St. Mother Theodore Guérin commemorated at cathedral ceremony

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

FORT WAYNE — The 2006 canonization of Indiana’s first saint, Mother Theodore Guérin, was celebrated Sunday by Bishop John M. D’Arcy at a commemorative Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne.

St. Mother Theodore Guérin is recognized as the foundress of the Sisters of Providence congregation of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, near Terre Haute, in 1839, shortly after she emigrated from her native France. Her century-and-three-quarter path to sainthood culminated on Oct. 15, 2006, when she was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI in a ceremony in St. Peter’s Square in Rome.

An air of expectation and joyful anticipation prevailed before Sunday’s Mass as several Sisters of Providence were in attendance along with throngs of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods alumnae. Greetings were exchanged among the many sisters who had traveled from the motherhouse near Terre Haute and alumnae women who had gathered from throughout northeast Indiana for the special event.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy had only praise for St. Mother Theodore Guérin, whom many writers have described as a woman of joy and good spirit. She was said to possess “heroic holiness,” he noted, but she described herself as “very ordinary.” She was called by...

GUERIN, PAGE 5

All Catholic parishes to participate in reconsecration of diocese to Mary

BY VINCE LABARBERA

FORT WAYNE — On Dec. 8, the feast of the Immaculate Conception and the patronal feast of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend — as well as of all of America — Bishop John M. D’Arcy has asked that every priest at every Mass celebrate for the feast, recite — together with the congregation — a Prayer of Entrustment of the diocese to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Bishop D’Arcy also said it would be most appropriate if every parish had a nine-day novena said before or after daily Mass, beginning on Thursday, Nov. 29, through Friday, Dec. 7.

As the 150-year Jubilee Year of the diocese draws to a close, Bishop D’Arcy said the “blessed holy year” brought many graces upon the diocese.

“We have learned much, especially from our people,” he said. “If we look at one event during the year, the Eucharistic Congress (on Aug. 18 at the University of Notre Dame), we see the following spiritual elements — devotion to the holy Eucharist and to the sacrifice of the Mass — treasures in the lives of our people. We see their love to pray in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. We see devotion to Our Lady in the hundreds who flocked to the grotto at Notre Dame. We observe their hunger for forgiveness in the sacrament of penance.”

In a letter addressed to the priests of the diocese, Bishop D’Arcy said, “I thank all of you for your wonderful help in seeing that our observance of the Sesquicentennial Jubilee Year was carried out with such devotion and faith.”

Through the centuries, the Catholic Church has become ever more aware that Mary, “favored” by God (Lk 1:28), was redeemed from the moment of her conception (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 491). Immaculate Conception is the title of the Blessed Virgin Mary as being sinless from the first moment of her existence. Her freedom from sin was an unmerited gift of God or special grace, and an exception to the law, or privilege, which no other created person has ever received. The solemnly proclaimed dogma of the Immaculate Conception...

MARY, PAGE 3

Mass for deceased

About 20 priests joined Bishop John M. D’Arcy at an annual memorial Mass for deceased bishops and priests at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Nov. 16. In his remarks, Bishop D’Arcy remembered fondly those who died this year; Deacons Art Bleau, Dean Tucker, Pat Walsh, Joseph Zickgraf, Msgr. Robert Contant, Father Eugene Kazmierczak and Father Terry Place.
Bishops encourage conscience formation in faithful citizenship

BISHOP JOHN M. DARCY

Five days in Baltimore

The first diocese in this country was Baltimore under the extraordinary Bishop John Carroll. Later, in 1808, four dioceses were taken from this original diocese; namely Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Bardstown (now Louisville). Later came the Diocese of Portland in Oregon as the church began to construct its life in this country.

But Baltimore was in the historical state of a city, for a responsibility. To be honest, I have always found your meetings tiring. We start at 9 a.m. each morning and finish at 5 p.m. with a break from 12:30 to 2:00 after reciting the Angelus. We offer morning and midday prayer together and the Eucharist as well. In Washington, we would go once to the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception for a beautiful Mass. All our liturgical prayers this year were held in the hotel.

Two documents were most significant. The first one was a presentation we make every four years. Referred as to Faithful Citizenship, this year the letter took a different turn. It is a document on the formation of conscience and follows the church’s ethical and moral tradition for making choices. It is made clear that it is not the task of Catholic bishops and priests to tell people how to vote. As you know, there are many other Christian groups that do that, or come very close to it.

This is not the role of the church. It is, as sometimes said in the press, that we avoid partisanship so as not to lose our tax-exempt status. Pope Benedict XVI, with that clarity which is so characteristic of him, has put it this way:

“The church cannot and must not take upon herself the political battle to bring about the most just society possible. She cannot and must not replace the state. Yet at the same time she cannot and must not remain on the sidelines in the fray for justice. She has to play her part through rational argument and she has to raw down the spiritual energy without which justice which always demands sacrifice cannot prevail and prosper. A just society must be the achievement of politics, not of the church. Yet the promotion of justice through efforts to bring about openness of mind and will to the demands of the common good is something which concerns the church deeply.”

Our letter, then, is a deciding document about the formation of conscience on the matter of voting, which each citizen exercises when they enter the voting booth. It is to be hoped that the careful reading of this letter, when combined with prayer for light, will help our citizens to make sound decisions on the matters that lie before our country in the coming year.

The other important document was a curriculum for the religious education of high school students. It was not a catechism, but rather a guideline for those who will write the catechism. In our parishes, we have much to do for our public high school students.

A day with our own saint

Invited by the saintly and devoted Julian Benoist, Mother Theodore Guérin came to Fort Wayne in 1840 to establish the first Catholic school in the area. Msgr. Benoist had just returned from what has been called “the trail of tears,” a journey he had taken with the Native Americans as they were sent away from their heritage, from the land of their fathers. Many said they would not go if the black robe did not come with them. When he returned, he hastened to bring Mother Guérin and the Sisters of Providence to Fort Wayne. Here is what is discovered about this critical moment in our recently published history written by Joseph M. White, Ph.D.

“Sisters enviado into the sisters’ St. Augustine Academy, including ‘Dark haired South German Catholics, American Protestants, Canadian French, bearing the names of the early French fur traders.’ Also among the students were many Indian girls from the families that had held on to their lands along the Wabash.


Thus did she arrive at what is now Saint Xavier College with three other members of her congregation. Thus came a woman now declared by the church to be a saint; that is, someone now in heaven who lived a life of virtue. Thus began the extraordinary story of the Sisters of Providence in the city of Fort Wayne. Unfortunately, there are only a few here now; but at one time, they taught in the following Fort Wayne parish schools of St. Jude, St. Patrick, St. John, Cathedral, as well as Central Catholic High School.

We honored them on Sunday, November 18th. ... “At the Immaculate Conception Church, Auburn, was most impressive. The sacred oils were spread in the benches in an attempt to light a fire. The sacred oils were spread in the benches in an attempt to light a fire in the tabernacle broken open. The Tabernacle was desecrated — the tabernacle broken open. The sacred oils were spread in the benches in an attempt to light a fire. The sacred oils were spread in the benches in an attempt to light a fire.

Late on a Friday night, the church was desecrated — the tabernacle broken open. The sacred oils were spread in the benches in an attempt to light a fire. The sacred oils were spread in the benches in an attempt to light a fire.

A night in Auburn

What happened in the Immaculate Conception Church, Auburn, was most painful. Late on a Friday night, the church was desecrated — the tabernacle broken open. The sacred oils were spread in the benches in an attempt to light a fire. Carefully observing the proper ceremony, as laid out by the church and put together with great reverence by our Office of Worship under our fine new director Brian MacMichael, we gathered solemnly in the church. This was a ceremony of reparation and sorrow. Interestingly, the proper document encourages parishioners to receive the sacrament of penance. It is not that they had done anything wrong, but as members of the body of Christ, we shared in the responsibility to do penance for this sin.

How wonderful that the church was almost full. The people told me how painful they found this experience and how grateful they were to their pastor, Father Babasimo Fernandez, for his steadfastness through these days.

Once we found through research that there should be no celebration of the Eucharist in the place that was violated, everything was moved to the nearby hall until a service of reparation and dedication would take place. After the Mass, in accordance with the rite, we had solemn benediction, and we all left the church with a feeling that a purification had taken place and a fitting penance had been done.

Despite what happened, I urge all pastors to keep the churches open during the day so there can be prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. I was especially pleased that Father Adam Schmidt and Father Ray Balzer, the former pastor, were present. Under Father Balzer, a program of eucharistic adoration in a nearby small chapel was initiated and continued to this very week with people coming even late at night for worship and prayer.

Conversations with the Saint Joseph’s Indians and the Bishop Luers Knights, both of whom will

Thanksgiving, and I look forward to being with you next week.
Novenas are prayers of devotion that are offered for nine days (or over some other period of time with a factor of nine). They had their origin in ancient Rome as times of preparation, essentially as prayers of mourning and commemoration of the soul to the mercy of God. In the early Middle Ages, novenas became ways of preparing for great liturgical events, especially Christmas. Novenas began to be associated with Our Lady, particularly in France and Spain.

Since Jesus himself counseled persistent prayer in his parables, it became obvious that novenas could be used as intercessory prayers, asking for particular needs. Christ says, “Ask and you shall receive, seek and you shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you” — Lk 11:9.

When Jesus ascended into heaven, he told the Apostles to “wait for the gift” he promised, the Holy Spirit. The apostles did as they were commanded. They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary, the mother of Jesus and his brothers (Acts 1:14). Nine days pass; during which time they waited in faith and continued to pray. They received the gifts of the Holy Spirit as promised. Mary shares in their faith as we pray this novena and mention our requests with trust and faith in God.

Taken from “Mention Your Requests Here,” The Church’s Most Powerful Novenas” by Michael Dubrueil, Our Sunday Visitor, 2000.

Praying the novena

Each day, pray together the opening verse from the Te Deum. The leader reads the short reflection and the petition for the day. Then the prayer is recited together after the petition each day for nine days.

All (use as the Concluding Prayer):
Almighty God, we offer this novena to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. She occupies a place in the church, which is highest after Christ and yet very close to us, for you chose her to give to the world the life which renews all things, Jesus Christ. And we pray as Mary: “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, our Savior, for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed. Almighty God, you have done great things for me, and holy is your name.” — Lk 1:46-49.

First Day, Thursday, Nov. 29, 2007:
Verse from the Te Deum: All: You are God: we praise you. You are the Lord: we acclaim you; You are the eternal Father: all creation worships you.
Leader: “I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.” Gen 3:15.

Through God’s loving foresight, Mary was placed, so to speak, on a path different from the way of humanity, born with original sin, entered the world. The light of the cross illuminated Mary’s life. Thus, she is worthy to be blessed among women.
Mary, conceived without sin, pray for all believers who seek the truth with faith, hope and love.
(Concluding prayer)

Second Day, Friday, Nov. 30, 2007:
Verse from the Te Deum: All: To you all angels, all the powers of heaven, Cherubim and Seraphim, sing in endless praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Leader: “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy: he will be called the Son of God.” Lk 1:35.
Grace in a soul is like a root from which a plant develops its branches, flowers and fruits. Virtue grows in proportion to grace. We can understand why Mary reached the highest degree of virtue and holiness: she was full of grace!
O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for the descendants of our father Abraham and Christians everywhere that one day we may all share in one banquet for all peoples.
(Concluding Prayer)

Third Day, Saturday, Dec. 1, 2007:
Verse from Te Deum: All: The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of prophets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
Leader: “She gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in the manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.” — Lk 2:7.
Mary gives Jesus to all the world, represented by the Magi who worshiped him in Bethlehem. She offers him to us: the Way, the Truth and the Life. O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for all the families in our diocese as they live the paschal mystery of life-death-and-resurrection in faith.
(Concluding Prayer)

Fourth Day, Sunday, Dec. 2, 2007:
Verse from Te Deum: All: You are the Lord, the King of Glory, the eternal son of the Father.
Leader: “His mother treasured all these things in her heart.” — Lk 2:51.

The presentation of the Lord encourages us to live as Mary in holiness, detached from worldly things, striving for purity in our hearts and minds. Once we know our vocation, we must follow it and live it faithfully until we are called to heaven.
O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for those discerning their vocation in life that they may follow where God calls them to be.
(Concluding Prayer)

Verse from Te Deum: All: Throughout the world the holy church acclaims you: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one true and only Son, worthy of all worship, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.
Leader: “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed … and a sword will pierce your own soul, too.” — Lk 2:34-35.
Jesus Christ saw Mary at the foot of his cross, sharing in his passion. In suffering, Mary can attain great nobility of character; indeed, the sufferer can become a real witness for God.
O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for all those broken in mind, body or spirit that they may be comforted and healed.
(Concluding Prayer)

Sixth Day, Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2007:
Verse from Te Deum: All: You overcame the sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
Leader: “When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside him, he said to his mother, ‘Woman, here is your son.’ Then he said to the disciple, ‘Here is your mother.’” John 19:26.

When things looked the darkest for the disciples and those who loved Jesus, he offered himself to humanity through his mother with these words: “Here is your mother.” (John 19:26) She became the mother of us all, interceding for us through Christ, her son.
O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for mothers and fathers, teachers and preachers, men and women religious, and all who spread the good news of salvation in our diocese.
(Concluding Prayer)

Eighth Day, Thursday, Dec. 6, 2007:
Verse from Te Deum: All: Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the blood of Jesus. O Mother, bring us with your saints to glory everlasting.
Leader: “All these were constant in devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus and his brothers.” — Acts 1:14.
Mary lived a life of prayer from her first “yes” to the arcange’s request. We would do well to consider and follow her as our model. “I say ‘yes,’ my Lord, to every word you say.”
O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for the needs of our diocese as we strive for justice, peace and reconciliation within ourselves, in our families and communities, and in our world.
(Concluding Prayer)

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T O D A Y ’ S C A T H O L I C
3

M A R Y
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Conception by Pope Pius IX, on Dec. 8, 1854, states: “We declare, pronounce and define that the doctrine which asserts that the Blessed Virgin Mary, first from the moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God, and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, savior of the human race, was preserved free from every stain of original sin is a doctrine revealed by God and, for this reason, must be firmly and constantly believed by all the faithful” (DS 2803).

Our nation’s relationship with Mary actually began prior to the Vatican’s solemn definition. In May of 1846, the Triumphal Council of Baltimore asked the Holy See to proclaim Mary, under the title of Immaculate Conception, to be the patroness of the Catholic Church in the United States. This spiritual bond between Mary and our nation was formalized in 1847 when Pope Pius IX entrusted America to her protection.

When the Diocese of Fort Wayne was established in 1857 by Pope Pius IX, it, too, was dedicated providentially to Mary under the title of Immaculate Conception. Beginning one year later in 1858, Mary appeared 18 times near Lourdes, France, to 14-year-old Bernadette Soubirous. When asked by Bernadette, Our Lady identified herself as: “I am the Immaculate Conception.”

In 1885, the Triennial Council of Baltimore determined the feast to be a holy day in all the dioceses of the United States. This action was confirmed by Pope Pius IX in 1885.

When completed, the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne was dedicated to the greater honor and glory of God on Dec. 8, 1860, the feast of the Immaculate Conception. In that reason, must be firmly and constantly believed by all the faithful” (DS 2803).

This spiritual bond between Mary and our nation was formalized in 1847 when Pope Pius IX entrusted America to her protection.

Mary’s honor, it was named with this title.

The 36-foot east window in the cathedral’s choir is graced with one of the most beautiful stained-glass images of Mary to be found anywhere. It contains a representation of the Immaculate Virgin in a luminous cloud of glory, surrounded by angels and encircled with traditional symbols. This image of Mary, as well as the other 12 elegant and priceless stained-glass windows, are all depict scenes in the life of Mary, the Mother of God. At the time of their installation in 1890 at the Royal Bavarian Art Institute for Stained Glass in Munich, Germany, they were described as “the finest of their kind in the western hemisphere.”
Pentecostal preacher finds fullness of truth in Catholic Church

Leads 54 others from his congregation to Catholicism

BY JENNIFER MURRAY

It is Easter Vigil. The small parish in Detroit has gone several years without any new members entering the faith. But this night they are expecting new members — 54 new members.

That is amazing for any parish, especially a small parish that seems to be shrinking rather than growing each year. But these 54 members were all African Americans and they came from the same church, Marantha Christian Church, an independent Pentecostal Church. They were led to the Catholic Church by their pastor Alex Jones.

As he was drawn to Catholicism, he lost many of his friends and colleagues. A rift developed with some of his family. He had to sell the church and watch some of his beloved flock walk away. He had to give up being a pastor, his livelihood and purpose for much of his life.

He was 60 years old when God called him to a new journey. In 2001, he decided to become Catholic and asked that the church left, but 54 joined him on the journey to become Catholic, including his wife, sons and daughters-in-law.

It has not been an easy transition. Jones said, “We were not welcomed into the church. People left the parish, would not shake hands. Many of the parishioners were afraid of the changes that might take place. They worried that the converts would try to convert them with their Pentecostal traditions.

However, as the years have passed, many of the former members of the Marantha Church have found a home in their new parish and their new faith.

On Oct. 1, 2005, Jones was ordained as a permanent deacon and serves St. Suzanne and Our Lady of Heaven parishes in Detroit. He has been on EWTN, given talks at countless parishes and has a book with his and his wife’s conversion stories titled “No Price Too High.”

Deacon Jones said for African Americans, or any culture that feel welcomed, they need to see their face on the liturgy. They need to see saints around the church from their ethnic background, hear music that touches their heart and really feel a part of the liturgy.

Suggests that anytime a parish is trying to evangelize to the community, the leaders need to take the time to figure out what appeals to the people.

Jones believes that many African Americans would love to become part of the Catholic Church, that they would embrace traditions such as praying the rosary and other devotions.

“However, ‘We’ve got to talk to African Americans,’ Jones said. ‘Catholics need to remember: ‘We exist to evangelize… We exist as the church of Jesus Christ to evangelize… We exist to build the kingdom of God.’

Kathleen Anderson is one of more than 30 Barnes & Thornburg attorneys providing legal services to their fellow parishioners in the Diocese of Fort Wayne - South Bend.

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1131 South Logan Street • Mishawaka
Dr. Ray Guarendi returns to speak on teens at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Parents, grandparents and others interested in practical ideas on child discipline will fill the sanctuary of the Immaculate Conception Church in Fort Wayne, in the northern parish of the diocese, tomorrow evening to hear Dr. Ray Guarendi speak on parenting.

Dr. Guarendi was recently a guest speaker at St. Eliz Seton Parish Church on Dec. 2-3 when Dr. Ray Guarendi was last here. He will speak on the joys and challenges of parenting in today's world.

Guarendi is a clinical psychologist, author, public speaker and radio host and has an extensive background and experience. He is a regular on Redeemer Radio — Catholic Radio 1450 AM, with "The Doctor Is In." He and his wife, Randi, are raising 10 adopted children ranging in age from eight to 20 and are members of Little Flower Parish in Canton, Ohio.

This will be a return visit to the parish after receiving rave reviews from his talk on parenting last February. Guarendi, who has authored books that include "Doctor's Winning Humor," "Power Parenting," "You're a Better Parent without Yelling," "You're a Better Parent in an Easy Reading Question-Answer Format," says "The best part of this is that the people have felt closer together because they rubbed shoulders in the parish hall during the recent Masses at Immaculate Conception."

According to Bishop John M. D'Arcy, the bishop was there to assist in the celebration of the Rite of Reparation held Friday, Nov. 16. The rite was a special liturgy used to complete the church's transition back to divine worship.

In 1846 Father Julian Benoit Baltus, the first bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne, made a visit to Immaculate Conception Church in Auburn to proclaim the Rite of Reparation in the church's original location.

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**News Briefs**

**PRIEST CELEBRATES MASS IN HALL OF HINDU TEMPLE**

Father Reju Kannampuzha of the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church delivers a homily at a Nov. 4 Mass inside the hall of a Hindu temple in New Delhi. The colorful portrait of Hindu deities in the hall is covered with a white curtain during the Mass. A church representative said celebrating Mass there was necessary because the Eastern-rite Catholics were denied access to liturgies in a Latin-rite Catholic church.

**Pope to Kenyan bishops: Welcome repentant women who had an abortion**

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Abortion can never be justified, but women who repent after having an abortion should be welcomed back into the Catholic Church, Pope Benedict XVI told the bishops of Kenya. Meeting the bishops Nov. 19 at the end of their “ad limina” visits to report on the status of their dioceses, the pope described the signs by which promoting abortion “to change with the Nov. 24 consistory”.

**Retired Bishop Niedergeses of Nashville dies**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (CNS) — Retired Bishop James D. Niedergeses of Nashville also was a pastor and teacher, a prison and hospital chaplain, and friend and mentor to many people who were isolated from their family and friends,” the pope told the bishops.

**Thomas Nov. 14 for treatment of a blood clot in his leg when his condition worsened and he began bleeding internally. A funeral Mass was to be celebrated Nov. 20 at Nashville’s Cathedral of the Incarnation, with Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Ky., as the main celebrant, followed by internment at Calvary Cemetery in Lawrenceburg. “We give thanks for Bishop Niedergeses’ many years of faithful, dedicated service to God’s people in the Diocese of Nashville,” said Bishop David R. Choby, current head of the diocese. “In his kindness, faithfulness, dedication and energetic service, he was an inspiration to me personally as well as the other priests of the diocese.”**

**Pope, at audience, encourages Christians to read Bible**

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — To know God and to know how to live their lives, Christians must read Bible, Pope Benedict XVI said. “Drawing close to the biblical texts, especially the New Testament, is essential for believers because ‘ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ,’” the pope said, quoting St. Jerome. At his Nov. 14 weekly general audience, the pope continued a talk begun the week before about the importance of the teaching of St. Jerome, the fourth-century doctor of the church. Reading the Bible teaches believers the way they are to live their lives, the pope said, but the Scriptures must be read in a spirit of prayer and must be understood the way the church understands them. “For Jerome, a fundamental criterion for the interpretation of Scriptures was harmony with the magisterium of the church,” he said. Pope Benedict said the books of the Bible “were written by the people of God, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit,” so “only in harmony with the faith of this people can we understand the sacred Scripture.”

**Youths at national conference in Ohio keep their faith alive**

COLUMBUS, Ohio (CNS) — About 20,000 youths had the chance to sing, pray, ask questions about their faith, meet new people and even play dodge ball. Bishop Matthew H. Clark of Rochester, N.Y., told participants during the closing ceremony that he hoped the experience was a “profound confirming of you and an expression of the deep love of the church for you.” He added, “And I hope that when you return, you share your experience and tell how your being together in these wonderful days in Columbus has spoken to your heart. The folks back home were very anxious to hear what you have learned and shared about Christ.” Bishop Clark served as celebrant for the closing ceremony in place of Columbus Bishop Frederick F. Campbell who was recovering from foot surgery. The Washington-based National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry was the conference’s sponsor, and the Columbus Diocese was the conference host. The Rochester bishop also addressed the sadness that overshadowed the conference because of the death of conference participant Veronica Gant, 16, of Las Vegas, who was killed by a hit-and-run driver in Columbus Nov. 8.

**Cardinal-designate from Texas credits region’s growth for elevation**

BALTIMORE (CNS) — The first cardinal from Texas to be chosen for the College of Cardinals since 1961 is cardinal-designate Daniel N. DiNardo, 58, said until two days before the announcement was made Cardinal-designate Daniel N. DiNardo, 58, said until two days before the announcement was made, he was far more about the archdiocese he heads, Galveston-Houston, than about himself. Cardinal-designate Daniel N. DiNardo, 58, said until two days before the announcement was made, he was far more about the archdiocese he heads, Galveston-Houston, than about himself. Cardinal-designate Daniel N. DiNardo, 58, said until two days before the announcement was made, he was far more about the archdiocese he heads, Galveston-Houston, than about himself. Cardinal-designate Daniel N. DiNardo, 58, said until two days before the announcement was made, he was far more about the archdiocese he heads, Galveston-Houston, than about himself.
Our Lady of Good Hope to host Catholic-Lutheran Advent Vespers Service

FORT WAYNE — The Lutheran-Catholic Dialogue Committee is sponsoring the sixth annual Catholic-Lutheran Advent Vesper Service of Light on the first Sunday of Advent, Dec. 2, at Our Lady of Good Hope Catholic Church in Fort Wayne.

The 5 p.m. service will include prayers, readings from both communities, and special music. In the processional, featured in the service will be a combined adult choir from area Catholic and Evangelical Lutheran Church in America congregations.

Refreshments and fellowship will follow in the church hall. Our Lady of Good Hope is located at 7215 St. Joe Rd.

Father Scully honored as outstanding educator

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross Father Timothy R. Scully, professor of political science and director of the Institute for Educational Initiatives at the University of Notre Dame, has been recognized as an outstanding teacher with a Crystal Apple Award from Michigan State University’s College of Education. He received the award and delivered the keynote address at a dinner reception held last month in East Lansing, Mich.

Father Scully is one of 25 educators to receive this year’s Crystal Apple Award, presented annually to teachers, professors, administrators and counselors who represent excellence and commitment to the teaching profession.

A fellow of Notre Dame’s Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Father Scully’s research and teaching focus on comparative political institutions, especially political parties and party systems and party leaders’ ability. He oversees the work of the University’s Center for Research on Educational Opportunity and the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE). Notre Dame’s signature program that provides hundreds of Catholic school teachers to under-served communities across the country, which he founded in 1983.

Father Scully served as Notre Dame’s executive vice president from 2000 to 2003, and as vice president and senior associate provost from 1994 to 2000. He serves as a Fellow of the University.

Order of St. Francis in Monroeville offers history book of parish, school

MONROEVILLE — The HASA team at St. Joseph School is offering for sale a history book. This book contains a dateline of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, history of Monroeville, history of St. Rose of Lima Parish and history of St. Joseph School in Monroeville. The book is 265 pages and contains many pictures of members of St. Rose Church, teachers and Sisters of St. Francis who teach or taught at St. Joseph School, plus nearly all of the eighth grade class pictures of graduates of St. Joseph School from 1924 to present. The book offers a picture history of many families who have lived in Monroeville and attended St. Joseph School, making it of value for current and future generations.

Students improve writing skills with online help

FORT WAYNE — Students at St. Joseph School, Hessen Cassel, are working on improving writing skills as one of their school-wide goals. Among stressing proper skills in the classroom and encouraging student ideas through 6+1 writing techniques, St. Joseph has adopted an online writing critique called Criterion.

Here students are given a prompt and asked to write about a specific topic. Students are graded on neatness, sentence structure, mechanics, style, organization and development. This unique program gives students and their parents feedback. Students are able to see their mistakes and work to improve their essays.

Teachers and parents have seen students’ awareness of how they write improve. One student who is excelling with this program is Georgia Gladding, an eighth grader at St. Joseph who enjoys creating stories that will take her readers to distant and interesting places. She is an avid reader of many different types of literature.

Christ Child Society launches Cloth to a Child

SOUTH BEND — For the 60th consecutive year, the Christ Child Society of South Bend launched its Cloth to a Child campaign in the South Bend area to help provide crib blankets, undershirts, booties and assorted clothing.

Bishop Dwenger world hunger food fast

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger students and staff will be participating in a 24-hour food fast sponsored by the Bishop Dwenger Social Justice Club and Catholic Relief Services on World Human Rights Day, Monday, Dec. 10. The fast from food will raise awareness about world hunger and its causes.

This event will enable participants to join in solidarity with the poor and hungry all around the world by fasting and learning more about what can be done to help.

As a practical application of the fast, sponsorships from friends and family are being sought. The money raised will aid Catholic Relief Services, the official international relief and development agency of the U.S. Catholic Conference.

Catholic Relief Services assists the poorest of the poor in 80 countries in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. They work with the poor and disadvantaged to foster dignity and economic self-sufficiency, and empower them to help themselves. To sponsor a student or join in this fast, please contact Melissa Wheeler at (260) 496-4700 or e-mail mwheeler@bishopdwenger.com.

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Lessons and Carols set for St. Bavo Dec. 2

BY SUSAN BAXTER

MISHAWAKA — A favorite Advent custom returns to St. Bavo Parish Sunday, Dec. 2, as the Marian Liturgical Choir joins with readers from the Antioch Catholic Youth Group in the annual “Service of Lessons and Carols.” The service begins at 7 p.m.

Though an old tradition rooted in medieval Christian worship, choir director Joe Higgenbotham promises to mix the old with a little new music this year.

“I have written a new song, ‘Come, O Come Emmanuel,’ that will be sung by the choir and congregation this year,” Higgenbotham said. “We are also doing some other songs that we did not do last year.”

But the “stars” of the evening will be the old favorites; the traditional carols proclaiming Christ’s birth, which are centuries old. Higgenbotham said the event will also feature “Creator of the Stars of Night,” in ancient plainchant. According to the Catholic Encyclopedia, plainchant is the beginnings of Catholic liturgical music. Often called “Gregorian Chant” after St. Gregory I, this musical form began in the early Middle Ages, before the advent of polyphony, and remains “the church’s own music” to this day.

The charming Austrian Carol, “Still, Still, Still,” will also be included this year, as will a tune written by Higgenbotham’s daughter Claire, “For God so Loved the World.”

Carols, though now a regular part of Christmas celebrations, were once banned by Oliver Cromwell in 17th-century England. The Service of Lessons and Carols was formalized by the Anglican Church in 1918.

The music frames nine readings from Scripture that follow the Messianic prophecies through the Incarnation, and the fulfillment of God’s promise of the Messiah. The Scripture will be proclaimed by Antioch youth lectors.

“The kids seem to really love doing this event,” Higgenbotham said. “It means a lot to them.”

Higgenbotham said the event will be special for the group in many ways. Soloist Rachel Holland will be graduating this year, and will not be singing at St. Bavo as regularly.

“She has a great deal of talent,” he said.

Though they have been rehearsing hard for the event, the group, which includes youth musicians, strives to put the emphasis on prayer.

“To keep it prayerful, we pray before each rehearsal,” Higgenbotham said.

“The readings and reflections help tremendously in showing that it is much more a prayer service than a concert,” Higgenbotham added.

As Advent approaches and the evening falls more quickly each night, the Marian Liturgical Choir, youth musicians and readers say they hope to share their love for the infant Jesus with the world.

“(They) sing it like they mean it.”

The service is free and open to the public.

BY SUSAN BAXTER

Members of the Marian Liturgical Choir, under the direction of Joe Higgenbotham, rehearse for the annual “Service of Lessons and Carols” scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 2, at St. Bavo. The traditional prayer service will feature new songs, familiar carols and hymns with nine lectors from the the Antioch Youth Group proclaiming Scripture that tells the story of Christ’s birth. The service begins at 7 p.m.

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An interview with Joseph White, historian, writer, scholar

INDIANAPOLIS — Joseph M. White, Ph.D., was the historian, writer commissioned to write “Worthy of the Gospel of Christ: A History of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.” Today’s Catholic asked White a few questions about his recent research, on the back-ground of this historical piece for the 150 year anniversary of the diocese.

TC: Joe, tell us about your background as a historian, your dissertation and interest in church history.

White: From childhood, the stories my parents told about our 19th-century Catholic immigrant Irish and German ancestors fascinated me. Immigrants including my forebears in my hometown of Indianapolis built the U.S. Catholic Church. I naturally wanted to learn the “inside story” of U.S. Catholic and immigrant history with graduate studies at Notre Dame under influential scholars such as Rev. Daniel and Phil Gleason. Through my historical writing, I hope to preserve the memory of our religious or a Catholic community that operated with little active historical memory or at best a selective memory.

TC: You have studied similar histories such as “Worthy of the Gospel of Christ!” If so, what were the differences?

White: After receiving the Ph.D. in history at Notre Dame, I worked there at the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism through the 1970s and 1980s. My project was a history of Catholic theological education funded by the Lilly Endowment and research for the book, “The Diocesan Seminaries in the United States: A History from the 1780s to the Present” (Notre Dame, 1989).


TC: In your research of the diocese, how did you begin?

White: By the late 1970s the diocese’s oldest parishes had been established more than a century earlier. I had introduced me to northern Indiana’s Catholic history. Recent books works on Notre Dame and its founder, Father Edward Sorin, were very helpful. Father Sorin’s early years as bishop of the parent diocese (Vincennes) and the 19th-century Fort Wayne bishop’s papers have been largely destroyed. I relied on their letters to Rome — available on microfilm for the 19th century at the University of Notre Dame Archives. The Fort Wayne bishop’s letters to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati at the same archives were also useful.

TC: What sources did you rely on with your research?

White: The lack of 19th-century bishops’ letters and records of early diocesan institutions turned me to newspaper research. I surveyed every issue of Indiana Catholic newspapers published in Indianapolis from 1870s to 1926. In 1926 Bishop Noll started a diocesan newspaper so I switched to surveying each issue of that paper at the diocesan archives. Newspaper stories provide the public announcements, dates of events, and data on institutions that bishops’ and chancellor’s papers in the diocesan archives usually lacked. It took an enormous amount of time and was hard on the eyes reading newspapers on microfilm at reader-panels and copying relevant pages. Other published and manuscript sources available at the diocesan and religious- order archives were used.

TC: What was the most difficult aspect of your research?

White: An accounting that the fact so many sources had been destroyed was difficult. It saddened me that a succession of bishops and chancellor’s were indifferent or perhaps even hostile to diocesan history. Holding diocesan archives consist largely of materials that crossed the bishops’ and chancellor’s desks — so they offer a selective view of the diocese. By the end of the 20th century, no diocesan leader said, “There is a need to document every aspect of diocesan history because we cherish our history. Let there be records management policies to bring documents to a well managed Diocesan Archives under the care of a professionally-trained archivist.” Instead, records of diocesan institutions such as the orphan asylums, the newspaper, the school office, Catholic Charities, and so forth are apparently lost. There was no interest in documenting lay activities such as mutual benefit and fraternal societies, diocesan charity and parishes from the 1920s. There was no vision for collecting these data to preserve memories.

The Diocesan Archives holds correspondence of Bishop Herman Alerding from 1908 to 1924, but mostly outgoing letters and only a few incoming ones. Bishop Noll’s papers at Notre Dame deal mostly with his national activities and editorial work. He relied on his chancellor to manage the diocesan archives. Then Bishop Noll left few papers for the Diocesan Archives. The Bishop Noll papers are extensive, but he or his secretary saved his letters but often discarded supporting documents accompanying letters. Bishop William McManus.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy was the diocesan historian, writer, scholar of that city’s Archbishop John McManus’ oldest parish, Sacred Heart of Jesus, in the 1850s to 2000”.

TC: Tell us something you believe is intriguing about each bishop’s research.

White: The first bishop, John Luers, a Cincinnati priest and protégé of the famous Bishop John B. Purcell, was 37 when he came to Fort Wayne in 1858 and took an instant dislike to the city. But for his new diocese of Fort Wayne, he had arranged for a partition of the diocese. He naturally wanted to learn the “inside story” of the diocese that burgeoned from the “radio priest” of the 1930s who also espoused wild economic theories and anti-Semitism. Noll also attached the Visitor’s duties to one of the diocese’s oldest parishes. Noll had handpicked Father Leo J. Pursley, an energetic pastor, as his auxiliary bishop in 1950. Bishop Pursley worked for only five years and three months before he had a serious stroke. He died a year later in January 1900 at age 57. The Indianapolis pastor, at 55 began a 24-year tenure as bishop of Fort Wayne. He was very short, unfaulingly gracious in manner — a beloved figure. During his years, the bishops’ papers were indelibly doubled with the arrival of new immigrants from eastern and southern Europe to work in the industry and construc-"
Archivist is diocesan history detective

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — One of the best kept secrets of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend resides in the lowest level of the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center. There, quietly spanning 4,000 feet are rows of shelving, boxes and file cabinets housing the rich and colorful history of this diocese.

The Diocesan Archives, a relative newcomer to the offices of this diocese, collects and preserves the official records of the diocese and any ancillary records which reflect the work of the church within the diocese.

Janice Cantrell is sole archivist at the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center located at 915 S. Calhoun St. and says the records are open to the public. “Anyone can research the records and many of the papers reflect things we are interested in; parish records, marriage and birth records, anything that once was located in the diocesan chancery,” says Cantrell.

Initially, the diocesan records were haphazardly housed in the chancery basement and at St. Patrick Parish. Under Cantrell’s direction the materials were moved into two classrooms in what was once Sacred Heart Elementary School. Organizing and creating a “finding list” of the entire collection of historical papers and materials took the better part of a year, she says, and in 2005, the archives, in need of more space, were moved into the basement of the newly renovated Archbishop Noll Catholic Center.

The archives hold the library that once was located in the diocesan museum. “There are books and Catholic materials on popes and general Catholicism,” says Cantrell. Other records and materials found in the archives include bound diocesan newspapers dating from 1912 to 2003, historical materials from parishes long since closed, microfilm of parish sacramental records up to 1940, photographs, marriage records from 1879 to 1999, Central Catholic High School transcripts, business records from the diocesan offices, official Catholic directories from 1902 to 1957, ordination and priest records and many of the papers and correspondence from the bishops who have formed this diocese.

Cantrell has processed and filed 39 boxes of Bishop Leo A. Pursley’s papers. “I enjoy doing it. It’s like getting to know the person. I never knew him (Bishop Pursley) but feel I know him now through his papers. My favorite is that he was a doodler,” says the historian.

Though she has organized and processed much of the materials, she admits there is much left to do. “It’s getting there,” she says. “I can find most of the things when I need to.”

However, there is a continual influx of files to be archived that are considered no longer current, such as following a retirement or large event like the Eucharistic Congress. Currently she is compiling a record of the deceased priests of the diocese for a proposed necrology.


“It was harder then because there was a lot of catching up to do,” says Cantrell, who holds a master’s degree in public history from the University of Toledo.

“Finding list” of the entire collection of historical papers and materials took the better part of a year, says Cantrell. She also checked and confirmed dates and resource titles, as well as scanned photographs for the book.

Though initial academic pursuits were in zoology, this engaging young woman finds history to be her life passion. She fields requests for historical data on parishes celebrating anniversaries, family members seeking sacramental records and family histories of priests, and considers herself the diocesan detective.

“I really like my job. My favorite is when people contact me about past generations and I actually can find the records for them. It’s very nice!” says Cantrell.

Janice Cantrell may be reached with historical information requests by phone at (260) 422-4611 Ext. 3368, by e-mail at jhackbush@fw.diocesefwsb.org or visit www.diocese.fwsb.org and click on the archives link.

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Bishop John M. D’Arcy will be in the bookstore from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to sign copies of the history of our diocese, WORTHY of the GOSPEL of CHRIST. The book may be purchased that day, or if you have already purchased it, you are welcome to bring your copy in for Bishop to sign it that day.

For this sale, Cathedral Books and Gifts will be open on the following Saturdays: December 1 and 15 - 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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260-436-9598
FORT WAYNE — Scholar Joseph White shared the rich history of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend at the History Center in Fort Wayne Sunday, Nov. 4.

Dr. White’s lecture was in correlation with the recent release of his book detailing the history of the diocese entitled “Worthy to the Gospel of Christ: A History of the Catholic Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.”

“What brings me here is the celebration of the diocese’s 150th year anniversary,” he said. “It’s my personal hope that the published history (of the diocese) creates a memory.”

According to White, Fort Wayne has been rich in Catholic culture since its origin. Catholics have built an institution in Fort Wayne through the establishment of parishes, parish schools, colleges, hospitals and homes for the aged. White also detailed the “element of struggle to sustain Catholic culture” in northeastern Indiana.

“The general hostility toward Catholics reflects their minority status,” he said. The scholar noted that Catholics make up 12 percent of the state’s population.

White then proceeded to narrate the history of what we now know as the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

“The diocese was renamed to reflect South Bend’s role in diocesan life,” he said.

The culture of the French and Native Americans who were prominent in the area were instrumental in shaping the early church in northeastern Indiana. In particular, White attributed the diocese’s success in the 19th century to the efforts of Msgr. Julien Benoit.

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Benoit, a Frenchman, was known for his emphasis on education, founding a boys and girls school in Fort Wayne. Most notably, the reverend founded the Cathedral of St. Augustine, now known as the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception downtown.

The mid-1800s brought an influx of European Catholics, especially German and Irish immigrants, White said. In 1845, 1 million Irish and German Catholics arrived in various American cities.

“American cities were swamped with Catholics, which brought about a nativist and anti-Catholic movement,” White explained.

Northeast Indiana was not immune to this trend. In 1847, 30 German Catholic families arrived in Fort Wayne and founded modern-day St. Mary’s Church.

“Hence we have the initial ethnic diversity of the diocese.” The parishes of Hessan Cassel, Besancon, Roanoke, Avilla and New Haven were founded by German speaking Catholics.

One German who was instrumental in the dissemination of German Catholic culture was Bishop Luers, who would later become the first bishop of Fort Wayne.

“During the Luers years, there was a tremendous proliferation of Catholic churches,” White recounted. “Luers made a decisive commitment to building Catholic life (in the area).” In 1864 alone, 34 new churches were built in the greater Fort Wayne area.

But these Catholic foreigners were not always welcomed by the English speaking Protestants. A general misunderstanding and ignorance begot an ignorance of the Catholic Faith. “The visibility and growth of Catholic community stirred Protestant fears,” he said.

The Catholic Church continued to grow steadily into the turn of century — what scholars classify as the Bishop Noll era. Under Noll, the Catholic population grew from 6,000 to 26,000 by 1926, despite tension from the Klu Klux Klan and other rival groups.

Noll’s tenure is associated with improving the religious knowledge of Catholics through the creation of the weekly Catholic newspaper Our Sunday Visitor. Likewise, the Catholic Community Center, located at the intersection of Barr and Jefferson Streets, served as a meeting place for Catholics. Other accomplishments included the foundation of Central Catholic High School in 1909, two girls academies, and St. Francis College in 1944 (now known as the University of Saint Francis).

White called attention to mounted photographs on display in the room. Photographer Sharon Little highlighted the beauty of the interior and exterior of every Catholic church in Allen County. Twenty-two were featured at the lecture, but the full collection of 82 parishes portraits, is featured in the book, “Behold the Face of Christ,” compiled by Little with reflections by Franciscan Sister Agnes Marie Regan.

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Noll’s tenure is associated with improving the religious knowledge of Catholics through the creation of the weekly Catholic newspaper Our Sunday Visitor. Likewise, the Catholic Community Center, located at the intersection of Barr and Jefferson Streets, served as a meeting place for Catholics. Other accomplishments included the foundation of Central Catholic High School in 1909, two girls academies, and St. Francis College in 1944 (now known as the University of Saint Francis).

White called attention to mounted photographs on display in the room. Photographer Sharon Little highlighted the beauty of the interior and exterior of every Catholic church in Allen County. Twenty-two were featured at the lecture, but the full collection of 82 parishes portraits, is featured in the book, “Behold the Face of Christ,” compiled by Little with reflections by Franciscan Sister Agnes Marie Regan.
NOTRE DAME — "Please continue to educate yourself in the Catholic faith. A book club will help," said Cindy Turner, who spoke at the Eucharistic Congress Aug. 18 leading a workshop, "Holy Reading and Spiritual Growth: A Book Club in Your Parish!"

Turner, who organized a club at Immaculate Conception Parish in Auburn over three years ago, gave the ins and outs of getting a book club started.

The first thing she urged everyone to do was talk to their parish priest about the idea. Turner said that the pastor should be agreeable to the club before a start-up. "This is most important," she said.

"I didn’t want to just take books and use those I had read and loved," said Turner. Her group decided that, after books were chosen, the club would meet on the last Sunday of the month during which the next book would be distributed.

Book club meetings may vary as needed by individual parishes she suggested. Some parishes, she added, may choose to meet monthly, bimonthly or quarterly depending upon interest.

Turner suggested meetings be open to those who are age 18 and above. All meetings should be arranged through a parish administrator so books can be ordered and flyers, posters and bulletin announcements completed.

The Auburn club chooses reading materials available from the Cathedral Book store and Catholic in nature.

"You have to be careful because you are leading a Catholic group," Turner said. "There’s all kinds of good materials out there. You just have to have the Holy Spirit guide you."

In order to keep material fresh, Turner suggests that clubs not read more than one book per author each year. Materials can be easy reading such as "Attitudes of Gratitude" or more in depth such as "Treasure in Clay, The Autobiography of Fulton J. Sheen."

"Read your Catholic newspaper, get on the Internet, check on Catholic Radio," Turner said. "You have to evaluate what your group would want."

Purchasing books can be done individually or as a parish group. Turner reported at her parish, group books are purchased at a 20 percent discount at the Cathedral Bookstore. Participants then pay the parish office for the books.

Book club pointers

Promotion of the book club

The first book choice should be made by the leader and parish priest. Turner said at the workshop. Subsequent books can be chosen by the group as a whole.

A wide variety of books are available, including fiction and nonfiction titles such as "John Paul II, A Life of Grace" by Renzo Allegri, "St. Michael and the Angels" and "The Yellow Brick Road" by William J. Bausch.

After a book is chosen and the date is set, promoting the club is important. Publishing the information in the parish bulletin and on flyers follows.

Leadership tips

Before the first meeting, pray for the book club and leader. Leaders are encouraged to show interest in the club.

"The leader needs to be enthusiastic to share their love of God. The leader should always show excitement to learn more about their Catholic faith through spiritual reading," Turner noted. "The leader also needs to let the Holy Spirit guide," said Turner.

Spiritual book club leaders are also responsible for announcements and posters or flyers for the new club as well as working with the parish administrator to record responses.

The leader places the order for books and a follow up notice in the parish bulletin when the book will be available. If the club is already established, he or she may call members who were not present at the previous discussion to inform them of the next book pick up.

Typically, those who head groups will choose the first book with approval from the pastor.

At book club meetings discussion leaders rotate their duties for a change of perspective.

Discussions can be held as a whole group or divided into smaller groups to discuss sections or chapters of a book with all participants gathering for the last 20 minutes of the club. Participants may use post-it notes and highlighters to mark items for discussion.

At that time, a spokesperson from the group gives highlights of the small group’s discussion. A leader could read a portion or paragraph of a group’s discussion.

"You could ask the group to think about what was read and ask if someone would like to share their thoughts. Remember that not everyone will like the book that you read. All must listen to everyone and their reason for liking or disliking a book," said Turner.

One of the most important things that leaders do notes Turner, is to "Pray before each discussion begins, pray after each discussion ends."

"Everyone," Turner said, "should pray for the success of your parish’s spiritual book club."
**EDITORIAL**

**A worthy read of diocesan history**

We profess in the creed that Jesus “suffered under Pontius Pilate.” The inclusion of Pilate’s name might strike us as a seemingly insignificant or curiously tangential detail, but its place in Christology is profound and one that we cannot easily dismiss.

The recent release of the diocesan history, “Worthy of the Gospel of Christ,” reflects the importance of the particular: persons, places, dates are all the media in which God reveals himself and touches with his grace. Analogously, Catholics are called not to love humanity as a generic or amorphous concept, but to love particular, concrete persons — frankly, a much more daunting task. To “love the human race” sounds — and is — easy, because it makes no real demands on us. To love particular people, even when they’re annoying, at particular moments, when it’s not convenient, and in or from particular places, near or far, of various races and creeds: this is the essence of the love the Scriptures call “charity,” and in a certain sense it can only be exercised in the particular, not the abstract or generic.

Christ died not for a generic “human race” but for particular persons — that is what makes his love on the cross so profoundly moving: as St Augustine said, “he died for each one of us if there were only one of us.” Christ laid down his life not for a principle or for a concept but for persons in all their particularity. And we who follow him and bear his name are called to nothing less. We cannot be content to have warm, pious feelings about our concern for “the poor” or “the unborn” or “the immigrant” as categories or concepts, but rather must love them in all their particularity. We must learn to love that poor person, to support this unborn child (and its parents), and reach out to that immigrant family. Otherwise we run the risk of becoming pseudo-Christians, people who love others in general but no one in particular.

**Support good art**

The holiday season always offers many family films and the opportunity to explore art through film. If good art is defined as touching or stirring the emotions to make its impact, then “Bella” would fit that description. Currently playing in theaters, the tale, with its twists and turns, tells the story of a man whose life faces many unexpected directions — some for bad, some for good. But the lessons of the main character Joechese us with is that we learn to meet the good and bad of life — the importance of family in difficult and happy times — the importance of not making your own concerns the highest priority. Joe learned to make a gift of himself in the movie “Bella.”

If touching the senses to come out of ourselves to appreciate life more, then a movie preview called “Under the Same Moon” may also be a good piece of art. This movie follows a Mexican boy in Los Angeles. Taking the audience through immigration raids, it looks to tell the story of a struggle many unauthorized workers face. It puts a human face on the issue of immigration reform. We would challenge that we should see the humanity to these issues, and sometimes art — in this case, film — can draw out these traits.

**This week’s blog question**

Have you read “Worthy of the Gospel...”? Tell us something that you found fascinating about our diocesan history. Visit www.diocesecwb.org/blog

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**EDITORIAL**

**Encouragement to medical intern**

I am writing in response to the new intern who wanted advice on distributing contraceptives (That’s A Good Question, Oct. 28, 2007, Today’s Catholics). We, my friends and I, would like him to know there are plenty of Catholics who are looking for a good doctor who follows the Creighton Method. I do not know where this intern will practice, but I recommend that he contacts NFP or Dr. Patrick Holly in Fort Wayne. I am sure Dr. Holly’s practice is growing. We need more doctors like him, and we pray more interns will be brave enough to follow our faith and trust God will send them faithful followers.

Angela Schade, Stacy Dilley, Rebecca Grubbs and Elizabeth Schipper

Fort Wayne

**Tales from a fussy Uncle Tim at Thanksgiving celebrations**

**MANY HATS**

**BY TIM JOHNSON**

“The Kids, no drinks on the carpet, even sippy cups.”

“Keep your food in the kitchen.”

“Let everyone go through the line before you get in line for seconds or thirds.”

“Don’t pick on the dog.”

“Don’t feed the dog chocolate.”

“Don’t tickle that kid so hard after dinner, or you’ll have a mess to clean up.”

“You’ll have to take turns with the bikes.”

“No we can’t go swimming today. We closed the pool for the winter. No, we can’t reopen it.”

“We don’t plant the garden this time of the year.”

“We only pick the beans in the summer.”

“Wear your shoes outside, don’t you know its cold out there?”

“Please close the door, you’re heating the outdoors. You’ll let the mice in the house.”

“Take off those muddy shoes before coming in the house.”

“Do you enjoy antagonizing another one?”

“Maybe we can make a movie, later.”

**Osmund**

**died 1099 feast - December 4**

Born in Normandy, Osmund was appointed William the Conqueror’s chancellor and went to England with the Norman invasion. He was officially connected with the Domesday survey of English settlements and became bishop of Salisbury in 1078. He finished building the Salisbury cathedral and its organization and constitutions became the English model. He was devoted to his duties, diocese and books, was a strict disciplinarian, and tried to steer a middle course in the church-state controversy between King William II and St. Anselm.
Creating cardinals: Pomp, circumstance and input to the pope

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI presides over his second consistory in late November, inducting 23 new cardinals into the church’s most exclusive body.

The ceremony to create the cardinals takes only an hour, but the celebrations and consultative events that surround it last four days.

The working part comes first, when the pope meets Nov. 23 with the College of Cardinals — including the cardinals-to-be — in a closed-door assembly. The main topic for the morning session is eumenism, while the afternoon is open to “free interventions” on other matters.

That Nov. 24, the pope holds the consistory proper, a Liturgy of the Word, during which he pronounces a formula that officially creates the new cardinals.

Then, as each cardinal kneels before him, the pope hands him a scarlet biretta — the “red hat” — whose color signifies a cardinal’s willingness to shed his blood for the faith. It’s a moment that always prompts applause from pilgrim cheering sections.

In the afternoon, the Vatican hosts receptions for the new cardinals in an “open house” event that attracts thousands of well-wishers. For some, it’s a rare chance not only to greet the cardinals but also to see rooms of the Apostolic Palace that are normally off-limits.

On Nov. 25, the pope consecrates a morning Mass with the new cardinals, presenting each of them with a gold ring, a sign of their special bond with the church of Rome.

The consistory and the ring Mass are scheduled for St. Peter’s Square, mainly because of the huge crowds expected. Rain and cold could force the events inside, but that’s a worst-case scenario that liturgical planners hope they don’t have to face.

On Nov. 26, the pope holds an audience with the new cardinals, their relatives and the pilgrims who have accompanied them. It’s a less-formal event and gives the visitors a real chance to voice support for their favorite sons.

Although most of the attention will focus on the public events, the consultative session with cardinals is an important part of the program. Pope Benedict, continuing a tradition of his predecessor, conveined the cardinals at his first consistory in 2006 to get their input on issues that included dialogue with Islam and outreach to Catholic traditions.

Naturally, not all the cardinals will be able to make it to Rome for the consistory events. Vatican officials were still doing a final tally, but they estimated that about 150 of the 180 existing cardinals would be able to attend.

That will ensure a large red sector around the papal altar. It used to be a much smaller group: 90-70 cardinals; 30 years ago, there were 134.

After this consistory, the College of Cardinals will have 201 members. That’s a record number, but one that seems destined to be broken in coming years.

Kingship of Jesus celebrated

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Christ the King
Lk 23:34-43

The Second Book of Samuel is the source of this feast’s first reading. Through it, God promised the reign of King David in Israel, which was from 1004 to 971 BC.

In this weekend’s reading, Davidipedia declares that King David is the king of Israel. In reading about David, or his predecessor Saul, or Solomon, or any of the kings, it is important to note that the kings were much more than governmental authorities or political figures in the eyes of the ancient Hebrews. The task of every king was to strengthen the union between God and the people.

Also important is the fact that while heredity eventually played a role in kingless succession, the kings were seen as God’s gifts to the people. Through them, God led the people to peace and prosperity.

A passage from the Epistle to the Colossians forms a moderately important city of the Roman Empire.

Boldest, the epistle asserts that Jesus is the absolute center of creation. Elloquent and profound, this reading acclaims Jesus as the “image of the invisible God.” He is God, the creator. In Jesus all human beings and certainly all Christians come together and, more wondrously, bond with God. Therefore, through him, all people have reason to hope for eternal salvation.

St. Luke’s Gospel furnishes the Gospel reading. It is a passage from Luke’s powerful Passion narrative that recounts the trial and execution of Jesus.

The Gospel recalls the inscription placed above the head of Jesus on the cross. It read, “The King of the Jews,” in Hebrew, Greek and Latin. The Romans wanted no one to wonder who the man being executed was. The three languages were used to make clear to any and all that the crucified was who he claimed to be: the king of the Jews.

However, for Luke’s Gospel, this Roman tactic to deter future treason instead was divine revelation. It situated Jesus in salvation history. God had chosen the Jews. They were to proclaim God’s presence and love. So, Jesus indeed was the king of the Jews.

Luke’s Gospel then tells us about the two criminals being crucified beside Jesus. In cynicism and despair, one of them taunts Jesus, blaming God. The other declares that Jesus is Lord, with command over heaven itself. To reward that faith, Jesus promises the believing convict life eternal. Even in the darkness and terror of Calvary, Jesus gives the greatest gift of divine love, forgiveness from sin.

Reflection

Although our closest neighbor to the north, Canada, is a constitutional monarchy, and although a number of powerful and stable countries throughout the world also are monarchies, the election of King Baudouin I of Belgium, who since has died, made headlines when he refused to approve an abortion law.

The king said that he would not allow himself to be an agent in legalizing abortion. However, his action, while very controversial, caused many, however, to rethink their views about abortion. They saw that the king had expressed in himself the highest of values.

This feast comes from the European experience of monarchy. Jesus, the king of the Jews in Pilate’s estimate, the king of creation, by death on Calvary displayed the unquestioning and resolved devotion to God that alone is the key to salvation for any of us.

READINGS

Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3 Ps 122:1-5 Col 3:12-20 Lk 23:35-45

Monday: Dn 1:16-8, 18-20 (Ps) Dn 3:52-56 Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday: Dn 2:31-45 (Ps) D 3:57-61 Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday: Dn 1:5-13, 14-16, 22-28 (Ps) Dn 3:62-67 Lk 21:12-19


Friday: Rom 10:9-18 Ps 19:2-5 Mt 4:18-22

Saturday: Dn 7:15-27 (Ps) Dn 3:82-87 Lk 21:34-36

CATEQUIZ’EM

By Dominic Campisson

In November the church remembers Clement I. This saint is often overshadowed by Thanksgiving, so this year he gets his own quiz.

1. What position in the church did Clement hold?
   a. priest
   b. Bishop of Rome (pope)
   c. cardinal

2. When did he live?
   a. in the first century BC
   b. around the turn of the second century
   c. AD 324 to 396

3. He was closely associated with this apostle who may have appointed him successor:
   a. Paul
   b. Jesus
   c. Peter

4. Clement is possibly mentioned in this letter of Paul though it may be mere coincidence:
   a. Corinthians
   b. Romans
   c. Philippians

5. Clement is often thought of as the first leader of the early church (after the apostles) about whom:
   a. much fact is actually known
   b. we have much to hide
   c. Catholics are not allowed to know

6. It is not clear if he was the first or third successor in his diocese because:
   a. early records are confused, even listing one man, Cletus as two
   b. because there were 14 Clements who became pope
   c. because Clement II sound like a robot

7. Other than this letter (07), the works of Clement have generally been categorized by researchers as:
   a. having no actual connection to him
   b. having been written during his papal period
   c. to have been banned because they were heretical and so he had to eat his words.

8. St. Clement is amongst a select group having had one of these named for him:
   a. Indian casinos in San Diego
   b. border marker sites near Mexico
   c. islands off California

9. His name also was given to the city of San Clemente, Calif., home of this now-deceased U.S. president:
   a. Ronald Reagan
   b. George Washington
   c. Richard Nixon

10. Legend, rather than likelihood, showed Clement dying as a martyr in this far-flung region:
    a. Moldova
    b. the Crimea
    c. Ifni in Africa

11. According to another legend, what happens once a year in the nearby sea?
    a. Clement’s ghost rises and sings “My Darling Clementine,”
    b. Clement’s spirit returns to baptize locals
    c. His tomb is shown to the locals once a year by a receding tide

12. Why does Clement have to be called Clement I?
    a. because Clement II sound like a robot
    b. because there were 14 Clements who became pope
    c. because the pope is always called the first of a name, as a way to correct the confusion with popes called sixties and ninths

13. What connection had Clement I to “Clemens non Papa?”
    a. Clement was the successor to Paul, but Non Papa was a rival claimant, who lost, hence the title.
    b. Non Papa was a pagan who debated and lost to Clement I.
    c. None, composer Clemens Non Papa was so nicknamed to indicate that he was not the pope, probably an unnecessary precaution.

ANSWERS:
1. b, 2.b, 3.c, 4.c, 5.a, 6.a, 7.b, 8.b, 9.a, 10.c, 11.c, 12.b, 13.c, 14.b, 15.c
Catholics ask saints for intercession, their prayers on our behalf

I am a devout (Methodist) Protestant who is a regular reader of the column, “Taking the Faith,” and I have been reading it for years. Why does the Catholic Church place so much emphasis on saints and saint-hood? Anonymous, South Bend

Probably for the same reason you or I might place emphasis on the veneration of saints. However, the doctrine of the communion of saints emphasizes at least two things: one, by baptism, we are a part of a body that is also a part of the church; and two, their prayers on our behalf.

How is it that Aquinas can be a canonization candidate? Why does the Catholic Church place so much emphasis on saints and saint-hood? Anonymous, Fort Wayne

First of all, Jesus taught the value of friendship. That is, the communion of saints and the intercession of their prayers on our behalf.

I recently read that Thomas Aquinas did not regard abortion as wrong until the end of the first trimester. How is it that Aquinas can be a canonized doctor of the church and also hold this view, which would be punishable by excommunication today?

Anonymous

The doctrine of the communion of saints emphasizes at least two things: one, by baptism, we are a part of a body that is also a part of the church; and two, their prayers on our behalf.

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They call me coach ... girls basketball coach

TODAY'S CATHOLIC
NOVEMBER 25, 2007

Difficult to trace where Joseph and Mary lived before birth of Jesus

What is the background of St. Joseph, the husband of Mary? It is hard to figure out in the Bible exactly where Joseph and Mary lived before the birth of Jesus.

St. Matthew implies they lived in Bethlehem, because the Magi followed a star that hovered over a house in Bethlehem where they found the child Jesus with Mary his mother. St. Matthew mentions no residence of Joseph in Nazareth prior to the return from Egypt. St. Luke also locates the residence of Mary and her parents, sumably of Joseph in Nazareth before the birth of Jesus.

The angel Gabriel even appeared to Mary at Nazareth to announce the birth of Jesus. Since the Roman emperor Augustus Caesar ordered a census to be taken, Joseph went from Nazareth to Bethlehem, because he was the head of the family unit. St. Luke introduces Joseph as the husband of Mary who was from Bethlehem, to register with Mary, his espoused wife, who was a relative of Jesus.

Father Richard Hire

HIRE HISTORY

FATHER RICHARD HIRE

to Ein Kerem, on the outskirts of Jerusalem, to see Elizabeth. It is not plausible that Mary would have traveled alone, a young Jewish girl expecting, the three-day journey from Nazareth to Ein Kerem.

Another opinion could say, if Joseph was originally from Bethlehem and Mary from Jerusalem (cities five miles from each other) Joseph was known each other before the birth of Jesus. Mary, possibly with her parents, and also St. Joseph, could have then moved up north to the area of Nazareth.

When King Herod the Great died, he was succeeded by Archelaus (4 B.C.-A.D. 6) who showed he had inherited the murderous apprehensions of his father Herod the Great.

Father Murphy-O’Connor says just at that moment Herod Antipas, who had set up the nest-ch of Galilee, was recruiting artisans for the construction of his capital Sepphoris. Joseph settled at Nazareth three miles to the southeast on the Roman road from Sepphoris to Jerusalem.

St. Matthew calls Nazareth the native place of Jesus. St. Luke calls Nazareth the place where Jesus had been raised. St. Matthew and St. Mark also show relatives of Jesus at Nazareth that could be nephews, nieces, half-brothers, half-sisters or cousins. The male names mentioned are James, Joses, Judas and Simon.

As a carpenter, Joseph could have found work at Sepphoris. There he could have been a bricklayer, stonemason or master builder. The Greek word for carpenter, “tekton,” means one who works in wood, stone or metal.

K. Prag says the Piacenza Pilgrim records a church at Sepphoris in the late sixth century where there were objects associated with Mary. This may be the remains of a later tradition identifying Sepphoris with the home of Mary’s parents, Sts. Anne and Joachim. At Sepphoris you can see the remains of the Crusader Church of St. Anne dating back to the 12th century. In the 14th century, Latin Christians generally believed that Mary’s parents lived in Sepphoris, and that they were the high place of St. Anne. This church was a three-aisled basilica with granite columns and limestone capitals. There was a tower above the north chapel.

At Nazareth is the Church of St. Joseph, also called the Church of the Nutrition. Here tradition locates the house of Joseph, where Jesus himself grew up. A church was built here in the 12th century. It was a three-aisled basilica with three apses.

The Church of 1914 was built on these foundations. St. Justin Martyr (d. A.D. 165) says Joseph sold flax plows and yokes for oxen.

The Gospel of Thomas includes Joseph making beds. Arculli, in A.D. 670, speaks of this house where Jesus was brought up. The Franciscan Order refers to the Crusader Church of St. Joseph that stood here in its time.

What is something about yourself that you wish people might know? I am Derrick Sneyd, a Roman Catholic priest who often looks into a conversation, which gives me the opportunity to witness to the person of Jesus Christ.

What is your favorite Scripture passage? I am leaning towards reflection and prayer centered on the parable of the prodigal son. The real focus is on the older son and how in my own life I should not fall prey to the passion of anger which is so destructive.

Who is your favorite pope? My favorite pope is becoming Benedict XVI. His tenacity and clear thinking captivate my attention. He is a man of depth and holiness.

What is something about yourself that most people might not know? I enjoy putting my culinary skills to the test. Sometimes it becomes more embarrassing than too! I love to enjoy good food.

What’s the best part of being Catholic? Now, after 37 years of priesthood, I would say the best part of being Catholic is the ability to introduce myself as “I am Derrick Sneyd, a Roman Catholic priest and often looks into a conversation, which gives me the opportunity to witness to the person of Jesus Christ.”
Two Diocesan Football Teams Advance to the Dome for Claim to State Titles

South Bend Saint Joseph’s will play Indianapolis Bishop Chatard for the title of Class 3-A state champion on Saturday, Nov. 24. Saint Joseph’s defeated Fort Wayne Concordia, 28-10, on Nov. 16 for the semi-state title. In Class 2-A, Fort Wayne Bishop Luers will play Heritage Christian for a state title on Friday, Nov. 23. Luers defeated Cass, 14-0, for the semi-state title on Nov. 16. In other action on Nov. 16, Lowell beat Fort Wayne Bishop Dwenger, 10-7, on Nov. 16, dashing the Saints’ chance for a state championship title.

Hoosier Preview: CYO Basketball Looks to the Winter Sports

By Michelle Castleman

FORT WAYNE — With the gym floors waxed and the conditioning underway, Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) teams across the league are gearing up for the 72nd annual basketball season. The Queen of Angels Invitational at the University of Saint Francis will preview 10 different teams over Thanksgiving weekend with CYO league play kicking off Saturday, Dec. 1.

Here’s a quick preview of what to watch for this season: St. Aloysius

Tony Sorg was not sure just how long he has been coaching Gator basketball. “It’s been at least 10 years since I started as head coach and several years before that as an assistant,” said the Gator alum. This season Sorg lists nine players on his combined seventh and eighth grade team. The Gators return just two starters from a year ago — Luke Little and Logan Harris. “It will be a learning season,” explained Sorg. Chad Wyss, Noah Rider and Alex Wampole will likely round out the starting five.

St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel

Seventh grader Wil Knapke and 6-foot, 1-inch cousin James return as starters for the Squares who finished 19-5 last season. In his third season as head coach, Jim Knapke will also count on eighth graders Alex Miller, Brian Nichter and newcomer Mitch Castleman for leadership. “We have a solid nucleus and are looking forward to a fun season,” said Knapke, who will also count on eighth graders Colton Martin, Luke Little and Logan Harris.

St. Theresa

“Our main goal this season is to teach fundamentals and prepare our players for the next level,” said Coach Mike Palmer. Palmer has been coaching basketball for 33 years now and has nine players on his combined team: With just one returning starter, the Crusaders hope to “hold their own and beat the teams they know they can beat,” concludes Palmer. Dave Luehring, Zach Palmer, Jay Lauer and four former Crusaders now attending Bishop Luers are helping this season with coaching duties.

Benoit Academy

Third year coach Paul Gerardot has three players returning from last season and seven newcomers posted for 2007-2008. As with every other year, Gerardot’s main goal for his defending Blue League champs is to build character and teach the team sportsmanship. This team has not played together since the fourth and fifth grade. “Many other teams, but Gerardot feels what they lack in chemistry is to build character and teach the team sportsmanship.”

St. Vincent

In his 10th season with the St. Vincent Panthers, Coach Todd Martin is excited about the upcoming season. With 13 players on his roster, Martin names quickness and a very balanced squad as strengths.

Although smaller in size than years past, his group claimed both titles as seventh graders; they have the same goal for this year. Assistant coaches for the Panthers are Mark Eifert, Dane Campbell and Justin Martin. The Panthers will rotate their starting five between Evan Fromich, Justin Schafer, Keenan Fuller, Josh Elyes, Drew Cagnet, Sean Herberger and Carter Eifert.

St. Joseph St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

With a brand new gym to practice in, all nine boys in the eighth-grade class are out for the basketball team this season and that has Coach Chris Yaney looking forward to a good year. Yaney reports, “It’s been fun getting to practice on a big court.” Yaney has moved up with this group each season over the years. “Although we’re small in numbers, these boys have some size and a good work ethic,” said Yaney. The Panthers will most likely go with Andrew Yaney, Drew Morden, Chris Williams, Jake Golden, Manuel Martinez or Austin Fisher as starters this season.

St. John the Baptist, New Haven

Troy Hoffer and Tom Martin are the assistant coach positions for the Panthers.

Marian Volleyball State Runner-up

Mishawaka Marian High School’s volleyball team was the runner-up team in the Indiana High School Athletic Association Class 3-A state championship. Defeated by Belmont of Decatur, 25-16, 27-25, 25-23, at the state finals on Nov. 3 in Muncie, the team is shown in this photo at the event with their trophy. The team consists of Meredith Farkas, Kathleen Chelnicki, Claire Farkas, Renee Mischler, Stephanie Kreager, Monica Meuninck, Katie Britton, Mollie Pajakowski, Jennifer Ditsch, Kathryn Mischler, Kirsten Michels, Maggie Pajakowski, Katherine Chalko and student managers Katie Dalton and Devree Sropczynski. Coached by Dan Anderson, assistant coaches include Steve Anderson, Mark Nowak and Sherry Keyser.

Cheer Competition Results

FORT WAYNE — The Indiana State High School Cheer Competition was held on Nov. 3 at New Castle High School. Results for area high school participation include: The Bishop Dwenger freshman squad took first place in the Freshman Division, Bishop Dwenger Junior Varsity squad took third place in the Junior Varsity Division, the Bishop Luers Junior Varsity squad was a state finalist in the Junior Varsity Division and the Bishop Dwenger Varsity squad took first place in the Varsity A Division.

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Provena Health, a Catholic health system, builds communities of healing and hope by compassionately responding to human need in the spirit of Jesus Christ.
USF celebrates Christmas traditional events

FORT WAYNE — Members of the community are invited to participate in a variety of events during the Christmas season at the University of Saint Francis.

- **Living Nativity**
  - **Sunday, Dec. 2, at 6 p.m.**
  - In 1223, Francis of Assisi led a group of villagers from the Italian village of Greccio in celebrating the Lord’s birth by reenacting the first Christmas. Thus began the tradition of the Christmas crèche. As Advent begins, the staff and students of the university present a Living Nativity as a witness to the powerful presence of God’s love incarnate in the world. The Living Nativity will be staged at the small amphitheater next to the Pope John Paul II Center on the shore of Mirror Lake. Parking is available off Leesburg Road. A petting zoo with the animals for the Living Nativity will be available for children from 5-6 p.m. at the Living Nativity site. No charge for admission.

- **Lighting of the Lake**
  - **Sunday, Dec. 2, at 6 p.m.**
  - Vivid lights will encircle the segment of Mirror Lake closest to Spring Street for a shining symbol of Christmas for the Fort Wayne community. You may dedicate one or more luminaries at $10 per luminary to a loved one, in memory of someone special, in recognition of a special occasion, or just to wish a student good luck with final exams. Call (260) 434-3275 to order luminaries. No charge for admission.

- **Christmas in the Castle**
  - **Saturday, Dec. 1, from 3-7 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 2, from noon to 6 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 8, from 3-7 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 9, from 6 to 11 p.m.**
  - First floor areas of the historic Bass Mansion have been decorated for Christmas by local floral designers. Admission: $5 per person, $10 maximum per family. Seniors over the age of 65 are invited to enjoy Christmas in the Castle for $3 on special days: 1-3 p.m. on November 30, and from 1:30-4 p.m. on December 4 and 6. Handicapped parking is available and is wheelchair accessible.

- **Breakfast with St. Nicholas — Family Event**
  - **Sunday, Dec. 1. Check in at 8:30 a.m. Breakfast at 9 a.m. in North Campus Foyer area (formerly Abundant Life Tabernacle).**
  - Enjoy a month of food and fun activities with family and friends while learning about the life and legacy of St. Nicholas; then tour the first floor of Bass Mansion decorated for Christmas. Admission: $8.50 per adult and $4.50 per child. For reservations call (260) 434-3276 by Nov. 27.

- **Contemporary American Craft Exhibit**
  - **Saturday, Dec. 1, through Sunday, Jan. 20, 2008. Gallery hours are: Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sundays 1-5 p.m.**
  - The School of Creative Arts presents the exhibit and sale of crafts in six media: fiber, ceramics, wood, metal, glass, and stone by more than 70 professional artists from across the United States. The exhibit is located in the Weatherhead Gallery in the Mimi and Jan Rolland Center for Visual and Communication Arts on Leesburg Road.

  No charge for admission.

- **Star of Bethlehem at the Planetarium**
  - **Saturday, Dec. 1, at 3 and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 2, at 3 and 7:45 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 8, at 3 and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 9, at 5 p.m.; Friday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 15, at 3 and 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 16, at 5 p.m.**
  - The Schouweiler Planetarium is located in Achac Hall of Science, on the Leesburg Road side of the USF campus. Admission: adults $4, senior citizens and under 18 $3, $14 maximum per family.

- **Choral Music Concert**
  - **Sunday, Dec. 2, at 7 p.m.**
  - A concert featuring the University Singers will highlight traditional carols and classical arrangements by a variety of composers and arrangers. The concert is at the North Campus Auditorium (formerly Abundant Life Tabernacle). No charge for admission.

- **Fair Trade Alternative Shopping Bazaar**
  - **Sunday, Dec. 2, from 3-6 p.m.**
  - Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) present high-quality, fairly traded handicrafts from disadvantageous producers all over the world at the Fair Trade Alternative Shopping Bazaar in the Commons at the Pope John Paul II Center.
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

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

Bus trip hosted by Bishop Luers
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School is sponsoring a bus trip to Chicago, to benefit LuersKnight on Saturday, Dec. 1. Depart from the front parking lot at 7 a.m. and return at around 11 p.m. The cost is $50 per person. Refreshments and breakfast treats for the trip there, and spirits and snacks for the trip home. Meals on your own throughout the day. Call reservations to (260) 456-1261.

Greenery sale for the holidays
South Bend — St. Augustine Parish will offer greenery for sale. Prices are wreath — $16, swag — $12, Advent centerpiece — $25, garland — $15. Call Mary Filbert at (574) 234-7992. Orders by Dec. 1 can be picked up Dec. 8 at St. Augustine Parish.

Daughters of Isabella plan activities
South Bend — The Daughters of Isabella, Notre Dame Circle 572 will host dePaul Circle 434 of Elkhart in the installation of 2008 officers for both circles on Sunday, Nov. 25, at 1 p.m. at Corpus Christi Church. A reception will follow in the Peterson Room. On Monday, Dec. 3, Notre Dame Circle 572 will have a Christmas party at 6 p.m. at Honkers restaurant on Day Road. Deadline for reservations is Nov. 26. Members are asked to bring non-perishable items for the needy. A Corporate Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, Dec. 9, at the 9 a.m. Mass at Holy Family Church. Breakfast will follow at Top Knotch restaurant, Mayflower and Western Avenue.

Trivia night raises fun and funds
Walkerton — St. Patrick Parish will sponsor a trivia night Saturday, Dec. 1, at 6:30 p.m. Contact Stacy Kogiones to reserve a table or sponsor a round at (574) 586-2419. Entry fee is $10 per person. Bring your own snacks. Drinks can be purchased. Cash prizes for the top two finishing teams.

Knights plan fish fry
Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a fish fry on Friday, Dec. 7, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The cost is $7 for adults, $3 for children 12 and under. Fish, two sides and beverage are included.

Knights plan fish fry
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 521, 6153 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, Dec. 7, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults $7, children (5-12) $3. Chicken strips for $7 and shrimp for $8 will be available.

Pancake breakfast supports youth
Fort Wayne — A pancake, egg, and sausage breakfast hosted by the Knights of Columbus will be Sunday, Dec. 2, at St. Joseph Hessen Cassel hall from 8 a.m. to noon. The cost of the breakfast will be a free will offering.

First Saturday devotions
Fort Wayne — First Saturday devotions of reparation will be Saturday, Dec. 1, at St. Joseph Parish. Confessions at 7:15 a.m. followed by rosary, Mass at 8 a.m., then breakfast and meeting.

THE NOTRE DAME CENTER FOR ETHICS AND CULTURE ANNOUNCES ITS 8TH ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE

THE DIALOGUE OF CULTURES

The Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture, concerned by the deep cultural divides that characterize so much of our world, has found inspiration in Pope Benedict’s Regensburg Address, and will devote its eighth annual fall conference to the theme: The Dialogue of Cultures. In interdisciplinary fashion, this conference will take up a variety of questions related to both the difficulties and opportunities involved in addressing cultural conflict.

INVITED SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

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- Paolo Carozza
- Andrej Dobrichkov
- H. Tristram Engelhardt
- t. Warran
- Russell Hitchcock
- Andrew Kuglin
- Peter Krotkov
- H. Reid Lomanto
- Michael Lopez
- Richard K. Macfarlane
- Jill Moline
- Sue Nelson
- John O’Malley
- Michael Persinger
- Joseph J. Piper
- Norma Radu
- George Rahdolf
- Richard J. Reibstein
- Michael Revel
- Brian Roberts
- Les Shiner
- George Weigel

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BALTIMORE (CNS) — The announcement of dates and locations for Pope Benedict XVI’s U.S. visit next year highlighted the U.S. bishops’ Nov. 12-15 fall general meeting in Baltimore. The April 15-20 trip will include visits to New York and Washington and an address at the United Nations.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy, upon returning to Fort Wayne International Airport on Nov. 15, shared the excitement of the pope’s upcoming visit to the U.S at a press conference with Fort Wayne media.

“It’s a marvelous thing for Catholics,” Bishop D’Arcy told the media, “because he is the Bishop of Rome, the successor of Peter. One of the things that Christ told Peter was, ‘confirm the brothers,’ namely the other apostles. So he is coming to confirm the bishops, although his main task is to speak about peace at the U.N.

“He’ll have a lot to say especially at the U.N.” Bishop D’Arcy added and indicated the pope will meet with young people as well as the president.

Bishop D’Arcy added, “It means a lot for non-Catholics too, because he’s recognized as a world leader and primarily as a religious leader.”

On Nov. 13, for the first time in 36 years, the bishops elected a cardinal — Francis E. George of Chicago — as next president of the U.S. bishops. Bishop D’Arcy said, “It was a Chicago sweep,” referring in addition that Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas of Tucson, Ariz., was elected vice president. Bishop Kicanas is also from the Chicago area.

“Cardinal George is a very learned man, and we think he will be a very good president,” Bishop D’Arcy said.

With the approval of the body of bishops, a new statement on Iraq was issued in the name of the bishops by Bishop William S. Skylstad of Spokane, Wash. It says that some U.S. policymakers “seem to fail to recognize sufficiently the reality and failures in Iraq and the imperative for new directions.”

The statement bemoans a “political and partisan stalemate in Washington” that parallels a “dangerous political stalemate” that blocks reconciliation in Iraq.

The statement says and notes that for almost two years the bishops have called for bipartisan action.

Bishop D’Arcy commented, “We felt the present road was unsustainable and unacceptable, and we should find an ethical way to withdraw.”

“It’s a different ethical question now than at the invasion. Now we’re there, and we have sustained obligations,” the bishop said. “But we also wanted all of our politicians to work together — not to just be fighting — to tone down the rhetoric and get an answer. A lot of kids are dying.”

On Nov. 14, the last public day of the four-day meeting, the bishops approved the document “Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility From the Catholic Bishops of the United States.”

The document rejects politics based on “powerful interests, partisan attacks, sound bites and media hype” and calls instead for “a different kind of political engagement.” That engagement must be “a departure from the morbid convolutions of well-formed consciences and focused on the dignity of every human being, the pursuit of the common good and the protection of the weak and vulnerable,” it said.

Bishop D’Arcy said of the document, “It’s helping people form their conscience on the political questions coming out with the general, presidential election.”

“As Catholic bishops, we don’t tell people how to vote,” Bishop D’Arcy said. “What we’re doing is trying to form their conscience through the virtue of prudence, through the virtue of understanding and have (the voters) look at the issues. That’s a very good paper.”

Bishop D’Arcy said that as the election approaches, the document will be available at parishes, “and we want our priests to help people read it, form their conscience. They decide how to vote. Great Catholic tradition in this country — priests and bishops don’t tell people how to vote. We try to enlighten them — that’s our vocation.”

In other meeting highlights, the bishops:
• OK’d a curriculum framework for developing catechetical materials for high school students, 117-97, with one abstention.
• Voted to draft a brief policy statement on embryonic stem-cell research and a pastoral document on reproductive technologies.
• Approved a $147.7 million budget for 2008 and a 16 percent reduction in the diocesan assessment fund to the USCCB.
• Gave their approval by a 221-7 margin to legislation specifying when a bishop must get the consent of his diocesan finance council and college of consultors before making certain financial transactions or commitments. The legislation now awaits Vatican approval.
• Approved an English-language version of a document on stewardship and teenagers, 198-6, and a Spanish-language version, 202-5.

Contributing to this story were Nancy Frazier O’Brien, Patricia Zapor and Tim Johnson.

Papal trip, Iraq, politics, discussed at U.S. bishops’ meeting

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Our memory care residents and their families enjoy the same comfort, security and access to first-class services and amenities as all the other residents living at Holy Cross Village. So, whether it's care for yourself or a loved one, you can count on Holy Cross Village to support an uncompromising quality of life — at every stage.

Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame is a continuing care retirement community sponsored by the Brothers of Holy Cross and managed by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago Service Corporation.

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