Saint Joseph’s High School earns elite honor again

SOUTH BEND — Saint Joseph’s High School has announced its selection for the second year in a row to the Catholic High School Honor Roll’s Top 50 Catholic secondary schools in the United States.

Notification of the honor included the following message: “Earning a spot on the Catholic High School Honor Roll is no small accomplishment. By doing so, you are among an elite group of schools that have excelled in the mission and purpose of Catholic education.”

The purpose of the Catholic High School Honor Roll is to recognize and encourage excellence in Catholic secondary education. The Honor Roll is produced in consultation with a national advisory board comprised of Catholic college presidents and noted Catholic scholars.

Advisory board member Father John Schlegel, president of Creighton University, said the Honor Roll is significant for Catholic education.

“Catholic high schools that excel at forming students in the faith and at teaching them to think critically and act virtuously are a great asset to the church,” he said. “Not only do these schools deserve to be recognized, but they should also be imitated by all Catholic schools.”

“As principal of Saint Joseph’s High School, I am very pleased and grateful that we have been honored by the Catholic High School Honor Roll,” said Saint Joseph’s Principal Susan Richter. “It is a well-deserved honor and certainly applauded students, faculty, parents and the administration for their hard work.”

Richter added that she is proud of the program at Saint Joseph’s and that, especially now receiving the honor for a second consecutive year, the school is as committed as ever to maintaining its high degree of quality.

“The excellence continues,” she noted.

The Catholic High School Honor Roll is an independent project of The Acton Institute, an international research and educational organization.

All of the nearly 1,300 Catholic high schools nationwide were invited to apply to the Honor Roll by completing three detailed surveys, indicating that inclusion in the Honor Roll requires exceptional merit in each of the areas measured. This approach assesses a schools adherence to the church’s educational calling, where the best schools offer more than the strong academic preparation Catholic education is known for. The best schools also have vibrant Catholic identities and offer sound civic training that help prepare students to live their faith in the world. In addition to the designation as a Top 50 Catholic high school, Saint Joseph’s High School also earned a Top 25 spot in the civic education area.

Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students from St. Aloysius, Yoder, observe leaves with pre-kindergarten teacher Tracy Miller in a lesson to study the change of seasons on a field trip that took the students to a woods near Ossian. St. Aloysius School offers all-day prekindergarten and kindergarten.

CHANGEOFSEASON

All Saints Day Thursday, Nov. 1, is a holy day of obligation

SOUTH BEND — Saint Joseph’s High School also earned a Top 25 spot in the civic education area.

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — U.S. Cardinal-designate John P. Foley, a Philadelphia native, was standing in the middle of St. Peter’s Square among a sea of 30,000 pilgrims when Pope Benedict XVI named him a cardinal.

Though he knew the previous day he was going to be one of 23 people to receive a red hat, the Oct. 17 announcement was going to fall on the same morning he had a follow-up visit with his eye doctor.

“I didn’t get back in time to be there at the beginning of the audience and I didn’t have my glad rags on,” meaning his formal clerical dress, so he said he just snuck inconspicuously into the middle of the crowd.

He told Catholic News Service he never expected to be the second new cardinal listed after the senior Vatican prefect, Cardinal-designate Leonardo Sandri.

When the pope “started the list there I was No. 2 on the list and that was a surprise,” Cardinal-designate Foley said.

He said a pilgrim standing next to him asked him if he knew any of the men the pope had just named to be cardinal.

“I said ‘Yes, I know quite a few of them.’ And I said ‘I am one of them,’ Well, I don’t think he believed me,” he said laughing.

“What would I be doing standing out in the middle?” he said laughing.

BY CAROL GLATZ

Crocheting for the needy

Sister Johnilda called ‘guardian Angel’ sister

Bereavement

Helping those who mourn

Pages 10-12

Sesquicentennial

Two cathedrals share the spotlight as we conclude the series

Pages 20
Today's Catholic

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Sesquicentennial Jubilee Year continues through Epiphany

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

A day in Rome City

It was the 50th anniversary of the parish under the patronage of St. Gaspar Del Bufalo — the first parish dedicated to the founder of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood.

We have a wonderful history of the parish written by a parishioner, Jim Kress. The Precious Blood priests, who have served in the parish for over 100 years, have cared for this parish from its founding. It is a parish with a family spirit. Located next to a beautiful lake, many people from Fort Wayne have settled there year round. It has had a number of devoted pastors over the years, but no one more appreciated than the present pastor, Father Matthew Josephzr, CPS. Father Matt has restored this beautiful country church, especially the sanctuary. The altar, the tabernacle and the other fixtures were served by parishioner Robert Weaver and his family. But Father Matt’s contribution has been one of many.

At a recent seminar for our priests on marriage and family life, Father Matt spoke about how much it meant to him to have such exemplary women who were so well trained and in full communion with their church teaching, giving the presentation. He touched the heart of the local bishop when he said it was the most peaceful diocese in which he had served. Father Matt has become part of our presbyterate, close to our priests and to the bishop. His mother lives in Chicago, and, like so many religious over the years, he has brought a significant gift to us. I learned also in the visit how much the people appreciate his preaching and believe that it comes from someone who lives close to Christ. A joyful day at Rome City and sincere gratitude to the Missionaries of the Precious Blood.

St. Mother Guérin

One year ago at this time I was in Rome along with some of our priests, Tim Johnson the editor of our newspaper and my assistant Maureen Schott. We were there for the canonization of Mother Theodore Guérin. Msgr. Lester and I stayed an extra day and attended the audience, where I was able to greet Pope Benedict XVI and hear one of his talks on the apostles. On that day, interestingly, it was on Judas, Professor John Cavadini, chair of the Notre Dame Theology Department was there for just 45 hours in order to greet the pope. Both are scholars of St. Augustine. And now, one year later, we are planning a diocesan day to honor this extraordinary woman. It is fitting that we do so, as she can be called the foundress of Catholic schools in the Fort Wayne area. In addition, the Sisters of Providence served many years in this diocese teaching at Central Catholic High School, and at the following elementary schools in Fort Wayne: St. Patrick’s, St. Jude’s and St. John’s. There are only a few of those sisters here now. Even in memory, they remain a blessing.

We will honor Mother Guérin and the Sisters of Providence with a Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Sunday, Nov. 18, at 9:30 a.m. A large number of sisters have indicated they will attend and we will have a brunch for them and for any members of their families, as well. Sister Denise Wilkinson, SP, provincial superior, will be present and we hope to have some words from her after Mass or at the brunch about Mother Guérin. We had a similar Mass at the time of her beatification. At that time I got to know Sister Diane Ris, SP, who was then their provincial superior and is now writing a biography about the new saint. Mother Theodore had a deep trust in Divine Providence and was a person of great courage. I hope there will be a large crowd at the cathedral for this event.

They asked for a prayer service in the large chapel at the Convent Ancilla Domini in Donaldson, and it will be an honor for me to be there.

Speaking of religious

Our Jubilee Year now winds down, but there were some important events to come. On the afternoon of Nov. 4, I will drive to Donaldson. At a meeting with the religious superiors, they reminded me that there were a number of devoted pastors over the years, but no one more appreciated than Father Matt’s contribution has been one of many.

At a recent seminar for our priests on marriage and family life, Father Matt spoke about how much it meant to him to have such exemplary women who were so well trained and in full communion with their church teaching, giving the presentation. He touched the heart of the local bishop when he said it was the most peaceful diocese in which he had served. Father Matt has become part of our presbyterate, close to our priests and to the bishop. His mother lives in Chicago, and, like so many religious over the years, he has brought a significant gift to us. I learned also in the visit how much the people appreciate his preaching and believe that it comes from someone who lives close to Christ. A joyful day at Rome City and sincere gratitude to the Missionaries of the Precious Blood.

The pennant

The Red Sox have five pennants in 56 years. That is less than one every 10 years. Alas, we now have two within four years. Yes, I stayed up late into the night. My sister, Sister Anne D’Arcy, was in the game with a ticket given to her by her brother-in-law, Vito, and once owned by our beloved sister, Mary, who attended a Red Sox game several times a year. Anne told me it said on the ticket, $95. A rocking night at Fenway. A great comeback from being down three games to one. Now on to Colorado, let’s see if they can beat the Rockies, but it should be interesting. For an old second baseman, who was a contact hitter but not with a lot of power, it means a good baseball game every night, and that the Red Sox are playing late into October. What a joy. See you all next week.
Citizens for Community Values host Awards and Benefit Dinner

BY TOM UEBBING

SOUTH BEND — Vigilant to protect society from grave harm are civic watchdog groups such as Citizens for Community Values (CCV) of Indiana. Founded in 1995 by South Bend area concern Christians, CCV’s mission is to protect society from the harmful effects of the pornography-sex industry within the limits allowed under the law.

In a twisted misinterpretation of the meaning of freedom of speech, U.S. courts have allowed great latitude in pornographic literature and performances. Nonetheless, obscenity is still illegal and is defined by the legal test to be judged by “community standards.”

Bearing that legal definition in mind, CCV has sought to join together citizens who will uphold community standards in the face of the porn industry’s seemingly endless victories. Yet the city administration still claims aspects of the unanimously-passed law as unconstitutional. 

CCV recognized volunteers and community leaders that have supported its efforts. Among those honored was St. Matthew Cathedral parishioner Harold Meeks, CCV Volunteer of the Year for his tireless devotion to the pro-life, pro-family cause over the years. Meeks is the faithful attendance as a member of the CCV intercessory prayer team.

CCV executive director Patrick Mangan, a former pastor and chartered Bible Church in Niles, Mich., is chairman of the recently established www.VictimAssistance.info Web site. That site described the homepage that features a point-and-click sign post at a hairpin turn that offers the user help in nine areas. These include:

• Are you seeking healing from sexual abuse?
• Are you looking for help getting out of the pornography-sex industry?
• Are you struggling with same sex attractions?

Once inside the specific area of need the user can click to find available professional counselors, a number of whom are faith-based. CCV recognized volunteers and community leaders that have supported its efforts. Among those honored was St. Matthew Cathedral parishioner Harold Meeks, CCV Volunteer of the Year for his tireless devotion to the pro-life, pro-family cause over the years. Meeks is the faithful attendance as a member of the CCV intercessory prayer team.

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The 23 new cardinals named by Pope Benedict XVI

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Here is the list of the 23 cardinals-designate, in the order in which Pope Benedict XVI announced them Oct. 17:

• Argentine Archbishop Leonardo Sandri, prefect of the Congregation for Eastern Churches.
• U.S. Archbishop John P. Foley, pro-grand master of the Knights of the Holy Sepulcher.
• Italian Archbishop Giovanni Lajolo, president of the commission governing Vatican City State.
• German Archbishop Paul R. Cordes, president of the Pontifical Council Cor Unum.
• Italian Archbishop Angelo Comastri, archpriest of St. Peter’s Basilica and papal vicar for Vatican City.
• Polish Archbishop Stanislaw Rylko, president of the Pontifical Council for the Laity.
• Italian Archbishop Raffaele Farina, archivist and librarian of the Holy Roman Church.
• Spanish Archbishop Agustin Garcia-Gasco Vicente of Valencia.
• Irish Archbishop Sean Brady of Armagh, Northern Ireland, primate of all Ireland.
• Spanish Archbishop Luis Martinez Sistach of Barcelona.
• French Archbishop Andre Vingt-Trois of Paris.
• Italian Archbishop Angelo Bagnasco of Genoa.
• Senegalese Archbishop Theodore-Adrien Sarr of Dakar.
• Indian Archbishop Oswald Gracias of Mumbai.
• Mexican Archbishop Francisco Robles Ortega of Monterrey.
• Brazilian Archbishop Odilio Pedro Scherer of Sao Paulo.
• Kenyan Archbishop John Njue of Nairobi.
• Chaldean Patriarch Emmanuel-Karim Dolly of Baghdad, Iraq.
• Retired Italian Archbishop Giovanni Coppa, former Vatican nuncio.
• Retired Archbishop Estanislao Karlic of Parana, Argentina, 81.
• Spanish Jesuit Father Urbano Navarrete, former rector of Rome’s Pontifical Gregorian University.
• Italian Franciscan Father Umberto Bettì, former rector of Rome’s Pontifical Lateran University.

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The Reverend David Carkenord Celebrant

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All Saints 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
‘Father Tom O’Connor Light of Christ’ nominees sought

BY VINCE LABARBERA

FORT WAYNE — St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Fort Wayne, in cooperation with Bishop John M. D’Arcy and the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, is now accepting nominations for the 2008 Father Tom O’Connor Light of Christ Award. This award will be presented in March 2008 to an individual whose work reflects the strong values exemplified by Father O’Connor in one of the following areas: peace and justice; nonviolent resolution of conflict; racial and cultural diversity; education; food for the hungry; and shelter for the homeless.

One of these categories is designated each year for nominations, and the category for 2008 is racial and cultural diversity. This award carries with it a gift of $1,000 given in the name of the recipient to her or his designated project, faith community or nonprofit organization.

In the words of Bishop D’Arcy, the Father Tom O’Connor Light of Christ Award has been designed to encourage “the next generation of Father Tom’s.”

Deadline for nominations is Jan. 15, 2008. Application information is available online at www.diocesefwb.org and from Father O’Connor’s award committee, St. Mary’s Catholic Church, P.O. Box 11383, Fort Wayne, IN 46857-1383, and must be received no later than Jan. 15, 2008.

How to apply

- Nominations are to be made by letter from someone who knows the nominee well.
- Nominations must come from a strong faith background and be of good character.
- The nomination must include the following information in the order listed:
  a. Nominee’s name
  b. Contact information
  c. Age and school or occupation
  d. Faith affiliation
  e. Where the cash award is to be directed, should the nominee receive the award
  f. Name and contact information of the person submitting the nomination
  g. Names and contact information of three references

b. A brief narrative no more than two pages in length explaining why the nominee should be considered for this award.

- E-mail submissions (Word document attachment) are preferred and should be sent to jan.stmarys@verizon.net. E-mail nominations must be received no later than 4 p.m. Jan. 15, 2008.

- Letters of nomination for 2008 may be mailed to Father Tom O’Connor Award Committee, St. Mary’s Catholic Church, P.O. Box 11383, Fort Wayne, IN 46857-1383, and must be received no later than Jan. 15, 2008.
In Naples, pope urges people to trust God will hear their prayers

In Naples, Italy (CNS)—The pope urged people to stand firm in their hope that God will hear their prayers for justice and peace. Arriving to celebrate Mass Oct. 21 in Naples’ historic Piazza del Plebiscito, Pope Benedict stopped to embrace Orthodox Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople, Anglican Archbishop Rowan Williams of Canterbury and other leaders of Christian churches. The religious leaders were in Naples for an Oct. 21-23 interreligious meeting sponsored by the Rome-based Sant’Egidio Community. After the Mass, they were joined by representatives of the Jewish, Islamic, Buddhist, Hindu and other religions for a meeting and lunch with the pope. Patriarch Bartholomew, Archbishop Williams and Ezzedine Ibrahim, a Muslim scholar from the United Arab Emirates, were among the nine guests at the pope’s table. Ibrahim was one of 138 Muslim leaders and scholars who signed a letter this year that other and Christian leaders proposing a dialogue based on the shared belief that there is only one God, that God is good, that he created and that he calls believers to love others.

Orthodox leader: Only worthy battle is against one’s own prejudices

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—The Vatican expressed relief at the release of two Iraqi priests who had been kidnapped and threatened with death. After spending a week in captivity, the two Syrian-Catholic priests were freed near Mosul, Iraq, Oct. 21 and were reported safe at their chancery. In a letter to their city’s authorities, they had asked for $1 million in ransom; it was not known if any money was paid for their release. A week earlier, Pope Benedict XVI had appealed to the kidnappers to free the priests unhurt. The Vatican, appointed by Pope Benedict XVI, confirmed that they had been released. “We are very happy about their liberation. We had followed this episode very closely and were deeply concerned,” Father Lombardi said. The two priests were identified by Iraq church officials as Father Pius Afiaa, 60, and Father Mazen Ishoa, 35. They were apparently on their way to a church service on the outskirts of Mosul when they were seized.

Blair says U.S., Europe share mission to spread justice, liberty

NEW YORK (CNS)—America and Europe must stand together against terrorism and make it their shared mission to spread justice and liberty throughout the world, the former prime minister of Great Britain said Oct. 18. “The values we have are not our property. They are our gift to the world,” Tony Blair said in his keynote speech at the 62nd annual dinner of the Memorial Foundation at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Blair was given two standing ovations by the 1,100 participants at the black-tie event that raises funds for health care initiatives of the Archdiocese of New York. The formally dressed philanthropists, politicians and clergy heard some good jokes and some inspiring words during the evening, but they did not hear Blair, an Anglican, announce that he will become a Catholic, as some had speculated. Blair’s wife, Cherie, and the couple’s children are Catholic and he regularly attends Mass with them.

Cardinal: Ghana’s Catholics learn Islamic texts to further dialogue

LONDON (CNS)—Ghans in Ghana are being taught the Quran and Islamic scriptures to further interreligious dialogue and community cohesion, said the country’s first cardinal. Cardinal Peter Turkson of Cape Coast, Ghana, said in an Oct. 15 interview with Catholic News Service that relations between Catholics and Muslims in Ghana were “pretty cordial,” but he acknowledged that religious mistrust was still a concern the world presented new challenges to relations between Christians and Muslims in Ghana. Cardinal Turkson said that any rising tensions were being countered by a “dynamic program of action.” The cardinal said, “We are promoting the study of the Quran among Catholics so there is no ignorance or intolerance about what it stands for.” He added, “We have what we call a dialogue of action.” Catholics account for 15 percent of the predominantly Christian West African nation’s nearly 23 million people. Muslims make up about 16 percent of the population.

Polish survivor of Dachau dies day before he was to be named cardinal

WARSAW, Poland (CNS)—Retired Polish Bishop Jerzy Jez of Koszalin-Kolobrzeg, a Naziconcentration-camp survivor, died just one day before he would have been named a cardinal. “It was optimism which enabled Bishop Jez to survive the hard times,” said Cardinal Marian Golebiewski of Warsaw, a former colleague, in an interview with Poland’s Catholic Information Agency, KAC, Oct. 17. “He was a witness to the famous letter sent by Polish bishops to German counterparts in 1965, as well as to the election of Cardinal Karol Wojtyla as pope and the rule of Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński. His departure coincides with World Jewish Remembrance Day. Poland’s oldest bishop died Oct. 16 at the age of 93 in Rome’s Gemelli Hospital. He had been suffering from cancer. He recently had celebrated 70 years as a priest. Announcing 23 new cardinals Oct. 17, Pope Benedict XVI said he had planned to honor the “well-deserving prelate,” but had been prevented by his death.
Bishop John M. D’Arcy speaks to parishioners of St. Gaspar del Bufalo Church in Rome City during a lunch celebrating the 50th parish anniversary while Society of the Precious Blood priest Father Matthew Josefiak, pastor of St. Gaspar, looks on. The bishop is holding a special anniversary throw and a check for the diocesan Catholic Education Fund, which, along with a chaptel of the Precious Blood, he received from the parish.

The blanket drive will run the first two weeks of November, from Nov. 1-14. New and slightly-used blankets and bedding will be collected and given to needy families. Matthew J. Vigneault, executive director of the society, said many poor families keep their heat turned down low and are forced to wear winter coats inside to stay warm. "Some of them can’t even afford heat at all, or have to use the heat from their stoves, which is dangerous," he said. "Many are underemployed, working for minimum wage or just above it. They must choose food over warmth, or medicine over warmth, or fixing the car over warmth." Most of the donated blankets will be distributed through the society’s Christmas program, which serves approximately 1,400 families. Many of these families have small children.

Schools, churches or clubs can organize a blanket drive. St. Vincent’s home pickup department can collect the items. The number to call for pickup of a large number of blankets is (574) 334-6000. Individuals may also drop blankets and bedding off at the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store, 3408 Arndorff Trail, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Or, they can drop them off at St. Vincent de Paul drop box, at one of the following locations: Holy Family Church, 56405 Mayflower Rd.; Little Flower Church, 54191 N. Ironwood; St. Patrick Church, Western & Scott streets; St. Matthew Cathedral 1701 Miami St.; St. Joseph's High School 1441 N. Michigan St.; Ax Min Warehouse & Storage, Shaugn St., off Douglas Road in Mishawaka; Office Depot, 5901 Grape Rd., Mishawaka; Queen of Peace Church, 4508 Vistula Rd., Mishawaka; St. Pius X Church, 52553 Fir Rd, Granger; or Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 63568 U.S. 31 South, Lakeville.

Blue Mass to be celebrated Oct. 29
NOTRE DAME — The seventh annual Blue Mass for police officers, firefighters, rescue workers and their families will be celebrated at 5:13 p.m. Monday, Oct. 29, in the University of Notre Dame’s Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

Notre Dame’s president, Holy Cross Father John I. Jenkins, will preside at the Mass, and Holy Cross Father Richard V. Warner, director of campus ministry, will give a homily. Philip Johnson, director of the Notre Dame Security Police, and John Antonucci, chief of the Notre Dame Fire Department, will be lectors. Sacred music will be provided by Notre Dame’s Liturgical Choir.

TOM ALTER
Director of cemeteries appointed
FORT WAYNE — Thomas E. Alter, superintendent of the Catholic Cemetery of Fort Wayne since 1991 has been named as the new director of cemeteries and is the first layman to hold this position, succeeding Father David Carkenord. The director of cemeteries provides direction for parishes and churches that have their own cemeteries regarding liturgical and legal information. Alter is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and from the Law School of Indiana University. He is a member of St. Charles Parish, Fort Wayne.
Congratulations to Rev. Jason Freiburger and Rev. Bob Lengerich
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Auburn’s first XLT brings praise

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

AUBURN — Teens from around the diocese gathered at the Immaculate Conception Church in Auburn Sunday, Oct. 21, for eXaLT(XLT).

The XLT is a contemporary form of praise and worship in correlation with the LifeTeen program, an international Catholic movement that serves the church by providing resources and faith experiences that help lead teens closer to Christ. The eucharistic adoration, a part of the celebration, followed the 6 p.m. LifeTeen Mass.

According to Immaculate Conception’s youth minister, Phyllis Gurtner, this was a first for the Immaculate Conception parish and the response was overwhelming. Nearly 150 teens from Holy Cross College, Goshen, Elkhart, New Haven and Fort Wayne participated in the evening of worship.

Father Mark Gurtner of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish in Fort Wayne led the group in prayer and eucharistic adoration. Father Gurtner’s presence was fitting because he grew up in the Immaculate Conception Parish, and his perpetual enthusiasm was evident.

“Allow the good Lord to speak to us,” he said in his homily. “Close your eyes and listen” was a theme that was echoed throughout the service.

Father Gurtner challenged the teens to “let the light of Christ” into their hearts, as he summoned them in front of the altar. The smell of incense filled the air, a symbol of the offering to Christ. Likewise, the statue of the Sacred Heart of Jesus served as reminder of the purpose the evening’s worship.

“The Lord won’t force his way in;” he told the teens. “(You need to say) Jesus, I want to be open. If we follow the Lord Jesus, we won’t fall into despair or sin.”

During the adoration, the priest offered an image for the students to meditate on, “Imagine rays of light coming into your heart,” he suggested.

A band from the parish provided the evening’s liturgy, a repertoire of popular contemporary Christian music. Familiar songs like “Here I Am To Worship,” “We Are The Light” and “Shout to the Lord,” appealed to the young crowd because of their upbeat tempo.

By the last song, the spiritual energy was contagious, and it was clear the Holy Spirit had a presence among the teens. Nearly everyone in the church was clapping in time with the closing song, “Shout to the Lord.”

Cindy Black, the diocesan director of youth ministry, was pleased with the turnout.

“There were a lot of kids who hadn’t experienced the XLT service before,” she said.

Black said two more XLT nights are scheduled in the diocese: Nov. 4 at Sacred Heart Parish in Warsaw and Nov. 27 at the University of Saint Francis.

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The excellence continues...
Angel Guardian’, Sister Johnilda keeps on crocheting for the needy

DONALDSON — They called her the “Angel Guardian” sister at the orphanage she worked in for 25 years — where, for 17 of those years, she was a cottage mother to young boys.

“There were many good guys there,” she said. She still sees some of them.

But when it comes to crocheting things, sister is not an angel, but a “whirling dervish.”

“I learned how to use the crochet hook from my mother,” the 92-year-old sister said.

“I didn’t have time to do a lot. I made Sacred Heart badges and a few little things, but it wasn’t until 1975 that I really started to crochet.”

It wasn’t easy. She had lost partial vision in her right eye in 1956 — and in ’66, in her left. “I tried hook latching at first,” she said, “but I couldn’t determine where the colors would blend.”

She began to crochet baby blankets and children’s caps and lots of big afghans.

She gives them all away, many to the Stevens House in Fort Wayne and to clinics for the underprivileged.

Her niece recently brought her six huge black garbage bags stuffed with skeins and skeins of all colors of yarn that she found in a rummage sale in Trenton, Ill.

As Repunzel in the children’s story, sister has her work cut out for her for months to come.

Sister Johnilda Mannhard, a Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ, (PHJC), was born May 24, 1915, in Highland, Ill., the oldest of six children; she was raised in Trenton, Ill. where her father was a harness maker, hardware and General Electric dealer.

A devout Catholic, the young girl had decided by the time she was 8 years old that she wanted to help children, the handicapped and those deemed to be socially unacceptable.

She went to high school at Ancilla Convent in Donaldson, graduating in 1934, professed her first vows in June of 1936, and later graduated from De Paul University in Chicago with a bachelor’s in philosophy.

For years, her teaching career was primarily with elementary students in the third and fourth grades at St. Monica, Mishawaka, St. Mary’s and St. Henry’s, Chicago, and schools in Edwardsville and Germantown, Ill.

“I loved working with the younger children,” she said. “Sometimes they get lost or left behind, and I was able to help them get to where they needed to be.”

She told about one little fellow at St. Henry’s whose lack of reading ability in the third grade was almost a nuisance.

“I insisted that Joe concentrate on reading a library book and at the end of the semester he was so proud that he could read the preparatory, ‘See Dick Run.’ I was as pleased and proud as he was,” Sister Johnilda said that he gained confidence in himself and evidently went on to graduate from high school.

When the orphanage closed in 1974, Sister Johnilda was transferred to St. Cornelius Parish in Chicago. She taught first grade and catechism for five years.

In addition, she comforted the sick and dying and helped their caretakers with the many chores associated with the infirm.

“I did what I could to make people feel better,” she said, “and I enjoyed doing so.”

Sister Johnilda came back to the motherhouse at Ancilla Convent in 1985.

For the past 22 years, she has been a community service person, first working in the apple orchard and cooking and helping to do laundry.

“One of the things I am proud of here is showing the sisters how to do their own washing.”

Now she is one of 13 retired nuns living in the beautiful, one-year-old Catherine’s Cottage facility, adjacent to the Catherine Kasper Home.

“This is a pilot program for people with memory loss before they need much additional attention. We still do the little things we can do,” she said.

Sister Johnilda is one that will never stop helping others. She sits by her window crocheting little hats and blankets to keep underprivileged children warm. And she smiles as her finger fly along with her even warmer memories.

Sister Johnilda, PHJC, crochets baby blankets and children’s hats to give away to needy children. Now living in the new Catherine’s Cottage adjacent to the Catherine Kasper Home in Donaldson, Sister, at 92, is the second oldest resident in the facility.

The three hidden secrets of tart cherries

For decades the natural health benefits of the tart cherry have been known to a select few. More and more people are learning about the amazing benefits of the tart cherry. This tiny red fruit has been credited with an array of health benefits including helping people get a good night’s sleep, helping soothe sore muscles due to physical exercise and relieving achy joints.

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SERRA CLUB OF FORT WAYNE
SERRA CLUB OF SOUTH BEND
Widow offers listening ear to others in grief

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Parishioners at Our Lady of Good Hope (OLGH), where Troutman’s only son, Patrick succumbed, at the age of six, to aplastic anemia, mourned his loss with the support of family, friends and church. Troutman was given the opportunity to talk about her grief and begin to heal. She recognizes one special friend who would phone her saying, “I have a pot of tea on and have got an ear I’m not using. Would you come over and join me?” Troutman recalls being free to “talk about whatever she wanted to” with this compassionate friend and believes that experience is what inspired her to organize the grief support group at her parish.

“Don’t think it’s (grieving) not important ... it is! It’s important for not only your mental health but for your physical health, too.”

Mary Troutner sits in her home overlooking her husband Tom’s beloved pond. Following his death in 2005, Troutner began to organize a grief support group for her parish which now meets twice a month for six weeks.
Compassionate grief support for disabled

BY KAY COZAD

PORT WAYNE — The National Institute for Mental Health reports that over 44 million children in the United States are challenged by mental retardation. Recent surveys suggest one of 150 children have some form of autism and 23 of every 10,000 children live with cerebral palsy. This is only a sampling of the myriad disabilities in need of support within this nation’s communities.

These children, along with disabled adults, may require not only physical or occupational support but emotional support as well. And though many governmental and community agencies work to offer the disabled population these supports, one area widely overlooked is grief support.

Experiencing grief after a loss, especially the death of a loved one, is an innate human trait. The need to be understood and supported in the expression of grief requires community support regardless of whether a disability is involved.

Typically following a death, family members come together to create a memorial ceremony. This provides a sacred time when the lost loved one is remembered and mourned publicly. Many times those challenged with a disability are left out of these rituals, with the misconception that they are unable to understand or cope with the loss. Of course, sensitivity to the severity of the disability and age of the person in question is essential in discerning how to include him or her in the process, but common sense is usually the best approach.

Involving those with disabilities in the creation of and experience of any ceremony may allow them to express their grief in appropriate ways. Many challenged with disabilities understand life in literal terms. Therefore, the support environment must offer facts rather than euphemisms.

When processing the news of a death, gently using words such as dead and death rather than asleep or lost help convey the reality of death with less confusion. As with the typical population, those with disabilities may have a resurfacing of old grief wounds with each additional loss and require support over an extended period of time.

Susan, who is challenged with autism, was gently told her mother had died. She was asked to help create a picture board for the funeral ceremony and was able to stand with the pictures during the visitation. Later her family allowed her to post many of the photos of her mother in her room as a way of memorializing her loved one. When the need arose, Susan would lead a family member into her room, where they would descend into her grief with memories and tears.

Many times persons with disabilities are unable to verbalize their distress concerning a loss and exhibit changes in behavior that express their grief. Unfortunately, these changes are oftentimes misconstrued as maladaptive behaviors and responded to in misdirected ways. Understanding that the underlying need to express and cope with grief is masked by the behavioral changes is paramount in the support of the disabled.

The support of the disabled population in times of grief implies a companioning role. Spending time allowing the bereaved to teach the supporter his or her current needs creates a pathway to providing appropriate outlets. Drawing pictures of grief feelings, planting a tree, creating a memory board or visiting the gravesite are all beneficial opportunities to affirm and validate grief expression.

Josh, who was diagnosed with mild retardation, was bereaved over the death of his brother. Initially he appeared to be detached from the death. However, over time his behavior erupted into angry outbursts. His understanding supporters offered various physical activities as well as allowing him to talk about his brother and the anger his brother’s death engendered. His outbursts were soon eliminated as he was able to express his grief both physically and emotionally.

Comfort, understanding and compassion can be offered at many levels and the need for such is in no way diminished by the presence of a disability. As with anyone immersed in the heart work of grief, a compassionate response offers persons with disabilities the loving validation they need and the opportunity to be who they are, beloved children of God.
Sainthood cause opened for Oklahoma priest slain in 1981

OKARCHE, Okla. (CNS) — Inside Okarche’s Holy Trinity Catholic Church, the same church where Stanley Rother was baptized two days after his birth on March 27, 1935, Oklahoma Catholics gathered Oct. 5 to celebrate the Eucharist and to again pray for the canonization of the beloved priest they believe was martyred for the faith.

They witnessed the formal start of the sainthood cause for Father Stanley Francis Rother, a priest of the Oklahoma City Archdiocese who was brutally murdered in 1981 in the Guatemalan village where he ministered to the poor.

“This is the very first time in history that a canonization process has been initiated here in Oklahoma,” said Archbishop Eusebius J. Beltran of Oklahoma City. “It is my hope and my prayer that almighty God will bring to a happy conclusion this good work which he has begun in us.”

Archbishop Beltran commissioned a canonization congregation and named Deacon Norman Mejstrik, a parishioner at St. Philip Neri Church in Midwest City, as its coordinator. Carol Davito has been named assistant coordinator.

“It really is such an honor and a privilege in some small way to be connected with such a holy man as Father Rother,” said Deacon Mejstrik. “Just learning about his life, his faith, the decisions he made and how he lived his life just has to profoundly influence me and influence all of us,” he said.

“There is no doubt in my mind; he gave his life for his faith,” the deacon added.

Father Rother, 46, was shot to death July 28, 1981, in the rectory at his church in Santiago Atitlan, Guatemala. Government officials there put the blame on the Catholic Church for unrest in the country that they said led to his death.

Many priests and religious lost their lives and thousands of civil-ians were imprisoned and tortured during the years of state-sponsored oppression in the country. Even though Father Rother knew his life was in danger, he chose to remain with the people he had grown to love during the more than dozen years he lived there.

The priest arrived in Santiago Atitlan in 1968 on assignment from the Oklahoma City Archdiocese. He was better known as “Padre Francisco” to the locals. He fled at one point because of the numerous death threats he received over his opposition to the presence of the Guatemalan military in the area, but he returned to the country.

Despite repeated requests by the U.S. State Department for a formal investigation into Father Rother’s murder, Guatemalan authorities failed to find the priest’s killers.

His body was returned to Oklahoma. With his family’s permission, his heart and some of his blood were enshrined in the church of the people he loved and served. A memorial plaque marks the place.

Archbishop Beltran heads the committee for his canonization cause. Because Father Rother was killed in Guatemala, his cause should have been undertaken there. But the local church lacked the resources for such an effort, so Archbishop Beltran requested a transfer of jurisdiction to his archdiocese.

The Guatemalan bishops’ conference agreed, and the Vatican Congregation for Saints’ Causes transferred it to the Oklahoma City Archdiocese.

“This is a time of prayer that God will inspire his church,” Archbishop Beltran said. He said he firmly believes “Father Rother died for the faith,” and considers him a martyr.

“There is no doubt in my mind; he gave his life for his faith,” the deacon added.

Archbishop Beltran added that “most of us will not see this to its successful completion. The church is slow in these matters because it is thorough, and we are dealing here with the spiritual realm which is timeless.”

However, he said, the initiative needs to begin now or “the cause might never go forward.”

According to Andrea Ambrosi of Rome, named by the Vatican as postulator for the cause, three prerequisites must be met for a candidate for sainthood to be named a martyr:

• The person who assassinated the candidate must have had the motive of killing the victim only because of the victim’s faith.
• The person who was killed must have accepted dying for the faith.
• The death of the person must have been violent.

In a meeting with Ambrosi last summer, several members of the Oklahoma committee made arguments that the circumstances surrounding Father Rother’s death would satisfy all three requirements.

In 1996, Father Rother’s name was included on a list of martyrs for the faith in Guatemala to be considered for canonization. The list was submitted by Guatemala’s bishops to the late Pope John Paul II during a pastoral visit to Guatemala.

BY RAY DYER

Father Stanley Rother, a priest of the Oklahoma City Archdiocese who was brutally murdered in 1981 in the Guatemalan village where he ministered to the poor, is shown baptizing a child in this undated photo. On Oct. 5 the archdiocese formally launched the cause for canonization of the priest many believe was martyred for his faith.
EDITORIAL

Grief vs. mourning: A Catholic perspective

As the liturgical year continues to unfold, the church once again celebrates All Saints Day and All Souls Day this week giving the faithful an opportunity to gather together in what is a fitting way to honor their beloved dead. It is in the public sharing of grief that the burden is lightened and hearts begin to heal. In our attempt as Catholics to support those who have experienced a loss, it is important to understand the relationship between grief and mourning.

Experts in the field of grief studies describe grief as thoughts and feelings one has associated with a loss. Mourning is the outward expression of thoughts and feelings or as one leading grief expert has noted, “grief gone public.”

Every human being who experiences loss, whether it be the death of a loved one, the loss of a job or an unresolved health issue, comes to grief. It is a God-given human instinct and is implicit in God’s design for humanity. Those in loss experience thoughts and feelings that reside within.

However, not everyone chooses to or is encouraged to embark on the difficult work of mourning, where one must acknowledge those thoughts and feelings, and discover through faith and determination the best and healthiest ways to express them within the social context.

In our fast-paced, death-avoidant culture, today’s standards make it difficult to grieve publicly. Our society has not understood the need to mourn. Historically, cultures around the world encouraged the outward expression of grief over an acceptedly extended period of time, typically up to a year. Support was a community affair where the bereaved were encouraged to tell their loss story with all伦 all the. Today however, the typical time allotment to complete a funeral is three days. After a month or two, when all others have returned to a regular routine, the bereaved are expected to be “getting over” the loss, when in reality they may just be trying to gather the courage to face another day. And certainly by the first anniversary of the death, societal norms expect the bereaved to be “back to normal.”

Unfortunately, this is the time when many realize the real work of grief has just begun. For those in loss, ongoing support as they navigate life without their loved one is paramount.

As faithful Catholics living and serving within community, we are called to be mindful of the need of our grieving neighbors and respond in kind. Lending a compassionate ear can be the very best way to support those in need of healing.

Within Scripture, grief and mourning are accepted and supported. Even Jesus suffered the emotions of grief and expressed them in a very human way as we seen in John 11:35: “Jesus wept.”

Our support role as faithful Catholics can be found in the beatitudes. “Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.”

To provide support may mean lending a compassionate ear to assist those in need of healing. It may require a phone call, a card or simply sitting quietly with our neighbor in his pain.

Over time supporting those who have lost a loved one may allow our neighbors to find hope. This may mean allowing them to expand upon the grief they feel, or moving along the way of creation, such as creating a memory book to share. Allowing the bereaved to publicly express their grief without fear of judgment may be the best expression of our own faith and a powerful testimony to our neighbors.

1 Thes 4:13 tells us to grieve with hope for with an understanding of the need to mourn we discover the many ways our Savior walks with us and comforts us through the work of his people.

Movie, books point the wrong direction

New Line Cinema and Scholastic Entertainment have paired to produce “The Golden Compass,” a children’s fantasy that is based on the first book of the trilogy written by English atheist Philip Pullman. The three books, targeted at children and adolescents, are written to promote atheism and denigrate Christianity, especially Catholicism, according to a release by the Catholic League.

“At home with the neighbors” is how Philip Pullman sells, wrote the league. “It is his hope that ‘The Golden Compass’ which stars Nicole Kidman and opens Dec. 7, will entice parents to buy his trilogy as a Christmas gift. It is our hope that the film fails to meet box office expectations and that this book’s attractions are transitory.”

The Catholic League notes, “It is not our position that the movie will strike Christian parents as troubling. Then why the protest? Even though the film is based on the least offensive of the three books, we believe even though it is clear that the producers are watering down the most despicable elements — so as to make money and not anger Christians — the fact remains that the movie is bait for the books. To be specific, if unsuspecting Christian parents take their children to see the movie, they may

Some 2,000 years this way of celebrating has sustained the faith life of all believers. So, to follow what the church prescribes is to follow the liturgical mind of the body of Christ, which has a breadth and memory far deeper than the wisdom of any individual.

The pope further teaches that there is no tension whatsoever between the “ars celebrandi” and the “full, active and fruitful participation of all the faithful.” Rather, the pope says, “during the primary celebration the participation of the people of God in the sacred rite is the proper celebration of the rite itself.”

When the focus is firmly on Christ, then participation is at its height, for our worship must ultimately be a participation in Christ. And partaking of holy Communion is our greatest act of assent and membership, for it is the sacred bond of our union with God. One cannot be “more active” than within this transformation of our bodies and souls.

External and visible participation is certainly important, because we are incarnate beings and because Christ took on human flesh. This external participation serves a higher purpose — to be a vehicle towards a deeper interior disposition. Exterior participation should never be mistaken for an end in itself. Elements such as liturgical music and actions should never be taken up as art for art’s sake, but as a medium of an under lying spiritual reality. This is the heart of proper worship.

Do the heightened solemnity and silence in the old form of the Mass have anything to offer for participation in the new form? It is Pope Benedict’s hope that the relationship and interaction between the ordinary and extraordinary forms of the Roman rite will advance the previously mentioned truths about the “ars celebrandi.”

In particular, he emphasizes the practice of solemnity, which may be best described as the manifestation of a deferential respect and awe while in the presence of God. The significant degree of solemnity denigrated in many celebrations of the old Mass had a very positive effect on piety and reverence among the faithful. In reflecting upon the decrees of his “motu proprio,” Pope Benedict expresses his sincere hope that, with the two forms of the Roman rite “mutually enriching” one another, the celebration of the new form of the
'Google-generation' seminarians minister with MySpace and more

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — An ocean away from family and friends, some U.S. seminarians at the Pontifical North American College in Rome are bridging the divide with online communities and digital means of communica-
tion such as Skype, instant messaging, Facebook, MySpace and more.

But while it may have begun as simple e-mails and Web log, or blog, entries meant to keep loved ones in touch, their notes from Rome to home have blossomed into a whole new way these stu-

dents preparing for the priesthood can share their spiritual journey with the rest of the world.

“It’s a great witness when we share our stories, our experiences in (the) seminary” that include “our hopes, our joys, our fears, our anxieties about” the journey “our hopes, our joys, our fears, our in (the) seminary” that include can share their spiritual journey into a whole new way these stu-

“put down I am a Mets fan, that I follow Notre Dame football” as well as his favorite books and movies. Other young people may be drawn to his profile because they have a shared interest in the New York Mets baseball team or because they went to the same high school, but then they see that he is also a seminarian studying for the priesthood in Rome.

Very few people actually know a seminarian, and meeting one online and discovering he has some of the many same interests as other young people can wipe away some preconceived notions about the kind of person who is drawn to a priestly or religious vocation, the

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN E. CAMPION

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Lk 18:9-14

The Book of Sirach, one of those books classified by scholars collectively as the Wisdom Literature, is the source of this week’s first Scriptural reading.

The Wisdom Literature arose when devout Jews and conscien-
tious Jewish parents realized that in the midst of the pagan societies to which they had immigrated, they were better to convince their children of the worth of the ancient Hebrew religion.

Since the pagans amid which they lived had Greek origins and therefore human reasoning was elevated almost to the status of the divine, the authors of this literature sought to persuade audiences that the Hebrew religion in itself was the summit of human logic.

Even with this overall pattern, each of the Wisdom books was composed in a time and in the face of its own circumstances. Thus, it is important always to know the context in which a book was written, despite the fact that a similar purpose was the driving force and paganism was the common concern.

It is easy, and not out of place, to imagine the conditions in which today’s so-called “Google genera-
tion” are helping other people find God and the church through the Internet.

“There’s a lot of junk on the Internet and we have to fix it,” said Bertrand, 23, who seems the savviest of the group with a blog accounts on two social networking sites on the Web — MySpace and Facebook — and plans for broad-
casting practice homilies on YouTube, a video-sharing Web site.

“We need to integrate ourselves into these online communities and in a sense baptize the way these things work,” he said.

“Everyone’s opinion gets expressed and published, but nobody’s opinion necessarily has any truth to it,” the California native said.

Well-formed Catholics and church leaders have a golden opportunity to move into the World Wide Web like any new mission territory and point people to the truth and to Christ, the semi-

narians said.

Bruno, 22, said one of the things he loves most about the net-

work of God alone provides the only reward. He succeeds. He achieves.

Humility therefore is an essen-
tial Christian virtue. It is not a

READINGS

Sunday: Str 35:12-14, 16-18 Ps 342:3, 17-19, 2:1 Tm 46:6, 16-18 189-14
Monday: Rom 8:17-17 Ps 682, 4, 6-
7ab, 20-21 Lk 13:10-17
Tuesday: Rom 8:18-25 Ps 126:1-
Lk 13:18-21
Wednesday: Rom 8:26-30 Ps 13:4-6
Lk 13:20-21
Thursday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14 Ps 241-
4ab, 5, 6: Lch 3:13 Mt 5:1-12a
Friday: Ws 3:1-9 Ps 23:1-6 Rom 5:5-
11 Jn 637-40
Saturday: Rom 11:11a-12a, 12-25 Ps 94:12-13a, 14-17, 18 Lk 141,7-11

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

CATEQUIZ’EM

By Dominit Campilloss

Many people associate Halloween with things Satanic. While this is not quite accurate (the Celts did not have a Satan) it allows us to ask a few satanic questions.

1. The word Satan was not originally a proper name, but rather a noun in:
   a. Hebrew
   b. Italian
   c. Irish

2. It means:
   a. Eva Duer
   b. horned one
   c. adversary

3. Therefore the term is used in the Old Testament to sometimes mean simply:
   a. an opponent or obstacle
   b. a priest or Levite
   c. a clandestine organization like the anti Bar Mitzvah League

4. In Scripture, if used as a proper name, it refers to a being who is by nature:
   a. entirely herbivorous
   b. angelic
   c. human

5. Satan is always associated with:
   a. schism
   b. evil
   c. calligraphy

6. Yet he is a major figure in “Paradise Lost” by this blind English poet:
   a. Dante
   b. Milton
   c. Hawkins

7. Another commonly used name for the same personality is:
   a. the hooded One
   b. Arnold Ptang
   c. the devil

8. This designation comes from a Greek word originally meaning:
   a. slanderer
   b. wanderer
   c. chandler

9. In Revelation a great variety of names are used including this one:
   a. purveyor of gristly meat
   b. the accuser of our brothers
   c. eater of (human) souls

10. One rather poetic name for Satan is also the name of a successful novel and movie:
    a. “Lord of the Flies”
    b. “Pride of the Sadduccees”
    c. “Brigadoon”

11. Though scholars disagree, it seems that the exact origin of Satan is found only in:
    a. Genesis 156/7, the Fall of Angels narrative
    b. Matthew’s lost introduction to Mark’s Gospel
    c. Tradition, bolstered by biblical references

12. Ilishai contains this title, which is often applied to Satan (though here it may refer to an earthly king) and means “morning star”:
    a. Magog
    b. Lucifer
    c. Baal

13. Satan is, according to Revelation:
    a. eventually going to succeed in corrupting the world
    b. doomed to wander the earth in the guise of bear
    c. going to be defeated and cast into the fire by God

14. In art, Satan is most often portrayed as serpent, or as a creature with these:
    a. horns
    b. cartography
    c. contact lenses

15. Muslims also believe in a “shaitan.” In this fact author was ordered to be killed for writing a fictional work about Mohammed called “The Satanic Verses”
    a. Edgar Allen Poe
    b. Salman Rushdie
    c. Steven Rex
Intern questions prescribing contraception

Contraception always leads to more abortion. A well-trained, principled doctor cannot play with any of these matters. They cannot present themselves as an accomplice to these deeds.

“My program director stated that he would fully support me in whatever career decisions I made.” This means that the intern can state his position: “I cannot perform abortions, sterilizations, or dispensation contraceptives because they are bad medicine and because my conscience tells me that they are serious moral evils. There are thousands of other medical procedures I can perform, but I will not be an accomplice in these three.”

He is a physician and therefore he should be healing people instead of putting harmful chemicals in healthy bodies. Prescribing contraceptives opens up the possibility of cooperating in giving abortifacients. This is both material and formal cooperation.

Most patients look to their doctors for good medical advice. Doctors should take advantage of this and offer their reasons for encouraging people to stay away from the contraceptive culture. They could point to the multibillion dollar industry the pharmaceuticals have created, and now promote through slick advertisements in the mass media.

Doctors could explain the connection between contraception and their social consequences: greater poverty and infidelity in marriage, a 50 percent divorce rate, a lack of male responsibility, 35 percent probability that a child in this age of marriage, more single parent (and poor) families, dysfunctional families, an epidemic of STDs, lack of good male role models, and bad medicine has wide social and moral consequences.

If the pressure on a new doctor to conform to the contraceptive culture is too great, then he or she should go elsewhere and seek employment where he will not have to violate his conscience.

More Catholic and pro-life doctors should consider starting up totally pro-life medical clinics. There are many successful examples of these around the country, and these doctors are very willing to share their experiences. These clinics give a pro-life witness to Gospel values and good medicine. Many families seek them out.

There are some evils in our society that will only change when enough conscientious people refuse to participate in them. Abortion and contraception are two of these.

The life issues belong to doctors and nurses in a special way. The church looks to them to take real leadership in bringing the values of the Gospel, and the light of Christ, to the medical profession. This will create some career problems and temporary tensions, but this is the price that witnesses to the faith have always been asked to give throughout the centuries.

Father Dan McCaffrey and Father Matthew Habiger, OSB, answered this week’s question.

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

— Today’s Catholic

Notre Dame is not having a bad year

The football team is struggling, but Notre Dame is not having a bad year. I’m not talking about the financial standing of the university. I don’t know anything about that, although I’m sure Notre Dame’s propensities for earning a buck has not slipped due to a few one-sided losses on the gridiron.

The University of Notre Dame will survive.

Yes, they are in a society in which a school — an institution that has been around for 165 years and was founded upon principles that have since had to do with the breakdowns of that is judged by the football team’s record.

But, I’m talking about something for a second. That’s pretty silly, isn’t it? If Notre Dame never played another football game, the school would carry on. It might lose a bit of its reputation.

Certainly kids growing up in Prescott, Ariz., or Johannesburg, Malaysia, or Paris, or Rio de Janeiro, or London, or Tokyo, or Calcutta, or Dar es Salaam would be less inclined to choose the small Catholic school in northern Indiana over a local university. The children there might be a little less generous.

But Notre Dame would survive and continue to thrive in its humanitarian, artistic, scientific advances and business ventures. The Basilica of the Sacred Heart would remain on campus.

The grotto would be still The Grotto. More importantly, what they represent would remain unchanged.

Clearly, football is a big part of why Notre Dame is so well loved, even by some who have never set foot on the campus. Notre Dame and football have gone hand in hand since Knute Rockne made the Fighting Irish a focal point for Catholics and the Rudys of the world.
People are intrigued and repulsed by the idea of cloning humans. They sometimes express doubts that a cloned child could possibly be a person, because the whole idea seems so offensive. They suppose that God would “refuse to cooperate” with cloning by never infusing a soul into a cloned human embryo.

Yet back in 1978 when the first human baby was created in a Petri dish by in vitro fertilization, one might likewise have argued that such an immoral action would result in God’s wrath, and that any baby that was manufactured in laboratory glassware. We currently have more than 1 million babies produced this way, all of whom do have souls called for them.

Likewise even though we readily see how dropping nuclear bombs on cities of innocent people would be gravely offensive, we know that God does “refuse to cooperate” by suddenly suspending the laws of physics that permit such bombs to detonate. Clearly, God chooses to respect the laws of physics he has established, and likewise he remains beholden to the powers of biology that he has set in motion, even if it is true that those same powers can be used for offensive ends by man.

Apart from purely miraculous interventions, which appear to be quite rare, God does not step in and break the humanity-initiated chain of causality, which allows sinful actions and evil choices to play out with all their consequences. He invites us to make moral and upright choices for ourselves, so that in our world we might not spread further truth, but he doesn’t actively prevent us from doing evil by abrogating his law or enabling evil by creating evil.

Human cloning, in the final analysis, is simply a technique for making an identical twin of someone, and while all of us have met various sets of identical twins over the years, we know that such a child would lack a soul. By similar reasoning, it is clear that the idea of a “soulless clone” is little more than an urban legend. Yet the mere discussion of this “soulless clone” serves to remind us how strikingly immoral human cloning really is, even as the mass media and various lawmakers vigorously promote a form of cloning known as therapeutic cloning.

Therapeutic cloning is very simple in concept — it involves taking a nucleus (the “full genetic package”) from a body cell, like a skin cell, and transferring it inside a woman’s egg, after the egg’s own nucleus (the “half genetic package”) has been taken out. The presence of the “full genetic package” creates a new human embryo. That newly cloned embryo could either be killed in the laboratory for research, or allowed to live and grow by implanting it into a uterus, resulting in the birth of a cloned baby. That baby would be an identical twin of the person who donated the skin cell, in the same way that Dolly the sheep was the identical twin of her mother who donated the mammary cell used to start the process. Of course, ethical violations are always involved in both forms of cloning: “reproductive cloning” and so-called “therapeutic cloning.”

Imagining, for example, of illustration, that the skin cell used for cloning was donated by Sen. Ted Kennedy. The resulting cloned embryo would be the identical twin of the skin cell donor, so Sen. Kennedy would have an identical twin brother who was an embryo. Two uses for that embryo could be proposed:

- Reproductive cloning — the cloned embryo could be implanted into a woman’s uterus to make a live-born, cloned child (Sen. Kennedy’s younger identical twin who would be his gurgling baby brother).
- Therapeutic cloning — the cloned embryonic brother of the senator would NOT be implanted, but rather, he would be violated as an embryo, at the hands of researchers who would harvest his stem cells (for various noble purposes, to get genetically matched cells to treat the senator himself for serious ailments as the senator gets older and more frail).

This approach is sometimes termed “cloning and kill.”

There are no known techniques to use them as “repair kits,” while convenient for those experiencing bodily decline, is also intrinsically immoral. Sen. Kennedy himself, like many other elected officials in our country, has promoted laws to encourage this form of research cloning.

“The advantage of therapeutic cloning,” Kennedy told the Boston Globe, “is, one, you can get the exact genetic match, and you eliminate the real possibilities of rejection, which is going to be key in this whole area of research.”

“Banning it or prohibiting it, making it illegal, would be a major mistake,” he added. “It’s the time, and now is the moment, and Massachusetts is the place.”

The senator is certainly correct about the benefits of an exact genetic match, because by having the same genes, a pair of identical twins can use each other’s organs for transplants. We will accept those transplants without the need for any immunosuppressive drugs. But the deeper truth is that in therapeutic cloning, the cloned twin is not even given a chance at life, but he or she is expressly created for premeditated killing at the hands of researchers in order to benefit his or her older genetic match.

This sinister research represents a direct form of human exploitation, where the powerful and the wealthy violate the young and powerless. In fact, a patient who used therapeutic cloning would be destroying a family member, a blood relative, their own identical twin brother or sister, in order to obtain desired cells and tissues. When you clone to make a live-born baby, on the other hand, as wrong as this still is, at least the cloned twin survives, breathes the same air, and has the chance to enjoy the good life that the rest of us enjoy each day.

The real paradox, then, is how our moral sensitivities have become so coarsened that many can no longer see how therapeutic cloning is actually worse, from the moral point of view, than reproductive cloning.

Therapeutic cloning doesn’t produce soulless clones, but it does tempt some spineless politicians and scientists to radically mislead the remarkable powers of science that God has given us.

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

**Meet the Priest**

**Who is your favorite pope?**

the present pope, Pope Benedict XVI

**What is your favorite food?**

a good steak

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

During my college years, I worked as a bellhop for two summer vacations at a luxury hotel, the Breakers, at Cedar Point, Ohio. It also was a kind of education.

**How do you prefer to be addressed?**

My relatives call me Father Bill, but most other people call me Monsignor.
ICCL SOCCER LOOKS TO CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES OCT. 28  In the second weekend of playoffs, Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) soccer has narrowed to St. Joseph 8 against Christ the King in boys varsity, St. Joseph 8 defeated St. Thomas, 4-1; and Christ the King defeated St. Jude, 3-2, in games played Oct. 21. In girls varsity, the championship game will pit Christ the King against St. Joseph, South Bend, on Oct. 28. In round 2 games Oct. 21, St. Joseph defeated St. Anthony, 3-0; and Christ the King defeated Corpus Christi, 3-2, in a game won in a shootout. In boys’ B-league, Christ the King will play St. Joseph, South Bend. In girl’s B-league, Christ the King will play St. Joseph, South Bend, Gold.

Panthers and Saints score ICCL victories

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — St. Anthony’s football Panthers and Mishawaka Catholic Saints, both of whom were rated at the top of their respective divisions in the Catholic Youth Organization (ICCL), scored impressive triumphs in the opening round of the circuit.

The Panthers bowed over the St. Matthew Blazers, 26-6, and the Saints simply ran roughshod over the Holy Cross Crusaders, 41-6, in opening round of the circuit.

St. Anthony scored impressive triumphs in the City Catholic League (ICCL), were rated at the top of their Catholic Saints, both of whom

The Panthers got their semi-final victory by beating a determined St. Joseph Cardinal squad 22-0. “St. Anthony had a great game and outplayed us a good part of the time by controlling the line of scrimmage,” said St. Anthony coach Andy Lebramoff. However, the Saints gave an outstanding defensive effort and the offense got on the board from Justin Schaeffer’s 32-yard touchdown reception from Evan Feichter. Feichter also added a pair of runs on the deck.

“St. Vincent improved to 8-1 and will advance to play the defending champion St. John Fort Wayne Eagles in next week’s much-anticipated championship showdown again.”

During the regular season contest, the Panthers took the Eagles to overtime before going down 22-20. As head coach for St. Vincent, Andy Lebramoff will go back to the drawing board trying to figure out how to contain the Eagles. He has faced the Eagles five times in his career coaching the Panthers and five times the Eagles have come out on top.

“St. Anthony is an extremely well-coached team,” reported Lebramoff.

The games went into overtime and the total win margin for the Eagles has been just 19 points. Eagle Coach Carroll jokingly predicts that if EPIC were to pick up this rematch, it would definitely go down as a classic.

The CYO volleyball tournament is also in full swing this week with the championship games set for Saturday, Oct. 27, at St. Charles. In regular season play, the top seeded team in each of the three leagues went undefeated. Both the seventh and eighth grade ladies from St. Jude finished with perfect records in the Green and White Leagues while Queen of Angels ended up on top in the Blue League.

Stage set for CYO football, volleyball showdowns

Final volleyball standings, Green League
St. Jude 8-0
St. Charles 7-1
Decatur 5-3
St. John 4-4
St. Joseph/Elizabeth 4-4
St. Theresa 3-5
Queen of Angels 3-5
St. Vincent 2-6
New Haven 0-8

Final volleyball standings, Blue League
Queen of Angels 7-0
Sts. Rose/Louis 5-2
St. Theresa 5-2
St. Aloysius 4-3
St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel 4-3
Most Precious Blood 1-6
Bremen 1-6
St. Mary/Joseph 1-6

Marian girls go to volleyball sectionals

SOUTH BEND — Mishawaka Marian High School’s girls volleyball team settled their annual series with Saint Joseph’s of South Bend in the championship round of the Class 3-A sectional finals with a 3-1 victory.

The Marian Lady Knights, after losing the first game, 19-25, won the next three games — 25-19, 25-19, and 25-20 in the second straight sectional championship and qualify for the Twin Lakes regional at Monticello this weekend.

Saint Joseph’s finished the season with a 24-10 record.

--- EJD ---

Sports

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Bishop Dwenger’s Goodman chosen for U.S. Army All-American Bowl team

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — “Crazy!” was Johnny Goodman’s reaction to receiving one of the nation’s highest football honors ever bestowed on a high school senior from Fort Wayne, Indiana. “This is just crazy,” the Bishop Dwenger standout repeated after being presented an official bowl jersey and hat representing the United States Army All-American Bowl team.

Goodman was selected to compete in San Antonio, Texas, on Jan. 5, 2008, in the classic east-west showdown, which is considered the “nation’s preeminent launching pad” for America’s future college and NFL stars.

On behalf of the school, Principal Fred Tone called Goodman “our friend” and detailed the high class manner in which he represented Bishop Dwenger High School both on and off the field. “It is a privilege and pleasure to share in John’s success,” Tone concluded.

Coach Chris Svarczkopf explained what a humble and dedicated player Goodman is — the first to arrive and the last to leave most practices and the first to tell you his successes are due to the hard work of his teammates. “His natural ability is enhanced by his personal dedication. John is an exceptional person and an exceptional athlete,” said Svarczkopf.

Svarczkopf has had his eye on Goodman since his grade school days at St. Jude, long before he came to Bishop Dwenger. “John has always been able to elevate the play of his teammates,” he added.

After the lights go out for the last time on Friday nights, Goodman plans to give his body a two-week break, before jumping into the Saints’ basketball season. After that, a possible state track appearance and high school graduation await him. Finally, 18-year-old Goodman, intends to make his lifelong dream come true and play football next fall for the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame leaving for South Bend in mid-June.

In his free time, Goodman enjoys golfing, hanging out with friends and eating. When asked what he would be listed for if he were in the Guinness World Book of Records, Goodman said it could be for “the most chicken wings eaten.”

Dating back to his father’s pre-game ritual, Goodman has a long-standing tradition of eating T-bone steaks at Grandpa Goodman’s before kickoff. If the Saints continue on target, this newly-named All American should be good for a few more.

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What’s Happening?

MISC. Happenings

Catholicism Revealed
Fort Wayne — Father Tad Pacholczyk will speak on End of Life Decisions Monday, Oct. 29, at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center. Father Tad is the director at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center. Missions will be offered “In the beginning,” the early history, persecutions, and events of the early church.

End of Life Decisions talk sponsored by diocesan Office of Family life
Fort Wayne — Father Tad Pacholczyk will speak on End of Life Decisions Monday, Oct. 29, at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center. Father Tad is the director of education at the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia and he will explain the basic principles in making sound ethical decisions. The talk will offer “In the beginning,” the early history, persecutions, and events of the early church.

First of the month rosaries
Fort Wayne — The first Sunday rosary for families will be at MacDougal Chapel on Sunday, Nov. 5, at 7 p.m.

Fish fry services
South Bend — Boy Scout Troop 451 will sponsor a parish breakfast Sunday, Nov. 4, from 7:30 a.m.-noon. Choose pancakes and sausage or scrambled eggs and sausage or biscuits and sausage gravy and a beverage. Tickets at the door are $6 adult, $4 children 4-10, under 4 free. Advance tickets ($1 less) will be sold after all weekend Masses.

Fish fry set up in church
Yoder — St. Aloysius Church will have a fish fry on Friday, Nov. 2, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Carryout will be available. Adult meals $7, children ages 5-12 will be $3.50 and children 4 and under are free.

Knights plan fish fry
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Father Tremmel Council 1975, will have a fish fry Friday, Nov. 9, from 4-30 7 p.m. at the K of C hall, 901 E. Jefferson St. Adults and carry-out will be $7 and children under 10 $3.50. Alaskan Pollock prepared by the Tyner Odd Fellows.

Fall Festival
South Bend — St. Casimir Parish, 1308 W. Dunham St., will have a fall festival Sunday, Nov. 11. Chicken dinner served from noon-1:30 p.m. Advance sales only. Adults: $8, children (5-10) $4, children 4 and under eat free. For tickets call (574) 287-9551. Music from 2-5 p.m. provided by the Jim Deka Trio. Games of chance, raffles, prizes, pastry booth.

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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 velvet bow. The Cemetery will install the wreath the week of December 1 and remove it after February 20, all for only $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.

Four Generations of Family Ownership
St. Matthew Cathedral, Est. 1922

A potential congregation of 75 southeast side families justified the purchase of 14 lots in the Oak Park neighborhood, which was bounded by Dubail Street, Miami Street, Dayton and an alley. The year was 1921 and Bishop Herman Alerding instructed Father John DeGroote to purchase the land for the new St. Matthew Parish.

Plans for a proposed building with a church on the first floor and a school on the second estimated to cost $35,000 had to be abandoned because it was over budget.

Father Theodore Hammes, St. Matthew’s first pastor, called for volunteers to build the church and 22 men responded, building the church for $10,000 in construction costs and free labor.

Father Hammes sang the dedication Mass on Aug. 13, 1922.

St. Matthew’s grew rapidly and by 1924 it had expanded to the entire block from Miami to Dale streets.

A new school, costing $167,000, was dedicated by Bishop Noll on Oct. 13, 1929. 150 students made up the first five grades. Each year, a grade was added until the first graduation was celebrated on June 1, 1933.

In 1934, Central Catholic High School was formed at St. Matthew with 18 students and two Holy Cross brothers as the faculty. In 1951, Central Catholic merged with two other Catholic high schools to become Saint Joseph’s High School.

In 1959, after a number of additions, the “old church” which was 37 years old, was demolished and replaced by a new brick building; the only carry-over was the set of bells, which are in place today.

In 1960, St. Matthew Church became a co-cathedral with the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

In the years that followed, three auxiliary bishops, Bishop Joseph Crowley, Bishop John Sheets and Bishop Daniel Jenky, CSC, have served at St. Matthew. In April 2002, Bishop Jenky left to become the bishop of the diocese of Peoria, Ill.

Bishop Daniel Jenky, CSC, have served at St. Matthew. In April 2002, Bishop Jenky left to become the bishop of the diocese of Peoria, Ill.


Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Est. 1836

In white they trod, brides, bishops and first communicants, down the main aisle of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, not knowing that they strode over the bones of the area’s first Catholics, buried in buckskin and burlap... As parishioners leave Mass at St. Matthew Cathedral, they view the huge expanse of stained glass over the main entrance.

The image of Mary the Immaculate Conception shines brightly on a sunny day above the sanctuary of the beautifully restored cathedral.

Augustine Academy for girls, which would be staffed by three Sisters of Providence.

On Jan. 8, 1857, Pope Pius IX by decree, created the Diocese of Fort Wayne made up of the 42 counties on northern Indiana.

Father John Henry Luers of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati was appointed as first bishop and designated the little church as the Cathedral of St. Augustine.

Under the direction of Father Benoit, a permanent cathedral was planned and the cornerstone was blessed by Bishop Luers on Trinity Sunday, June 19, 1859. The church was dedicated Dec. 8, 1860, on the feast of the Immaculate Conception and was named in Mary’s honor.

Thirty-six years after its completion, the first of many renovations took place, the major one of which began in 1998, at which time the cathedral was closed for seven months and reopened on Sunday, Nov. 22, 1998 with a 9:30 a.m. Mass, with Bishop John M. D’Arcy presiding.