

October 21, 2007

Serving the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Another step to beatification

Files on healings attributed to Venerable Father Solanus Casey taken to Rome

BY ROBERT DELANEY

DETROIT (CNS) — Capuchin Brother Leo Wollenweber headed to Rome Oct. 14 with what many hope are the details of the miracle that finally advances the sainthood cause of Capuchin Father Solanus Casey to the next step — beatification.

"I have three cases that look promising, for which I have some medical records," said Brother Wollenweber, vice postulator for the sainthood cause of the famous Capuchin who served at St. Bonaventure Monastery in Detroit and at Capuchin-run parishes in several other states.

He will deliver the reports on the three healings to Capuchin Father Florio Tessari, postulator general for all Capuchin sainthood causes.

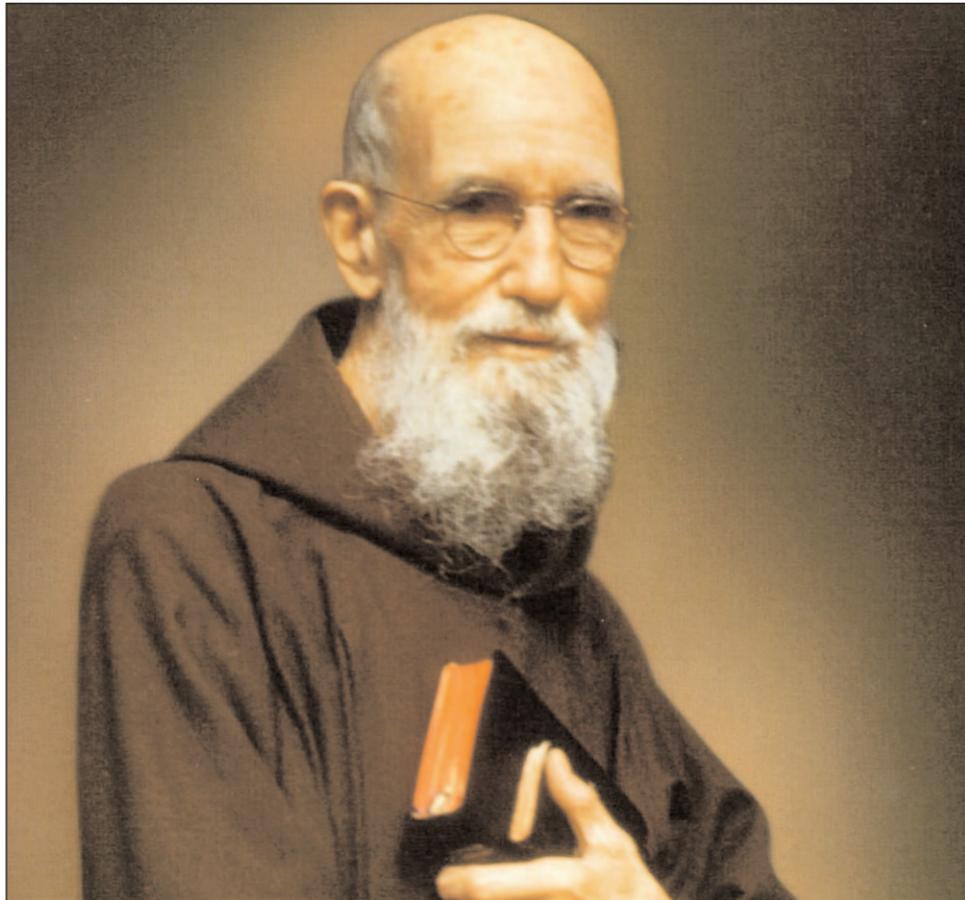
"We'll need people's prayers so that we'll have good success with this," Brother Wollenweber said.

Father Casey spent several years of "retirement" at the St. Felix Seminary in Huntington, 1946-1956.

Many astonishing healings were attributed to Father Solanus' prayers during his lifetime (1870-1957), and his virtue was recognized when he was declared venerable in 1995 by the late Pope John Paul II.

But the next step on the way to being declared a saint, beatification, requires certification of a miracle attributable to his intercession after his death. This past July and August thousands of people in Detroit and other cities where he served took part in novenas praying for his beatification.

Brother Wollenweber said the postulator general will turn the cases over to medical experts for their



CNS FILE PHOTO

Father Solanus Casey, a simplex Capuchin priest and doorkeeper at Franciscan friaries in New York and Detroit, was declared "venerable" in 1995. The declaration ended the church investigation into his life. A miracle attributed to his intercession must be approved before beatification, the next step to sainthood.

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WORLDWIDE ROSARY



DIANE FREEBY

About a hundred people, including young Colin MacDonell shown above, gathered around the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary at Corpus Christi Church in South Bend, praying and celebrating Worldwide Rosary Day 2007. The Oct. 7 celebration was part of an international effort, involving faithful from over 140 different countries, all praying the rosary.

Diocese to host noted bioethicist Oct. 28-29

Bishop John M. D'Arcy is inviting priests and Fort Wayne area healthcare professionals to the 5 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne on Sunday, Oct. 28. The Mass will be followed by a light supper and talk by Father Tad Pacholczyk at the nearby Grand Wayne Center at 6 p.m.

A Catholic bioethicist and neuroscientist and *Today's Catholic* columnist, Father Pacholczyk serves as the director of education for the National Catholic Bioethics Center. He will be speaking on end-of-life decisions: proportionate vs. disproportionate care, including nutrition and hydration. Father Pacholczyk last appeared in Fort Wayne in December 2005 when he spoke on the science and ethics of stem-cell research.

On Monday, Oct. 29, Father Pacholczyk will be speaking on end-of-life issues in South Bend and return to Fort Wayne for an additional presentation.

The South Bend talk for priests and the South Bend medical community will take place at a noon luncheon at the St. Joseph Regional Medical Center.

Back in Fort Wayne, Father Pacholczyk will meet with priests at a private 6 p.m. dinner before giving a presentation open to the public at 7 p.m. in the banquet room at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center, 915 S. Clinton St., in downtown Fort Wayne.

Father Pacholczyk received a doctorate in neuroscience from Yale University, did post-doctoral research at Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School and advanced work at the Gregorian University in Rome in the areas of dogmatic theology and bioethics where he earned two more degrees. He has testified before Congress and numerous state legislatures.

There is no charge for the presentations, which are being co-sponsored by the St. Joseph Community Health Foundation, a ministry of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ.

Healthcare professionals who wish to attend are asked to register by Oct. 22 by responding to: Bishop John M. D'Arcy, POB 390, Fort Wayne, IN 46801, telephone (260) 422-4611, fax (260) 969-1383, or e-mail mschott@fw.diocesefwsb.org.



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TODAY'S CATHOLIC

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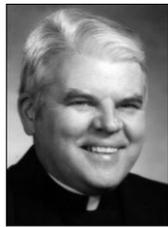
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The ordination of a priest is an act of God's love



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Two for the priesthood

On Saturday, Oct. 27, I will have the privilege of ordaining to the priesthood two young men, both natives of our diocese, who have been serving as transitional deacons, and who have finished their academic pastoral, spiritual and human preparation at the Pontifical Josephinum Seminary in Columbus, Ohio. As I have said previously, the ordination of a priest is an act of God's love — not primarily for the priest, but for the people whom he will serve. For the bishop, this brings a sense of joy and immense gratitude, as well as a conviction about his own unworthiness.

It will be a joyful day with priests coming from all parts of the diocese. For those who have never been to an ordination, it will be a catechetical experience as well as a kind of retreat. Deacon Jason Freiburger grew up on the south side of Fort Wayne. He is a graduate of Bishop Luers High School, and studied at Purdue University where he majored in things like accounting and business. He studied at both the St. John's Seminary in Brighton, Mass., and the Josephinum. He has served his diaconate at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, where he has been involved in their extraordinary program of ministry to teenagers.

Deacon Bob Lengerich is a son of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Elkhart, attended Elkhart public schools for 12 years and the same seminaries as Deacon Jason. He has served his diaconate at St. Pius X Parish, Granger.

Both have served as deacons in large sprawling suburban parishes. They have served with two exemplary parish priests, Father Bill Schooler and Father John Kuzmich. One hopes that having young priests in parishes with so many young people will be an inspiration to more young men from these parishes to consider the priesthood. Indeed we have candidates from the seminary from both of these parishes, and we hope for more. We are expecting a large crowd at our historic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, and I know it will be a day of inspiration and joy.

Medical moral questions

This weekend we will sponsor, for the second time, Father Tad Pacholczyk. This is part of our efforts to bring the light of the church and her moral teaching into the professions of our time. Two years ago, Father Tad spoke to us about the moral questions

behind embryonic stem-cell research; this time he will present Catholic teaching on the questions people must face when a loved one is near death. It will begin on Sunday evening, Oct. 28, with a 5 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception for those in the health professions followed by a light supper and talk at the Grand Wayne Center. All people involved in healthcare are welcome.

On Monday, there will be a similar event for priests and others at noon in South Bend at the St. Joseph Regional Medical Center. On Monday evening Father Tad, along with Fred Everett, who has been in charge of these events, will return to Fort Wayne first for a dinner with priests and then a 7 p.m. talk to which all are invited free of charge. It will be in the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center. There is free parking in the attached garage. Again, the topic will be end-of-life moral questions.

Recent statements on hydration and nutrition are especially helpful in giving guidance to those faced with end-of-life decisions, and I hope, everyone will come and be helped by these events.

For those who have never been
to an ordination,
it will be a catechetical experience
as well as a kind of retreat.

Some anniversaries

To celebrate the Eucharist at the parish anniversaries is especially joyful. The parish is the center of church life. A family of families as Pope John Paul II called the parish. I was at the 140th anniversary of St. Joseph, Roanoke, recently, on a Saturday evening. The church was filled, and the fine relationship between the pastor, Father Kenneth Sarrazine, and his people was evident. I blessed the stained glass window from the old church; I was most impressed by the love of the people for this parish, so rich in tradition.

I also celebrated the Eucharist for the 50th anniversary of St. Henry's Parish, Fort Wayne. It was especially moving that Father Robert Hoewel was with us. This parish was built by Father Hoewel's family. Once called Hoewel Woods, Father Bob became pastor of a parish and of a church where he had played as a young boy. Formerly made up of farmland, it is now on the edge of the city of Fort Wayne.

Father Daniel Durkin has brought about a strong revitalization of this parish. He has been very much present at the Msgr. Julian Benoit Academy every day, visiting classrooms and supporting our excellent principal, Mary Scheiber. He also takes care of

Sacred Heart Parish, Fort Wayne, and served previously with distinction at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Avilla.

Found in compliance

Recently, we had our annual compliance audit. What is this about? In the year 2002, The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops put together a document entitled Charter for the Protection of Children. It followed what was probably the most painful experience of the Catholic Church in its long history in this country. It requires the visit of auditors to make sure that each diocese is following the charter. This involves many things, such as, a diocesan review board, screening of all employees, and training of teachers and those that serve the young people in education in the schools and in other ministries. It also involves careful screening of the candidates for the priesthood. I am pleased to announce that our inspector, Steve Chenoweth, found us to be in compliance. This continues our perfect record, but we also learned of ways we can even do better in the future. I am especially grateful to Cathie Cicchiello. Cathie, with a MBA from the University of Notre Dame and a masters in Christian spirituality from Creighton University and the mother of three of children, is the director and coordinator of our safe environment efforts to follow the charter and be in full compliance; she did a magnificent job of preparation and was much helped by Father Bob Schulte, Mari Raatz, Maureen Schott and our department of catechesis and the school office.

A year ago at the meeting of the bishops in Baltimore, a professional from the John Jay School of Criminal Justice said the efforts of the bishops to respond to this terrible crisis and the corrective measures taken and also the sociological investigation into what happened were "unmatched." Is the preparation difficult and demanding? Yes. Is it necessary? Yes. Is it a good thing? Yes. Total watchfulness is necessary to prevent such a plague from ever falling on us again. It is for the protection of our beloved children.

Sports report

Tied one-to-one with Cleveland at this writing. They are a tough team; this will be a difficult series. We shall see.

I attended my first Notre Dame game this year; I thought the Irish played well and are improving. Boston College is a splendid team, and while it is tough to lose to a team from my hometown, I wish them well.

See you all next week.

U.S. bishops to consider new liturgical music statement

BY MARK PATTISON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. bishops will consider approving an updated version of a 35-year-old statement on liturgical music when they convene Nov. 12-15 in Baltimore for their annual fall general meeting.

The proposed document, which like the original is named "Music in Catholic Worship," deals with many of the issues the 1972 statement addressed. But it also promises to have within three years a directory of liturgical songs for use in U.S. parishes.

The planned directory is an outgrowth of the 2001 Vatican instruction "Liturgiam Authenticam" ("The Authentic Liturgy"), which called on each bishops' conference to compile a "directory or repertory of texts intended for liturgical singing." News about the directory appears in the first appendix of the proposed statement.

While "greatly blessed" by the contributions of composers and the hymnody that has resulted since Mass in the vernacular was first permitted in 1964, the proposed document says, "the use of liturgical songs has not, however, been without certain challenges."

Liturgical songs, it adds, "should be doctrinally correct," pointing to "tendencies toward doctrinal compromise" in individual songs, such as:

- "The doctrine of the blessed Trinity should never be compromised through the consistent replacement of masculine pronominal (a grammatical term meaning having the function of a pronoun) references to the three divine persons."

- "The elimination of archaic language should never alter the meaning and essential theological structure of a venerable liturgical song."

"Liturgiam Authenticam" gives the directive that "if (liturgical songs) are used widely by the faithful, they should remain relatively fixed so that confusion among the people may be avoided," the proposed document says.

According to the norms outlined in the proposed update to "Music in Catholic Worship," "the approval of liturgical songs is reserved to the diocesan bishop in whose diocese an individual song is published."

Three principal publishers of liturgical music are based in the Chicago Archdiocese: GIA Publications, J.S. Paluch Co. and the Paluch-owned World Library Publications. Another leading liturgical music publisher is OCP, formerly called Oregon Catholic Press, which is part of the Portland Archdiocese.

The "Common Repertoire of Liturgical Songs," as the core repertory would be called, is to be included in all commercially published participation aids in English used in U.S. dioceses.

Ten drafts of the updated "Music in Catholic Worship"



CNS PHOTO/GREGORY A. SHERITZ, LONG ISLAND CATHOLIC

Members of the parish choir sing during a special Mass marking the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of the Isle Church in Shelter Island Heights, N.Y., Sept. 9. The U.S. bishops will consider approving an updated version of a 35-year-old statement on liturgical music when they meet Nov. 12-15 in Baltimore.

were produced before the proposed document was submitted to the bishops for their consideration. It was prepared by the U.S. bishops' Committee on the Liturgy; Bishop Donald W. Trautman of Erie, Pa., is outgoing chairman of the committee.

"Charity, justice, and evangelization are thus the normal consequences of liturgical celebration," the proposed document says. "Often our participation in the liturgy is imperfect. Sometimes, our voices do not correspond to the convictions of our hearts. At other times, we are distracted or preoccupied by the cares of the world. But Christ always invites us to enter into song, to rise above our own preoccupations and to give our entire selves to the hymn of his paschal sacrifice."

The proposed document adds, "Singing is one of the primary ways that the assembly of the faithful participates actively in the liturgy." It adds elsewhere that "musical instruments in the liturgy are best understood as an extension of and support to the more basic instrument which is the human voice."

It also recognizes the talents necessary to participate in liturgical music ministry.

"All pastoral musicians — professional or volunteer, full time or part time, director or choir member, cantor or instrumentalist — exercise a genuine liturgical ministry," the proposed document says. "Musicians who serve the church at prayer are not merely employees or volunteers. They are ministers who share the faith, serve the community and express the love of God and neighbor through music."

Composers, it says, "must respect the integrity of the approved text," and may make only "minor adaptations" to approved liturgical texts and only with the approval of the U.S. bishops' liturgy office.

The proposed "Music in Catholic Worship" also encourages the use of music in Catholic schools.

"Catholic grade schools and high schools, which sometimes have students from several parishes and a variety of faith traditions, should minimally help all of their students to become singers," it says. "Singing should be a regular part of the school day. ... In this way students will be introduced to music they will sing throughout their life, and they will be better prepared for the eventual role as adult members of the worshipping assembly."

It cautions against the use of recorded music with limited exceptions: an outdoor procession and, "when used carefully," in Masses with children.

On some of the practicalities of liturgical music, the proposed document says:

- "Choir and ensemble members should dress in albs, choir robes or other clean, presentable and modest clothing. Cassock and surplice, as clerical attire, is not appropriate for choir vesture."

- "Professional directors of music ministries and part-time pastoral music ministers should each receive appropriate wages and benefits that affirm the dignity of work."

- "Churches and other institutions should budget sufficient funds for the purchase of music necessary for the proper celebration of the liturgy. They also have a legal and moral obligation to seek proper permissions and to pay for reprinting of published works when required."

- "The acoustics of a worship space should be resonant so that there is no need for excessive amplification of musical sound in order to fill the space and support the assembly's song." The use of sound-absorbing building materials should be avoided, it adds.

Fatima's message is that following Gospel is path to peace, pope says

FATIMA, Portugal (CNS) — The heart of the message of Fatima is that following the Gospel is the path to authentic peace, Pope Benedict XVI said in a message broadcast Oct. 14 at the Marian shrine.

Marking the 90th anniversary of the last apparition of Our Lady of Fatima to three young children, Pope Benedict said the shrine continues to echo Mary's call to "her children to live their baptismal consecration in every moment of their existence."

"She is the refuge and the path that leads to God," he told thousands of pilgrims at the shrine for an anniversary Mass and the dedication of a new shrine church.

During his midday Angelus prayer at the Vatican, the pope asked Mary to give "all Christians the gift of true conversion so that the perennial Gospel message, which shows humanity the path to authentic peace, would be proclaimed and witnessed to with coherence and fidelity."

Cardinal Bertone marked the 90th anniversary of the last Fatima apparition with a Mass Oct. 13, then dedicated the new church Oct. 14.

In his homily Oct. 13, Cardinal Bertone told an estimated 300,000 people gathered at the shrine that while the Fatima apparitions marked a "supernatural" sign from God "it would be foolish to continue to ask indefinitely" for more outward signs of God's presence when the most effective signs of God's love "are

interior signs: the change of hearts touched by the grace of God."

"Our Lady did not ask to be admired, invoked or venerated," he said. "She asked people to entrust themselves to her. She asked that the hearts of individuals, nations and all humanity would be consecrated to her."

Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, he said, is a vow to follow her example in doing God's will, in following Jesus and in remaining faithful to him even in times of trial.

Cardinal Bertone said each individual Christian has a role to play in bringing faith to the world and in defending the Gospel values that the world needs for peace and true progress.

"Unfortunately, many people think that victory depends essentially on the talent, ability or value of those who write in newspapers, those who speak at meetings, those who have a more visible role and that it is enough to encourage and applaud these leaders like one encourages and applauds players in a stadium," Cardinal Bertone said.

But, he said, that would be like a soldier thinking that victory in war depended only on the general.

As Mary's choice of appearing at Fatima to three illiterate children demonstrates, "heaven requires the effort, even seemingly insignificant, of the most humble servants," he said.

Pope completes second encyclical, a meditation on Christian hope

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has completed his second encyclical, a meditation on Christian hope, Vatican sources said.

The text, tentatively titled "Spe Salvi" ("Saved by Hope"), is about 65 pages, sources said Oct. 16. No release date has been set for the document.

The working title comes from St. Paul's letter to the Romans, in which he wrote: "For in hope we have been saved." The encyclical is said to explore the Christian understanding of hope, with reference to modern philosophy and the challenges of disbelief.

The pope worked on the encyclical this summer, when he had time to write during his sojourns in northern Italy and at his villa outside Rome. At the same time, he was working on a third encyclical that deals with social themes, Vatican officials said.

The pope published his first encyclical in late 2006. Titled "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love"), it called for a deeper understanding of love as a gift from God to be shared in a self-

sacrificial way.

The pope spoke about the importance of the virtue of hope in 2005, when he addressed Mexican bishops on their "ad limina" visits to Rome.

"Confronted by today's changing and complex panorama, the virtue of hope is subject to harsh trials in the community of believers. For this very reason, we must be apostles who are filled with hope and joyful trust in God's promises," the pope told the bishops.

From a pastoral standpoint, he added, hope means reminding Christians that God never abandons his people and is alive and active in the world.

"In contemporary society, which shows such visible signs of secularism, we must not give in to despair or a lack of enthusiasm in pastoral projects," he said.

In introducing a section on hope, the Catechism of the Catholic Church states: "Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit."

Notre Dame panelists highlight complexities of immigration

NOTRE DAME (CNS) — Four leaders with a stake in the ongoing national debate about immigration took to the stage at the University of Notre Dame Oct. 8 and in a two-hour forum gave voice to many of the topic's complexities.

The discussion covered labor shortages; families separated by years-long waits for visas; overcrowded schools; deaths in the desert; unreimbursed government expenses; crime rates; changing demographics; language barriers; inadequate employment options at home; and what the Catholic Church teaches about how to respond to those issues.

The forum featured Los Angeles Cardinal Roger M. Mahony, Sen. Mel Martinez, R-Fla., Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano and Mayor Louis Barletta of Hazleton, Pa. Each described the key immigration issues as they relate to their communities.

Cardinal Mahony and Barletta provided the most dramatically different perspectives on responding to immigrants.

In response to a surge in Hazleton's immigrant population, the City Council in 2006 passed ordinances which, among other restrictions, impose harsh fines on landlords who rent to undocumented immigrants; require would-be tenants to get a certificate from the city affirming their right to be in the country; and revoke the business licenses of employers who hire illegal immigrants.

The law has never been enforced because of litigation. A federal judge ruled in July that the ordinance is unconstitutional, but Barletta said the city intends to appeal.

Cardinal Mahony, the most visible U.S. prelate on the topic of immigration, said Hazleton's law is part of why the tone of national discussions about immigration have taken an inappropriately hostile, fearful turn.

Such laws create fear among all sorts of people, Cardinal Mahony said, whether they are in the country legally or not. "Everybody is being looked at with suspicion," he said.

The cardinal encouraged people to get to know immigrants personally, to watch as parents work "two, three or four jobs" to ensure their children have a better life.

"It's a very moving, enriching experience," he said.

Barletta countered with his own description of the effect of immigration on his town, describing several violent crimes committed by illegal immigrants that prompted the City Council to enact the disputed laws.

"I've seen the other side," he said. "Not everyone who's here is working hard and is a nice person."

"Not everybody is here for a job," he said, adding some are drug dealers or gang recruiters.

"If every city in this country passed the Hazleton ordinance," he said, "if employers couldn't hire illegal aliens out of fear of being put out of business, then a great many illegal aliens would go home and maybe the number would be more manageable."

Martinez, who emigrated from Cuba as a child and said he is the only immigrant in the U.S. Senate, said Barletta's suggestion that immigrants are more prone to

commit crimes doesn't hold up statistically.

Martinez said one solution to crime by illegal immigrants is to "bring them out of the shadows." Several bills that Congress has considered but so far been unable to pass include systems for legalizing the estimated 12 million people in the country without permission.

The most recent bill taken up by the Senate this summer would have given those immigrants a path to legalization, after they paid fines and back taxes and after years worth of backlogs of applications for visas are cleared.

Supporters of such legislation, including Martinez, say legalization would eliminate the problem of wages being undercut by workers who are afraid to demand higher pay lest they be turned over to authorities, as well as end the problem of immigrants who are afraid to go to police or seek other community services they need.

Napolitano said that, in 2006, 4,000 people a day were detained by authorities for entering the country illegally in her state. More than 200 people were found dead in Arizona's desert as they tried to cross the border in remote areas.

She supports tough enforcement of immigration laws, but wants dramatic changes in how visas are processed and how many are available and in the system for temporary workers.

But she doesn't support the idea of building a wall along the Mexican border because it's simply impractical.

"Those who tell you to build a wall have never been to the border," she said. "As I'm fond of saying, you show me a 15-foot wall and I'll show you a 16-foot ladder, or a tunnel."

The forum, moderated by journalist Ray Suarez, senior correspondent of the NewsHour With Jim Lehrer, was part of a multi-week course of programs on immigration at Notre Dame, including residence-hall discussions, online-course work and films. Classes were canceled during the forum to allow more students to attend.

The final segment of the forum featured preselected questions from students, several of whom are immigrants.

A **webcast** of the forum can be viewed online at: <http://forum.nd.edu>.



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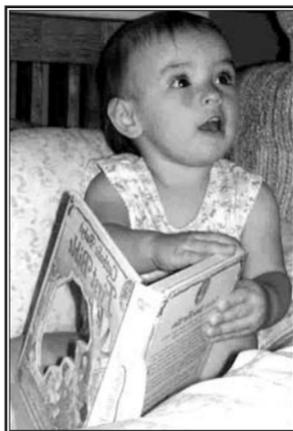
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CASEY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

review.

"If they feel there is enough evidence that any of the healings cannot be explained medically, then we will be advised to have" Cardinal Adam J. Maida of Detroit "initiate the formal investigation through the archdiocesan metropolitan tribunal," he said.

Such an investigation involves taking testimony from witnesses — including the person who received the healing, if he or she is still living — and from medical personnel who were involved in the case, as well as independent medical experts.

Testimony and medical records are then presented in a trial setting.

If such a process is authorized, Msgr. Ricardo Bass, pastor of Prince of Peace Parish in the Detroit suburb of West Bloomfield Township, would be Cardinal Maida's episcopal delegate and would function as the judge.

Brother Wollenweber, as vice postulator, would appear as Father Solanus' attorney; and Father Kenneth Kauchek, pastor of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish in suburban Grosse Pointe Woods, would serve as promoter of justice.

In that role, which used to be known as the devil's advocate, it would be Father Kauchek's job to try to poke holes in the evidence presented by Brother Wollenweber and the testimony of witnesses.

"It's quite an involved process. It takes all the little steps," Brother Wollenweber remarked.

One previous case made it to the formal investigation stage, but eventually failed to win certification.

If one of the three new cases is approved for a formal investigation and survives its trial, it would then return to Rome, this time to the Vatican's Congregation for Saints' Causes. It would undergo further review by medical experts and, if they agree there is no medical explanation for the healing, it would come back to the congregation, which could send it to the pope with a recommendation for approval.

If the pope concurs, Father Solanus would be beatified and become Blessed Solanus.

Brother Wollenweber is hopeful for Father Solanus' eventual beatification — if not from one of these cases, then from another.

And he is also hopeful Father Solanus will eventually become the first U.S.-born male to be declared a saint, but that would require certification of a second miracle after he is beatified.

"We get a lot of reports from people who do have their prayers answered. People hear of Father Solanus and start praying, and wonderful things happen," said Brother Wollenweber.

Infertile couples have options other than hi-tech

BY CAROL GLATZ

ROME (CNS) — Married couples seeking help in overcoming infertility or recurrent miscarriages should know that there are less invasive and possibly more effective methods than assisted reproductive technologies, said a number of participants at a Rome conference on fertility.

Costly methods such as in vitro fertilization and other high-tech reproductive technologies are not the only option out there even for non-Catholic couples desperate to have a child, they said.

Some 13 specialists in gynecology, obstetrics, moral theology and bioethics spoke at an Oct. 12 conference titled "Fertility: Catholic Vision," sponsored by Rome's San Carlo General Hospital and the Pontifical Regina Apostolorum University's bioethics department.

Many people mistakenly think just because the church does not condone artificial reproduction — methods that bring about reproduction outside the marital act — that it does little to help couples coping with infertility, said Dr. Mariavita Ciccarone, head of San Carlo's center for the study and prevention of infertility.

But many Catholic doctors and institutes are at the forefront of offering ways to combat the underlying causes of infertility, making it "possible for couples to (improve) fertility in Catholic clinics and have results," she told Catholic News Service.

Another conference speaker, Cardinal Javier Lozano Barragan, head of the Pontifical Council for Health Care Ministry, told reporters that Catholic couples struggling to have a child should "overcome those problems" causing their infertility.

Science today offers many possibilities that can help these couples, but couples should turn to methods that respect the woman's dignity, he said.

When a couple experiences difficulty in conceiving, many are referred too quickly to assisted reproductive techniques, specifically in vitro fertilization, said Ciccarone and other participants.

Assisted reproductive technology often sets itself up as a miraculous solution to infertility when instead, in Italy, there is only a 21 percent chance in vitro fertilization will result in pregnancy, Ciccarone said, adding that there is no data as to how many cases resulted in live births.

Instead, methods that seek to support or improve men's and women's reproductive health and fertility have been shown to be just as effective as artificial reproduction methods, said Ciccarone and another conference speaker, Dr. Anne Carus.

Carus, a physician at the Life FertilityCare Clinic in the United Kingdom, said 30 percent of her clinic's clients, who include Catholics, Christians, Muslims and people of no faith, result in a live birth while the associated NaPro Technology Clinic in Ireland has a 40 percent success rate of live births.

Both clinics use the Creighton Model FertilityCare System, a natural method of family planning

and monitoring gynecological health, as well as a comprehensive system of women's health called natural procreative technology, or NaPro technology for short. Both methods were developed by Dr. Thomas W. Hilgers, the founder of the Pope Paul VI Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction in Omaha, Neb.

Developed after almost 30 years of clinical research, NaPro technology enables women to monitor a variety of different biological markers that reflect the occurrence of various hormonal events during the course of the menstrual cycle.

The charting then helps physicians identify hormonal and physical abnormalities in the reproductive system, Carus said, arming doctors with the information they need to find and implement appropriate and effective treatment.

These techniques are attractive not just to Catholics who want to follow church teaching, but to all

couples who want to conceive their own biological child naturally, she told CNS.

She said, "With a lot of the assisted reproductive technologies couples don't have that knowledge" and therefore lack a sort of closure that could help them make peace with their irreversible infertility.

FertilityCare also helps couples suffering from recurrent miscar-

riages. And so they are usually just told to go away and try again," she said.

FertilityCare physicians instead will try to zero in on the cause for the miscarriages, Carus said. In her presentation, Carus pointed to the example of one client who had suffered nine miscarriages before she went to the British FertilityCare clinic. After FertilityCare specialists diagnosed and treated a hormonal imbalance, the woman went on to have two separate pregnancies; she has two healthy boys.

"There is a real need to get published work on the effectiveness of NaPro technology in treating couples," she said in

her talk.

But so far attempts at publication have been met with rejection, "often meeting the response that this approach is too Catholic," she said, and therefore not "appropriate or applicable in mainstream fertility medicine."

"Many people mistakenly think just because the church does not condone artificial reproduction — methods that bring about reproduction outside the marital act — that it does little to help couples coping with infertility."

MARIAVITA CICCARONE

riages, Carus said, adding that about one-third of her clinic's clientele fall into this category.

"These couples are left high and dry because the assisted reproductive technologies say 'We can help you conceive, but we don't have strategies to help pregnancies

"I thought that marching through the tunnel and playing my sax in front of 80,000 ND fans was the greatest experience of my life, but then I won a talent show at Holy Cross, started our first cheerleading program, and spent a day working at an orphanage in Ghana ... the greatest experiences of my life just keep coming."

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Pope appeals for release of two priests kidnapped in Iraq

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI appealed for the release of two Catholic priests kidnapped in Iraq. The priests, both members of the Syrian rite, were abducted in Mosul by unidentified gunmen Oct. 13. Reports from Iraq said a ransom was being demanded for their release. The pope, speaking to pilgrims at a noon blessing Oct. 14, said the latest kidnappings were part of a daily stream of bad news from Iraq, where attacks and violence “are shaking the conscience of those who care for the good of this country and peace in the region.” The priests abducted in Mosul are being threatened with death, he said. “I appeal to the kidnappers to quickly release the priests. In repeating once again that violence does not resolve tensions, I raise to the Lord a heartfelt prayer for their liberation, for all those who suffer violence and for peace,” he said. Syrian-rite Archbishop Basile Casmoussa of Mosul, who was abducted briefly in 2005, identified the priests as Father Pius Affas, 60, and Father Mazen Ishoa, 35.

Pope says liturgical music should evolve with the times

ROME (CNS) — The church’s “ancient treasure” of liturgical music should not remain frozen in time, but evolve with appropriate modern-day adaptations, Pope Benedict XVI said. Sacred music and song are a “necessary and integral part of solemn liturgy” that “stir hearts and lift them” to such heights that one can experience, “in a manner of speaking, the same intimacy of the life of God,” he told staff and students of the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music. During an Oct. 13 visit to inaugurate and bless recently restored areas of the institute, the pope recalled Pope John Paul II’s observations that sacred liturgical music has three defining characteristics, “holiness, true art, universality,” enabling it to be offered to “any people or type of assembly.” The Second Vatican Council affirmed that the church’s sacred musical tradition “is a treasure of inestimable value, greater even than that of any other art,” Pope Benedict said, quoting from the council’s Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy.

Catholic, Orthodox finish work on document on church authority

RAVENNA, Italy (CNS) — Despite the absence of Russian Orthodox representatives, the international Catholic-Orthodox theological commission finished work on a document about church structure and authority. In a statement issued at the end of the Oct. 8-14 meeting in Ravenna, the commission said it had completed work on its document, “The Ecclesiological and Canonical Consequences of the Sacramental Nature of the Church: Ecclesial Communion, Conciliarity and

NEWS BRIEFS

RETIRED U.S. ARMY MAJ. GEN. ANTONIO TAGUBA



CNS PHOTO/MICHAEL VICK/CATHOLIC SAN FRANCISCO

Following his Oct. 4 lecture at the University of San Francisco, retired U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Antonio Taguba visits with Franciscan Father Louis Vitale. The Franciscan is on trial for trespassing at a military base while protesting U.S. interrogation practices. During the talk Taguba said that abuse at Abu Ghraib military prison in Iraq was more severe than what was reported in mainstream media outlets.

Authority in the Church.” The document is expected to be published before the end of 2007, a participant told Catholic News Service. It examines the biblical foundations for seeing the church as a sacramental presence in the world and how responsibility and authority are exercised on the local, regional and universal levels. The commission’s Oct. 14 press statement said the next phase of the dialogue would focus on “the role of the bishop of Rome in the communion of the church in the first millennium.”

Vatican suspends priest after hidden camera films sexual advances

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican suspended an official from his job and opened an investigation after the priest was secretly filmed making advances to a young man. The official, Msgr. Tommaso Stenico, insisted that he was not gay. In a statement Oct. 14, he said he was only pretending to be homosexual in order to research a suspected gay campaign against priests. Msgr. Stenico, 60, is one of three section chiefs at the Congregation for Clergy. He is the host of a catechetical TV program, has written many religious books and has his own Web site. The scandal erupted in early October when the Italian network La7 broadcast a program on gay priests. One segment, filmed through a hidden camera, showed an appointment between a Vatican Monsignor and a young man, in which the priest leads the young man to his Vatican office and implies that he doesn’t think homosexual acts are sinful. “You’re cute. You’re totally cute,”

the priest says, sitting down next to the youth on a couch.

Cardinal tells bishops, chaplains they must protect human rights

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Catholic Church and its members serving in the military must be on the front line of protecting human rights, said Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re. “The church, bearer of the human, moral and spiritual values without which it is impossible to build a worthy and true human society — a family of families — must be on the front line in supporting a correct application of humanitarian law in every circumstance,” said the cardinal, prefect of the Congregation for Bishops. The cardinal spoke at the Oct. 12 opening of a two-day course in humanitarian law offered to military ordinaries and chaplains from around the world. Military ordinaries are bishops responsible for the pastoral care of Catholics in the armed forces. The course brought together about 80 participants from more than 30 countries and included speakers representing other religions and other Christian communities, as well as experts on international relations and on humanitarian law.

Father Deiss dies; was liturgical composer, Vatican II consultant

FRANKLIN PARK, III. (CNS) — Holy Ghost Father Lucien Deiss, a liturgical music composer and a liturgical consultant at the Second Vatican Council, died Oct. 9 in his native France. He was 86 years

old. A funeral Mass was to be celebrated Oct. 13 at Seminarie des Missions in Larue, France. News of Father Deiss’ death was released by World Library Publications in the Chicago suburb of Franklin Park, which published his earliest works in the United States. World Library once sponsored “Deiss Days” in U.S. dioceses. Pope Paul VI selected Father Deiss to coordinate the Lectionary psalter following Vatican II. Father Deiss’ music was in the popular vanguard shortly after permission was granted for Mass to be celebrated in the vernacular in the 1960s. Among his compositions were “All the Earth,” “Keep in Mind,” “Grant to Us, O Lord” and “Priestly People.” His music was among the first in World Library’s collection to be made available for digital downloading on iTunes and similar services.

Muslim leaders send letter to pope proposing theological similarities

WASHINGTON (CNS) — For the first time, more than 100 senior Muslim leaders from around the world sent a letter to Pope Benedict XVI and other Christian leaders proposing theological similarities as a basis for peace and understanding. “Finding common ground between Muslims and Christians is not simply a matter for polite ecumenical dialogue between selected religious leaders,” said 138 Muslim leaders in a letter released Oct. 11 in Washington. Christians and Muslims “make up more than 55 percent of the world’s population, making the relationship between these two religious communities

the most important factor in contributing to meaningful peace around the world,” they said. “If Muslims and Christians are not at peace, the world cannot be at peace.” As Muslims, “We say to Christians that we are not against them and that Islam is not against them — so long as they do not wage war against Muslims on account of their religion, oppress them and drive them out of their homes,” they said.

World Jewish leaders meet with pope, discuss anti-Semitism

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI welcomed the new leaders of the World Jewish Congress to the Vatican. Ronald S. Lauder, elected president of the congress in June, said his talks at the Vatican Oct. 8 focused on interreligious dialogue and on anti-Semitism in a number of European countries. While the congress issued a press release after the meeting, the Vatican simply announced that the pope had met the officers of the congress, which represents Jewish communities in more than 80 countries. The congress’ statement said Lauder, a former U.S. ambassador to Austria, told the pope that “the anti-Semitic statements” attributed to Redemptorist Father Tadeusz Rydzik, founder and director of Poland’s Radio Maryja, “should not be tolerated anymore.” Lauder “called on the pontiff to take action against those in the church who wanted to do damage to the close and positive relationship between Christians and Jews,” the statement said. Father Rydzik, whose radio station ranks fifth in Poland’s national ratings, repeatedly has been accused of making anti-Semitic remarks.

Connecticut bishops’ stand on emergency contraception draws criticism

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Connecticut bishops’ decision to permit emergency contraception for rape victims at Catholic hospitals in the state without requiring an ovulation test is prompting a firestorm of criticism. The criticism focuses on what the emergency contraception marketed as Plan B actually does and on whether church institutions should allow the state to mandate what services it provides. On both those issues, the Connecticut bishops and hospital leaders who announced the decision in a joint statement Sept. 27 could have used more help from church leaders at the national and international level, Father John P. Gatzak, director of communications for the Hartford Archdiocese, told Catholic News Service Oct. 11. “The church in Connecticut would have had a greater opportunity to resist” the state law that took effect Oct. 1 if there had been definitive statements on Plan B from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and/or the Vatican, Father Gatzak said. The Connecticut bishops still consider the law “seriously flawed” and believe it should be changed.

Serrans to attend conference, plan for 60th anniversary

SOUTH BEND — Four officers of the Serra Club of South Bend will participate in the Great Lakes Conference of Serra USA this weekend in Bay City, Mich.

The Serrans include George Resnik, past president and governor of District 37; Richard Wasoski, president-elect of the Serra Club; Norlin Rueschhoff, Serra treasurer; and Richard Dornbos, past president.

Speakers at the conference will include Bishop Robert J. Carlson, bishop of Saginaw; Molly Neville, vocation director and parish life director of Monterey, Calif.; Bishop Daniel E. Flores, newly-appointed auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Detroit; and Father Joseph E. Fessio, theologian and in residence at Ave Maria University in Naples, Fla.

Meanwhile, plans are underway to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Serra Club of South Bend on Jan. 31, 2008.

The program will include an hour of adoration followed by a Mass of thanksgiving and a luncheon to conclude the celebration. The planning committee includes Deacon Ron Moser, president, Esther Cyr, Robert Schultheis, John Gruber and Richard Dornbos.

Special recognition will be given to member priests and members of religious life organizations in the South Bend and Fort Wayne areas.

Two students, male and female, from Saint Joseph's High School in South Bend and Marian High School in Mishawaka, will be awarded Serra Exemplary Awards based upon the senior class of 2008. They have to display extraordinary courage, strong moral character, spiritual commitment to Jesus Christ and the church and service to others. Each recipient will receive a \$50 bond and a special award certificate. — EJD

Holy Cross College food drive Nets 3,725 packages of food for charity

NOTRE DAME — If college students truly live on macaroni and cheese and canned food, then the Holy Cross College (HCC) dining hall should see a big spike in attendance for the next few weeks. At a donation rate that averaged almost seven cans per student and faculty, HCC coeds must have donated most of their personal food stash to the Catholic Charities Annual Food Drive.

Faculty sponsor Doris Van Auken states, "The response to such a great community need was truly amazing. I was speechless. I congratulate all the students for their kindness and generosity."

Student groups and dormitory floors competed against each other to see who could donate the most food. The winner was James Dormitory, Second Floor, which averaged 28.48 cans/person.

"However," Van Auken continues, "the real winners in this food drive were the many families that will benefit from all the students' generosity. Children will not go to school or bed hungry, and parents will feel the satisfaction of providing for their families."

AROUND THE DIOCESE

LITTLE FLOWER HOSTS PARISH PHOTO EXHIBIT



PROVIDED BY SHARON LITTLE

The parish photo exhibit, which debuted at the Eucharistic Congress in August, visited St. Patrick and St. Hedwig parishes last week and through Friday this week it is being viewed at Little Flower Parish, South Bend from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Little Flower parishioners, above, study some of the photos in the exhibit, which features interior and exterior views and some religious art from all parish churches and religious community chapels in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Parishes interested in hosting the exhibit at no charge may make arrangements by contacting Sharon Little at slfortwayne@aol.com.

Decio honored by IUSB

SOUTH BEND — Two outstanding community leaders in both the Elkhart and South Bend areas, Arthur Decio and Robert J. Deputy, were honored with the prestigious Chancellor's Medal by Indiana University of South Bend.

Decio, a trustee emeritus of the University of Notre Dame, has also devoted more than 24 years of service spearheading a program to establish the IUSB Elkhart center, ultimately raising more than \$4 million in private donations.

Decio is also one of the most prominent Catholic laymen in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend and for many years played an outstanding role in promoting the Annual Bishop's Appeal. — EJD

St. Anne-Joachim Society luncheon Oct. 26

SOUTH BEND — The St. Anne-Joachim Elder Society of St. Matthew Cathedral will hold its traditional Mass and luncheon on the last Friday of the month, Oct. 26.

This group focuses on a traditional outreach to the elder members of the parish, both men and women, and also provides a spirit of comradeship to those in attendance.

Father Michael Heintz, rector of the cathedral, launched the program several years ago and has encouraged all seniors of the cathedral to participate in the event. Mass will

be celebrated at 11:30 a.m., and a luncheon will follow in the basement rooms. — EJD

Fair Trade Coffee House

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis will host a Fair Trade Coffee House 8 p.m.-midnight on Oct. 21 in the Bass Mansion on the campus. No charge. Also in the Bass Mansion that evening from 8-9 p.m., there will be an informational meeting about a young adult pilgrimage to World Youth Day 08 in Sydney.

Bishop Luers announces scholarship, placement exam

FORT WAYNE — The 13th annual Bishop Luers High School scholarship/placement exam will be held on Saturday, Nov. 3. Registration begins at 8 a.m. The exam will be completed by noon.

The test will be given in the school cafeteria. Students are asked to bring \$10 to take the test and two No. 2 pencils. All eighth grade students are welcome to attend.

The test is to determine placement for the 2008-2009 school year and to test students on academic merit in order to award financial scholarships.

There will be a parent-to-parent meeting from 8-9 a.m. on Nov. 3 with coffee and doughnuts in the library for any parents interested.

Please call the Bishop Luers High School development office at (26) 456-1261 for more information.

Diocese awarded Catholic Campaign for Human Development grant

FORT WAYNE — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend was awarded \$4,800 by the National Office of Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). This award will provide a stipend for an intern serving the diocese during the school year, which began in August and ends in May.

Kristin Bjorkman, a senior at University of Saint Francis, has been selected to serve as this year's CCHD intern.

Bjorkman attended a three-day training in Washington, D.C., and has learned that the mission of CCHD is to eliminate poverty by addressing its root causes. To Bjorkman's surprise, CCHD was not about providing food, shelter and clothing for the poor. It went deeper to the very core of poverty. CCHD provides the tools necessary to break the cycle of poverty by funding projects that empower, educate and employ the poor through organizing, teaching and economic development.

Two projects in the diocese are funded at the national level, and Bjorkman will be working with these groups. TAP (Transforming

Action into Power) has organized residents in a South Bend community to collectively address, social concerns such as gang violence, rising utility costs and immigration. Vincent House in Fort Wayne has created job training and employment opportunities for the homeless through the expansion of the maintenance and construction crew and the opening of the Vincent Village Outlet Store. Four other projects have been funded at the local level.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development is founded on the principles of Catholic social teaching and is fighting poverty at its core in the diocese.

"Kristin is the second intern to serve our diocese, and we welcome her to her new position. I am looking forward to working with her to increase local awareness and strengthen the Catholic Campaign for Human Development in our diocese," said Ann Helmke, diocesan director of CCHD.

Yearlong celebration marking 100th anniversary of Church of the Immaculate Conception begins Oct. 21

ST. MARY-OF-THE-WOODS — The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods and Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College will begin a yearlong celebration Oct. 21 honoring the people of God and the Church of the Immaculate Conception, which has served as a place of worship for 100 years.

The celebration will begin with a special eucharistic liturgy at 11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 21, the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the Church of the Immaculate Conception. At 2:30 p.m. that day, a Centenary Organ Concert will be offered in the church. It is sponsored by the Wabash Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Artists will include Sisters of Providence and guild members.

Architectural tours of the church will be offered at 9 and 9:45 a.m. and after the concert.

Other events planned include an Advent concert with the Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College (SMWC) Chorale and Madrigals and the Terre Haute Children's Choir on Dec. 8; SMWC performance of The Quilters and quilt display, Feb. 22-24; SMWC Chorale and Madrigals Spring Concert, April 20; art exhibit in Providence Center and SMWC LeFer Art Gallery and SMWC Rooney Library, April 20-May 18; Family Day and choral performances by area choirs, June 22; and closing eucharistic liturgy, Oct. 19.

Correction

Due to a reporting error, an incorrect number was given in last week's article about the possible merger of St. Jude Parish, South Bend, and Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Lakeville. The article reported that Sacred Heart Parish has 70 households. That is incorrect. The parish actually has between 190 and 200 households. When nearby St. Mary of the Assumption Parish was closed, 70 households from St. Mary joined St. Jude Parish, increasing the St. Jude census to between 675 and 700 households.

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Bishop Dwenger Saints march on

BY MARY BRISCOE

FORT WAYNE — The sun reflects off the brass instruments. The white feathers atop the shakos blow gently in the breeze. The guard stand poised at the ready with their barrage of flags. The timing judge waits on the goal line with his arm raised and stop watch at the ready. The Bishop Dwenger Marching Saints are ready to take the field for another 13 minutes filled with sound, color and motion.

The fans in the stands welcome the Saints with a rousing response to the caller's request — "Are there any Saints fans in the stands today?"

Beginning in June, the students and staff begin working on the music and marching for the two parade performances, the Three Rivers Parade and the Peru Circus Parade. Then, at the end of July and on into August, the group meets for two weeks of band camp. This is held at Bishop Dwenger High School (BDHS) for 10 days, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. During this time, the students begin to learn the music and the drill (how to march and where to stand) for the upcoming competition season. After band camp, practice continues three nights a week for three hours each night.

Saturdays are filled with warm ups, rehearsals, Mass and rosary, travel time and competition. Saturdays are also filled with traditions, fire ups, band parents organizing props and food, and, hopefully, lots of sunshine.

Every Friday home football game, the marching band remains at school, has a short rehearsal, inhales dinner, dresses in their uni-



PROVIDED BY MARY BRISCOE

Members of the Bishop Dwenger Marching Saints rehearse.

forms, loads their instruments in a box truck, then gets on a bus and heads to Zollner Stadium to lead the fans in several rounds of "When the Saints go Marching In." The band and cheerleaders have worked together to create rousing cheers to help the fans fire up the team. Then at half time, the band provides entertainment for the crowd by performing their fall show. During the third quarter, the band gets a break and a chance to hang out and socialize with their classmates. After the game, the band returns to BDHS, unloads the truck, gets out of their uniforms and heads home to prepare for a full day of Saturday competition.

Director Christine Russell chooses the music for the fall show and collaborates with drill writer Jon Bay. The drill is every step, every movement each member of the marching band makes in correlation to the music. The other staff members and volunteers who

assist are John Moss, Todd Thurber, Carey Keppel, Ali Stronczek and Danielle Rush with the band, and Geoff Goetz and Shane Hapner with the guard. And of course, there are the Bishop Dwenger Music Boosters.

The Bishop Dwenger Music Boosters are a parent organization responsible for the fundraising aspect of the music program. They staff the concession stands, and the students sell various products. Parent and alumni volunteers also build props, fit and clean uniforms, move the props and equipment, feed and snack the students and staff, sew flags and drive semis, mini buses and box trucks.

The Marching Saints have competed on Saturdays in September and October. They earned a Gold Rating at Indiana State School Music Association District competition, thus they earned a chance to compete at the ISSMA Regional competition in mid-October.

CEREMONY HONORS COMPLETION OF STEEL STRUCTURE



MIKE STACK

Nancy R. Hellyer, president and CEO of Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, drew enthusiastic applause as ironworkers were signaled to hoist the final piece of steel, a 50-foot-long 6,500-pound I-beam, into place at SJRMC's new hospital in Mishawaka. SJRMC staff and board members as well as over 30 Sisters of the Holy Cross and Mishawaka Mayor Jeff Rea made up a crowd of over 100 that came out to participate in the "Topping Out" ceremony held Oct. 10.



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Secular Franciscans embrace Gospel while living in the world

BY JENNIFER MURRAY

FORT WAYNE — August 26, 2007 was one of the best days of Kathy Harpel's life. On that day, she and Shirley Bertels professed to be Franciscans. They now belong to the Secular Franciscans of the Holy Family Fraternity in Fort Wayne. This community helps lay Catholic men and women to embrace the Gospel while living and working in the world.

Like many Catholics, Harpel had no idea that religious communities were available for lay people. Catholics know about Franciscans and Benedictines and Carmelites, but they often believe these orders are only available for priests and vowed religious. However, there are communities out there for the lay person who hungers for a deepening of the faith with persons with similar yearnings.

Harpel wanted to share her story so that other Catholics could learn about the Holy Family Fraternity.

"I think it needs to get out that we're here. It seems like it's a hushed up thing. I'm just really glad ... (about the article) so people see it's available, something they may be interested in," she said.

The Holy Family Fraternity meets once a month on the first Sunday of the month at 1:30 p.m. at the University of Saint Francis, in the campus ministry building. They begin and end with prayer. Members continue to learn more about the community they have joined and the Franciscan ideals that have formed. They also select different saints or topics to study throughout the year at their monthly meetings. At the close of the meetings, members join in the Liturgy of the Hours, which is the church's prayer, the same prayer that priests and religious promise to pray each day.

When the members get together, they are forming a spiritual family. "I think Holy Family is very appropriate because we are very close, just like a family," said Cyndi Kaufmann, the minister (similar to a president). The members support one another through prayers and kindness to one another.

The focus of this family is always Christ and his Gospel message. Through prayer, they are finding the strength and courage to follow him. Through study, they are learning how to take those difficult teachings of the Gospel and putting them into practice in their daily lives. And through the community of the Holy Family, they are finding the support and love they need to grow closer to Christ.

Besides their monthly meetings, many of these Franciscans join in service projects such as helping Bishop Luers with their food drive or writing letters to Congress about issues of concern. They also have a yearly retreat called Unity Day and every five years Secular Franciscans gather in one city to meet. Sometimes members will meet in someone's home to pray for special concerns.

The commitment to become a Secular Franciscan is meant to be a lifetime one. For this reason, it is

not something entered into lightly. A person who is interested should go to some meetings to try it out. Kaufmann said that people join the Franciscans because "they are looking for people who have the same level of love for Christ to be in a community with them. If you are not a community person, Secular Franciscans is not for you. ... Each is called in different ways."

However, people are encouraged to come to a meeting or several to find out if this is the way they are being called by Christ to better serve him. If they are still interested, they begin the inquiry process. They would continue to go to the monthly meetings with the members but they would also go to another meeting led by the formation director, John Cooper. The day and time is decided

between Cooper and the inquirers. They meet monthly to discuss any questions or interests they have about the Franciscans and to find out if they are really serious about joining the community. This part of the process normally lasts six months.

At this point, if the inquirers are interested, they become candidates. There is an admission ceremony and then they continue to meet monthly with the formation director. They study the Secular Franciscans more in depth, learning about St. Francis, the Gospel life and many other topics by reading a book titled "Catch Me a Rainbow Too" by Lester Bach, OFM, and discussing what they learn. This part of the formation generally takes 18 months.

Kathy Harpel knew she wanted to become a Secular Franciscan

from the first meeting she attended.

"I was looking for my niche to serve God. ... I went (to the meeting), and it was what I was looking for. I thoroughly enjoyed it. I have not missed a meeting since," Harpel said.

As eager as Harpel was, two years of formation seemed like a long time before becoming a member. However the two years went by fast.

"It was very interesting learning about the life of St. Francis and St. Clare. ... It's like it opened up a whole new world for me.

Everything I was looking for was right here in this fraternity," Harpel added.

During the two-year process, she developed a deeper knowledge of the things of God. "It helped me better understand the faith. It deep-

ened my spirituality, my love for the Lord. It taught me kindness and the love of the Lord. I have opened up a lot," she said. "We go to church, and it is such a joy to go to the celebration of the Lord. ... Mass has taken on a whole new meaning for me."

Finally on Aug. 26 the two women, Harpel and Bertels, made their profession and were welcomed by the members of the Holy Family Fraternity.

It is within this community that Harpel could say with such joy in her voice, "Oh, the love of the Lord has grown in me so much.

For anyone interested in learning more about the Holy Family Fraternity of the Secular Franciscans, please contact Cyndi Kaufman at (260) 424-1803 or kauf57@yahoo.com.

Transitus celebrations recall the death of St. Francis

BY JENNIFER MURRAY

Franciscans gathered around the world to remember the death of their spiritual father, St. Francis, on Oct. 3. This celebration is called the Transitus which means "passing."

For Catholics, the death of a saint is cause for celebration because of the sure belief and hope in the Resurrection. This is why the feast days of the saints normally commemorate the day of their death in this world, which is also the day of their reception into the eternal life.

In Fort Wayne, the Transitus was celebrated at the chapel of the University of Saint Francis, while in Mishawaka, the event took place in the chapel at St. Francis Convent. Both were open to the public.

At the University of Saint Francis, the students and faculty sat alongside the Franciscan Sisters and the Secular Franciscans (lay people who live out the Gospel and Franciscan values in their everyday world).

In Mishawaka, the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration welcomed Franciscan friars from the nearby Conventual Franciscan Novitiate as well as Franciscan friars from the Chicago area.

Members of the local Immaculate Conception Secular Franciscan Community were also present and hosted a reception afterwards. They joined the sisters on Thursday morning, Oct. 4, the feast of St. Francis, for Morning Prayer, Mass and breakfast.

At the Fort Wayne celebration, the congregation joined together in the evening prayer, which was interspersed with readings from St. Bonaventure on the moving account of St. Francis' death. According to this story, St. Francis gathered all his brothers around him as he lay dying and spent his last moments comforting them with the words, "Goodbye, all my sons, in the fear of the Lord! Remain in him



SISTER AGNES MARIE REGAN, OSF

Franciscan Father Jim Kendzierski leads the recessional hymn standing before a habit and cord symbolizing the presence of St. Francis, which was presented at the opening prayer of the Transitus in Mishawaka.



JENNIFER MURRAY

At the chapel at the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne, the celebration of Transitus included the students and faculty who sat alongside the Franciscan Sisters and the Secular Franciscans.

always ... I am hurrying to God, to whose grace I entrust all of you."

Then he asked that the Gospel of John be read to him and so every year on this night the Franciscans listen to same words the dying Francis heard:

"Before the feast of Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to pass from this world to the Father. He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end."

Then Jesus knelt and washed the feet of his disciples. So Francis, even in his death, sought to imitate his Lord and master, by showing his love for his followers in death as in life, serving instead of being served, comforting instead of seeking comfort.

According to St. Bonaventure, "One of his brothers and followers saw that blessed soul under the appearance of a radiant star carried up on a shining cloud to be borne aloft straight to heaven. ..."

This symbolizes the light of Christ, which shone outward from the heart of St. Francis in his life and in his death. During the celebration, each of the participants solemnly walked up to the altar with a candle in their hand and lit it from the single candle burning there and then carried it back to their seat where they sang Mary's Canticle.

This simple ritual is a reminder that all light comes from Christ and we, like St. Francis, can shine that light in the world if our souls proclaim the Lord.

Sister Mary Evelyn, when asked why the Transitus is so important to the Franciscans, said, "It commemorates the death of St. Francis. It completes his life which was complete union with Christ."

Holy Orders: Bishop, priest, deacon

BY FATHER ED ERPELDING

The following is a condensed form of a reflection on holy orders. For the full copy, please download the file from diocesefwsb.org/OSD

Opening prayer

Father of mercy and love, from the beginning you poured out your Spirit and raised up bishops, priests and deacons for the service of your church, called to be imitators of Jesus Christ, outstanding in holiness, zeal and concern for your people. Through their teaching, example and prayers, inspire and enable us to win others to the love of Christ and come with them to eternal glory. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Scripture: Mt. 28:18-20 "Go, therefore, and make disciples...."

Commentary

The parents of a small child waited while I greeted parishioners after Mass. Their faces were covered with smiles as I walked towards them, and they seemed eager to share something important. I greeted them, and the mother explained that their child had drawn a picture of "God" which they thought I might enjoy seeing. I was stunned as I looked upon the child's artwork. The child had drawn a picture of me at the altar and, at the bottom of the page, had printed the words, "God." Following the conversation, the child turned to me and said, "Goodbye, God!"

This childlike perception reminded me of the importance of living the vocation to which I have been called. In the rites of ordination, the bishop says: "Let the doctrine you teach be true nourishment for the people of God. Let the example of your lives attract the followers of Christ, so that by word and action you may build up the house which is God's church."

I was consecrated for the universal priesthood of the faithful when I was baptized by the parish priest. Initiated into the Christian community, I was nurtured in the "little church of the home" and in my parish community. I reaffirmed my commitment to live and grow as a Christian in confirmation. The teaching of religious and the modeling of holy priests inspired me to accept the Spirit's call to share in apostolic ministry as a deacon and a presbyter, through the laying of hands by the bishop and the prayer of consecration.

It is a privilege to be called to share "the mission entrusted by Christ to his apostles." The command of our Lord (cf. Mt. 28:18-20), his instruction to the disciples (Acts 1:6-8) and the coming of the Spirit (Acts 2:1-12) led to the formation of the early Christian community, which drew on Jewish tradition of loving and serving one's neighbor. With the coming of the Spirit, the apostles boldly went forth to proclaim Jesus as Lord and Savior and to promote life and liveliness in the Christian faithful.

A man enters into the order of bishops, presbyters or deacons

through the sacramental act of ordination, which confers the gift of the Holy Spirit and permits the exercise of certain sacred powers for the service of the faithful. Those ordained as either bishops or presbyters (priests) share in the ministerial priesthood and apostolic ministry of Christ; those

ordained as deacons help and serve them. St. Paul instructed the Corinthians, "Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ." (1 Cor. 11:1).

The ministerial priesthood represents Christ before the community of the faithful and acts in the name of the whole church, especially when celebrating the Eucharist. (CCC 1552). I was preparing for what can only be described as an awe-inspiring sacrament: to be set apart for the service of the church as a "sacrificial priest-victim" with Christ.

Bishops

The dignity and the responsibility of the order of bishop, tracing back to the apostles, left me with a feeling of awe. The bishop, through ordination, receives a special character by the grace of the Holy Spirit and the fullness of the sacrament of holy orders. He is to act as the representative of Christ himself, as teacher, shepherd and priest in his particular church or diocese. He works with other bishops to carry out the apostolic mission of the church. The high priestly role of the bishop is especially visible as he celebrates the Eucharist with clergy and people gathered around the altar. Imitating the example of Christ as servant (cf. Jn 13:1-17, Mt. 20:25-28), the bishop exercises the function of sanctifying, teaching and ruling. (CCC 1555-1561).

Priests and deacons

I was eagerly looking forward to becoming a coworker, a sharer in this function of the bishop's ministry as a presbyter or priest, and was inspired by the example of St. John Marie Vianney, who experienced and overcame many



Sharing Faith

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difficulties in his vocation preparing for the priesthood and later as a priest. Academic difficulties and critics were overcome through his trust in the Lord. In accepting a call to orders, he made a total commitment to Jesus Christ. He committed himself to faithfully proclaim the word of God, celebrate the Mass and the sacraments with reverence and confront errant parishioners as a holy servant of Christ through a life of prayer, fasting and penance.

The bishop, acting in the person of Christ as teacher, shepherd and priest, shares these ministerial roles with a deacon to be ordained a priest. In the rite of ordination, the bishop lays his hands upon the candidate and prays:

"... Almighty Father, grant to these servants of yours the dignity of the priesthood. Renew within them the Spirit of holiness. As coworkers with the order of bishops, may they be faithful to the ministry that they receive from you, Lord God, and be to others a model of right conduct. May they be faithful in working with the order of bishops, so that the words of the Gospel may reach the ends of the earth ... (The Rites, Vol. 2, p 61).

I served as a transitional deacon for a year before I was ordained a priest. The newly ordained priest is vested with the stole and chasuble. Then the bishop anoints his hands with chrism. By the anointing of the Holy Spirit, he is signed with a special character, so that he may be able to act in the person of Christ (CCC 1563). He then celebrates the eucharistic liturgy with his bishop assisted by his deacons.

There was no guarantee that life would be easy for me as a priest serving the people of God under

the direction of the bishop and his successors to whom I promised obedience and respect. Bishop Sheen reminded me that we are not ordained just to be preachers but to imitate what we handle in the Eucharist. Fulfillment for a priest is to be found in doing the will of God and, at times, sharing in the cross of Christ.

Coworkers for God's kingdom

When I was ordained a deacon and later a presbyter, I accepted the call to be a coworker with the bishop in the apostolic ministry, a faithful witness to Christ. I was called to proclaim the authentic message of Jesus Christ by word and example through a life of loving service for the people of God. Priesthood means that I must not dominate but serve. Pleasure, possessions and power cannot be driving forces in my life but rather humble submission to his sovereignty in all things. In Christ, I am enabled to remain strong. Through a life guided by Scripture, study, the celebration of liturgy, prayer and penance, I am prepared to share with and promote the spiritual life and liveliness in the people.

No one has a right to be ordained but only when called by God. The sacrament of holy orders confers a permanent spiritual character through the laying on of hands by the bishop and the specific prayer of consecration asking for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Only validly baptized men, who are suitable candidates, may receive holy orders. Ordinarily, in the Latin Church, with the exception of deacons, ordained ministers must be celibate.

Reflection and connection

• How do you view holy orders today? What aspects of holy orders puzzle you or are difficult for you?

• In today's world, how do you see the universal priesthood of the baptized working with the ordained priesthood to build up the kingdom of God?

Evangelizing action challenge

For interior renewal

Challenge yourself to read the life of St. Francis de Sales, St. John Neuman, St. John Marie Vianney, St. Francis of Assisi or one of the many ordained saints who served the people of God.

For reaching out to others

Consider becoming a member of a parish committee to promote and support vocations to holy orders. Take the time to thank those who serve you. Pray for them and let them know you are.

For transforming society

Encourage your parish clergy in promoting the study of Scripture, the story of the church, the study of Catholic teaching in faith and morals, and religious practices or devotions that support Catholic life.

Closing prayer

Lord, we thank you for raising up men, called by the Spirit, from the universal priesthood of the faithful, to be bishops, priests and deacons in service to your church. Bless them so that with St. Paul they may be enabled to say, "Be imitators of me as I am of Christ." (1 Cor 11:1). We ask this through Christ Lord. Amen.

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ST. PETER

FISHER OF MEN

Catholics honor priests in nationwide event Oct. 28

CHICAGO — On Sunday, Oct. 28, Catholic parishes throughout the United States will show support for their priests with prayer, celebration and dialogue. The last Sunday of October is designated as Priesthood Sunday, a one-day celebration of the priesthood organized by parish lay leaders and coordinated by the USA Council of Serra International.

"The purpose of Priesthood Sunday is to engage every level of the church in the United States in a national conversation about the priesthood," said Father Richard Vega, president of the National Federation of Priests' Councils (NFPC). NFPC represents more than 26,000 U.S. priests.

Priesthood Sunday was established in 2003 to provide a way for Catholic communities to express appreciation for the devoted priests who serve them so faithfully despite recent negative attention in the media.

Such a celebration is increasingly relevant in light of the declining number of

priests in the U.S. Only about 4,000 of the 19,000 parishes in this country currently have more than one priest. Many priests serve two or more parishes by themselves.

The lay faithful of each parish, school or other ministry are asked to develop their own special way of marking the day and honoring both priesthood and their own priests. Special liturgies, Priesthood Sunday celebrations and the opening of a dialogue between priests and parishioners are encouraged.

Priesthood Sunday is traditionally celebrated on the last Sunday of October, but some dioceses and parishes may celebrate at a different time to coincide with other planned events.

Lay parish leaders are invited to visit www.priestsunday.org for suggested liturgies, social celebrations, reflections, and downloadable graphics, guides and posters. Requests for printed material may be directed to (888) 777-6681.

"Affirming and supporting our priests are some of the most important things that we

can do as Serrans," says Gary Davis, president of the USA Council of Serra International, the nonprofit organization coordinating Priesthood Sunday. The USA Council is responsible for disseminating information to parishes interested in honoring their priests on this very special day.

"Our priests give of themselves every day in so many different ways. It is an honor to recognize them in a manner in which entire parishes may join together in an outpouring of appreciation," said Davis.

Priesthood Sunday is sponsored by the USA Council of Serra International and the Serra International Foundation. Serra International is a worldwide Catholic organization of lay men and women dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life. More than 12,000 members in over 300 clubs are active in the United States.

The USA Council is available at the number above or at www.serraus.org. The USA Council office is based in Chicago.

WELCOME TO WORK

Lifelong discernment leads to the priesthood

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — October 27 will mark the day Jason Freiburger has anticipated all of his life. That's the day his family and friends will join many others in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne at 11 a.m. to joyfully witness his ordination into the priesthood by Bishop John M. D'Arcy.

His excitement is evident as he says, "I'm anxious and happy. Not really nervous. I am in disbelief that it's this close."

Freiburger was born to Eugene and Margaret during the 1978 blizzard, the oldest of seven children. His parents remain in the family home where he grew up playing with his siblings and friends in the nearby woods and creek. Special interest in sports as a youth such as soccer, basketball and football has served him well all of his life but especially now that he is in parish ministry.

His interest in the priesthood was sparked early in his life as he witnessed his parish priests, first at St. Aloysius, Yoder, then at St. Therese, Fort Wayne, exhibit great joy in their ministries.

"I knew I wanted to be a priest as a kid," says Freiburger. But by middle school he drifted from the calling as he began to dream of having a big family and a prosperous career. By the eighth grade he had landed a caddy job at the Fort Wayne Country Club and discovered a whole new world.

During his high school years at Bishop Luers, he was a member of the National Honor Society, student council, Key Club and several other activities and had narrowed his career choice to business. Receiving the Evans Scholarship for caddying paved the way to Purdue University where in 2000 he earned a degree in business management.

During his studies at Purdue, he developed leadership skills as treasurer and then president of the Evans House where he lived.

"I had the opportunity to grow and lead and come out of my shell," he says. And with one semester to finish before graduation, Freiburger sought advice from family and friends about his future in a "numbers job," as the earlier calling to the priesthood came once again to the forefront.

"I didn't want to regret not trying the priesthood," he recalls.

Following contact with the vocations office, interviews with Bishop John M. D'Arcy, and rigorous testing, Freiburger was accepted into Boston College Seminary in the fall of 2001, where he studied theology and philosophy for three years. He spent his final three years studying theology and gaining field experience at Pontifical College Josephinum, in Ohio,

where he says the seminarian population was diverse and friendly.

The journey through the seminary has kept this young man discerning his vocation every step of the way. "I was comfortable right away. But I wanted to make sure it's a correct comfort. I want to be prepared enough that all falls in line. God protects," he says confidently.

In spring of 2006, prior to his diaconate ordination, Freiburger attended a silent retreat. During eucharistic adoration every night, he prayed for direction as to where he might minister in the best way; the military, on mission or in the diocese.

"It took me two and a half days to quiet myself enough to hear God," he recalls, adding "I had to be sure of my commitments ... to prayer, celibacy and to the diocese."

His adoration experience seems miraculous as he says, "I said 'Lord, do you want me as a diocesan priest?' and he said 'Yes!'" Wanting to make certain he had not provided an answer for himself he quieted his heart once again and after a couple of moments of silence he heard, "And quit putting obstacles in your way."

"It was as close to a miracle as I would expect to get," Freiburger says with a knowing smile.

Since that day he says he has had no doubt that he is on the right path. Following his ordination into the diaconate, Freiburger has assisted in various duties as well as working with the teens at St. Vincent de Paul Parish where he has served as deacon since 2006. He also served as deacon at the seminary and St. Edward the Confessor Parish in Grandville, Ohio.

His advice to anyone who may be interested in a vocation, "Give the seminary a shot after taking it to prayer and God says yes! Perseverance (is important) along with being open to what God has planned for us."

He looks forward to serving God and his people as a priest and says he is grateful for all the support he has been shown from St. Vincent, St. Therese and his friends and family.

"There have been pictures, cards, banners, and they pray during the week at the Masses. So many are praying for my vocation and ministry," he says humbly.

St. Vincent Parish is holding a pep rally/blessing for Deacon Freiburger on Wednesday, Oct. 24 at 1:30 p.m. in the school's activity center where the students will lead cheers and pray over him. The parish is also hosting a holy hour for Freiburger on Thursday, Oct. 25, at 7:30 p.m. during which his parents will present his chalice to be blessed.



Deacon Jason Freiburger and Deacon Bob Lengerich will be ordained to the

Freiburger family feels priestly vocation right for son Jason

YODER — Margaret and Eugene Freiburger couldn't be happier for their son, Jason, who joyfully anticipates ordination into the priesthood. Of their seven children, Jason is the oldest, and the memory of his birth brings smiles to their faces.

Born in January of 1978, Jason's birth came during the blizzard that year causing the hospital stay to be prolonged due to inclement weather. Finally, says dad Eugene, after three long days of waiting, he and his father Bob braved the snow-laden roads to rescue Margaret and her son.

Jason's grandparents, Bob and Helen Freiburger recall their return to stay at their house due to the record snowfall that kept the young family from their own home. The new infant boy cried throughout his stay, they recall, but that didn't keep them from loving him.

The Freiburgers raised their growing family in a country home in Yoder, not far from their grandparents home, complete with a woods, a backyard creek and lots of neighborhood friends. The children attended both public and Catholic school, eventually settling at St. Therese School where the Freiburgers remain parishioners.

Margaret recalls Jason as a young boy and the call he had on his heart to one day become a priest. "I felt that was the one constant thing for him as a young boy in grade school. In high school the call wasn't cool. But I never gave



KAY COZAD

Jason is surrounded by his parents, Margaret and Eugene, right, and grandparents, Bob and Helen, left, in his family home in Yoder.

up. I just prayed for him," she says.

Grandpa Bob says, "I kept my fingers crossed. I'm grateful God did call him and he pursued it. God has given him strength to be ordained. There's nothing greater." And Grandma Helen feels "proud and happy," that her grandson will serve God's people as a priest.

Eugene, who is the oldest son in his family as well, thought as an eighth-grade youth he might have a calling to the priesthood as well. His years in the seminary taught him much, but his prayerful discernment led him to eventually leave the seminary and join the Army as a chaplain's assistant in Germany.

Following his stateside return he completed a degree at Indiana-Purdue Universities at Fort Wayne (IPFW) in computer programming and landed a position at St. Joseph Hospital where he met a young social worker named Margaret. The couple married in 1977.

With his religious background,

Eugene led his household by example, he says, praying the rosary with the family in the living room. Support of Jason's vocation came naturally to the Freiburgers as they encouraged each of their children in their career choices. "We supported all of the family members in whatever they chose," says Margaret.

Jason adds that religion is common in the family with his father's priest friends from the seminary as well as uncles and aunts who chose the religious life.

Advice they give their soon-to-be ordained son, "I hope the Lord is always on top of him," says Eugene, adding, "There's going to be hard times ahead. I hope he doesn't take the criticism to heart."

Margaret offers, "I hope he gets out of it what the people he serves get from him. I want him to be fulfilled in his work." And this proud mom adds, "I hope he has a long happy life!"

ERS IN THE VINEYARD



priesthood Saturday, Oct. 27, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Lengerich's parents eager for ordination day

ELKHART — Ed and Susie Lengerich are both waiting with anticipation that their son, Deacon Bob Lengerich, will be ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, Oct. 27, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. The rite, which begins at 11 a.m., will be the culmination of many years of study and the graduation from one level of servant leadership to the commencement of his life as a parish priest.

One of the sacraments a priest presides over is that of the sacrament of marriage. There is a common belief that says opposites attract in a marriage relationship. This adage could be adapted to reflect Ed and Susie Lengerich's initial reaction to their youngest son's proclamation that he desired to become a priest some day.

Ed is quick to say with noticeable enthusiasm that he "always knew it would happen," referring to Deacon Bob's calling to the priesthood; it took Susie a little longer to adjust to the idea, however.

Talent and giftedness have never been in short supply for Deacon Lengerich. He knows no less than seven languages and learned Hebrew in eight weeks from Harvard. The 46 hours of homework per week during that time period earned him a 190 out of a possible 200 score on the final.

He has produced movies and tapes, cooks and even sews many of his own vestments. Deacon Lengerich can sing and play many



PROVIDED BY THE LENGERICH FAMILY

Deacon Bob Lengerich is shown in this family photo with Bishop John M. D'Arcy on the day of his ordination to the diaconate. This ordination was held at St. Turibius Chapel at Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio, in April 30, 2006

musical instruments well.

He earned a near perfect score on his SAT during his sophomore year in high school.

He graduated with three masters degrees from the Pontifical College Josephinum as valedictorian with a 4.0 grade point average. One of his masters degrees is being awarded through Rome, a first in the history of the Pontifical College Josephinum.

Susie says that Deacon Bob feels God gave him all of these talents, and he must now use them to lead people in their spiritual lives to Christ. His dad said that he announced in the third grade that he wanted to be a priest someday.

While it might be easy to dismiss the desire for the priesthood as a phase in many Catholic schoolboys' lives, Deacon Lengerich confirms that his calling

to a religious vocation continued throughout his life.

Deacon Lengerich is the youngest of four children and the eldest child is 13 years his senior. His mom often worked third shift while he was growing up and found it comforting that he often talked about "making friends with the angels and Mary" while she worked.

Another confirmation came to him 10 to 12 years ago when Deacon Lengerich's rosary turned to gold while he was praying in front of the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary in his parent's kitchen.

Both Ed and Susie are thrilled that their son will soon be ordained to the priesthood.

Ed says "It will be the happiest day of my life when he gets ordained."

Faith calls Lengerich to serve as priest

BY DEB WAGNER

GRANGER — During his time in the seminary Deacon Bob Lengerich, 26, learned that God uses everything the Lord entrusts to a believer to bring out unknown talents.

Lengerich wants to share his own experiences of Our Lord, the Blessed Mother and the angels and saints with others. It is with this faith that Lengerich prepares for his ordination to the priesthood.

There are several people who have contributed to Lengerich's formation.

It was his parents who first taught him how to pray and were examples of Christian living through the sacrifices they made on his behalf and their continuous loving support. They provided for him a close, enriching family of two older brothers and a sister as well as fun-loving aunts, uncles and cousins who regularly provide support through prayer, cards and phone calls.

Lengerich was even encouraged early in life through the gifts of two religious sisters to dedicate his life to the Blessed Mother, which he formally did in the seventh grade. Religious and biological sisters, Marice and Maricita Petrites, were from the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ and served in Lengerich's parish, St. Vincent De Paul in Elkhart, where he grew up. They eventually became his confirmation sponsors.

"These sisters taught me to choose Mary as my heavenly mother so that she could lead me to her Son, Jesus Christ," said the deacon.

"Way back then, though, I'd thought that Mary's plan would line up with my own: I'd be a good Catholic man with a good Catholic wife and good Catholic kids, but God had other designs," Lengerich said.

For over 10 years now, Father Bernard Galic and Mary Szymczak from the diocesan Vocation Office have been a source of strength. Father Galic represents the "love and wisdom of Jesus" while Mary Szymczak steps in with her levelheadedness to provide objective advice, practical care and continual encouragement.

Father Bill Schooler, Father Dave Voors and Father David Sizemore have also been instrumental in Lengerich's journey thus far. Each of these priests has been willing to share his time and experience.

"They've shown me how to take the book knowledge we learn in the seminary and apply it in the real world in practical pastoral ministry," said Lengerich. "Each of these men has inspired me (and all their people) by showing us all that a priest can be. I don't know

how I can repay them for their kindness and generosity, but I do hope to be able to pay it forward someday to the next generation of young seminarians."

He is indebted to Bishop John M. D'Arcy and his prayers and practical concern for the diocese and his personnel. "Our bishop cares for all of us together and each of us individually," Lengerich said.

In addition, Lengerich is most grateful for the seminary priests, professors and staff for dedicating their entire lives to the formation of future priests as well as fellow seminarians and the diocesan presbyterate for their companionship on the journey.

Lengerich will be ordained to the priesthood alongside Jason Freiburger, his seminary classmate for several years.

"I'm looking forward to sharing this ordination Mass with him (especially since he comes first alphabetically and will have to make all the responses first). I'm even more excited about our future," said Lengerich. "We'll be able to celebrate the same anniversary throughout our years of priestly ministry. I think this is a great way for the Lord to provide us both with support and encouragement. After all, Jesus 'sent them out two by two.'"

Perhaps the best preparation to be a good priest in the future is to humbly walk and learn as a deacon. Lengerich said that he finds the hardest part of being a deacon is learning of the sufferings of others and not being able to snap his fingers and make everything all better.

With reflection, he said, "So often I've felt like St. John standing with Jesus and Mary: I haven't been able to do much more for some people than stand at the foot of their cross and offer my prayers. Now I can bring their Lord to them and lead them to him at the altar and also in the confessional.

God has a plan for each one of us. He loves us and wants us to be his happy, holy disciples. Lengerich believes that with God in charge, life is greater than we can ask for or even imagine.

Consequently, his favorite Bible passage remains Jeremiah 29:11-14, which reads, "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for woe; plans to give you a future full of hope. When you call upon me, when you come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, yes, when you seek me with all your heart, you will find me already there with you, says the Lord, and I will change your lot."

Lengerich's future is undoubtedly bright and filled with the desire to love and serve God's people.

“I will not leave you orphaned” John 14:18

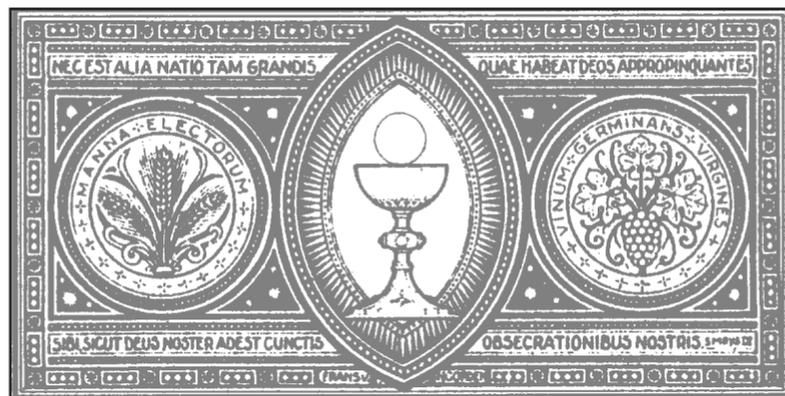
Saint Pius X Catholic Church
gives thanks to God for the gift of the Priesthood.

Congratulations to
Rev. Mr. Bob Lengerich and
Rev. Mr. Jason Freiburger
on their upcoming ordinations.

The parish community of
Saint Vincent de Paul, Fort Wayne
rejoices with and congratulates the newly ordained priests of the diocese,

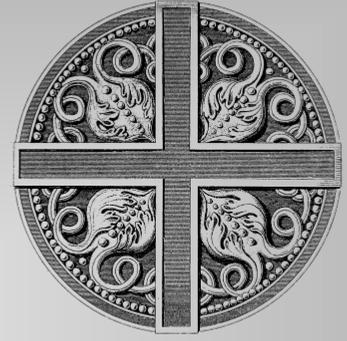
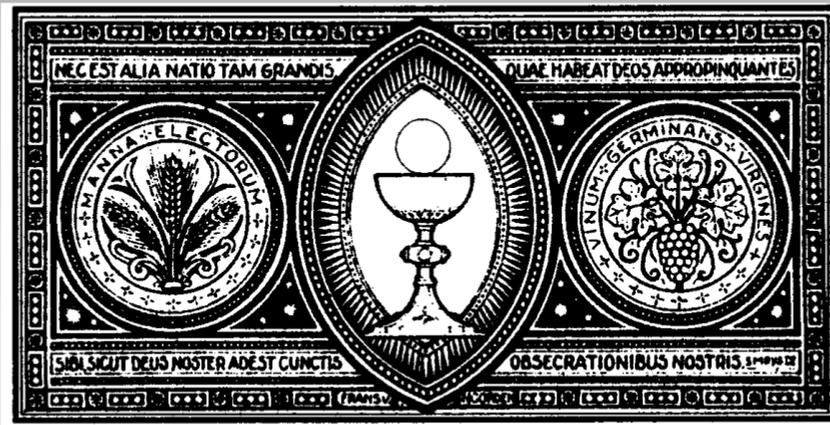
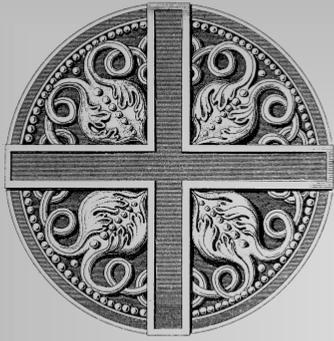
FATHER JASON FREIBURGER
and
FATHER BOB LENGERICH

May your ministry be pleasing to God and bear much fruit!



2 Timothy 4:1-2

“I solemnly urge you; proclaim the message;
be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable;
convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching.”



The pastor, parishioners, staff, faculty and student body
of St. Therese parish in Fort Wayne
extend congratulations and prayerful best wishes to

Jason Freiburger

as he receives the Sacrament of Holy Orders in the priesthood of Jesus Christ.



Similar wishes of joy are expressed to Jason's classmate

Bob Lengerich



*n this day of days,
as they step into His vineyard
as priests of Jesus Christ...*

*the personnel in the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocesan Departments listed here,
offer their sincere congratulations and pledge their continued prayers and assistance to*

Father Jason Freiburger and Father Bob Lengerich

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Sisters relate their journeys to God

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

MISHAWAKA — God is persistent. While not everyone immediately heeds a call to religious life and every person's calling is unique once a person opens their heart to God, the choice is clear

and simple.

Gathering together to talk about their vocations recently at the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka, Sister Mary Vianney Grau and postulant Rosa Geyer, were more than willing to share their different, yet similar stories

when they were asked what drew them into religious life.

Postulant Rosa Geyer

Rosa, who has been at St. Francis Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, only about a month, said that if she "had to narrow it

down, it was the inspiration of our Blessed Mother."

Rosa explained her mother was very devoted to Mary and her mother's devotion, Rosa said, "was passed down" to her. "In high school, I wore the scapular and prayed the rosary everyday. These simple acts drew me closer to our Blessed Mother." Rosa said that as she grew older she "grew closer in faith."

"I began to realize this call was something that was always on my heart," said Rosa and noted that at first, she was "afraid of it for a little while."

It wasn't until she heard someone else's testimony about consecrating their vocation to Mary did she realize what she should do. "I said a little prayer that dedicated this consecration to Our Lady and the purpose of finding my vocation," said Rosa. At another retreat shortly thereafter "God removed all the doubts, fears and questions about religious life and I was ready to call the vocations director. Every step along the way, I see Mary's hand on it — she continues to be a great model for me," added Rosa.

Sister Mary Vianney Grau

"For me, it was more of a gradual process." After moving from Florida to Indiana at the urging of her mother to live with her aunt and uncle (her father had passed away), Sister Mary Vianney started attending Mass where she was touched watching everyone receive Communion.

"I knew I wanted it," said Sister Mary Vianney who was about 10 years old at the time and not yet a Catholic. In high school, she asked her mother about receiving Communion and going to Mass. "We found this amazing parish. The Lord led me to a parish on fire for the Eucharist. I started falling in love with the church. Everything that it means, but mostly the Eucharist and the Blessed Mother," said Sister Mary Vianney. She was in high school RCIA when she met a nun

who very much touched her.

"She came in and talked about working for the church. The care she gives and the joy she shows for everybody, I was just very, very impressed with her, but I was only a sophomore in high school," said Sister Mary Vianney. She said the nun talked to her mother about attending a retreat at the motherhouse.

"I didn't go that year, mostly because I wasn't really in the church yet. When I was a junior in high school, I went to see the sisters," said Sister Mary Vianney who was very touched by their joy.

"They were so happy. Their conversation was centered on Christ and you knew their joy was coming from a deep down inner joy that only comes from Christ. I was so taken aback by their joy. So for the next two years it tugged and pulled, and I pushed it away, and it kept coming back," said Sister Mary Vianney. And at the time, she had a serious boyfriend.

It wasn't until she was on a retreat with a friend, Heather, that Sister Mary Vianney decided it was time to listen to her calling to religious life, quite by accident.

"My friend, Heather, was running around the dorm at the retreat and Sister Margaret Mary just finished telling them not to run in the hallways. Just two seconds after that, Heather dislocates her knee. I sat next to her in the hallway in excruciating pain, all of a sudden, I saw lots of nuns. ... It was just their devotion, there she was with her knee over there, and the sisters taking good care of her. I tease Heather all the time it was her knee that brought me to my vocation. It was at that moment, I finally decided I think I need to pursue this," said Sister Mary Vianney and after a year of college at Bloomington, she did.

Bob and Jason...

two young men who answered the call to "feed my sheep"



We congratulate them on their ordination and ask for prayers that others will find the same inspiration that has led them to this joyous day.



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Congratulations Father Bob and Father Jason



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Deacon Bob Lengerich

We have been blessed by your presence in the summer of 2006. Your many gifts, your out-going personality, beautiful musical talents, and especially your strong faith that you shared with our parish will live in our memories for years to come. Many blessings as you embark on your journey in the priesthood. Don't forget to visit your family at St. Mary's. You will remain always in our hearts and in our prayers. God bless.

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION
DECATUR

Deacon finds blessings in serving St. Augustine Parish

BY MAY LEE JOHNSON

SOUTH BEND — For Paul Baumgartner, the best part of being a deacon was “being available to the people.”

And no one doubts that Deacon Paul Baumgartner was that available. He has faithfully served not only his home parish of St. Augustine but has also given countless hours of service to prayer groups and ministries in the South Bend area.

In appreciation for all his years of service to St. Augustine Parish honored the longtime and beloved deacon by presenting him with the highest award given by the parish. At the parish’s picnic held in August, Baumgartner was presented with St. Augustine Award for his many years of service and devotion to the parish.

“I came to St. Augustine in 1975,” Baumgartner said. “My wife Donnabelle and I had been

accepted at St. Joseph Church, but my wife encouraged me to go down to St. Augustine, and I’ve have been there ever since.” He and his wife have four girls and one boy.

He added, “You see, In 1975, the Catholic Church did not have many black Catholic faces in some of the other Catholic congregations I attended, and to me, that just wasn’t right. So I joined this church because St.

Augustine’s parishioners have a love and accepting spirit that drew me there every Sunday. I love the people there. They keep me going.”

Thirty years ago Baumgartner stood up and answered the call to holy orders to become a permanent deacon of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, and he honored his vows by serving faithfully at the parish until his health slowed him down.

Even as his eyes begin to fail, he still has vivid control over his mind and vows to stay with the

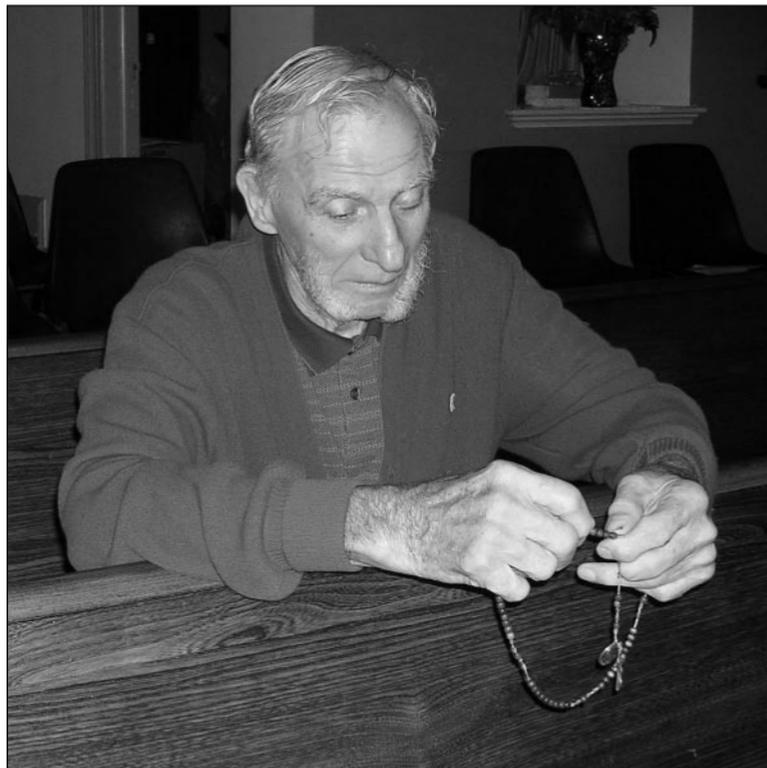
church where he had served for over 30 years.

“Paul has been around for a long time,” said Bill Dillon, a longtime friend.

“He started running one of the first prayer services at the church and was known as a good and fair landlord in the community,” Dillon said. “Just come by St. Augustine’s 8 a.m. Mass on any given Sunday, and you will see him sitting right next to his wife praying the rosary. Paul is a kind man.”

Baumgartner was born in South Bend, where he grew up in St. Joseph and Holy Cross parishes. He retired as a local building contractor and was a well known and sought-after landlord because of the care he gave his renters and properties.

“St. Augustine’s is where I was led,” Baumgartner said. “I have always been close to the church — I was around when Francis Hubbard (deceased deacon) started the soup kitchen. In



MAY LEE JOHNSON

For over 30 years, retired Deacon Paul Baumgartner, a member of St. Augustine Catholic Church in South Bend, prays the rosary faithfully every Sunday in his favorite side pew at the early Mass.

fact, Hank Mascotte and I went and got them a good stove. That was a long time ago, but the soup kitchen is still serving the people today.”

Baumgartner added, “For me,

the whole thing (being a part of St. Augustine’s Parish) has been a blessing for me personally and my family. But as deacons, that’s what we are called to do, serve others.”

Rev. Msgr. Paul J. Langsfeld, STD,
Rector / President of the

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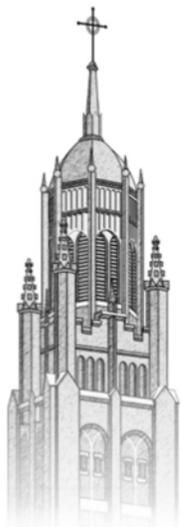
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service to His church and people.*



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Jason, a native son, was baptized at St. Aloysius



The Bishop Luers Community
salutes a graduate
who personifies
the highest of our ideals
as he steps forth to serve God
by serving others

in the priesthood of Jesus Christ.
FATHER JASON FREIBURGER
Class of '96

EDITORIAL

Priesthood, marriage: both are lives of love

Often priesthood is contrasted with marriage, and while there are obvious differences in the way each state of life is lived out, there is a dimension that is common and fundamental to each that, in a sense, unites them both in the economy of salvation: both are lives of love.

Love not merely in the sense of personal affection or warmth of feeling, but love in the deepest, Christian, agapic sense of utter and complete self-gift.

Marriage is founded upon the mutual commitment and self-gift for life between a man and a woman. Priesthood is a life in which a man entrusts and offers himself utterly and completely to the Lord Jesus and to his people, the church.

In marriage, that act of self-donation (in kenotic imitation of Christ) to one's spouse is the condition of possibility both for personal growth — a good spouse actually challenges and betters the other — and an ever-deepening happiness. In priesthood, the same kind of self-donation to the church — not as an abstract concept or amorphous idea, but to a concrete community of men and women with whom elbows are rubbed every day and in whose company his own salvation is worked out — is what allows the priest to grow in faith, hope and love, and simultaneously to find a deep and abiding happiness.

It's precisely the same failure — self-love, self-absorption and self-referentiality — which can impede both genuine growth and happiness in marriage, which also can impede both personal growth and effectiveness in priestly ministry.

It is not by accident that the Scriptures and the tradition of the church link married love with the Eucharist: nuptial imagery abounds in the Gospels and certainly in the Pauline letters as well as in Revelation. Both the priest and the married couple must find in the Eucharist the paradigm and source of such complete self-gift. Both are lives in which the eucharistic sacrifice is lived out in very practical, tangible ways: arising in the middle of the night to care for a crying child or dashing to the hospital at a moment's notice to pray with the dying; putting aside one's own will in favor of a spouse's needs or putting aside personal comfort and convenience for the good of God's people.

It is love, divine charity, given to us at baptism and instantiated in different ways from day to day depending upon the circumstances of our state of life and their incumbent obligations, which makes the life of husband and wife and the priest, seemingly so very different, so utterly alike.

The Eucharist, the sacrifice in which Christ gives himself to the Father and holds nothing back, made present each day on our altars, which not only provides the model for us, but is itself the source of the grace we need to live happily and effectively the life to which God has called us.

Signs of hope

For the first time since 1999, and 1997 before that, Bishop John M. D'Arcy will ordain two men to the priesthood for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend on Saturday, Oct. 27, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. At a time of priestly retirements, health-related and other issues, this news offers hope.

To meet Deacons Jason Freiburger and Bob Lengerich, one quickly senses men of prayer, deep faith, tremendous talent and a yearning to serve the church. They are opting for a vocation of love, to pour themselves out for the church and her people. The church is blessed to have these men.

With 18 men in the seminary, there is also a sense of hope that others of quality are discerning the priesthood. Next year, God willing, two additional new priests are slated to be ordained.

We thank God for these men who will bring us the Eucharist. It is not an easy life. One sacrifices much — a wife, children — for something beautiful, an outpouring of self for the good of the church. Prayers of thanks, prayers for our seminarians and prayers for still more vocations are in order.

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

COMMENTARY

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

Pope Benedict XVI and the 'old Latin Mass': Towards an undivided liturgical tradition

The following is the second piece of a four-part series prepared by the diocesan Office of Worship on the recent "motu proprio" document by Pope Benedict XVI.

Last week, we examined Pope Benedict's "hermeneutic of continuity." This week, we will look at the "motu proprio's" target audience and implications for the new form of the Mass.

Is greater openness to the old form of the Mass meant mainly to satisfy radicals who reject the reforms of Vatican II?

The broad permission given in "Summorum Pontificum" is not, as some have argued, designed primarily to cater to small groups of radical traditionalists. To the contrary, the pope explicitly mentions two groups as having a legitimate and influential affinity for the old missal — members of the older generation that had "deep, personal familiarity with the earlier form"; and "young persons" who "have discovered this liturgical form, felt its attraction and found in it a form of encounter with the Mystery of the Most Holy Eucharist, particularly suited to them."

Pope Benedict, who turned 80 in April, recognizes the increasingly widespread interest in time-honored forms of piety among young Catholics, who have integrated into their own lives such familiar elements of the faith as eucharistic adoration, frequent confession and regular praying of the rosary. This has happened precisely because these practices are traditional, not in an outmoded or negative sense, but in a timeless sense.

"Summorum Pontificum," then, is a truly pastoral document. It seeks to establish a much-needed sense of continuity, while working to amend what has often been a marginalization of those who have a particular — yet properly oriented — attachment to some of the older treasures from two millennia of Catholic tradition.

Is the new form of the Mass being neglected in this "motu proprio"?

Nothing could be further from the truth. It is important to keep in mind that the Mass we have grown to know over the last four decades, the Mass from the Missal of Paul VI, is now referred to as the ordinary form

precisely because it will remain the most common means by which the Church prays. Practically speaking, this fact is clear, especially given the relatively small number of priests currently able to pray the old Missal of Blessed John XXIII.

At the same time, this designation of "ordinary form" — as the normative form of worship — conveys a certain primacy with respect to discussion of the liturgical tradition as a whole. It may seem strange to think that "Summorum Pontificum" and its accompanying letter, already so well-known for their focus on the older form of the Mass, may actually carry an even stronger focus on the newer form. But this may indeed be the case, if one reads Pope Benedict with an appreciation for his hermeneutic of continuity.

The Masses celebrated before and after the council seem so different. How can they be related?

There are certainly considerable differences between these two ways of praying the Mass, the ordinary form and the extraordinary form. The extraordinary form always had to be prayed entirely in Latin, parts were sung or spoken in different ways by the priest, and there were certain prayers that were cut or modified in the new missal. Nonetheless, the pope is emphasizing that liturgical continuity and similarities can become more evident in the future, as the two forms interact.

In fact, the text of Vatican II clearly envisions an approach to liturgical reform that builds upon the solid foundation of what Pope Benedict reverently refers to as the "usus antiquior" ("the more ancient use") of the Mass. Indeed, the revised missal still owes most of its rich content to the old missal. Benedict writes, "There is no contradiction between the two editions of the Roman Missal. In the history of the liturgy, there is growth and progress, but no rupture."

How does Pope Benedict envision the interaction between these two ways of praying the Mass?

Ultimately, the identity of the ordinary form depends in large part upon a visible continuity with the extraordinary form. Pope Benedict's observation, as seen in his letter, is that the new missal has not always been celebrated as it was intended. He speaks of his

MOTU PROPRIO



BY BRIAN W. MACMICHAEL

personal experience in witnessing excessive "creativity" and "arbitrary deformations in the liturgy" over the years, which have "caused deep pain" to the church's spirituality. But even when extreme liturgical problems are not present, the pope believes that much could still be done to bring our worship more in line with what the church intended at the Second Vatican Council. Through "Summorum Pontificum," the pope envisions the older form of the Mass exerting an influential pull on the newer form, but without superseding it. And, to an extent, the reverse is also true — Pope Benedict even allows for approved vernacular readings to be integrated with the Missal of Blessed John XXIII.

Perhaps the most profound couple of lines in the pope's letter on "Summorum Pontificum" are these: "The most sure guarantee that the Missal of Paul VI can unite parish communities and be loved by them consists in its being celebrated with great reverence in keeping with the liturgical directives. This will bring out the spiritual richness and the theological depth of this missal." Notice Pope Benedict's desire that the ordinary form of the Mass "be loved" by all worshippers. How wonderful that this pope, once considered by some as a rigid character, has become the premier theological exponent of love through his teachings. One need only think of his encyclical, "Deus Caritas Est" ("God Is Love"). In the liturgy, a whole-hearted and participatory love can only flow from recognition of and longing for the Mass's timeless splendor.

Next week, the pope's thoughts on how the new form of the Mass can be celebrated in greater continuity with the old.

Brian MacMichael is the director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

No signs of clogging: Saint-making pipeline's flow never slowed

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — When Pope Benedict XVI was elected in 2005, one of his first decisions was to stop presiding over beatification ceremonies.

Many people took this as a signal that the pope wanted to slow the flow in the Vatican's saint-making pipeline. In fact, it looks like the opposite is happening.

Already in 2007, 10 people have been beatified in 10 different liturgies carried out by cardinals. That number is about to increase exponentially.

In late October, 498 Spanish martyrs of the 1930s civil war period will be beatified in a megacereemony in St. Peter's Square. It's the largest beatification in the church's history, and Pope Benedict is expected to appear for a final blessing.

Throughout the rest of the year, many others will be elevated to the rank of blessed, including missionaries in Brazil, an Austrian who was decapitated for refusing to join Hitler's army and an Italian theologian whose works were once condemned by the Vatican.

And already the beatification lineup is taking shape for 2008. It

includes 188 Japanese martyrs of the 17th century — priests, religious and lay missionaries who were decapitated, burned at the stake or scalded to death in a volcanic hot spring.

Beatifications may be off the pope's to-do list, but they are very much on the Vatican's agenda these days.

"Beatifications are still quite important. What the pope wanted to do was highlight their meaning for the local churches," said Msgr. Michele Di Ruberto, undersecretary of the Congregation for Saints' Causes.

"If we have a beatification in Rome for a Brazilian, for example, maybe 300 pilgrims will come from Brazil. But if it's done there, thousands and thousands will attend," he said.

With the pope delegating beatifications, Vatican officials have been hopping all over the globe to preside over the liturgies.

The Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, who recently beatified a 17th-century priest in Poland, will fly to Patagonia in November to beatify Zefferino Namuncura, the son of

THE VATICAN LETTER

JOHN THAVIS

an Indian chief and the first indigenous Argentine to be declared blessed by the church.

Most of the beatifications, however, have fallen to Portuguese Cardinal Jose Saraiva Martins, prefect of the sainthood congregation. His desk job at the Vatican has turned into a frequent-flyer assignment.

This fall, Cardinal Saraiva's travel log includes France, Poland, Brazil, Austria, Japan and Italy. In some countries he's doing two beatifications in one weekend.

Beatification, of course, is an intermediate step toward sainthood, not the finish line. When someone is declared blessed, he or

LETTER, PAGE 20

God is true and constant



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Sunday, 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Lk 18:1-8

The Book of Exodus is the source of this weekend's first reading. As might be assumed from the book's name, Exodus is a chronicle of the Hebrews' escape from Egypt, where they were slaves, and their passage to the land God promised them.

Along the route of this passage, across the sterile and unforgiving Sinai Peninsula, they encountered many problems. Many of these problems arose simply because of the terrain. Then, as now, water was in short supply. They ran short of food. Without any sense of where they were going, they wandered.

They also faced human enemies. Amalek was one of these enemies. He fought them with swords. They had to defend themselves or perish. While they fought with great intensity, they still had to deal with a mighty foe.

Moses did not fight. Rather, he extended his arms over the battle, as if to bring down upon the Hebrew warriors the strengthening presence of God. When he lowered his hand, or more directly, when this strengthening presence ended, the Hebrews fell back before the blows from Amalek and

his soldiers.

For its second reading on this weekend, the church again turns to the Second Epistle to Timothy. As has been the case when selections from this epistle have been read during liturgies on weekends earlier in this season, the message is that Timothy, converted to Christianity, a disciple of Paul, and ordained a bishop by Paul, must be faithful despite all odds to the Gospel.

In this reading, Paul stresses the fact that he is the spokesman for the Lord. He is an apostle. He has the credentials to speak for God, but he also is completely committed to speaking for God.

St. Luke's Gospel provides the last reading. This lesson refers to a judge, who is anything but honorable. The Gospel says that the judge respects neither the law of God nor human law.

Jews at the time of Jesus, and long before, had seen judges ideally as representing not juridical processes devised by human logic, but rather as authorities who brought order to conflicts by inserting into arguments the justice of God, as revealed to Moses and the prophets.

If this judge had no regard for God's justice, or even none for human law, then evil would triumph.

The other figure in the story is the widow. Widows were the most vulnerable in Jewish society of the first century. They had no means of support, unless perhaps children helped them. As so obviously at risk, and probably poor, the judge had added reason to right the wrongs that she asserted had been done her. The Hebrew tradition required special attention to the needs of the poor and the weak.

However, the Lord said that

God would not forsake this widow. The ultimate message is that God is true and constant.

Reflection

Perhaps the greatest wound that original sin afflicted on human nature was crippling us so that we think that we are much more in command of situations surrounding us than we actually are.

At best, this sense leaves us with a foolhardy assumption that we do not need God. It tricks us into thinking that the only realities are in what we can see, hear, or imagine. We lose sight of the eternal. We misperceive life. We fail to see the bigger picture.

So, we must cope with bad circumstances, as the widow before the judge coped, as the Hebrews coped with Amalek.

The lesson of these readings is that God will guide us and protect us. He sent Moses, Paul and Timothy to guide and protect. But, we must acknowledge God, unrelentingly, as the widow begged the judge for justice, and we ourselves must be true to God.

READINGS

Sunday: Ex 17:8-13 Ps 121:1-8
2 Tm 3:14-4:2 Lk 18:1-8

Monday: Rom 4:20-25
(Ps) Lk 1:69-75 Lk 12:13-21

Tuesday: Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19,
20b-21 Ps 40:7-10, 17 Lk 12:35-38

Wednesday: Rom 6:12-18 Ps 124:1-8
Lk 12:39-48

Thursday: Rom 6:19-23 Ps 1:1-4, 6
Lk 12:49-53

Friday: Rom 7:18-25a Ps 119:66, 68,
76, 77, 93, 94 Lk 12:54-59

Saturday: Rom 8:1-11 Ps 24:1-6
Lk 13:1-9

CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

This week's quiz should be called the CAP-e-quiz'em because it deals with all CAPs.

1. Caph is simply a letter of the Hebrew alphabet. It has this numeric value

- a. 11
- b. none, letters are never used as numbers in Hebrew
- c. It means an undefined "lot," as in the story of Lot and his wife.

2. According to Scriptures these people originated in "Caphtor"

- a. the Philistine
- b. the Hittites
- c. the Jews

3. The region of Cappadocia features in the Bible. Where is it?

- a. no one knows, it is an obsolete term
- b. Asia Minor, in the modern state of Turkey
- c. in Greece, between Corinth and Sparta

4. The Cappadocian Fathers were early Christian leaders. One was Basil, the other two both had the same name, which was

- a. Fred
- b. Gregory
- c. Anthony

5. Captivity was a common hazard in the ancient world. But in the history of the Jews "The Captivity" almost often refer to this:

- a. The Babylonian sojourn when the Jews were transported to Mesopotamia (or the fate of the northern kingdom under the Assyrians)
- b. The period when the Jews were captivated by the preaching of the apostles
- c. The imprisonment of the two leading apostles, Peter in Antioch and Paul in Rome

6. San Juan Capistrano is both a California mission and a/n

- a. island in the bay of San Diego
- b. state capital in Arizona
- c. city in southern California

7. Capital punishment is regarded by the church (in a formula which is displeasing often to both sides in the debate) as

- a. never acceptable
- b. perfectly fine as a punishment for any offense if there has been a referendum
- c. acceptable in very limited circumstances that realistically can hardly ever happen

8. The area of Kefer Nahum in the Holy Land is better known as this city, featured in the New Testament:

- a. Capernicus
- b. Capernaum
- c. Capitolis Aeotilum

9. What is a Capitular Mass?

- a. a Mass in a cathedral in which the whole chapter of cathedral monks takes part
- b. a Mass in which the crowds are so large money is sent to the ends of the pews by means of catapults
- c. a Mass in which a scapular is blessed and given to all present

10. What is a "cappa magna"?

- a. a high Latin Mass of the type entirely sung, now rare outside monasteries
- b. a bishop's vestment with a large hood
- c. the key or final donation or endowment that enables a church to be built

11. Wolfgang Kopfel a Catholic priest who later became a Protestant was referred to as Wolfgang Captio. Why?

- a. It was simply a habit of the day to Latinize any famous person's name like Scotus, and Kopf is German for head.
- b. Becoming a heresy made one liable for capital punishment, hence the name.
- c. He was made head of the Catholic Church in Germany in an effort to forestall his defection.

12. John Capreolus was a 14-15th century Thomist. What is a Thomist?

- a. one who admits to doubt but perseveres in faith anyway (from Doubting Thomas)
- b. one who spreads the faith abroad, in rationally non-Christian areas, like St. Thomas is reputed to have done in India?
- c. one who studies or promote the works of Thomas Aquinas

ANSWERS:

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

A centurion, who was a Roman and a pagan, showed much faith

What kind of a man was the centurion whose servant Jesus healed?

Anonymous

This centurion lived and worked in the village of Capernaum on the Sea of Galilee where Jesus worked most of his miracles. The Gospel of Matthew says the centurion's serving boy was at home paralyzed and suffering. Jesus said he would go to the centurion's house and cure the boy. But the centurion told Jesus:

"I am not worthy to have you under my roof. Just give an order and my boy will get better." Jesus was amazed that this centurion, a Roman and a pagan, showed so much faith. Jesus replied: "Go home. It shall be done because you trusted." That very moment the boy got better. The Gospel of Luke adds that the centurion had sent some Jewish elders to ask Jesus to save the life of the young servant. The Jews told Jesus that this centurion deserves this favor because he loves the Jews and built a synagogue for them.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus is in Cana, and a royal official's son is dying in Capernaum whom Jesus cures by his word. If this is a retelling of the same miracle, this healing occurred 20 miles away. The New American Bible says this

healing is a sign of the redemption Jesus was accomplishing, for he took upon himself our sicknesses or sins to free us from them.

A centurion is an officer over 100 men. J. Packer describes the place of the centurion in the Roman army. The lowest-ranking group was the contubernium of eight soldiers who shared a leather tent in the field. Ten contubernia comprised one century. Although a century literally means 100, it usually consisted of only 70 or 80 men. Six centuries made a cohort or 600 men and 10 cohorts made a legion of 6,000 men with their pack animals, cavalry horses and servants. Legions were stationed in the two main Roman cities in Palestine — Sebaste in Samaria and Caesarea on the Mediterranean Sea, Herod's main seaport that put the legions in closer contact with Rome.

A large number of Roman troops marched up to Jerusalem for the feasts to keep order among the Jewish sects and pilgrims. The Roman police in Jerusalem were stationed at the Antonia fortress that guarded Herod's temple and also at Herod's palace. The Roman procurator Pontius Pilate, headquartered in Caesarea, came to Jerusalem for the Passover when

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

Jesus was crucified.

The Roman emperor Julius Caesar praised several centurions for their loyalty and initiative. The historian Polybius says centurions are expected to be men who can command, steady in action and reliable; they ought not to be over-anxious to rush into the fight, but when hard-pressed, they must be ready to hold their ground and die at their posts.

Father John McKenzie says the centurion at Capernaum appears as an honest and kindly man. His unusual humanity is evident from his care for his sick slave, as well as his friendly relations with the Jews for whom he had built a synagogue.

J. Comay says this centurion was probably a gentile who attended worship at the Jewish synagogue. St. Paul called these worshipping gentiles "God-fearers." If the royal official in the Gospel of

John is identical with the centurion at Capernaum, then he and his household became Christian.

There are five other centurions mentioned in the New Testament. The centurion at Calvary was the commander of the Roman execution squad. As a pagan, he gives us an independent eyewitness account of the conduct of Jesus up to the moment of his death. This centurion proclaims, "Certainly this man is innocent; truly this is the Son of God."

Cornelius was a centurion of the Italian cohort stationed in Caesarea a year or two after the crucifixion of Jesus. St. Peter baptizes Cornelius and his whole household. Cornelius is the first gentile convert to Christianity.

Then there is the first centurion at the Antonia fortress. St. Paul was about to be whipped, so he asked the centurion on duty: "Is it lawful for you to scourge a man who is a Roman citizen and uncondemned?" This centurion spoke to his commander and a meeting was set up for the next day.

There was a second centurion at

the Antonia fortress who helped St. Paul at this meeting the next day with the Jewish Sanhedrin. The two centurions arranged for the dispatch of Paul, under infantry and cavalry escort, to Caesarea to see the governor Felix.

Finally there is Julius, a centurion in the Augustan cohort, in charge of Paul and other political prisoners sailing from Caesarea to Rome. Julius even allowed Paul to go ashore at Sidon in Phoenicia (Lebanon) to visit friends. J. Comay says all the centurions of Paul's acquaintance protected him.

Father Richard Hire, pastor of St. Martin de Porres Parish, Syracuse, answered this week's question.

Today's Catholic welcomes questions from readers. E-mail your questions to editor@fw.diocese-fwsb.org or mail them to *Today's Catholic*, That's A Good Question, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46856.

Camelot revisited

John F. Kennedy would now be 90 years old — a circumstance virtually impossible to imagine, for those of us alive on Nov. 22, 1963. When Lee Harvey Oswald's bullets killed the 35th president of the United States, our memories of him were frozen in a kind of memorial amber. It's hard enough to picture 60-year-old JFK as the proprietor of a great newspaper (a post-presidential career he was considering). It is simply impossible to conjure up images of him at 75, much less 90. He remains, forever, young, at least in the memory of those who remember his presidency.

Do we understand why he died, though? And does the regnant interpretation of the Kennedy assassination mask the truth about his presidency, and about his place in the spectrum of American political opinion?

In a brilliant new book, "Camelot and the Cultural Revolution" (Encounter Books), James Piereson argues that the answers to those questions are "No" and "Yes." Some books make us think again about events or personalities. Jim Piereson (an old friend, I happily concede) does all of that. But he also asks us to rethink again an entire era, and to reckon with how its interpretation (and misinterpretation) have shaped our own troubled times.

Why did John F. Kennedy die? According to the interpretation advanced by admiring biographers (and former Kennedy aides) Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., and Theodore Sorensen, JFK's assassination was the by-product of a culture of violence that had infected the extreme American right-wing: thus right-wing paranoia about communism and civil rights activism had

turned the city of Dallas into a seething political madhouse where something awful was very likely to happen. In proposing this interpretive framework for grappling with the seemingly incomprehensible, Schlesinger and Sorensen followed the lead of the mainstream media. For both print and electronic coverage of Kennedy's assassination and Oswald's subsequent murder had bathed these events in a torrent of introspection about an America allegedly fearful of the world, fearful of social change and addicted to violence.

The Schlesinger/Sorensen interpretation was also congenial to Jacqueline Kennedy. After Oswald had been arrested and identified, Mrs. Kennedy lamented that her husband hadn't even had the satisfaction of being killed for civil rights; his murderer had been a "silly little communist," a fact Mrs. Kennedy thought had robbed JFK's death of "any meaning." So meaning would be created. And thus was born the familiar imagery of the Kennedy White House as an Arthurian Camelot, a "brief shining moment" that must "never be forgot" (as Alan Jay Lerner's lyrics, from a contemporary Broadway musical, memorably put it).

Yet the fact remains that Lee Harvey Oswald was a convinced communist, a former defector to the Soviet Union, and a passionate supporter of Fidel Castro. The Kennedy administration was a sworn foe of Castro and his Cuban communist regime. Hatred of Kennedy's Cold War policies was Oswald's motivation for assassinating President Kennedy. Thus John F. Kennedy was a casualty of the Cold War — a Cold War, Piereson reminds us, that he prosecuted vigorously, if not always



GEORGE WEIGEL

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

wisely or successfully.

The failure to acknowledge this in a country still jittery over the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, and the subsequent substitution of the Camelot myth for the facts, had consequences that remain with us, Jim Piereson argues. By turning John F. Kennedy — the embodiment of pragmatic, rationalist, results-oriented anticommunist liberalism — into a mythical figure whose idealism could never be recaptured, Mrs. Kennedy, the Kennedy biographers, and the mainstream media helped destroy the confidence in progress that had once characterized the liberalism of FDR, Truman — and John F. Kennedy. Conspiracy theorizing migrated from the Bircher fever swamps of the extreme right and began to infect American liberalism. And since the glorious Camelot past could never be recaptured, American liberalism became less a matter of substantive change than of style — and eventually of lifestyle. The net result was the liberalism we know today — a liberalism for which the legal recognition of lifestyle libertinism is the paramount concern.

All of which would probably have puzzled John F. Kennedy, had he lived to 90.

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

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for October 21, 2007

Luke 18: 1-18

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C: the parable of the widow and the dishonest judge. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

JESUS	PARABLE	PRAY
ALWAYS	JUDGE	NEITHER
FEARED GOD	RESPECT	A WIDOW
KEEPS	SAYS	WILL NOT GOD
CHOSEN ONES	TO HIM	NIGHT
I TELL YOU	JUSTICE	SON OF MAN
COMES	FIND FAITH	ON EARTH

JUDGMENT

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F R E S P E C T S T E T

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LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

she can be venerated locally, whereas canonization holds the person up as a universal model of holiness.

Beatifications often carry great meaning for local churches and occasionally generate much wider interest.

While beatifications continue to

increase, canonizations are rarer events. Even so, Pope Benedict has created 14 new saints in his first two and a half years.

Although many assume Pope Benedict wants to cut back on the number of new saints, he once said that was a misreading of his remarks as a cardinal.

The point he wanted to make, he said, was that every canonization represents a choice for the church, and that "there are many more saints than those who can possibly be canonized."

Sports

USF HOSTS EVENT IN LIVING HEALTHIER SERIES The University of Saint Francis will host its next event in the living healthier series, Shed Some Sunlight on Women's Heart Health, with Sue Chubinski, Cheryl Erickson and Carol Greulich on Wednesday, Oct. 24 at 6:30 p.m. in room 115 of the Rolland Center, located on Leesburg Road. Admission is free, and healthy snacks and refreshments will be available. Doors open at 6 p.m. A donation of a nonperishable food item for Community Harvest Food Bank is appreciated. For more information, phone (260) 399-7700 extension 8501.

CYO football drops to four after first-round of tournament playoffs

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — With the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) football season coming to a close, the field has dropped to four after the first round of tournament play. St. John Fort Wayne/Benoit/St. Joseph Hessen Cassel, St. Vincent, Holy Cross and St. Charles were all victorious at Bishop Dwenger last weekend.

St. John, Fort Wayne, remained unbeaten for yet another week after a 34-9 win over St. Jude. James Knapke was busy throwing two TD passes for the Eagles — one to Devon Causey and one to J.J. Cooper — and ran for another two scores himself. Channing Williams scored the final six on a "scoop 6" from the defensive side. Sam Stronczek and Brian Nichter each booted a point after try.

St. Vincent advanced in the tournament by defeating Queen of Angels/Precious Blood, 30-7. On their second play from scrimmage, St. Vincent quarterback Luke Tippmann hit Evan Feichter for a 38-yard-touchdown pass to start the Panther offense. Feichter went off tackle on the Panthers second

possession for 42 yards and later went outside for his third score of the game. The final St. Vincent touchdown came on a 38-yard pass from Tippmann to Justin Schaffer. Nick German chalked up three successful kicks.

In a high-scoring battle between the third- and sixth-place seeds, the St. Charles Cardinals defeated the St.

Joseph/Elizabeth/Aloysius/Therese (JAT) Knights, 38-22. Logan Dorman did a lot of damage in the loss for JAT rushing 140 yards on 18 carries with one catch on a 60-yard "hook and ladder."

"We could not get the play to work in practice, but it came off beautifully in the game. John Castle, our back up quarterback, threw to Andrew Yaney who gave it to Logan," explained Coach Eric Dorman.

Yaney also had two scores and Castle completed three passes for 120 yards and three touchdowns for the Knights. Dorman was 3-4 through the uprights. Coach Dorman was very pleased with his team's performance all season long despite the adversity they faced through injuries and close losses. "Our record doesn't neces-

sarily show it, but our guys were in a lot of games. They really responded and played their guts out," he concluded.

In the final game of the day, Holy Cross defeated St. John New Haven 30-0. Semi-final playoff action will take place Sunday, Oct. 21, at the University of Saint Francis on Bishop D'Arcy Field for the four remaining teams beginning at 1 p.m.

Fifth and sixth-grade action

St. John the Baptist, New Haven, won the pair last week against the Royal Reds from Queen of Angels/Precious Blood. In the sixth grade game, the Raiders won by a safety, 8-6. Nathan Hammon bowled into the end zone for the victors while Eathan Hazelet had six points for the Royal Reds. On Saturday morning, Raider scores came from Colton Painter and Adam Oberley. Cameron Kahlenbeck had the lone Royal Red touchdown to make the final 12-7.

ICCL football tournament to begin at Marian

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — The battle for the postseason Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) football tournament will begin in earnest this weekend at Marian High School field.

First round pairings will pit first-place season winners St. Anthony Panthers against the St. Matthew Blazers, who finished in fourth place. The game is set for 5:30 p.m.

The second game at 7 p.m. will send second place Mishawaka Catholic against the third-place Holy Cross Crusaders.

The last game of the regular season saw the St. Matthew Blazers upend the Holy Family Trojans, 20-12.

Jimmy Hardig of the Blazers unleashed his passing arm for two touchdowns, one for 67 yards to Joe Watkins and the other 40 yards to Matt Gibson. Gibson also added a touchdown on a 5-yard smash over center. Neal Dowling kicked the extra point for the Blazers.

Zach Fozo also passed two touchdowns for Holy Family. Pat

Kluscinski and Spencer Harrison snared the touchdown aeriels in the loss.

In the B-team division, St. Anthony blanked Corpus Christi, 27-0, with Brian Mischler scoring twice on runs of 47 and 49. Alex Ward tossed a touchdown pass to Oliver Page, and Greenan Sullivan recovered a fumble in the end zone for another tally.

Holy Cross romped over the St. Matthew Blazers, 41-6, as Pierre Byrne racked up a spectacular five-touchdown performance for Holy Cross, the largest single scoring performance of the season.

Mishawaka Catholic defeated the Granger Titans, 6-0, on the strength of Dominic Ravotto's 1-yard touchdown.

The B-team pairings for this weekend:

- Corpus Christi Cougars vs. St. Joseph at 1 p.m.
- Granger Titans vs. Mishawaka Catholic at 2:30 p.m.
- Holy Family Trojans vs. St. Matthew Blazers at 4 p.m.

Eighth Graders and Parents... BISHOP LUERS HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PLACEMENT EXAM

*Saturday, November 3, 2007
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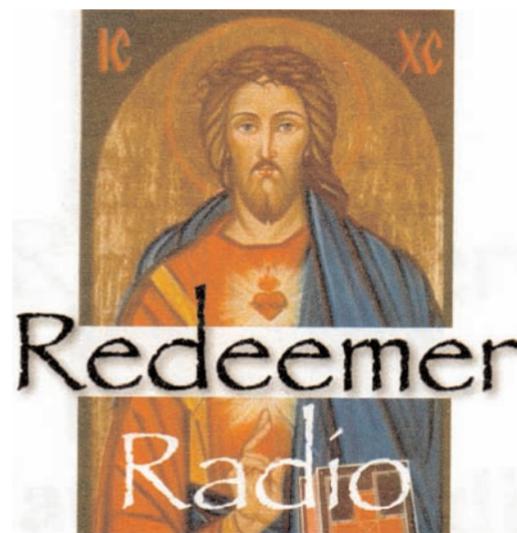
All Eighth Grade Students are invited to test.

*There will be a Parent to Parent Meeting November 3
in the Library from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.*

**A re-test for students unable to attend the first exam
will take place Saturday, December 8, 2007.**

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. Exam ends at 12:00 noon

FALL SHARATHON NOVEMBER 7 - 9



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Svarczkopf honored as Coach of the Week by the Colts

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — A great man honored by a great program,

That's what took place Friday, Oct. 12, at Bishop Dwenger's Student Activity Center. Former Indianapolis Colts player Mike Prior was on hand to present Bishop Dwenger head football coach, Chris Svarczkopf, with a Coach of the Week Award.

During the assembly with Svarczkopf and his No. 1 ranked Class 4-A Saints, Colts Youth Commissioner Prior gifted Svarczkopf with a Colts hat embroidered with Coach of the

Week. The hat will be Svarczkopf's ticket onto the field during half-time of a Dec. 2 match up between the Colts and Jacksonville for special recognition.

Svarczkopf said he is very excited at the prospect of attending his second Colts game ever against a great defensive opponent.

"The only other game I've been to I sat way up," the coach said.

Svarczkopf will also be privileged to spend time with Colts Coach Tony Dungy in a practice setting. "I hear he is great with high school coaches," said Svarczkopf.

Prior told the team his life story starting around fifth grade when he played in a Chicago CYO league.

Throughout his high school years and into his record setting two-sport career with Illinois State, Prior stressed that as an athlete "you have to be ready to succeed," even in the face of adversity.

On many occasions during his football career, Prior said he could have given up, quit. As a junior in high school, he saw very little playing time, and many times during his NFL career he was tempted to "hang it up." But the "three D's" — desire, dedication and discipline — proved worthwhile for him.

Prior also encouraged players to put their education above all else and excel at both the high school and college levels. "You could

blow a knee and be done, but no one can ever take away your degree," he emphasized.

Coach Svarczkopf took a moment at the microphone to recognize his wife of 27 years, Jane. The Svarczkopfs have six children. The oldest four are married or away at college, which leaves just Chris and Jane at home with the youngest two boys — both of whom play for their dad on Friday nights.

"You can imagine what time we sit down to the supper table at night, and you can imagine what the conversation is about," joked Svarczkopf.

A coworker on the Bishop Dwenger sidelines and longtime

friend, Andy Goodman, says Svarczkopf is one of the hardest working men with whom he has ever been associated. "Chris lives and breathes football. But more than that, he is a man of integrity. His word is as good as gold, and the kids feed off that. I think the world of him."

Coming off two huge wins against Snider and Bishop Luers, the 9-0 Saints' leader explains, "I am very blessed. I'm the same guy I have been all these years. But this year is different because of the quality and commitment of our players. This award is theirs."

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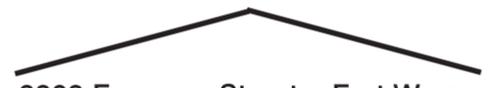


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DEVOTIONS

Mission at St. John

Fort Wayne — St. John the Baptist will host a mission on Oct. 28-30 at 6:30 p.m. On Sunday, Oct. 28, Father Steve Gibson, CSC, will lead us in "Finding Peace and Being Peacemakers in Our Personal Lives." The evening will end with the sacrament of reconciliation. On Monday, Oct. 29, an evening of music and prayer will focus on "Finding Peace and Being Peacemakers in Our Faith Community." On Tuesday, Oct. 30, Mass will be celebrated as the focus is "Finding Peace and Being Peacemakers in the World." Babysitting and transportation are available by calling (260) 744-4393 for information.

Day of reflection

Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) on Wednesday, Oct. 31, from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The theme is "I Will Make Me a World." Please bring your Bible. The cost of the day is \$15 and includes lunch. Register by Friday, Oct. 26, by calling Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

Rosary for life planned

South Bend — The diocesan Office of Family Life will pray a rosary for life on Sunday, Oct. 21, at 2 p.m. at the Women's Care Center garden on Ironwood Circle. Music and meditations will accompany the rosary, and free pro-life balloons, bumper stickers, and literature will be available. A collection will be taken to benefit the work of the Women's Care Center.

Catholic infertility support group and Office of Family Life bring speaker

South Bend — Marilyn Shannon, author of "Fertility, Cycles and Nutrition," will speak on nutritional approaches to overcoming infertility on Thursday, Oct. 25, at 7 p.m. at the St. Matthew Cathedral Center (the former convent just south of the church). The talk is free and open to the public.

Adult education offered

Fort Wayne — St. Jude Parish will offer a presentation on the sacraments of healing — reconciliation and anointing of the sick — on Monday, Oct. 29, at 7 p.m. in the parish hall. Father Tom Shoemaker will provide new insights using the new U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults.

Beginning Experience weekend planned

Donaldson — A retreat for widowed, divorced and separated

persons will be held at Lindenwood Retreat Center from 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16, to 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 18. This Christian-based program assists persons to work through deep feelings of grief, anger, depression and loss. Registrations are needed by Nov. 3. Call Rachel at (574) 271-1699 or e-mail b.e.lady@juno.com.

FUNDRAISERS

Turkey bingo

Fort Wayne — Turkey Bingo will be held Sunday, Nov. 18, from 1-3 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Campus on Aboite Center Road. Prizes include a Thanksgiving turkey, raffle prizes and cash. If you have something you would like to donate, contact Jennie Klinger at (260) 625-5056.

Wreaths and greenery orders support cathedral youth group

Fort Wayne — Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception's youth group, Angels, Inc., will take Christmas wreath and greenery orders at all Masses Oct. 20-21 and 27-28. Ordered items will be available in the Cathedral Center Nov. 21, or following Masses Nov. 25. Proceeds will help send students to the National Catholic Youth Conference. For information contact Nan at (260) 456-0224.

Holiday bazaar supports adult choir

Mishawaka — The St. Joseph Church holiday bazaar will be Saturday, Oct. 27, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Over 82 craft and household item tables, raffles and baked goods will be offered. Bring canned or boxed food items and receive one free entry to the mini raffle for each item donated.

Thrift store offers 99-cent sale on coats

Fort Wayne — St. Vincent de Paul thrift store will have a 99 cent ladies coat sale on Thursday-Saturday, Oct. 25-27. Store hours are Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Chicken dinner supports eighth graders

Fort Wayne — St. John the Baptist eighth-grade class will offer Nelson's chicken dinners for \$7 on Saturday, Oct. 27, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Wal-mart at Southtown. Tickets may be purchased in advance after Masses or from an eighth grader.

Broasted fish dinner

Fort Wayne — St. Joseph Hessen Cassel will have a drive-through fish dinner Friday, Nov. 2, from 4-6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7. Proceeds benefit the St. Joseph food bank.

Spaghetti dinner planned

South Bend — Corpus Christi Church and School will have a spaghetti dinner Thursday, Oct. 18, from 4:30-7 p.m. at 2801 Corpus Christi Dr. Adults: \$8, children (5-12 years) \$3 and children under 5 free. Tickets available at the Corpus Christi rectory, Corpus Christi School office or at the door.

Fish and tenderloin fry

Bluffton — St. Joseph Church will have a fish and tenderloin dinner on Friday, Oct. 19, from 4-7 p.m. Tickets will be \$8 for adults, \$5.50 for children (6-12), and children under 5 free. Eat in or carry out.

Pasta, shopping and wine tasting expo

Fort Wayne — Dinner will be

REST IN PEACE

Angola

Kaye F. Patterson, 61, St. Anthony de Padua

Arcola

Clarence Omo, 58, St. Patrick

Elkhart

Patricia Minelli, 80, St. Thomas the Apostle

Fort Wayne

Elizabeth McGinnis, 58, Most Precious Blood

Joseph C. Becker, 84, St. Charles Borromeo

George L. Bero, 83, Sacred Heart

Regina Mahan, 85, Most Precious Blood

Joseph C. Wies, 86, St. John the Baptist

Ruth E. Forbing, 86, St. Therese

Huntington

Sister Teresa Gerlits, OLVN, 85, Victory Noll Chapel

LaGrange

Theresa M. Miller, 70, St. Joseph

Mishawaka

Velma R. Snyder, 100, St. Monica

New Haven

Barbara Jo Rosswurm, 78, St. John the Baptist

Plymouth

Patricia A. Renz, 81, St. Michael

South Bend

Catherine J. Petrella, 75, Christ the King

Robert J. Chaplin, 77, St. Jude

John J. Kass, 72, Little Flower

Dorothy Zachek-Gaylor, 89, St. Jude

served at St. Jude Parish hall on Thursday, Oct. 25, from 5-7 p.m. Shopping and wine tasting from 5-9 p.m. Adults \$7, children (4-12) \$5. Sponsored by Sigma Alpha Chi Sorority. Proceeds benefit local charities.

CRAFT BAZAARS

Holiday craft bazaar

South Bend — St. Anthony de Padua will have a holiday craft bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the school auditorium. Lunch will be available.

Craft show, candy and bake sale

Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood Parish will have a craft

show and bake sale Saturday, Nov. 3, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the gym.

Holiday bazaar

Bristol — St. Mary Church, 411 W. Vistula, will have a holiday bazaar Saturday, Nov. 10, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Holiday items, bake sale, needlework, handcrafted items, plants, hidden treasures and lunch offered.

Luncheon and card party planned

Fort Wayne — A luncheon and card party for the Queen of Angels 50+ club will be Friday, Oct. 26, from noon to 4 p.m. in the activity center. Men and women are welcome. Tickets \$8.

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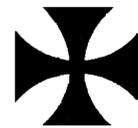
Catholic Cemetery Christmas Wreaths for sale



Order one of two different beautiful 20" ARTIFICIAL wreaths set on a 30" green wire easel to be placed on your Loved One's grave (cannot be placed inside the mausoleums) at the Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne. You have a choice between Wreath "A", which is beautifully

decorated with natural pine cones and holly, accented with clusters of red berries and a red velveteen bow; and Wreath "B", which is a lightly white flocked wreath nestled with pine cones and is accented with a large, bright red velveteen bow.

The Cemetery will install the wreath the week of December 1 and remove it after February 20, all for only \$33.02 plus \$1.98 tax = \$35.00 each. Send a \$35.00 check payable to the Catholic Cemetery, 3500 Lake Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN 46805-5572, with the name of the deceased, year of death, and your name, address and telephone number. Please indicate your wreath option and order by November 9, 2007. If you have any questions, please call the Catholic Cemetery Office at 260-426-2044. Supplies are limited.



All Souls Day Mass

In the Resurrection
Mausoleum Chapel
of the
Catholic Cemetery
of Fort Wayne

3500 Lake Avenue
Friday, November 2 • Noon



The Reverend David Carkenord
Celebrant

Hundreds gather for Mass at shrine honoring St. Mother Guerin

BY MARY ANN WYAND

ST. MARY-OF-THE-WOODS (CNS) — Billboards that feature St. Mother Theodore Guérin's image and proclaim "Caution! Saint at work" and "A saint walked here" greet travelers on Interstate 70 near Terre Haute.

The signs invite people to turn on Exit 3 at West Terre Haute and visit the Sisters of Providence motherhouse at St. Mary-of-the-Woods, home of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Providence and the new National Shrine of St. Mother Theodore Guérin.

The sisters and several hundred pilgrims celebrated her feast day Oct. 3 during an emotional Mass at the Church of the Immaculate Conception at the motherhouse.

The celebrant of the Mass, Father Daniel Hopcus, a retired priest from the Diocese of Orange, Calif., who is the congregation's chaplain, thanked God for the life of St. Mother Theodore, her prophetic witness to the Gospel, and her faithful pursuit of love, mercy and justice for God's people.

Later this year, pilgrims who venerate the saint's remains in the church also will have an opportunity to sit outside on benches beside a new statue of the 19th-century, French-born foundress of the Sisters of Providence.

During the liturgy, Sister Denise Wilkinson, general superi-

or of the congregation, called it "a joy and a privilege" to celebrate St. Mother Theodore's feast day "in this place, the site of her arrival, of her home, the center of her ministerial outreach and her final resting place."

"In a short time, we will have a 6-foot bronze statue of St. Mother Theodore that will stand right outside the church," Sister Denise explained, adding that it was a gift from Terre Haute resident Larry Fleschner, who died Sept. 30.

Fleschner, who had cancer, became friends with Providence Sister Marie Kevin Tighe, the promoter of the saint's cause and a cancer survivor, and Teresa Clark, the artist who created the official sculpture of the saint, which has been reproduced as statues. He met them during Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults classes two years ago.

During that time, Sister Denise said, he came to love St. Mother Theodore.

"As Larry moved through the different stages of a very devastating cancer, he took great comfort in Mother Theodore," Sister Denise said. "He had a statue of her signed by Teresa Clark placed in his room where he could see it, and he told me that ... he had many conversations with her, and that she had become a living and hopeful presence in his life."

Fleschner decided to donate money for the statue and benches for an outdoor reflection area,



CNS PHOTO/MARY ANN WYAND, THE CRITERION

Sister Marie Ellen Sullivan, a retired member of the Sisters of Providence of St. Mary-of-the-Woods, and Teresa Clark of Terre Haute, venerate the remains of St. Mother Theodore Guérin after Mass Oct. 3. The saint's feast day was celebrated at the Church of the Immaculate Conception in St. Mary-of-the-Woods. Clark is the artist who created the official sculpture of the U.S. saint who was canonized last year.

Sister Denise said, because he wanted the Sisters of Providence and people who visit the motherhouse "to have a place to be with her so that they could breathe in her strength and her comfort as he had done ... and enjoy the beauty of the place she called home."

Sister Denise said she believes

that he felt St. Mother Theodore's love and gained strength from her deep reliance on God's providence in the midst of his suffering.

After the Mass, Sister Marie Kevin said Fleschner joined the church last year at Easter at St. Patrick Church in Terre Haute and traveled to Rome for St. Mother

Theodore's canonization Mass Oct. 15, 2006.

Fleschner and the nun prayed together during his struggle with cancer, and she took Communion to him until the day before he died. He was 55 years old.

Sister Marie Kevin downplays her own difficult cancer journey. "I don't think it was exactly a miracle, but I got well," she told *The Criterion*, the newspaper of the Indianapolis Archdiocese.

She said people tell her that they "feel drawn" to St. Mother Theodore when they see her picture, and Fleschner also talked about how he felt close to her.

Father Rick Ginther, pastor of St. Patrick and St. Margaret Mary parishes, both in Terre Haute, said in a telephone interview that Fleschner joined the church after his brother, Steve, and a nephew, Paul, became Catholic.

"Sister Marie Kevin spoke one evening about suffering, ... specifically about her survival of cancer," Father Ginther said. "They became very good friends. ... He was a very spiritual man. He found comfort in Roman Catholicism ... and Mother Theodore's belief in God's providence."

"From what I understand from his family, even as he approached death," the priest added, "it wasn't, 'Why me?' It was, 'All right. God provides, and God will take care of me even into death and into new life.'"

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