substantially reduced the cost to the parish of building the new convent. Gene continues to be very active in the parish today.

On July 1, 1968, Father James J. O’Connor succeeded Father Hoevel and assumed other pastoral duties within the diocese. Father O’Connor was responsible for the implementation of post-Vatican II guidelines, which called for a renewal of parish life and its structure and means of worship. During his appointment as pastor, a parish council and board of education were formed to assist with the implementation of such directives.

In addition to Father Hoevel and Father O’Connor, Father Ken Sarrazine, Father Tom Shoemaker, Father Polycarp Fernando, and Father Emmanuel Chikezie have also served as pastors with over a dozen associate priests throughout 50 years. Father Dan Durkin is the current pastor of St. Henry. The parish has also produced three priests: Father Richard P. Hie, Father Chris Kerr, OFM, and Friar E. John Stein, OFM. A young woman from St. Henry entered religious life with the Sisters of St. Agnes and took the name of Sister Lael.

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S t. Henry was born in Bavaria in 973 and succeeded his father in ruling over a duchy. He was energetic in consolidating his rule, and was eventually elected emperor of the Holy Roman Empire. He was most remarkable for his work in church reform and for fostering missionary activity. He also helped Pope Benedict VIII quell disturbances in Rome. His ultimate purpose was to establish a stable and lasting peace in Europe. He was famous for building monasteries and churches. At his death, he willed his personal wealth to the cathedral church of Bamberg, where he was buried in 1024. Pope Eugene III enrolled among the saints in 1146. His feast day is celebrated July 13.
Planning and stewardship development underway at St. Henry Parish

BY DEB WAGNER

FORT WAYNE — Just as St. Henry Parish and Benoit Academy accepted and embraced the effects of changing parish and neighborhood demographics, so did the ministries that sprang forth from them. St. Henry Parish is no stranger to taking a step back in order to refocus and begin again.

Currently, St. Henry has ministries similar to those found in other parishes: adult choir, lectors, altar servers, extraordinary ministers of holy communion, ushers, church decorators, church cleaning, money counting, prayer chain, rosary sodality, and funeral dinners ministries. There is also the St. Vincent de Paul Society, hospitality committee, parish center committee, Bible study, RCIA, Divine Mercy devotions, stewardship/parish planning committees, finance council, pastoral council, south side seniors and Benoit Academy School Board. And soon, they will be getting started a parish liturgy committee, a vocation committee, and a group that meets once a year for a religious education program according to Father Dan Durkin, pastor for only the last year.

St. Henry Parish is alive in spirit by all accounts. In an interview with Mark Linehan, parishioner and chairperson of the Finance committee, former pastor Father Tom Shoemaker once called St. Henry Parish a “very friendly parish, quick to greet a newcomer.”

Under the leadership of Father Durkin, St. Henry began a visioning process and stewardship committee that will utilize the parish’s notoriety.

The visioning process consisted of 12 people who met every other week for two months to evaluate 100 points of interest for the parish. These points of interest were then categorized and became the plan for the future of St. Henry.

There are three顶级level committees at this point. In addition to Linehan’s responsibilities, Dennis Farnan is chairperson of the planning committee, and Frank Bader leads the stewardship committee.

Dennis Farnan and his wife, Maureen, have been parishioners since 1973 and continue to be actively involved in the parish even though they live in Aboite Township. Maureen, who serves as an extraordinary minister of holy communion and together with her husband provides transportation for those who cannot drive to attend Mass, says that they feel an “allegiance” to St. Henry Parish after all of these years. Dennis also does all of the scheduling of lay ministries associated with eucharistic celebrations.

The stewardship committee grew from the visioning process where six of the original 12 members oversaw five of the 33 existing ministries at St. Henry Parish. Each of those ministries has one director. The stewardship committee held a stewardship weekend at St. Henry Church on Aug. 24 and 25. A layperson spoke at each of the Masses regarding stewardship, gave a brief explanation on each of the ministries and a plea to complete the form asking for a commitment to serve on a committee unless they completed the same form that was mailed to each household three weeks prior. Similar to the Annual Bishop’s Appeal, parishioners who have yet to select their ministry commitment, will receive a telephone call. According to Frank Bader, this has been found to be an effective as well as an effective way to build up a parish.

Parishioners cannot say enough about their pastor Father Dan Durkin. He is credited with “recharging the batteries” of those who regularly attend St. Henry Parish. Frank Bader adds that it runs parallel to the revitalization efforts in southeast Fort Wayne.

Current parish council president Bob Heinmann says, “The parish is more alive today than it has been in the last six years thanks to Father Dan. We’re all geared up and happy about the whole thing.”

One thing is for sure. The willingness to embrace change has made those who serve on the committees and the corresponding ministries more unified and determined than ever before.

The celebrations for the jubilee continue through October of this year with the help of Ellen Becker, coordinator of jubilee events for the parish. There has already been two dinners in celebration, a few mini retreats, and an ethnic festival with inflatable games for the children, and ample German and Mexican food to enjoy. More activities surrounding food will likely be planned for the future.

Father Durkin loves to be invited to people’s homes and lives by the motto, “Have fork, will travel.”

Father Durkin sees great value in bringing people together for fellowship and a meal, just as Jesus did many years ago.

The year of St. Henry’s 50th jubilee celebration will conclude on Oct. 7, when Bishop John M. D’Arcy will celebrate Mass with former and current parishioners and friends of St. Henry Parish.

The Sisters of St. Agnes who served at St. Henry School when it first opened and many others have been invited to return for the celebration.

School meets changing demographics head-on

By Deb Wagner

FOR THE TIMES — Just as St. Henry Parish and Benoit Academy accepted and embraced the effects of changing parish and neighborhood demographics, so did the ministries that sprang forth from them.

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There is also the St. Vincent de Paul Society, hospitality committee, parish center committee, Bible study, RCIA, Divine Mercy devotions, stewardship/parish planning committees, finance council, pastoral council, south side seniors and Benoit Academy School Board.

And soon, they will be getting started a parish liturgy committee, a vocation committee, and a group that meets once a year for a religious education program.

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Father Durkin loves to be invited to people’s homes and lives by the motto, “Have fork, will travel.”

Father Durkin sees great value in bringing people together for fellowship and a meal, just as Jesus did many years ago.

The year of St. Henry’s 50th jubilee celebration will conclude on Oct. 7, when Bishop John M. D’Arcy will celebrate Mass with former and current parishioners and friends of St. Henry Parish.

The Sisters of St. Agnes who served at St. Henry School when it first opened and many others have been invited to return for the celebration.

School meets changing demographics head-on

By Deb Wagner

— Msgr. Julian Benoit Academy for the newly-formed school, and the students chose the school phoenix and school colors.

The faculty was staffed by many of the teachers from the three feeder schools as possible.

Connie Claybaugh, who has taught at the school for 35 years says, “We became a good team rather quickly because we all wanted to do our best to serve the population.”

Sister Mary Joellen, CSA, who served as principal of Sacred Heart School left St. Henry and was asked to return to the familiar grounds at Paulding and Hessen Casel roads to serve as first principal of Benoit Academy.

Mary Schreiber is beginning her fifth year as principal of Benoit Academy.

There has been a decline in enrollment and a change in population since the merger in 1994. The neighborhoods that feed into Benoit Academy have become an increasingly non-Catholic population.

There are 82 students enrolled at the school. A good portion of those being a minority. Catholics now make up 40 percent of those enrolled.

This reflects the diversity present in southeast Fort Wayne at this time. “They are not large in number, but they are in heart,” says Principal Schreiber. She concludes that Benoit Academy is a “beacon of hope in that neighborhood and a model of Catholic education.”

— Deb Wagner
Come to the table

As time families are juggling work schedules, their children’s athletic practices and games, music lessons, horseback riding lessons and a gamut of other activities, it seems as if sitting down together as a family for a meal is a rarity.

But for those who don’t make time to sit down together at the family dinner table, they may want to reconsider their priorities.

Loyola Press recently shared with the diocesan Office of Family Life a new brochure that informs parents of the benefits of eating together. It also offers parents suggestions on how to make it a positive experience.

The brochure promotes the following statement, “The message is set within the real-life context of the dinner table. But at the heart of the message is the church’s family meal: Mass and Eucharist. The lessons learned over green beans and spilled milk — forgiveness, community, responsibility, a sense of belonging and love — have meaning as we come to the table at the altar. A commitment to breaking bread together at home easily translates into a commitment to sharing the Eucharist together at Mass.”

Researchers of The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University consistently find that the more often children eat dinner with their families, the less likely they are to smoke, drink or use drugs.

The website, www.casafamilyday.org, adds, “Whether you’re spending a gourmet meal, ordering food from your favorite take-out place or eating on the go, rest assured that what your kids really want during dinnertime is you. Family meals are the perfect time to talk to your kids and to listen to what’s on their minds. The communication that occurs over the course of a meal is critical in building a relationship between you and your kids and it helps you understand the challenges they face.”

For this reason National Family Meal Day will be celebrated on Monday, Sept. 24. Many in the media have joined forces to promote this day.

Loyola Press encourages parishes and families to get involved in National Family Meal Day. They suggest ways parishes might celebrate National Family Meal Day — host potlucks, publish family recipes each week in the bulletin, gather stories of family mealtime traditions and share them on the parish Web site and passing out the Mealtime Matters brochure, which Loyola Press produced.

Family table doesn’t end there

Sunday Mass is another gift that we encourage families to share together. It is disheartening when activities listed earlier prevent the family from attending Sunday Mass.

“Partners in Faith,” wwwpartnersinfaith.com, a newsletter distributed through the editor’s parish school, St. Aloysius, in its September issue, makes some compelling reasons why children benefit from weekly Mass.

The stories were provoked by the recent news story: “Mother Teresa’s light spiritual struggle with the sense that God abandoned her. The worst of all was the sense of ‘Mother Teresa’s Crisis of Faith.’” Bill Maher made fun of it, suggesting she was a crypto-athenian, and others by saying that they documented the clay feet of the woman who the world long ago anointed a saint. The London Telegraph reported that Mother Teresa “was tormented by a crisis of belief for 50 years,” and that interpretation was echoed by numerous news outlets.

The stories were provoked by exacting words from a book entitled “Mother Teresa: Come Be My Light,” edited by Missionaries of Charity Father Brian Kolodiejchuk and published by Doubleday. The book reports on, and quotes from, letters written by Mother Teresa and her confessors and superiors over a period of 66 years. These letters reveal poignant and pointed her long-term spiritual struggle with the sense that God abandoned her.

Others were disturbing to many. Our Sunday Visitor, as well as many parish offices, received questions from fellow Catholics wondering what the Holy See had considered a saint could have had such a crisis, and wondering if belief was possible when one so obviously holy encountered this.

At the risk of repeating ourselves, this is an excellent time to reflect on the dangers of drawing any lessons about the faith from the secular media. It is also more proof, if proof is needed, that Catholics have been poorly catechized about many of the teachings of their own church.

The secular media often lack nuance and context in reporting on matters that require some theological depth. With regard to Mother Teresa, there is widespread confusion between belief in God and the feeling that he is near.

Letter excerpts suggest that on only a couple of occasions Mother Teresa actually doubted, or was tempted to doubt, that God did not exist. Apparently, that kind of doubt was not among Mother Teresa’s concerns.

Mother Teresa stands in good company among the saints who had similar struggles, though perhaps her struggle lasted longer than that of most others. St. Therese, St. Teresa of Avila and St. John of the Cross all famously endured such struggles. Indeed, Jesus himself, quoting the psalmist, cried out in his sense of divine abandonment on the cross.

It’s a bit arrogant, then, of one online commentator to say of this controversy: “It seems to me that the Catholic Church is finally grappling with the complexity of the concept of sainthood.” The Catholic tradition has long recognized the complexity of sanctity; it’s the critics who are operating with caricatures in mind.

Finally, as the book’s editor, Father Kolodiejchuk, noted, the fact that Mother Teresa struggled this way is one more indicator of her heroic holiness. Who among us could dwell among the poorest of the poor, the most desperate people on the face of the earth, sharing their lives intimately for half a century, without wondering often, “Where is God in all this?”

Yet, she never gave way to despair, and continued her work of sacrificial care for the poor. This can only be understood as a saintly woman’s heroic and persistent act of a will that had abandoned itself to God, even when it seemed abandoned by him.

Rector responds to silence in church after Masses

Mr. Stachowski’s staccato critique of the presence of scholarship in church following Mass misses the point, I think, on two counts: (1) there are many churches in our diocese which do not have the benefit of an adequate gathering space (what in an earlier age we simply called a “vestibule”) in which such fellowship might better take place; and (2) more fundamentally, the convivial fellowship he laments is in fact often the very joyful koinonia to which your children can cling.

Professor Michael Heintz, Rector, St. Matthew Cathedral

Victory Noll Sister suggests timeline additions

The appearance of the diocesan timeline in today’s issue of The Catholic is a worthwhile view of our local history.

The Noll Years (June 10, 2007) could well have included the 1925 dedication of the Victory Noll motherhouse. Huntington. The impact of the Victory Noll Missionary Sisters in poor areas of the USA satisfied a dream of John Francis Noll, who gave moral and financial support to the endeavor. An illustration of his devotion was his choice to be buried at Victory Noll.

Hundred of sisters received their formation and were sent to mission from Victory Noll.

McManus years are noted in a later letter. Bishop Bonyhady is noted in the Huntington County Evangelization Team, consisting of two Victory Noll Sisters and two Capuchin priests, St. Felix Friary, Huntington. The team was based at Solano Center at Victory Noll, 1980-1982.

Welcome Home For Christmas, the running outreach effort, set the tone for evangelizing activity among inactive Catholics and unchurched people in the area.

Sister Meda Carney, OUVI Victory Noll Huntington

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

Andrew Kim Taegon

1821-1846 feast - September 20

Andrew was among the 103 Korean Martyrs — 92 Koreans and 11 Europeans — killed during a persecution in 1839-66. Born to parents who were Catholic converts, Andrew completed seminary studies in Macau and in 1845 was the first native Korean to become a Catholic priest with his ordination in Shanghai. After returning to Korea, he tried to smuggle more missionaries into the country but was arrested in 1846. He spent three months in prison, then was beheaded. His feast day was also among the Korean Martyrs canonized in 1984.
For Pope Benedict, it’s elemental: Safe water is of grave importance

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — When Pope Benedict XVI turns on the tap in his Vatican apartment, it’s a reminder that potable water is a precious resource in today’s world.

The 109-acre Vatican City does not have its own water source, and it relies on Italy to furnish it with the estimated 3 million cubic meters of water consumed inside the Vatican each year.

Although that arrangement is guaranteed by a 1929 treaty, in recent years some Italians have been grudging about the increasingly high cost of keeping the Vatican from going dry.

When the treaty was drafted, of course, it didn’t seem like a big deal to promise the Vatican an “everlasting ‘adequate endowment of water.’” But today, things have changed.

In many countries, water has become a sensitive environmental, political and economic issue.

In recent remarks to young people at an Italian Marian shrine, Pope Benedict said he was concerned about the “grave importance” for the entire human family.

Last March, on World Water Day, a papal message called access to water an “inalienable right” that needs to be protected through changes in lifestyle.

The pope’s appeals were brief, but they reflected the Vatican’s increasing interest in the moral, political and scientific aspects of the world’s safe water supply.

In 2003, the Pontifical Academy of Sciences hosted an important meeting on water and the environment. Experts pointed out that more than 1 billion people lack access to adequate drinking water, and that climate changes — including global warming and desertification — could aggravate the situation for many populations.

A final statement from the academy’s members looked at long-term strategies to reduce water pollution and ensure sufficient supplies. It also emphasized that, particularly in today’s globalized economy, water must be treated as a fundamental resource that belongs to all.

In 2003 the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace prepared a major document, “Water, an Essential Element for Life.” Last year, council officials presented an update at the Fourth World Water Forum in Mexico, stating: “Today common agreement exists that the survival of humanity and all species on earth depends to a great degree on the fate of water.”

THE VATICAN LETTER

John Thavis

God’s mercy never ends

Together with Silvanus, Timothy had accompanied Paul on some of Paul’s missionary travels. While elsewhere in his writings Paul seems to express some doubts about Timothy’s skills for leadership, Paul nevertheless regarded him as a special associate and faithful disciple.

To fortify Timothy’s fidelity, Paul explains his own personal devotion to Christ. Paul describes his vocation as an apostle and as a believer. In this effort, Paul makes very clear that he is a sinner, unworthy of God’s saving grace. Despite all that, Paul insists, God had saved him from eternal death, through Jesus the redeemer.

St. Luke’s Gospel provides the last reading. It is a story of the willingness of the Lord to associate with tax collectors and sinners. Today, it is easy to imagine why the critics of Jesus would have disdained sinners. After all, sinners had insulted God by breaking the divine law.

However, why were tax collectors so bad? Their claim to infamy was twofold. In the first place, they were tax collectors and traitors. They were tools of the detested Roman occupation, collecting taxes for the imperial treasury. Secondly, they were legalized thieves and extortionists. Under the Roman system, tax collectors could assess taxes in amounts they themselves chose. Then they could take whatever they received above and beyond what was sent to Rome and put it in their own pockets.

Jesus associated with these despicable types. He was criticized. The Lord answered the criticism with three beautiful parables. The last of these parables is the story of the Prodigal, one of the most beloved of the parables.

Lessons are clear. God’s mercy never ends, nor is it ever limited. It awaits even the worst of sinners, if only they repent. God reaches out to us in our need. Finally, we can find the strength to turn back to God if we renounce our own sinfulness.

Reflection

In the Vatican Museum is a splendid item given to Pope Leo XIII on his 25th anniversary as pontiff by the Austrian emperor and Hungarian king, Francis Joseph I. Mounted on a magnificent marble pedestal are wonderful gold figures of 99 sheep, following a shepherd holding a sheep in his arms. The Good Shepherd has found the stray sheep and literally is carrying the sheep.

This beautiful work of art illustrates the first of this weekend’s parables, and through it the loving mercy of God. If we return to the Lord but are weak, then the Lord will carry us to fertile pastures. However, first of all, we must admit our own blindness, weakness and stubbornness. It is not easy. We need God’s enlightenment. God will enlighten us, if we are humble, as Moses was humble.

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lk 15:1-32

This weekend’s first reading is from the Book of Exodus. This book robustly chronicles the passage of the Hebrew people from Egypt, where they had been slaves, to Canaan, where they would be free. Much of the story, though, is essentially, in Hebrew eyes, God’s work. He guided them, but essentially, in Hebrew eyes, God guided them, not because of divine wrath, but because they had pushed God away. They would reap the whirlwind.

However, Moses implored God if we renounce our own sinfulness to find the strength to turn back to us in our need. Finally, we can find the strength to turn back to God if we renounce our own sinfulness.

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READINGS


CATEQUIZ’EM

On Sept. 17, we recall St. Robert Bellarmine, bishop and doctor — a good time to ring the bells of change for this quiz.

1. Bells have a long association with Christianity, yet the first mention of bells is in this book of most translations of the Bible:
   a. Genesis
   b. Exodus
   c. Matthew

2. In that context, bells are associated with what?
   a. the Jewish priestly vestments
   b. pharaohs orchestra
   c. the first church founded by St. Paul

3. Legend (almost certainly invalid historically) holds that bells were introduced into Christian worship by this man:
   a. Quasimodo
   b. Bel de Jour
   c. St. Paulinus of Nola in Campania

4. What is the simplest explanation for this legend?
   a. Quasimodo was a bell maker before he became a monk.
   b. Paulinus’ family name was Bellum.
   c. The words Campania and Nola are both Latin for bell.

5. Bells were not originally Christian, as evidenced by:
   a. the Great Bell of Wicca from Portugal.
   b. the wide use of bells amongst the pagans, especially Celts.
   c. the fact that people would name their children after bells.

6. Which saint’s own personal bell (perhaps a cowbell) is preserved in Dublin, Ireland?
   a. St. Malachy
   b. St. Bridgette
   c. St. Patrick

7. Ringing bells replaced hand bells in churches around this century:
   a. the 4th
   b. the 8th
   c. the 16th

8. Typically for an instrument associated with religion, the makers of bells were the obvious choice for the production of primitive versions of these weapons:
   a. canons
   b. lances
   c. RPGs

9. In England, Sts. Ethelwold and Dustan not only used bells but:
   a. hung them round their neck for the “noisy penance.”
   b. cast them for churches.
   c. lived in very large ones.

10. The blessing of the bells by a bishop was colloquially known as:
    a. the ringing out.
    b. baptism of the bells.
    c. episcopal cacophony

11. The antithesis of Christianity, witchcraft, is referenced in the title:
    a. “For Whom the Bell Tolls”
    b. “The Bell Jar”
    c. “Bell, Book and Candle”

12. Bing Crosby played a priest in this popular bell movie:
    a. “The Bells Have Ears”
    b. “The Bells of St. Mary’s”
    c. “The Road to Bellingham”

13. The ringing of the bell to note the death of a parishioner was known as:
    a. the passing bell
    b. the pealer clanger
    c. the toll of your soul

14. Small bells were used in Roman rite liturgies to indicate this event:
    a. the elevation of the sacred species
    b. the rite of peace
    c. the Kontakion

15. The bells of this church were blamed by Quasimodo for his deafness:
    a. St. Patrick’s Cathedral
    b. St. Peter’s
    c. Notre Dame de Paris

ANSWERS:

1. b, a, 2, a, 3, c, 4, c, 5, b, 6, c, 7, b, 8, a, 9, b, 10, a, 11, c, 12, b, 13, a, 14, a, 15, c
Zealots prominent near time of Jesus

What was the Jewish sect of the zealots like in the time of Jesus?

A zealot is a fanatical partisan, one filled with eagerness and ardor in pursuit of some goal. Some Jews have not had a new member for 20 years. The profile of ages is no longer a pyramid (few at the top and many at the bottom) but rather an inverted pyramid. The ordination class for Chicago in 2007 was 14; 13 of whom were born outside of this country.

Behind all this there is a basic cause that exerts a crippling influence. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

The Zealots were a religious movement that emerged in the first century C.E. as a response to Roman rule and the suppression of the Jewish Sanhedrin by using the Roman army to enforce their laws. The Zealots were followers of the Jewish leader John of Gischala, who led an ill-fated revolt in 66 C.E. The revolt was put down by the Romans, and the Zealots were dispersed.

The Zealots were known for their beliefs in Jewish nationalism and their desire for an independent Jewish state. They were opposed to Roman influence in Jewish affairs and to the idea of a Jewish king. They believed in the idea of Messiah and were willing to go to great lengths to achieve their goals.

The Zealots were divided into different groups, including the Sicarii, who used daggers to kill their enemies, and the Essenes, who were a religious group that lived in seclusion and practiced strict asceticism.

The Zealots were ultimately defeated by the Romans in 70 C.E. during the Jewish-Roman War, which lasted from 66 to 73 C.E. The last stronghold of the Zealots was Masada, which fell to the Romans in 73 C.E.

The Zealots had a significant influence on the development of early Christianity. Some scholars believe that the early Christians were influenced by the Zealots, and that their beliefs and practices were reflected in the New Testament.

The Zealots were a small and isolated group, and their influence was limited. However, they remain an important part of Jewish history and have been the subject of much study and speculation by historians and scholars.

Zealots prominent near time of Jesus

FATHER RICHARD HIRE

HIRING HISTORY

THAT’S A GOOD QUESTION

LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

More specifically, the council said the Church should do more to guarantee adequate safe water in poorer countries, where water supplies are at greatest risk and where investment in infrastructure is urgently needed.

The Vatican’s interest in water resources goes beyond positive papers. Last spring, Cardinal Renato Martino, president of the justice and peace council, told reporters how the issue came home to him when he visited Africa and saw people fighting for miles to fetch their daily supply of safe water.

The church tried to look at this and other environmental crises realistically but not pessimistically.

As Pope Paul VI told water experts in 1975, the Christian scientist should honestly address the problem, but with the confidence that nature has in store “secret possibilities” that are up to intelligences to discover.
Why are married parents important for children?

I n the not too distant past this question would never have been asked. The answer, of course children should be born into a loving marriage relationship. Or, if children were born out of wedlock, they would be adopted and raised by generous, caring couples. Society assumed that children needed this stability in order to thrive. U.S. society has changed, however, and so have attitudes towards marriage and children. Society no longer assumes that married parents are the norm. At the same time, social science research has confirmed the wisdom and value of traditional practice. Children do better when raised by their married mother and father.

Some facts

• In 2004, 68 percent of children still lived with both married parents, 23 percent lived with only their mother, 5 percent lived with only their fathers, and 4 percent lived with neither of their parents. (Family, Marital, and Children’s Living Arrangements, Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics)

• Only 45 percent of all teenage children live with their married biological parents. (The Positive Effects of Marriage: A Book of Charts, Patrick Fagan)

• Children in single-parent families comprise 27 percent of all American children, yet they account for 62 percent of all poor children. (Family, Marital, and Children’s Living Arrangements, Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics)

• The three most significant reasons children are raised without their married mother and father are unwed pregnancy, cohabitation and divorce. (The State of Our Unions: The Social Health of Marriage in America 2006, David Poponen and Barbara Whitehead, National Marriage Project, print version page 33)

Some questions

• Given that more than 32 percent of children are not living with both their parents, what impact does this have on the children?

• Are children suffering or are they resilient? Can they rebound from divorce and emerge even stronger? Or are they at-risk for long-term negative effects?

• Are children better off with one parent who loves them than with two parents who are bickering and fighting?

Some answers from the social sciences

1. Children raised in intact married families:
• are more likely to attend college;
• are physically and emotionally healthier;
• are less likely to be physically or sexually abused;
• are less likely to use drugs or alcohol and to commit delinquent behaviors;
• have a decreased risk of divorcing when they get married;
• are less likely to become pregnant/impregnate someone as a teenager.

2. Children receive gender specific support from having a mother and a father. Research shows that particular roles of mothers (e.g., to nurture) and fathers (e.g., to discipline), as well as complex biologically rooted interactions, are important for the development of boys and girls. (Marriage and the Public Good: Ten Principles, 2006)

3. A child living with a single mother is 14 times more likely to suffer serious physical abuse than is a child living with married biological parents. A child whose mother cohabits with a man other than the child’s father is 33 times more likely to suffer serious physical abuse. (The Positive Effects of Marriage: A Book of Charts, Patrick Fagan)

4. In married families, about one-third of adolescents are sexually active. For teenagers in stepfamilies, cohabiting households, divorced families and those with single unwed parents, the percentage rises above one-half. (The Positive Effects of Marriage: A Book of Charts, Patrick Fagan)

5. Children of divorce experience lasting tension as a result of the increasing differences in their parents values and ideas. At a young age they must make mature decisions regarding their beliefs and values. Children of so-called “good divorces” fare worse emotionally than children who grew up in an unhappy but “low-conflict” marriage. (Ten Findings from a National Study on the Monal and Spiritual Lives of Children of Divorce, Elizabeth Marquardt)

Does this mean that it’s better to stay in a bad marriage than to get a divorce?

It depends. Statistics are generalizations. Many loving parents are able to compensate for the traumatic effect of divorce on a child. On the other hand, the research cited above should warn parents to slow down and proceed with caution before deciding that divorce is the best solution for the child. Parents’ marital unhappiness and discord negatively affect their children’s well-being, but so does the experience of going through a divorce. In lower-conflict marriages, and perhaps as many as two-thirds of divorces are of this type, the situation of the children can be made much worse. Following a divorce, these children benefit if parents can stay together and work out their problems rather than get a divorce. (Paul R. Amato and Alan Booth, A Generation at Risk, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1997)

All marriages have their ups and downs. Recent research using a large national sample found that 86 percent of people who were unhappily married in the late 1980s, and stayed with the marriage, were happier when interviewed five years later. Indeed, 60 percent of the formerly unhappily married couples rated their marriages as either “very happy” or “quite happy.” (Unpublished research by Linda J. Waite, cited in Linda J. Waite and Maggie Gallagher, The Case for Marriage, New York: Doubleday, 2000, p.148)

Father Kenneth J. Sarrazine

Ordained Dec. 22, 1962
Pastor, St. Joseph Parish, Roanoke and St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish, Nix Settlement

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

My earliest memories were the reverence my parents taught us toward our pastor and the school sisters at St. Louis Besancon. A special pastor there was Msgr. Joseph A. Hession, who witnessed my parents’ marriage and from whom I received the sacraments of baptism and first holy communion. I remember the next three pastors there — Father Carl J. Holsinger, Father Fred Cardinale and Father Andrew Mathieu, who was pastor when I entered our diocesan minor seminary. Our bishop, the Most Rev. John Francis Noll, from whom I received the sacrament of confirmation, also held a special place in my life.

What is the most rewarding part of being a priest?

I treasure the daily life in parish families living their faith and sharing God’s life in the sacraments. In the Mass and the sacraments, it is a joy to see God and his people grow closer. The presence and graces of God are specially treasured moments with patients and loved ones in hospitals, nursing homes and hospice home care. I will always treasure the gift of sharing these moments.

What are your interests and hobbies?

There is an almost endless supply of all recorded material and religious film I find helpful and inspiring. I also find faith richness in Redeemer Radio — 1450 AM and Eternal World Television Network. I follow the faith materials of the vast number of ministers and academic leaders who in recent years have come into the Catholic Church and are vastly enriching our church by their lives and the faith materials they share in a variety of media paths.

Do you have a pet?

Pets were a part of my life growing up on a farm and had a place in my early years as a priest. Now the place a pet has in my life is to enjoy those on the lives of others.

What do you do for relaxation?

I give place to reading as well as following the ever-growing faith materials available in recorded word and picture. I find it a privilege and gift to visit hospitals, nursing homes and hospice patients and their loved ones, as well as offering Mass and administering sacraments there.

What are your favorite reading materials?

I once enjoyed reading novels, which were mostly adventure and the old west with a touch of science fiction. Over the years I have lost that interest. I then moved to the works of Bishop Fulton Sheen and similar authors. Today I give time to the many materials as from Scott Hahn and a variety of faith products of many other former Protestant ministers and academic leaders who have entered the Catholic Church. I give special place to many life-time Catholic authors, beginning with the life and products of Pope John Paul II and now Pope Benedict XVI.

Meet the Priest

What is the best part of being Catholic?

It is our privilege to live among the daughters and sons of God and be gifted to join the family of God, which extends from Adam and Eve through Jesus into eternity, gathered before our heavenly father in the wedding feast of the Lamb of God. How gifted we are to be able to call God “our father.”

What is your favorite prayer?

I would include the Mass and sacraments, liturgy of the hours, chaplet of Divine Mercy and rosary.

What is your favorite Scripture passage?

I would give here first place to Chapter 6 of the Gospel of John, exploring the bread of life. Close to this is the infancy stories in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, followed by the Passion narrative in all four Gospels.

What is your favorite pope?

The first favorite pope was Pope Pius XII. More recently my favorite pope has become Pope John Paul II with, as I come to know him, Pope Benedict XVI quickly moving up the list.

What is your favorite food?

I enjoy fresh fruit, fried chicken, spaghetti and meat balls and a variety of other pasta dishes and desserts with chocolate at the bottom of the list. My bathroom scale guides me to keep fresh fruit and vegetables at the top of the list with high-calorie foods consumed in very limited quantities.

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

I am constantly amazed that this very ordinary farm boy who grew up in a rural parish, whose family tree is rural for many generations back, was accepted into our diocesan minor seminary and was most welcome to this diocese. I thank God for the gift of being a very ordinary person graced with the so many priestly bishops and priests I have found myself among since being ordained a priest.

How do you like to be addressed?

Either Father Ken or Father Sarrazine.
Practice the virtue of hospitality

The Cutting Edge
Sister Margie Lavonis, CSC

Each of the Holy Cross congregations, founded by Father Basil Moreau, is Known for its expression of hospitality. People often comment on how welcoming the Sisters, brothers, and priests of Holy Cross are. One tends to feel “at home” in their presence. In his book on Father Moreau, a gracious defender of the Sisters says that members of the congregations of Holy Cross are the most hospitable people he has ever met.

Being hospitable, however, is not reserved for select groups. Every Christian is called to be a welcoming person. Why? Because Jesus Christ himself was this way. He reached out to everyone, especially sinners. People felt good when they were around him. He treated each person with dignity and respect.

Hospitality is a vital component of Christian love. It gives flesh to what a loving person is about. Hospitable people accept all into their presence regardless of who they are. They always have room for another person in their hearts and at the table of their lives. They make others feel wanted and at ease in their presence.

I have been thinking about this virtue a lot in the light of the whole immigration controversy in our country. There are many issues regarding this and I wisely won’t get into them here. Even so, I do think that each of us, as followers of Christ, need to examine how open to and accepting we are of people of other cultures and from other countries?

Do we make the “stranger” welcome in our presence or would we rather that they stay in their own countries or part of town?

When we have time to stop and reflect upon the activities of our daily lives, most of us are presented with all kinds of opportunities to be hospitable. Hospitality is not limited to how we welcome people to are those different from us. It may be as simple as inviting another student or employee to sit with us during lunch or to join in some other activity. Or it could be starting a conversation when you go to Mass with someone you’ve never spoken with before, especially a person who appears to have come alone.

Another way of extending hospitality is to give directions to those who obviously seem lost on campus or at your workplace. Even smiling at a perfect stranger who passes by us on the street, in a store etc. is a gesture of hospitality. Most of us can think of other situations.

I witnessed a good example of hospitality a couple of weeks ago during new orientation at Saint Mary’s College. There was such a welcoming environment as students, faculty and staff helped the new students move into their assigned rooms. They even wore special orientation tee shirts that said “Welcome Home!”

Several of the new students said that one of the reasons they chose Saint Mary’s was the warm spirit of hospitality they encountered when they first came on campus to check out the college.

Extending hospitality is not just a “nice” thing to do. It is something integral to what it means to be a Christian, a follower of Christ. Perhaps sometimes during our prayer time we can reflect on how well or not so well we have exercised this important virtue.

A Letter to Emily, a prayer for a teen

Once in a childhood, a girl encountered a cool babysitter. She has a funky test tube and a fabulous nail polish collection. She lets you stay up past your bedtime and play with her hair — even if your French-braid attempt results in a tangled disaster.

For me, this was Aunt Kathy. She could draw bubble letters and turn cartwheels with ease. And she told terrific bedtime stories, carving suspenseful plotlines around Care Bear characters.

In her honor, I vowed to become a cool babysitter. Julie Andrews nurtured my ambition. I resolved to be one part Mary Poppins, one part Fraulein Maria: gliding down banisters, serving spoonfuls of sugar and providing comfort during thunderstorms.

So when Aunt Jan went into labor on Thanksgiving of 1990, delivering my first maternal cousin, I was thrilled. We gathered around the hospital waiting house, praying for the baby’s safe arrival.

The subject of that prayer was around a baby named Emily. She took a while to talk and even longer to sprout hair, but she soon demonstrated all that I needed: functional ears and a fertile imagination. When we slept over at grandma’s, I told her stories, asking about Queen Cleopatra and St. Rose of Lima, painting her nightmares with all the color I could conceive.

Emily attended my soccer games, greeted me with hugs and picked up my clarinet when I graduated from band. She grew up in a nation. When we slept over at her house, I would take my time to talk and even longer to sprout hair, but she soon demonstrated all that I needed: functional ears and a fertile imagination.

A mission to serve the hearing and visually impaired in area theaters

Lauren Caggiano

FORT WAYNE — Kate Heidenreich, 22, is the voice of an underserved and often overlooked population in our culture — the hearing and visually impaired.

Born hearing impaired herself, the Bishop Dwenger graduate and Indiana-Purdue Universities at Fort Wayne (IPFW) senior has learned to overcome some obstacles both inside and outside the classroom.

Going to movies is a favorite Arizona instance, so why should a significant segment of the population be excluded?

Heidenreich wants to change the status quo with the installation of MoPix, a closed captioning system designed for mass media.

MoPix is a state of the art technology that allows the hard of hearing to enjoy a movie without disturbing others. The unit is comprised of a Real Window Captioning System that displays reversed captions on LED displays screen mounted in the back of the theater, according to a statement by radio sta-

Heidenreich said her proposition was just approved by Rave Motion Pictures at Jefferson Pointe. A special “grand opening” introducing the MoPix sys-

It is clear Heidenreich has overcome some obstacles both inside and outside the classroom. “Hearing- and visually impaired people are often left out,” she said about her findings. After further study, however, was pleased to learn that Michigan has seven theaters equipped with MoPix and one was recently installed in Columbus City, the only system in Indiana. The woman responsible for bringing MoPix to Columbus City has inspired her to undertake a similar endeavor.

How does her project fit into the “big picture”? “It’s not about me,” she said. “It’s about helping people. It’s our Christian duty to see a need in the community and do what we can to provide for that need.”

Kate Heidenreich of Fort Wayne is working with an area movie theater to bring state-of-the-art technology to the visually and hearing impaired of the community. Born hearing impaired herself, Heidenreich is a Bishop Dwenger graduate and Indiana- Purdue University at Fort Wayne (IPFW)

Heidenreich said her project was just approved by Rave Motion Pictures at Jefferson Pointe. A special “grand opening” introducing the MoPix system is tentatively scheduled to take place around the holiday season.

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“They’re all for this,” they’re giving their 100 percent, “she said about the management’s financial support at Rave.

But the project is still in the planning phase because she has to raise more money, in addition to Rave’s contribution, to fund the installation of the device. She needs to raise $16,000. She has $1,000 from a car wash held at IPFW. “My main focus,” however is to receive grants, she said.

It is clear Heidenreich has done her homework. Her project spurred from an assignment for her Creative Writing 200 course. “For Students with Disabilities office at IPFW last spring, the 22-year old was asked to look up technology for the hearing impaired. Through her research, the intern concluded there is a lack of technology catering to this segment.

(“Hearing- and visually impaired people are often left out,” she said about her findings. After further study, however, was pleased to learn that Michigan has seven theaters equipped with MoPix and one was recently installed in Columbus City, the only system in Indiana. The woman responsible for bringing MoPix to Columbus City has inspired her to undertake a similar endeavor.

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This Heidenreich encourages readers to consider how Christ’s message relates to her project.

“A goal (for Christians) should be to support people (who) are overlooked or disadvantaged,” she said. “Jesus always talked about the blind, deaf and lame. Invite them to the table... let them have the same opportunities.”

The IPFW student is currently working to better publicize the event. Look for a bulletin board at Rave Motion Pictures or leaflets on campus soon. Contact her at heidenreichhido@yahoo.com or at (260) 495-6622 for more information or to donate.

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FORT WAYNE — After three weeks of Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) play, just two teams remain unbeaten. The St. John/Benoit/Hessen Cassel Eagles and the St. Vincent Panthers both reported victories again last week.

Games Sunday, Sept. 9, were played at Bishop Dwenger field. The St. Joe/St. Elizabeth/St. Aloysius/St. Therese (JAT) Eagles picked up their first win downing the Royal Red of Precious Blood/Queen of Angels/St. Mary’s Avilla 36-0.

JAT Coach Eric Dorman reported that he was pleased his team got their first win after a pair of tough losses. The Eagles faced CYO powerhouse — St. John, Fort Wayne, and St. Vincent in their first two outings. Even though they put up 32 points, the Eagles could not pull off the wins in week one and two.

But this time, it was all JAT.

Running back Logan Dorman opened up the running game scoring a pair of rushing touchdowns for a great show. Drew Morken and the “high powered offense” were unstoppable despite the “never say die” efforts of the Royal Red. Morken, the eighth-grade JAT quarterback, threw for 135 yards and had five carries. With the aid of his offensive line (Beckman, Trevino, Downing, Christian and Wyss), Morken rushed for two touchdowns earning him Player of the Game honors from the Redeemer Radio announcers. Morken also connect-

ed with his go-to receiver Andrew Yamey twice in the air to complete the shutout.

Running back, Keenan Schon, was selected Player of the Game by Redeemer Radio for the Royal Red. Schon had 11 carries for 45 yards in the loss. The Royal Red is now 1-2 on the season.

Next up, St. Vincent got the better of Holy Cross by a score of 40-16. The Panthers came out firing scoring three times in the first quarter alone. To start things off, Evan Fechtler scored on a 42-yard run. The Panthers’ held Holy Cross, then Luke Tippmann hit Fechtler on a short route good for 45 yards. Nick German added the extra point. The sturdy Panther defense again held Holy Cross on three downs. Getting the ball back, Tippmann scrambled 38 yards down to the Holy Cross 4-yard line. Nick Severinac handled it from there taking it in for the TD. German made the extra point.

Fechtler added another score of 44 yards to end the first half scoring.

The Panthers added two more touchdowns in the second half. The Panthers improve to 3-0.

In the third match-up, the Eagles from St. John/Benoit/Hessen Cassel defeated St. Jude 38-20. Playmaker James Knapke slung three touchdown passes in the loss. The much-anticipated match will pit St. Vincent against St. John, Fort Wayne, in a 1 p.m. game at Saint Francis on Sunday, Oct. 7.

Current standings
1. St. John, Fort Wayne 3-0
2. St. Vincent 3-0
3. St. Charles 2-1
4. St. John, Fort Wayne 2-1
5. Sts. F-A/T 1-2
6. Queen of Angels/Precious Blood 1-2
7. St. Jude 0-3
8. Holy Cross 0-3

To see your CYO fall sports here, e-mail Michelle Castileman at mmc castleman@aol.com

**SPORTS**

**CYO Eagles and Panthers remain unbeaten**

BY MICHELLE CASTILEMAN

**ICCL football action opens regular-season play**

SOUTH BEND — The Mishawaka Catholic Saints defeated the St. Matthew Blazers, 26-4, in a regular season opener Saturday Sept. 9 of the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) football season.

Alex Brewers scored on runs of 27 yards and 47 yards to lead the Saints at the game played at Marian High School’s fields. Michael Whitfield also scored twice on runs of 50 yards and 49 yards in the win. Alex Disbary added a conversion kick. Jim Hardy scored on a 21-yard run for the Bladers.

At a game at Saint Joseph’s High School, Holy Cross/Christ the King defeated the Holy Family Trojans, 18-0. The Crusaders were lead by Mike Swift’s two touchdown passes — a 38-yarder to Luke Stone and a 21-yarder to Josh O’Brien. David Arsenault also added a score on a 4-yard run.

Meanwhile, in boys B-team football action with regular season opening games played Sept. 8, the St. Matthew Blazer defeated the Mishawaka Catholic Saints, 21-0. Tyran Ottbridge scored on runs of 65 yards and 71 yards, and added a 2-point conversion kick to lead the Blazer’s. Dominique Sanders also scored on a 24-yard run in the win.

The Granger Catholic Titans beat the Corpus Christi Cougars, 6-0, Luke Darr scored on an 11-yard run to lead the Titans to season opening victory.

The Holy Cross/Christ the King Crusaders defeated Holy Family Trojans, 29-19. Pierre Byrne scored three touchdowns, on runs of 53 and 19 yards and a 40-yard punt return for the Crusader’s.

But this time, it was all JAT.

The unbeaten teams in the CYO powerhouses — St. John, Fort Wayne, and St. Vincent retained their first place position.

For More Information, please call 260-482-2511

SUMMIT ACADEMY of GYMNASTICS • 3407 Conestoga Drive • Fort Wayne 46808
**SOCCER**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17**

In the ICCL girls soccer B-team action, Corpus Christi defeated St. Matthew, 5-3; St. Jude beat St. Thomas, 13-0; St. Joseph, South Bend, Blue beat Christ the King 5 with a score of 4-2; St. Joseph, Mishawaka/Queen of Peace defeated Holy Cross, 6-0; and St. Bavo beat St. Anthony, 3-1.

**Standings**

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Church will have a BBQ dinner on Sunday, Sept. 16, in Oechsler Hall following the 10:45 a.m. liturgy. Tickets are $8 for adults, $4 for children 3-10. BBQ ribs tips or chicken, cole slaw, baked beans, potato salad, dessert and beverage. Proceeds benefit charitable projects.

Community celebrates Fiesta Friday South Bend — Authentic Mexican food, music and raffles will be at St. Adalbert’s Fiesta Friday on Friday, Sept. 21, from 5 to 9 p.m. in the Heritage Center, Olive and Grace streets. Pre-sale tickets at the parish office are $7 for adults, $5 for children 3-10. Tickets at the door are $10 for adults and $5 for children.

WHAT’S HAPPENING?

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

DEVOTIONS

Day of reflection planned Mishawaka — A Day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) on Wednesday, Sept. 26, from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The cost of the day is $15 and includes lunch. Register by Friday, Sept. 21, to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

Little Flower Holy Hour Fort Wayne — Father Daryl Rybicki will celebrate the Holy Hour at MacDougal Chapel on Tuesday, Sept. 18, at 7:15 p.m. Father Daryl is pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish. Join in praying for priests and for vocations.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Notre Dame bus trip Fort Wayne — St. Peter Church will be going to the Notre Dame vs. Navy football game on Saturday, Nov. 3. For information call Dottie at (260) 749-7125.

Edge Teen program announced New Haven — St. John the Baptist invites all eighth and ninth grade students to the first Edge Teen program on Sunday, Sept. 23. Mass at 6 p.m. will be followed by pizza, pop, and fellowship in the community center. A discussion of community among junior high students will take place. Prizes given for new comers. Call Hanna at (260) 493-4553 x308 for more information.

Fall fest announced Decatur — St. Mary Parish will have a fall fest Saturday, Sept. 22, from 5-11 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 23, from 12-5 p.m. Saturday will include a Texas Hold’Em tournament, silent auction and Bandido’s taco bar. Sunday will offer a live auction, bingo, children’s games, rides, moonwalks, pumpkin painting, and features Marko’s on 2nd. Both days will have Camelot carriage rides, live entertainment, Chinese auction and Next Page coffees and cider.

Trivia night announced Walkerton — St. Patrick School will host a trivia night on Saturday, Sept. 15, at 7 p.m. Entry fee is $10 and drinks can be purchased. Bring your own snacks to share with your team. Tables of 10 or less compete for two top prizes. Call (574) 586-3219 for more information or to reserve your table.

BBQ dinner at St. Mary’s Fort Wayne — The Martin de Porres Society of St. Mary
If you or a loved one is searching for the best in quality care and a decision you can be confident in — today, tomorrow and always — we invite you to explore the expanded assisted living and memory support at Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame, the area’s leading continuing care retirement community. Here you’ll find a distinctive array of living options that promote independence and security for the future. Plus, you can depend on us to provide an uncompromising quality of life — at every stage of life.

The Newest Option for Care

St. John the Baptist Catholic School in New Haven blessed their new playground after an all-school Mass on Aug. 24. The entire student body circled the equipment area and watched as Father James Seculoff, pastor, blessed the playground. After years of hard work the parish was able to purchase land behind the church, demolish the buildings and finally seed and fence a large playground area with equipment for the children. In previous years the children played on the blacktop parking lot. The students now have a large grassy area to run and play in.