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 celebrated for the feast, recite — together with the congregation — a Prayer of Entrustment of the diocese to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In one of the most moving moments in all of Scripture, a moment most human and filled with spiritual implications, Jesus Christ, the sole redeemer of the world, ready to die for our salvation, turned and saw his mother: “When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother: ‘Woman, here is your son.’ Then he said to the disciple: ‘Here is your mother.’ And from that hour, the disciple took her into his own home.”


Prayer of Entrustment of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Dec. 8, 2007
in the Year of the Sesquicentennial Jubilee

Prayer of the priest:

Lord Jesus Christ, we recognize and adore you as the Son of God, the sole mediator between heaven and earth, and we give thanks to you, the Second Person of the Most Blessed Trinity, the gift of the Father, for the gift of the Holy Spirit conferred on our diocese during this Jubilee Year. In this year of jubilee blessings, countless people have known the mercy that the Father had given us. During the 150th anniversary of the historic Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, a wide array of people, prompted by the Holy Spirit, have accepted the gift of reconciliation and have been drawn closer to you.


cardinal wrote

Bishop Luers football takes 7th state title

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Saint Joseph Indians take home pride

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Red caps

Cardinals gather for consistory

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Christian-Islamic dialogue

Vatican archbishop to the U.N. lectures at Notre Dame

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Feasting on 75 years

Christ the King Parish launches anniversary celebration

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Elkhart native named to head Montana diocese

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has named Bishop Michael W. Warfel of Juneau, Alaska, as the bishop of Great Falls-Billings, Mont.

The appointment was announced in Washington Nov. 20 by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States. Bishop John M. D’Arcy commented, “We are all delighted to learn that Bishop Michael Warfel, a native of this diocese and a son of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Elkhart, has been appointed Bishop of Great Falls-Billings, the eastern part of the great state of Montana. He has come here often to confer the sacrament of confirmation while Bishop of Juneau, Alaska, and we hope he will come again.”

Bishop Warfel has headed the Juneau Diocese since he was ordained its bishop in December 1996. Michael W. Warfel was born Sept. 16, 1948, in Elkhart, in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Despite the Catholic and Baptist back-grounds of his mother and father, there was little religious practice in the Warfel home. As a youngster, Michael decided he would attend church. He took catechism classes at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, where he was baptized at age 12.

He attended elementary and secondary schools in Elkhart and studied music for a year at Indiana University. He served an 18-month tour in Vietnam, followed by 13 months in Korea.

After completing military service, in 1972 he entered St. Gregory’s College Seminary in Cincinnati, where he received a bachelor’s degree in philosophy. He completed graduate theological studies at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary of the West in Cincinnati in 1980.

As a seminarian, Bishop Warfel visited his sister in Alaska during the summers. After deciding that he wanted to live and minister...
Link between bishop and priests central to life of diocese

BISHOP JOHN M. D’ARCY

The installation of pastors

Although it is many months since they have been appointed, I continue on many weekends to preside at the liturgical installation of pastors. The many events on weekends are part of our Jubilee Year, such as the confirmations in September, the observance of St. Mother Theodore Guérin, celebration of jubilee Masses for married couples, and the day set aside for the ordination of the two priests, has occupied many weekends. However, the link between the bishop and the priests is so close and so central to the life of the diocese that I wish always to be present for the installation of a pastor.

So on a recent Saturday night, I was at St. Martin de Porres, Syracuse, by the lake for prayer with that parish and its new pastor, Father Richard Hire, a well-known catechist. He replaces the late Father Terry Place, who led that parish and its beautiful expansion, highlighted by a new catechetical center.

A memorable weekend

Off Saturday night to the western most parish in our diocese, St. Stanislaus Kostka, New Carlisle. Founded in 1884 by Polish farmers, it was a privilege to pray for and with Father Paul McCarthy and the people of this rural parish sitting out on a lovely country road.

As he has done in every parish he has been stationed, Father Paul has already inaugurated a day for eucharistic adoration. In addition to that, he has already scheduled a parish mission with our Spiritual Development Office for Lent. He tells me he is trying, by preaching and making himself available, to increase the number of people that go to the sacrament of penance, for he feels this is a real pastoral need.

After the Mass and reception, although very low on gas, I headed for Saint Joseph’s High School. The Saint Joseph’s Indians football team had completed a great run through the playoffs, including an exciting win in the semi-state championship over Fort Wayne Concordia. I was able to make it for their pep rally. Although they had been beaten by Indianapolis Chatard, there was a special welcome awaiting them. They received an escort by the police and fire departments of South Bend, and I was part of a huge throng in the Saint Joseph’s High School gym. It was a privilege to be there. More on that later.

Christ the King Parish

On Sunday morning, a beautiful 10:30 Mass at Christ the King Parish, South Bend, for the installation of Father Neil Wack, CSC, as pastor. Now you must remember, there are 10 children in the Wack family, and two are priests of Holy Cross. I also met one grandson who was in the early stages of his formation of the priesthood at the building for the Holy Cross College on the grounds of Notre Dame.

We had a packed church for this beautiful service. It also inaugurated the 75th anniversary of Christ the King Parish, and it was on their patronal feast day.

Among those concelebrating were Father David Tyson, CSC, the provincial; the Associate Provincial Father Ken Molinaro, CSC, who at one time was principal of Christ the King School; and Father BillMiscamble, CSC, a noted historian who recently completed a book on the era of Roosevelt, Truman and Stalin. Also present was Father Mike Mathews, CSC, a noted marathoner and pastor of Holy Cross Parish, South Bend, along with Father Ron Trips, CSC, and Father Mike Couhig, CSC.

I visited with Father Wack’s parents; they have eight sons and two daughters one son, Father Neil, is now pastor of their parish. Father Neil said in his remarks at the end of Mass, that someone said to his mother isn’t it wonderful that you are in the parish where you son is pastor. “Rather,” she replied, “he is now the pastor of our parish.”

The kingdom of God

Speaking on the feast of Christ the King, I mentioned two of the parables or images that Christ gave for the kingdom of heaven. One is the man who discovers a treasure in a field and sells everything he has to buy the field so as to have the treasure. The other is the merchant who discovers a pearl of great price and sells everything else so he can have the pearl.

Here we have two brothers who, in a sense, put away everything so they could belong to Christ and his church and consecrated themselves for the kingdom of Christ leaving behind the treasure in the field and the pearl of great price. The treasure for which one can rightly give everything away is Christ the Lord. In him, we find the kingdom of heaven.

This is the call of the vowed religious, but it is also the vocation of everyone. We say each day in our prayer, “thy kingdom come” it means thy kingdom come in my heart. The kingdom is Jesus Christ himself. When we say “thy kingdom come,” we mean it as something internal within us; and then his kingdom, like the seed falling to the ground, will bring a great tree.

A day of great joy at Christ the King Parish, South Bend, as they begin the celebration of their 75th anniversary.

Entrustment to Our Lady

I remember an event as a senior in the seminary college. It was Dec. 8, 1951. Kneeling at the altar of Our Lady at St. John’s Seminary I prayed the Consecration to Our Lady presented by St. Louis de Montfort. It was common in our seminary to take this consecration on Mary’s role, which is to lead us to her Son. She made the perfect “yes” to God, and it was through her yes that God became human flesh. And she made the “yes” to Jesus. Jesus said to her: “Mother behold your son and son behold your mother,” referring to Mary and St. John the Evangelist. The church has always taken this to mean that Christ entrusted the apostles and the church to his mother. She is the patron of our diocese under the title of the Immaculate Conception. So on the feast of Dec. 8, all of us in parishes throughout the diocese, as well as the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, will offer a prayer, which I have prepared encouraging our parishes, our young people, and the work of our diocese to her. It is a fitting culmination of our Jubilee Year. It has always been the tradition of our church that Mary is an intercessor, an advocate. In presenting our diocese, our parishes and our young people to her, we are asking for her prayers to support us and the work of our diocese to her. It is a fitting culmination of our Jubilee Year. It has always been the tradition of our church that Mary is an intercessor, an advocate. In presenting our diocese, our parishes and our young people to her, we are asking for her prayers to support us and the work of our diocese to her. It is a fitting culmination of our Jubilee Year. It has always been the tradition of our church that Mary is an intercessor, an advocate. In presenting our diocese, our parishes and our young people to her, we are asking for her prayers to support us and the work of our diocese to her. It is a fitting culmination of our Jubilee Year. It has always been the tradition of our church that Mary is an intercessor, an advocate. In presenting our diocese, our parishes and our young people to her, we are asking for her prayers to support us and the work of our diocese to her. It is a fitting culmination of our Jubilee Year. It has always been the tradition of our church that Mary is an intercessor, an advocate. In presenting our diocese, our parishes and our young people to her, we are asking for her prayers to support us and the work of our diocese to her. It is a fitting culmination of our Jubilee Year. It has always been the tradition of our church that Mary is an intercessor, an advocate. In presenting our diocese, our parishes and our young people to her, we are asking for her prayers to support us and the work of our diocese to her. It is a fitting culmination of our Jubilee Year. It has always been the tradition of our church that Mary is an intercessor, an advocate. In presenting our diocese, our parishes and our young people to her, we are asking for her prayers to support us and the work of our diocese to her. It is a fitting culmination of our Jubilee Year. It has always been the tradition of our church that Mary is an intercessor, an advocate. In presenting our diocese, our parishes and our young people to her, we are asking for her prayers to support us and the work of our diocese to her. It is a fitting culmination of our Jubilee Year. It has always been the tradition of our church that Mary is an intercessor, an advocate. In presenting our diocese, our parishes and our young people to her, we are asking for her prayers to support us and the work of our diocese to her. It is a fitting culmination of our Jubilee Year. It has always been the tradition of our church that Mary is an intercessor, an advocate. In presenting our diocese, our parishes and our young people to her, we are asking for her prayers to support us and the work of our diocese to her. It is a fitting culmination of our Jubilee Year. It has always been the tradition of our church that Mary is an intercessor, an advocate. In presenting our diocese, our parishes and our young people to her, we are asking for her prayers to support us and the work of our diocese to her. It is a fitting culmination of our Jubilee Year. It has always been the tradition of our church that Mary is an intercessor, an advocate. In presenting our diocese, our parishes and our young people to her, we are asking for her prayers to support us and the work of our diocese to her. It is a fitting culmination of our Jubilee Year.
Pope creates 23 cardinals from 14 countries

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In a liturgy that emphasized the church’s cultural diversity and its unity with the Pope, Benedict XVI created 23 new cardinals from 14 countries.


The pope, presiding over his second consistory, told the new cardinals that they should be the “closest advisers and collaborators” of his ministry in Rome, the church’s traditional center.

At the same time, he said, the cardinals’ geographical variety reflects Catholicism’s global expansion and the fact that today the church “speaks every language of the world.”

International groups of pilgrims who packed St. Peter’s Basilica for the Nov. 24 consistory added emphasis to the pope’s words, applauding, cheering, ululating and even waving national flags when the new cardinals’ names were announced.

The pope made a special appeal for peace in Iraq and said his naming of Cardinal Emmanuel-Karim P却不带有这篇文章的图片。
Brothers of Holy Cross Ghana mission celebrates 50 Years

BY BROTHER CHARLES McBRIDE, CSC

NOTRE DAME — The Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross is celebrating the conclusion of celebrations of the golden jubilee year of the Congregation of Holy Cross in Ghana Nov. 24 through Dec. 2. The social three-year celebration has been a great amount of grace for the Congregation of Holy Cross and the Brothers of the Midwest Province, Notre Dame.

The week-long celebration includes a pilgrimage Mass, parade, presentations and interviews on local television, a soccer gala, spiritual talks, dance, reception, Jubilee Day and Mass of Thanksgiving along with a final profession ceremony on Dec. 2.

Attending the celebrations in Ghana are former Midwest Province missionaries: Brothers Richard Johnson, 12 years in Ghana; Don Bowers, 26 years; Lawrence Stewart, 10 years; Raymond Papenfuss, 30 years; and Richard Gilman, eight years. Five of the brothers spent a total of 68 years in the mission in West Africa. The five missionaries presently live in Notre Dame.

The mission to Ghana by the Midwest Province began in 1957, when the then-provincial Donatus Schmitz, CSC, responded to the request of Ghanian bishops to send Holy Cross Brothers from the Midwest Province to respond to the needs of the church in Ghana.

Presently serving in Ghana are three Brothers of Holy Cross from the Midwest Province: Brothers William Gates, 47 years in Ghana; Vincent Gross, 39 years in Ghana; and Thomas Dillman, 10 years in Ghana and 27 years in Liberia; Father Robert Gilmore of the Indiana Province, 32 years; and a group of Sisters of the Holy Cross.

The Sisters of the Holy Cross arrived in Ghana in 1983. There are four Sisters of the Holy Cross in Ghana with final vows and four in temporary vows. There are two American sisters in final vows.

The major institutions of the brothers in Ghana include St. Augustine College and St. John’s Secondary School along with the Holy Cross House of Hope for orphaned children. Another institution, the Holy Cross Skills Training Center, is celebrating its 25th anniversary. In Ghana the brothers have a district center and houses of formation. Over the years the brothers have taught in houses of formation. Five American sisters have taught in Ghana.

The five missionaries have attended the five Profession ceremonies on Dec. 2. The jubilee year celebrates 50 Years for the Congregation of Holy Cross.

In this photo, Holy Cross Brothers Raymond Papenfuss, Richard Johnson, Lawrence Stewart and Donald Allen attend the 50th anniversary of the Holy Cross Brothers’ mission to Ghana, Africa.

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Archbishop Celestino Migliore, the Vatican’s permanent observer to the United Nations, left, was welcome to the Notre Dame Campus by the university’s president, Holy Cross Father John Jenkins, right.

Notre Dame — The Vatican’s representative to the United Nations is optimistic about dialogue and cooperation between Christianity and Islam, and he believes that religions working together would be a powerful force for world peace.

Archbishop Celestino Migliore brought this upbeat message to the University of Notre Dame in a Nov. 15 talk on “Catholicism and Islam: Points of Convergence and Divergence, Encounter and Cooperation.”

His lecture drew a standing-room-only crowd for the 8 p.m. event in the Hughes Center auditorium.

The archbishop said that the relationship between Christians and Muslims has roots that go back to ancient history. Some of that history includes elements of rivalry and oppression, but there also were many “intervals of peaceful coexistence and cooperation.”

Those “incompatible” elements of history were unfortunately “exacerbated” in the last century, he said, and when Christians and Muslims meet today, many of them see each other with a “distorted” vision: Muslims often see Christians as heretics and crusaders; and Christians often see Muslims as religiously intolerant and not welcoming of Western culture.

To correct that distorted vision, Archbishop Migliore said it is important to recognize similarities between Christianity and Islam: Both groups consider themselves to be children of Abraham and children of God who value the moral life, believe in an afterlife and worship God. Also, Christians and Muslims both are people of the “book,” Archbishop Migliore said, but the differences between the two books — the Bible and the Quran — give rise to different beliefs about the relationship between God and people.

Archbishop Migliore paraphrased theologian Hans Kung, who has said that there can be no world peace without religious peace, no religious peace without dialogue, and no dialogue without investigation between religions.

And the archbishop recalled Pope Benedict XVI’s Sept. 12, 2006, address at Regensburg, in which the pope called on Christians, Muslims and seculars to promote peaceful coexistence and cooperation.

After the Regensburg address, some Muslims wrote an open letter to the pope explaining Islam and hinting at the possibility of finding common ground between Muslims and Christians based on love of God and neighbor, the archbishop said. That letter has been followed by another open letter sent Oct. 11, 2007, by 138 Muslims leaders from around the world to Pope Benedict and other Christian leaders, expressing theological common ground as a basis for peace and understanding.

Archbishop Celestino Migliore, Vatican representative to the U.N., lectures at Notre Dame

Archbishop Migliore’s lecture was sponsored by Notre Dame’s Nanovic Institute for European Studies as part of the Terence R. Keeley Visiting Vatican Lecture Series.
Ethical, breakthroughs seen in new stem-cell studies

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Scientists, ethicists and church leaders hailed as a breakthrough two studies showing that human skin cells can be reprogrammed to work as effectively as embryonic stem cells, thus negating the need to destroy embryos in the name of science.

Separate studies from teams led by Shinya Yamanaka of Kyoto University in Japan and Junying Yu and James Thomson of the University of Wisconsin-Madison were published online Nov. 20 by the journals Cell and Science, respectively.

“The methods outlined in these papers fully conform to what we have hoped to see for some time,” said a statement from the National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

“Such strategies should continue to be pursued and strongly promot- ed, as they should help to steer the entire field of stem-cell research in a more explicitly ethical direction by circumventing the moral quagmire associated with destroying human embryos,” it added.

By adding four genes to the skin cells, the scientists were able to create stem cells that genetically match the donor and have the ability to become any of the 220 types of cells in the human body.

“The induced cells do all the things embryonic stem cells do,” Thomson, who isolated the first embryonic stem cells in 1998, said in a university news release. “It’s going to completely change the field.”

Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia, chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities, welcomed the news, expressing gratitude “for scientists who took up the challenge of finding morally acceptable ways to pursue stem-cell research when more effective and more ethical means were just around the corner.”

Ian Wilmut, the Scottish scientist who created Dolly the cloned sheep in 1996, told the London Telegraph that he had decided in light of the new findings to abandon his efforts to clone human embryos and would instead concentrate on research involving the new reprogramming techniques.

The just published research on the generation of cells that function identically to embryonic stem cells “has solved one of the most vexed issues at the intersection of science, ethics and public policy,” according to Carter Snead, associate professor of law at the University of Notre Dame Law School and former general counsel of the President’s Council on Bioethics.

“The nation was morally and politically divided on the proper role of the government in regulating human embryonic stem cell research,” Snead said. “Now, researchers have developed the means to pursue their scientific goals in a manner that is both scientifically superior to prior approaches and ethically acceptable to all sides of what seemed to be an intractable debate about scientific freedom, the goal of alleviating suffering and respect for human life. Their work is a model of ethical scientific research for a morally pluralistic society.”

Melanie McDonald, from the University of Notre Dame, contributed to this article.

Faculty Position

PHILOSOPHY

Kenrick-Glennon Seminary

Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, the major seminary of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Saint Louis, is instituting a new undergraduate program and seeks applicants for a full-time faculty position in the philosophical disciplines. Applicants should be Roman Catholic, should exemplify the Gospel in their lives, and manifest a love for the Eucharist as a source and sign of unity in the Church. They should possess an advanced, preferably terminal degree, be dedicated to the total formation of seminary students, and be willing to form, with students and colleagues, a genuine community of faith, formation, and learning. Applicants should be well versed in the classic themes of Western philosophy and capable of providing a consistent and sound philosophical education to undergraduate seminarians studying for the Roman Catholic priesthood.

Women and persons of color are encouraged to apply. Rank is open. Salary will be determined by qualifications and experience. Review of applications begins March 7, 2007, and continues until the position is filled. Appointment is effective July 1, 2007. Applicants are asked to send a letter of application and curriculum vitae to the following. Inquiries are welcome to the same.

Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.
Pope to release encyclical on hope

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI will sign his second encyclical, a meditation on Christian hope, Nov. 30 and the document will be released the same day, the Vatican announced.

The encyclical, titled “Spe Salvi” (“Saved by Hope”), will be presented at a Vatican press conference by Cardinal Georges Cottier, the retired theologian of the papal household, and Cardinal Albert Vanhoye, a retired professor at the Pontifical Biblical Institute.

Sources have said the encyclical, about 65 pages long, explores the theme of salvation and the hope offered by Christianity in light of modern philosophy and contemporary culture. The title comes from St. Paul’s letter to the Romans, in which he said, “For in hope we have been saved.”

China prepares for ordinations of three bishops with papal OK

HONG KONG (CNS) — The Catholic Church in China is expecting the ordination of three new government-recognized bishops, all in their 40s and with papal approval.

The Guangzhou, Ningxia and Yichang dioceses are preparing for the ordinations, reported the Asian Church News. Bishop Father Francis Lu Shoushang is set to be ordained Nov. 30 at St. Francis Cathedral in Yichang, a city along the Yangtze River in Hubei province. He became diocesan administrator after Bishop Paul Francis Zhang Minqiang of Yichang died in July 2005; diocesan priests, nuns and laypeople elected the priest as a candidate for bishop last December. Further north, in Ningxia-Hui Autonomous Region, Bishop John Liu Jingshan of Ningxia told UCA News Nov. 19 that he will ordain Father Joseph Li Jing, 40, as his coadjutor. He said the ceremony is tentatively set for Dec. 8, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, at the cathedral in Yinchuan. Media in the Chinese capital reported China reported that Father Joseph Gan Junqiu may be ordained in early December as bishop of Guangzhou, in southern China’s Guangdong province. On Nov. 20, Bishop-elect Guan Qiong, 43, and other church officials in China told UCA News that no date had been fixed but preparations for the episcopal ordination were under way.

Quebec cardinal apologizes for sins of past church leaders

QUEBEC CITY (CNS) — Quebec Cardinal Marc Ouellet has apologized and asked forgiveness the sins of past provincial Catholic Church leaders regarding clergy sexual abuse, discrimination against women and homosexuals, anti-Semitism and racism.

In an open letter to the people of Quebec province issued Nov. 21, the cardinal, who is primate of the Catholic Church in Canada, acknowledged that before 1994, many had favored “anti-Semitism, racism, indifference toward the First Nations and discrimination regard-
ing women and homosexuals. The behavior of Catholics and some

episcopal authorities relative to the right to vote, access to work and the advancement of women was not always equal to the needs of society nor even in conformity with the social doctrine of the church,” he said. “I also acknowledge that abuse of power and counterwitness have tarnished the image of the clergy among many and under-

mined their moral authority,” he said.

“Youth have suffered sexual abuse by priests and religious, resulting in serious damage and traumas that have shattered their lives. These scandals have shaken the confidence of the people against religious authorities, and we under-

stand.”

Atlanta archbishop recuperating at home after prostate surgery

ATLANTA (CNS) — Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory of Atlanta was recuperating at home following a Nov. 3 surgical procedure for early-stage prostate cancer at Emory University Hospital, and he was expected to resume a limited work schedule in December. “From my heart, I am deeply grateful for the outpouring of love through prayers and good wishes for my healing,” he said.

The 59-year-old archbishop said in a Nov. 9 statement, “Please be assured of my prayers for you.” Dr. Fray Marshall, chairman of the urology department at Emory, said Archbishop Gregory “tolerated the procedure well, and there were no unforeseen problems.” He received

a “favorable pathology report” Nov. 9, Marshall added. The physi-

ician said caring for Archbishop Gregory was “a pleasure” because “he is good to all the people around him.” Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men. Writing in the Oct. 30 issue of the archdioce-
san newspaper, the Georgia Bulletin, Archbishop Gregory urged priests and other men to undergo regular medical screen-

ings.

EWTN to broadcast Tridentine Mass during Advent

IRONDALE, Ala. (CNS) — The Eternal Word Television Network will begin a daily Mass in the Tridentine rite at 8 a.m. EST Dec. 15, live from the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville. The liturgy, which will be celebrat-
ed by clergy of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, is known as the “rote Mass” because it begins with the Latin words “Rorate caeli desuper et nubes pluant iustum” (Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above and let the clouds rain down upon the just one). Celebrated by candlelight and traditionally held before dawn, the votive Mass offered during Advent to honor Mary is esteemed particularly by German-speaking Catholics. Father John Berg, superior general of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, will travel from the community’s head-

quarters in Switzerland and will serve as celebrant and homilist.

Pope says world must do more to keep every person free from hunger

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI, citing persistent food insecurity around the world, said humanity must do more to guarantee the “basic right of every person to be free from hunger.”

The pope said it was “one of the most troubling paradoxes of our time” that poverty continues to spread even while many countries experience unprecedented prosperity. The pope made the remarks Nov. 22 to participants in an annual confer-
ence on global nutrition sponsored by the Rome-based U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization. The confer-
ence reviewed data showing overall progress in combating world hunger and even more opti-
mistic projections. According to an FAO report, the number of well

nourished people could reach 93 percent by the year 2050. But the report noted that some areas have lagged behind.

Church responds to crisis of urban violence in Chicago

CHICAGO (CNS) — On Oct. 30, at Corpus Christi Mary Church in a Chicago neighborhood known as “Back of the Yards,” Auxiliary Bishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller of Chicago celebrated a Mass for victims of violence. He read dozens of victims’ names and met with the family members and loved ones. But the next day, anoth-
er victim was added to the roll: Leticia Barrera, shot in gang cross-

fire, was the latest in a string of trick-or-treating with her three chil-
dren on Halloween. She was four months pregnant, and it was her 32nd birthday. Bishop Garcia-Siller led her wake service Nov. 6 at St. Michael the Archangel Church. Providing support and comfort through the rituals of funerals and wakes is one of the ways in which the church is obligated to respond to violence, according to Bishop Garcia-Siller and several priests who serve in communities where such violence occurs all too often.

Pastor arrests pro-life protester after school parents complain

SAN MATEO, Calif. (CNS) — The pastor of St. Matthew Parish in San Mateo arrested a longtime parishioner on a trespassing com-

plaint Nov. 13 after parents of chil-

dren at the parish school com-
plained about graphic signs oppos-

ing abortion that were displayed on his parked vehicle. Ross Foti of Belmont was cited and released by police. The pastor had responded to a call that Father Anthony Migliore had placed the parishioner under citizen’s arrest after Nov. 13 at Mass at St. Matthew. The parish authorities took Foti into custody on the grounds that he had violated their order to stay away from parish property, said Lt. Mike Briuncardi of the San Mateo police. Father Migliore told Foti in a Nov. 13 let-
ter that his refusal to cover the signs had caused too much division and tension. The pastor said Foti was no longer welcome on church property and would be arrested for trespassing if he failed to comply.

Bishop accuses Vatican of dialogue with only part of Orthodox church

WARSAW, Poland (CNS) — A Russian Orthodox bishop who walked out of official Catholic-Orthodox talks has accused the Vatican of pursuing dialogue with

only part of the Orthodox church. “Without the Russian church, it will no longer be an Orthodox-Catholic dialogue,” said Bishop Hilarion of Vienna and Austria. “It will be the Vatican’s dialogue with just a part of the Orthodox church. I don’t think all Orthodox churches will accept the outcome of such a dia-

logue,” Bishop Hilarion told Russia’s Interfax news agency in mid-November that the Oct. 8-15 meeting of the official Catholic-Orthodox dialogue commission had fallen into a trap by comparing the pope with the ecumenical patriarch of Constantinople, who within the Orthodox church does not have the same status the pope has in the Catholic Church. A document from the dialogue, published Nov. 15, recognizes the bishop of Rome’s primacy among all the world’s bishops, but calls for his role to be studied further in the next phase of Catholic-Orthodox dia-

logue.
DECEMBER 2, 2007 TODAY'S CATHOLIC 7

Elkhart parish to host Ecumenical Advent Lessons and Carols

ELKHART — St. Vincent Parish in Elkhart will host an Ecumenical Advent Lessons and Carols on Sunday, Dec. 2, at 5 p.m. This is the eighth year for the grassroots local community event, which draws from 20 local churches. The Lessons and Carols welcomes all from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Msgr. J. William Lester has called it “one of the most significant ecumenical events in the diocese.”

A 45-voice choir drawn from 15 local churches will be conducted by Walter Ginter. The soloists will be Deneille Svonavec from St. John the Evangelist Church in Goshen, and the organist will be Jonathan Wessler of St. John’s Episcopal Church in Elkhart.

St. Vincent is located at 1109 S. Main in Elkhart. There will be a free will offering and staple food collection to benefit the Church Community Services Food Pantry run by a coalition of Elkhart churches. A free chili supper will follow the event.

Decatur concert funds music scholarships, honors music director

DECATUR — St. Mary’s of the Assumption Parish, Decatur, held the first annual Rita Girard Scholarship Benefit Concert Oct. 22. Rita Girard is a beloved former liturgical music director of the parish who is in the final stages of a serious cancer.

She faithfully served the parish with her musical talents and dedication that have inspired the entire parish. This inspiration was apparent during her scholarship benefit concert. The church was filled to capacity with friends showing their love and support of their former music director. The musical groups that performed included St. Mary’s Adult Choir, St. Joseph Middle School Choir, St. Joseph Eighth Grade Choir, Gal Arend and the St. Joseph Sensations.

The community wanted to remember Girard’s devotion to parish and to music by offering two scholarships each year to be used for musical instruction. The first two scholarships went to Brenna Dilly and Thomas Coyne.

The University of Notre Dame conducts study of American pastors

NOTRE DAME — The University of Notre Dame, in conjunction with Catholic Schools Educational Initiatives, is conducting a national survey of pastors with oversight of Catholic schools. The survey seeks to explore and understand pastors’ needs, perceptions and attitudes as they pertain to Catholic education and faithful education. The study will replicate elements of two previous national studies of pastors and respond to elements of the Notre Dame Task Force Report on Catholic Education. Pastors with oversight of a Catholic school who wish to participate in the study may contact Father Ronald J. Nuzzi at pastors@nd.edu or (574) 631-7730.

SRMC provides $300,000 for expansion of Women’s Care Center

SOUTH BEND — Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center (SRMC) has provided the Women’s Care Center with $300,000 for the 2,831 square-foot expansion, which will nearly double its size and allow for a full prenatal clinic, consisting of five exam rooms, one treatment room, a waiting room, physician office and an education room. SRMC’s Family Residency Medicine Program will be providing an on-site prenatal clinic staffed by physicians, residents and nurses, along with the provision of Medicaid enrollment services. The project is responsive to the soaring infant death rate in South Bend, Mishawaka, Fort Wayne, Nappanee, Elkhart, Niles, LaPorte, Plymouth and Bremen.

The mission of the Women’s Care Center is to help young women facing unexpected pregnancies by offering a variety of free prenatal care. A groundbreaking ceremony was held on Nov. 12 at the Women’s Care Center.

Prayer opportunities offered at John XXIII Retreat Center

HARFORD CITY — The John XXIII Retreat Center in Harford City will offer the following retreats:

• Praying with the Jesse Tree and Symbols, Dec. 5. This retreat will offer participants the opportunity to learn more about the family tree of Jesus and how to incorporate the symbols of these important people into their prayer life. The retreat will be held 9:15 a.m. to 2 p.m., with the option to stay longer for quiet prayer or overnight, for an extra fee. Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ Sister Joetta Huelsmann is the facilitator. The fee is $18 for the day.

Bishop Dwenger Spell Bowl wins state

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger’s Spell Bowl Team won the State Finals for Class 2 at Purdue University on Saturday, Nov. 10. Team members are Sam Fenker and Sarah Scheerer, co-captains, Beth Breckler, Mariel Lee, Olivia Lee, Leah Carlston, Molly Morgan, Anthony Cox, Becca Byers and Emma Collins. The team is coached by Diane Stein and Doris Derheimer.

These students studied from a list of over 3,000 words, the majority of which are extremely challenging and not used in everyday conversation. Over 2,000 students from 196 high schools participated this year.

The Bishop Dwenger Spell Bowl team competed in four meets and qualified for the state finals by finishing first overall in Class 2 at the area meet. At the state finals the top seven teams in their class competed, with Bishop Dwenger finishing as state champions. This is the first time in almost 20 years of participating in Spell Bowl that Bishop Dwenger has won.

Area principals attend conference in San Diego

Several diocesan area school principals and assistant principals attended the NCEA Principal’s Forum in San Diego, an annual conference for Catholic School Principals.

Principals include Linda Speer, St. Joseph Garrett, Dorothy Korte, assistant principal at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth, Jason Woolard, Huntington Catholic Janet Wroblewski, St. John the Baptist, Sister Kathleen Kneuer, St. Jude, Carolyn Lentz, St. Louis Academy and St. Joseph Monroeville, Mary Schreiber, Benzait Academy, Donna Quinn, St. Vincent Elkhart, Jan Comito, St. John the Baptist, New Haven and Lois Widner, St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth.

Tatiana concerts announced, one time change

FORT WAYNE — Tatiana will be performing her Advent-Christmas program this year at the Fort Wayne area. Her concerts will be at St. Joseph, Garrett, on Dec. 7, and at St. Mary Church, Fort Wayne, on Dec. 8. Both concerts will be at 7 p.m. She will also be at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, on Sunday, Dec. 9, at 7:45 p.m.
Earthworks prepares for fifth annual Whole House Christmas Bazaar

BY IDA CHIPMAN

PLYMOUTH — Nellie, an American Girl doll, still with her original box, smiles from a shelf. Nellie, a blonde-haired beauty, is one of a dozen or so dolls ready to brighten some little girl’s face when she finds one under her tree on Christmas morning.

Some of the dolls have eyes that open and close. All are beautifully dressed. There are collectible dolls with china or porcelain faces and leather bodies.

“This is something new to our Whole-House Christmas Bazaar,” Sister Sue Rodgers, a Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ and the director of Earthworks, said.

“We will have a room full of incredible dolls to sell.”

Most of them were donated by Mary Haas, the mother of Sister Kathy Haas, a resident of Ancilla Domini Convent.

All six rooms of the Earthworks house will be filled with exciting bargains and delicious treats for the holiday shopper. Fresh loaves of bread will be on hand for Saturday.

“We’d like to have them available every day,” Sister Sue said, “but we just don’t have time to offer them more than once.”

The sisters, members of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ and a bevy of volunteers, have pitched in to provide crafts for the bazaar.

Quilted items, Christmas decorations, handmade bracelets, crocheted baby items, dishes and glassware are but a few of the items for sale.

A 25-cent bargain-basement room will be in the greenhouse.

Sister Agnes Muhlenfeld, known as “the Apple Dumpling Sister,” not because of her shape, but because of her delicious unbaked fruit-filled apple dumplings, has been busy for weeks making and freezing her specialty.

“They will go fast,” Mary Szymniak, chairman of the committee, said.

A volunteer mother for St. Michael’s Brownies Troop 4994 brought five girls to Earthworks to help fold paper purses each of which was stuffed with a card thanking the purchaser for their $2 donation to help feed the Earthworks’ lambs for one whole week.

The proceeds of the three-day event fund Earthworks’ missions — programs that are offered all year long to teach adults and children how to care for and respect the earth.

Earthworks is located at 9815 Union Rd., about two miles west of Plymouth. The house is across the lake from Ancilla Convent and College. The Whole-House Christmas Celebration and Sale is from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, and from noon to 2 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 2. For information, call (574) 935-4164.

Brenda McDonald, a student from Holy Cross College who has been assisting Holy Radio, WHLY, shared the radio station’s prayer card with Pope Benedict XVI when she visited the Vatican.

Holy Radio celebrates first year of broadcasting

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

SOUTH BEND — Holy Radio, WHLY 1580 AM, will be observing its first anniversary of operation on Dec. 8, the feast of the Immaculate Conception. The St. Thomas More Foundation, Inc., entered into a purchase agreement in late 2006, for the purchase of the radio station WHLY in South Bend.

After looking at the station call letters, it was decided to name the radio station “Holy Radio,” according to Dick Peterson, board member and general manager of the station. On Dec. 8, 2006, Holy Radio began broadcasting Catholic programming, which is transmitted from EWTN in Birmingham, Ala., 24 hours a day, and seven days a week. From the inception of the acquisition of WHLY, the Holy Spirit has led the way.

“Prayer and patience by the board of directors has served us well,” said Peterson, and added, “We are still in need of prayers in order to sustain the operations.”

The first year of operation has been an exciting and rewarding experience for the board of directors, as well as the financial supporters of the station and listening audience.

“Our initial priority was to raise public awareness in the Catholic community of the existence of local Catholic radio,” Peterson said. “Prayer cards were designed and distributed in various ways. We also engaged a Holy Cross (College) student Brenda McDonald to assist us in this effort. Brenda was privileged to visit the Vatican with a group of Holy Cross College students earlier this year.”

Before she departed, Peterson reminded her to take a supply of Holy Radio prayer cards. During her visit she had an opportunity to meet Pope Benedict XVI, at which time she shared the prayer card with the pope.

As a result, “We feel our radio ministry has been blessed by the pope,” Peterson said. It is a powerful picture, and will sustain them through challenging times.

During the past year, board members and the foundation have encountered major health issue challenges; notably, Bob Kloska, president of the St. Thomas More Foundation, an inspirational leader at Holy Radio and Holy Cross College. “We see this as a sign the evil one is attacking the faithful,” said Peterson.

During the summer and fall this past year, Holy Radio distributed a professionally prepared insert for parish bulletins. The insert identified the listening audience to be Christian people of any faith, people who have left the Catholic Church and people who do not have any faith and do not believe in God. Every parish in the listening area was contacted requesting permission to place the insert in their bulletin.

“Holy Radio has received many words of encouragement, testimonies of appreciation for our efforts, and many prayers asking for our success. In order to continue providing Catholic Radio to the South Bend, Mishawaka, and Elkhart area, we ask that you continue to pray for us. Since we are a public supported radio station, we also would appreciate any financial support possible,” he said.

Contributions may be mailed to WHLY, P.O. Box 1322, Elkhart, IN 46515.
Christ the King celebrates feast day, installation and anniversary

SOUTH BEND — On the feast of Christ the King, celebrated this past Sunday, one South Bend parish had two reasons to celebrate.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy con-celebrated the 10:30 a.m. Mass at Christ the King Parish in South Bend, marking both the feast day and the installation of Holy Cross Father Neil Wack as pastor.

In his homily, Bishop D’Arcy discussed the kingdom of which the Lord spoke in both the Colossians (the second reading) and Luke’s Gospel.

“One of the greatest heroes of the age is the parish priest,” Bishop D’Arcy said.

Bishop D’Arcy described the parish as the “family of families.”

“Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.” (Psalm 122)

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S

Christ the King Parish on your 75th Anniversary

And blessings to your newly installed pastor,

Fr. Neil Wack, C.S.C.

From your fellow Holy Cross parish in South Bend

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“This year we attended the installation of Father Neil as pastor of Christ the King Parish in South Bend. It was a great honor for us to be a part of this special occasion.

Father Neil, one of 10 children and who grew up in Christ the King Parish, thanked his parents for their great witness of prayer and example.

“A woman approached my mom and said, ‘How great you are at your son’s parish.’ My mom didn’t bat an eye and replied, ‘No, you’ve got it wrong. He’s at our parish!’”

In fact, the Wacks say they never had any indication Father Neil would become a priest. Their other children had spoken of it for themselves, and his brother, Bill, became a Holy Cross priest 12 years ago.

But Neil took everyone by surprise when he gave up a successful career in computers and announced his desire to become a priest.

When asked what they did as parents to produce not one, but two sons to the priesthood, Dr. Wack simply replied, “We tried to have a Catholic home.”

Alice Wack added, “We said the family rosary every night after dinner, and sometimes the kids from the neighborhood would join in.”

In addition to a great-uncle who was a priest, Father Neil’s nephew, Kevin, is currently in seminary at Notre Dame’s Old College.

A reception followed Mass, with parishioners spanning the generations in attendance. Dave Towner has been a parishioner at Christ the King for all 75 years, attending the first Mass there when he was almost six years old.

Dave and his wife, Doris, raised seven children, all of whom went to Christ the King School.

Amy Bradburn became a parishioner three years ago when her oldest son, Dylan, started kindergarten. He is now preparing for his first Communion, a day that will be extra special for the Bradburn family. Her husband, Bob, will enter the church in just a few weeks on the feast of the Immaculate Conception.

“One of the greatest heroes of the age is the parish priest.”

BISHOP JOHN M. D’ARCY

Dr. James and Alice Wack are shown with their son, Holy Cross Father Neil Wack (right) and Bishop John M. D’Arcy following Father Wack’s installation as pastor of Christ the King Parish in South Bend. The year-long celebration of the 75th anniversary of the parish was launched as well.

Amy Bradburn with sons Dylan (second grade) and Carter (kindergarten) recently joined the parish. Amy’s husband, Bob, enters the church Dec. 8.
As the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is rededicated to the Immaculate Conception, it’s a good time for area Catholics to stop and examine just what this dogma, to which our entire diocese is consecrated, is all about. The following reflection looks at the origins and underlying meaning of this sometimes misunderstood teaching.

The history of a dogma is like a core sample. It shows the different stages in the ongoing relationship between the Holy Spirit, the members of the church and the popes. The Immaculate Conception is a good example. The faithful, laity and clergy alike, have always seen the mother of Jesus as both exclusively human and extremely holy. The problem had been how to reconcile these two beliefs. How holy can a person be and still be human?

At first it wouldn’t have occurred to anyone that Mary was totally sinless, as this would have seemed to make her more than human. It was difficult enough to imagine our Lord himself to be both human and sinless, “like us in all things but sin,” as Scripture tells us. But his mother? While Scripture makes this clear about Christ himself, it does not directly mention a total lack in Mary of what the church today calls the “taint of sin.”

It does support this in the angel’s greeting, “Hail, full of grace.” The people of God have been adamant in their conviction that she was as holy as one can be and still be human. This certainly gives the lie to those outside the church who say we have been treating her as a goddess. She is the first disciple, given to us by her divine Son at the foot of the cross as our mother too. But she is one of us, and that is part of her charm.

In the eighth century, the Byzantine part of our church had a firmly established feast called the Conception of St. Anne, referring to Mary’s natural conception in her mother’s womb. How many people do we honor by celebrating their conception? Yet there was no mention of the immaculate, or graced, aspect.

In the Genesis story, our first parents were created in God’s favor, that is in grace. They lost this favor, the state of grace, when they chose to disobey God. We, their children in the one human family, have “inherited” that absence of life on God’s level, which is called original sin. Since Mary is one of their children, how could she avoid beginning her life this way?

Thirteenth-century theologians struggled with this. If Christ died to save us all from our sins, how could Mary not be included in this salvation and still be part of the human family? So St. Thomas Aquinas, without denying Mary’s extreme holiness, nevertheless did not accept an Immaculate Conception. Duns Scotus countered that Mary was actually more in need of salvation than the rest of us because of her role as mother of God and was therefore graced from the first moment of her life. While it was the power of the Holy Spirit that brought about the “enfleshment” of the Son of God in Mary’s womb, could the spirit be present in a merely human conception like that of Mary in the womb of St. Anne? St. Bernard of Clairvaux considered this unthinkable. Some theologians, not understanding conception, thought that the body was conceived before the soul was infused so that Mary could physically inherit original sin but be born without it. Now that we know that body and soul are created together, since the human embryo is both alive and human from the beginning, that idea had to be false.

By the 17th century, the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin was so widely accepted that Pope Gregory XV was pressured to define it. He replied, “The Holy Spirit has not yet opened to his church the secrets of this mystery.” But in 1854, soon after becoming Pope, Pius IX declared that God had revealed from the very beginning that the blessed virgin Mary had been “preserved from all stain of original sin from the first instant of her conception.”

Appalled by the state of the world as the Industrial Revolution came into its own, with sweatshops, abuse of the working class and resulting widespread unrest across Europe, he was no doubt anxious to invoke the intercession of the mother of God for the salvation of the world. The Catholic world cried out to its mother for intercessory help, as it had long before and has ever since.

Father Larry Kramer is the pastor of St. Paul of the Cross Parish in Columbia City.
FORT WAYNE — Among the traditions resurrected during the Gothic Revival was the making of stained glass windows. This rebirth can trace its roots to the Munich Institute of Glass Painting, founded in 1827 by Bavaria’s King Ludwig I. The renaissance in Munich continued in 1862 when Joseph Gabriel Mayer added stained-glass production to his Institute for Christian Art Works, which he founded in 1847. The firm’s successful work became so popular in the United States that by 1888 it had opened an office in New York. For the next century, contributions to church art, Pope Leo XIII in 1892 gave Mayer & Company the title “Pontifical Institute of Christian Art.” By the turn of the century, the company employed over 300 craftsmen and artisans.

Mayer’s son-in-law, Franz Xavier Zettler, originally worked in the window portion of the business before striking out on his own in 1870. His fledgling company achieved its first success with award-winning windows displayed at the 1873 International Exhibition at Vienna. By the end of the decade, Zettler’s firm had 150 employees. In 1882 the company was appointed as the “Royal Bavarian Art Institute for Stained Glass” by King Ludwig II.

Both the Mayer and Zettler studios perfected what became known as the “Munich Style.” In this method, the religious scenes were painted on larger sheets of glass, and then fused to the glass through firing in intense heat. This allowed for a blending of colors not attainable by the old medieval style where any change in color in a scene required a separate piece of colored glass, which had to be cut to size and fitted in its own leaded framework. In the windows of the Munich school the leaded seams did not interrupt or intrude upon the scene portrayed, but were camouflaged by the glass in a way that made them hardly noticeable. The new style also allowed for extremely detailed depictions of their subjects. The scenes illustrated were heavily influenced by the emotion and sentimentiality of the 19th century Romantic style of painting, and the detail and ornamentation of the German Baroque style.

While perspective was employed in the latter part of the medieval age and during the Renaissance, Zettler is widely recognized as the master of this technique, and is credited with being the first to use three-point perspective in stained-glass windows. In his hands, the traditional painted windows contained scenes which tended to appear “flat” and one-dimensional, even if they had an object in the background. Zettler’s scenes looked more like the landscaped paintings of the Renaissance, and his style and technique later were adapted and modified by the great American designer, Louis Comfort Tiffany. While the latter’s name may be more known to people today, in their own era it was apparent who was the master and who was the student: at the 1893 World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago, a Zettler window won top prize over a Tiffany.

Zettler’s ability as a chemist enabled him to design beautiful colors and dyes. His institute became known for its quality of design, clearness of glass in spite of rich use of colors and the conscientious employment of the medium to realize harmonious decorative effects. The firm also gained a reputation for technological innovations and familiarity with Christian iconography. This allowed them to dominate the market in producing windows for Catholic churches. Their works can be found throughout Europe, Canada, South America, Australia and New Zealand.

Thousands of churches in the U.S. also purchased their windows, mostly after 1900. However, the 13 major stained-glass windows in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, were created especially for the worship facility and installed by Zettler’s firm in 1896-1897, during the first thorough renovation of the cathedral by its second rector, Msgr. Joseph H. Bemamer, shortly before his death in 1899. The cathedral probably was among the institute’s early American customers because the parish’s rapidly-growing German immigrants already were familiar with the firm’s windows from many of their homeland churches. At the time of their installation, they were described as “the finest of their kind in the western hemisphere.”

The 12 large stained-glass windows that line both sides of the cathedral nave depict significant events from the life of Mary, the mother of God, in beautiful detail and color. Shown, from left, are the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon Mary and the Apostles (Pentecost), and the Assumption of Mary into Heaven.

Two of the 12, 28-foot stained-glass windows that line both sides of the Cathedral nave depicting significant events from the life of Mary, the Mother of God, in beautiful detail and color. Shown, from left, are the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon Mary and the Apostles (Pentecost), and the Assumption of Mary into Heaven. Germany during the first decades of the cathedral’s existence: Shoridon, Baker, Muller, Massy, Zettler, or Tiffany. Most of them are for the churches and monasteries. Its religious works now include windows and mosaics for synagogues and mosques. But, reflecting the secularization of western civilization, many of its creations are for the “cathedrals” of our day: banks, hotels, malls, airports and clothing stores. Many works are very modernistic and abstract, a far cry from the detail and craftsmanship of the Munich style.

Professor Franz as Zettler was known to students and admirers, died in 1916 at the age of 75. There has been of late a renewed interest in and appreciation for the work of this great craftsman. Unfortunately, his secret for exquisitely painted stained glass and unique fusion-of-colors process was destroyed during World War II.
Officials confirm Pope Benedict XVI’s visit to Lourdes to mark Marian apparitions

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Officials confirmed Pope Benedict XVI will visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in France to mark the 150th anniversary of the Marian apparitions there, but said the exact time period of the papal visit was not yet known.

Bishop Jacques Perrier of Tarbes and Lourdes, who is in charge of the preparations for the jubilee celebrations, said the papal journey was “a sure thing.”

Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, head of the Vatican press office, said, “the papal trip most probably” would have Lourdes as its sole destination and for this reason “would not include stops in other cities.”

Bishop Perrier said he is often asked if the pope will arrive at Lourdes for one of the “significant moments” for the church, such as Feb. 11, the day the apparitions began and also the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, or Aug. 15, the feast of the Assumption.

Bishop Perrier said whatever date the pope decides for his visit would be a significant moment for them.

He said Cardinal Ivan Dias, president of the Vatican’s Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, will lead celebrations when the jubilee kicks off in Lourdes Dec. 8, the feast of the Immaculate Conception.

The French bishop added there also “might be a televised link” with the pope as he visits a Marian monument in the center of Rome the same day.

Highlights of the Dec. 8, 2007, to Dec. 8, 2008, jubilee in Lourdes include:

• An international Marian/Mariology conference Sept. 4-8 organized by Rome’s International Pontifical Marian Academy.

• A Christian rock and pop music festival for young people that will coincide with World Youth Day celebrations in Sydney, Australia, July 15-20.

• An international peace pilgrimage that will bring together people from nations once at war.

• A joint Catholic-Anglican pilgrimage.

• An interreligious pilgrimage of Catholic and Hindu ethnic Tamil peoples.

• A weeklong pilgrimage for gypsies and other itinerant travelers with space for campers, trailers and tents.

Beginning Feb. 11, 1858, Mary appeared on 18 different occasions in a cave near Lourdes to St. Bernadette Soubirous, a poor 14-year-old girl.

Bishop Perrier said the apparitions still “nourish the church” today. He said Lourdes continues to contribute to the mission of the church and spread the Gospel in the world.

In the United States, the main event will be the celebration of Mass by Donald W. Wuerl, archbishop of Washington, D.C., on Feb. 11, 2008 (the date of the first apparition of the Virgin Mary to St. Bernadette).

This Mass, to be held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., will also mark the World Day of the Sick.

A new Web site, www.friendsourlouderesusa.com, has been established to help others learn more about the shrine in Lourdes as well as the Virgin Mary’s apparitions to St. Bernadette.

The Web site is sponsored by Friends of Lourdes USA, Cardinal Francis George, Archbishop of Chicago, is the organization’s honorary chairman.

Further details of the 150th anniversary of Lourdes 150th anniversary celebration, go to www.friendsourlouderesusa.com.

A mosaic of Mary is displayed in an outdoor chapel in Lourdes, France. The Catholic doctrine that Mary was free from sin from the moment of her existence was promulgated by Pope Pius IX in 1854. The feast of the Immaculate Conception is Dec. 8.
Opening prayer

Lord, I believe my life is touched by you, that you want something for me and of me. Give me ears to hear, eyes to see the tracing of your finger and a heart quickened by the motions of your Spirit. — Ted Loder, “Guarellas of Grace,” page 35.

Commentary:

Wow! Stereotyping and now “profiling” remain as ever, highly charged words — words which we hope are never used. In reality, however, all of us stereotype or profile all the time. Social psychologists tell us this is one of the ways our minds organize information about people. In snap-judgment style (often the only chance we have to form an opinion), we group people together by what we perceive to be their common traits. Stereotyping may be efficient — maybe even necessary in our information-overloaded world; but it is, by no means, always accurate.

In today’s competitive world people are often judged by the number of kind or initials that appear after their name. For simp- ple, Dr. Smith, MD, PhD, auto-matically connotes upon that indi- vidual a certain stereotypical credi-bility. When we moved to the world of academia many years ago, I discovered the importance of an individual heart “feel-ing” God, and for still others, degrees a person possessed. Basic, deep credi-bility; many degrees, much credibility. This appears to be true in many other areas of society: the higher the totem pole one is, the more one’s opinion counts.

But life has taught me that there are other kinds of intelligences that are equally in- important. Wisdom gleaned from books and classes, the kind usually tested with IQ tests, is a rational intelli-gence. Yet we all know people with little formal education and loads of common-sense (logical-mathematical intelligence); inventors, artists and musicians who “think” in images or sounds rather than the written word (spatial and musical intelligence). Seven kinds of intel-ligences have been theorized, and each of these multiple intelligences results in a different kind of valu-able wisdom.

Simple faith

Similarly, each one has our own distinctive faith, depending on our personality and where we are in our spiritual journey. Working with differing personalities and viewpoints illustrates the fact that wisdom always comes in various ways. For some faith and wisdom are understood more easily through the mind (studying God); for others through the heart (feeling” God); and for still others, through the body (living as God intends). Ideally, our faith should continually grow and mature in all three ways: religious education, professional experiences, and personal experi-ences. After all, what did the former Baltimore Catechism teach: “Why did God make me? God made me to know, love and serve him in this world and to be happy with him in the next.” These concepts of knowing, loving and serving God are affirmed in the current Catechism of the Catholic Church as the most important goals of our earthly lives.

My personal and profes-sional experiences confirmed and strengthened my faith, and I obtained some initials along the way to put behind my name. But does the “next” wise, more credible or more faith-filled in the eyes of God? I doubt it. Some of the people I hold most dear in this world 1986 (50 years), and many might even call their faith “simple.” Yet these dear folk will be in heaven long before me because their “simple faith,” often looked down upon by others, is “their rock and their salvation.” The core of who they are and how they live their lives. They have a deep abiding trust in God that I can only hope to acquire one day.

Ther is a strong and abiding sense of what is right and true. Their values are not based on having the most toys, on what people think you have or where they stand in society’s pecking order. They stand steadfast in an unapologetic or defensive or uncomfortable way to put behind my name. But does the “next” wise, more credible or more faith-filled in the eyes of God? I doubt it. Some of the people I hold most dear in this world 1986 (50 years), and many might even call their faith “simple.” Yet these dear folk will be in heaven long before me because their “simple faith,” often looked down upon by others, is “their rock and their salvation.” The core of who they are and how they live their lives. They have a deep abiding trust in God that I can only hope to acquire one day.

Bishop D’Arcy, years part 1

The Diocese of Fort Wayne- South Bend, with a grant of land in New Whiteland, has commissioned Dr. Joseph M. White to write a history in celebra-tion of the Sesquicentennial Jubilee. The following is excerpted from “Worthy of the Gospel of Christ: A History of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend,” by Joseph M. White.

“Entrusted to lead the local church of northeastern Indiana in the late 20th century, Bishop John Michael D’Arcy continues to serve the diocese through its 150th anniver-sary. … (During) his years of lead-ership … (an) extraordinary range of new initiatives … (were under-pended). During his years of leadership … (an) extraordinary range of new initiatives … (were under-pended).”

Bishop D’Arcy was no exception. … (During) his years of lead-ership … (an) extraordinary range of new initiatives … (were under-pended).

Bishop D’Arcy took canon-ical possession of the diocese at a prayer service at St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend. … Historically, a new bishop brings a fresh perspective, new initiatives, renewed direction to existing works, new appointees, and a surge of energy to diocesan life. D’Arcy’s was no exception. … In a systematic fashion through his initial years, he recruited out-side help, made a diocesan assess-ment, evaluated a diocesan office or pro-gram, and made recommenda-tions, which he normally imple-mented. For several diocesan offices, existing boards were reor-ganized and expanded for on-going oversight. With the foregoing method, plus the bishop’s personal attention, most aspects of diocesan life have been renewed, new pro-grams created, and boards created or expanded to oversee them. … Bishop D’Arcy created in January 1986 a diocesan office for six areas of the diocese and appointed vicars serving as liaisons with the diocese’s finance office. To improve diocesan services in the South Bend area, Bishop D’Arcy arranged in 1987 to move the diocese to purchase an office building there at 114 W. Wayne St. from the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration. …

The downtown Faith, Hope, and Charity Chapel, staffed by priests of the Congregation of Holy Cross and volunteers, was moved to the new building. … Until 2002, the diocese benefit-ed from the ministry of an auxil- iary bishop. Bishop D’Arcy con-tinued Bishop Joseph Crowley in diocesan positions as vicar general and rec-tor of St. Matthew- Cathedral. South Bend. Through the years, he became a beloved figure through-out the diocese, but especially in the South Bend area. He retired on July 15, 1990, and remained active in retirement in South Bend through his declining years. He died there on Feb. 4, 2003. …

World events timeline

1985
- U.S. President Ronald Reagan sworn in for second term in office.
- Space Shuttle Challenger disintegrates 73 seconds after launch, killing the crew of seven astronauts including schoolteacher Christa McAuliffe.
- Pope John Paul II officially visits the synagogue of Rome, the first time a modern pope has visited a synagogue.

1986
- During a visit to Berlin, Germany, U.S. President Ronald Reagan challenges Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev to tear down the Berlin Wall.
- Roman Catholic Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre consecrates four bishops without a papal mandate.
- In U.S. presidential election George Bush is elected over Michael Dukakis.

1989
- Barbara Clementine Harris is consecrated as the first female bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America.
- Iraq invades Kuwait, eventually leading to the Gulf War.
- The Huntington Library makes the Dead Sea Scrolls available to the public for the first time.
- Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton announces he will seek the 1992 Democratic nomination for President of the U.S.

1992
- The Church of England votes to allow women to become priests.
- Bill Clinton succeeds George H.W. Bush as 42nd President of U.S.
- The coldest temperature ever measured in Indiana is recorded at 38 below in New Whiteland.

1993
- A letter from former U.S. President Ronald Reagan is released that announces his selection of a successor. George W. Bush is elected governor of Texas.
- Pope John Paul II canonizes John Sarkander during his visit to Olomouc, the Czech Republic.
The Annunciations

ADVENT REFLECTIONS
MSGR. THOMAS MCDONNELL

It is a truism that our experiences influence the way we interpret events. I think that the same thing could be said of words. Quoting a word may contain a number of associations. At least I have found that true in my own case.

I remember standing in St. Peter’s Square on a November afternoon when I first heard the phrase “Exsultavit super nos Dominus munificentia” (“1 announce something of great joy”). The cardinals had just announced by revealing that Angelo Roncalli had been elected pope and would take the name of John XXIII. It was also apparent to me then that the same words when Paul VI was elected.

And I heard them again on radio and at the time of the elections of subsequent holy fathers.

Thus the very word “annunciation” carries in my mind, and indeed appears naturally speaking, the idea of joy.

Luke’s Gospel says Gabriel was “sent to speak to Zechariah...” and “announce to you... good news” — the good news which continues to be the source of our joy.

At the very outset, two things should be noted. The first is that God in his initiative and power, teaches us about Zechariah and to humanity and to ourselves. We may wonder whether that in the spiritual life all is a gift — a sign of God’s continual attempt to touch us.

In 1 Corinthians, Paul himself said: “What do you possess that you have not received?” In the face of this truth, we come to realize that the primary response in our prayer life must be one of gratitude and thanksgiving.

Secondly, as this first announcement (chronologically speaking) evolves, we realize that God is reaching out in love and friendship to us. Indeed, as redemptive history points out, we almost seem to be summoned to the idea of friendship: “You are my friends” we read in John’s Gospel.

On a purely natural level, St. Augustine wrote about friendship: “...our conscience condemns us if we do not meet friendship with friendship. When we do, we open ourselves to transforming possibilities — personal, civic and even spiritual.” If this is true on a human level, how much more expansive are the possibilities open to us on the level of the divine-human friendship.

And God’s invitation to us to enter into his friendship is one of the sources of our Advent joy as well as reminding us that this sacred season presents us with an opportunity for deepening our friendship with the Lord.

Elizabeth and Zechariah

We might begin our spiritual journey through Advent by focusing upon the two figures we meet at the very beginning of Luke’s Gospel: Elizabeth and Zechariah.

There are a number of points to be highlighted. Both are described in Luke’s Gospel as “righteous in the eyes of God, observing all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blamelessly. But they had no children...” — the question of why God had not blessed them with children — in the context of a culture which so valued having children — must have been raised in their spiritual strivings. In their spiritual tradition, moreover, they would have brought their confusion and disappointments to the Lord, as the psalmist often did.

At this point, we might stop to highlight the fact that when we are hurting, frustrated, discouraged, etc. it is important to realize that it is perfectly acceptable to address these questions to the Lord. But even in our hurts, we must maintain hope. Many years before Luke penned his description about the spiritual state of Zechariah and Elizabeth, the inspired author of the Book of Lamentations described his hurt and discourage-ment. But his words also contain the truth upon which to anchor our hope.

“My soul is deprived of peace, I have forgotten what happiness is...” But I will call this mind as my reason to have hope. The favors of the Lord are not exhausted, his mercies are not spent. They are renewed each morning so great is his faithfulness. — Lam 3, 19-23

Paradoxically, as we look forward during this Advent season to birthing Christ in our self and in our world, it can happen that we find ourselves, for a myriad of reasons, caught in darkness and discouragement. At these times, it is helpful to make a personal pilgrimage into memory to discern signs of God’s faithfulness — a true source of strength and joy.

Msgr. Thomas McDonnell is a priest from the Archdiocese of Boston.

Virginia Centurione Bracelli
1587-1651
Feast - December 15

Unable to persuade her parents that she had a religious vocation, Virginia was married at age 15 to the son of another notable Italian family. But he gambled, lived dissolutely and died after only five years. Virginia, despite her unhappiness in the marriage, nursed him at the end. She vowed to live celibately thereafter, bringing up her two daughters and caring for abandoned children, especially girls. She founded several schools and the Sisters of Our Lady of the Refuge on Mount Calvary. She was canonized in her hometown, Genoa, in 2003.

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

Today’s Catholic editorial board consists of Bishop John M. D’Arcy, Ann Carey, Don Clemmer, Father Mark Gurtner, Father Michael Heinta, Tim Johnson and Vince LaBarbera.

Today’s Catholic
Sizing up Catholic schools: a partnership between religious, laity

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A transformation has occurred in Catholic schools over the last 50 years, and the Vatican took its measure at a recent press conference.

The occasion was the Nov. 20 release of a document, “Educating Together in Catholic Schools: A Shared Mission Between Consecrated Persons and the Lay Faithful,” prepared by the Congregation for Catholic Education.

The congregation said lay teachers now make up the overwhelming majority — at least 80 percent, according to one official — of the 3.5 million hands working in the church’s 250,000 schools around the world.

That represents a dramatic shift, reflecting the declining numbers of men and women religious. In the United States, the percentage of lay teachers went from 14 percent in 1950 to more than 95 percent this year. Similar figures were cited for places like Australia, the United States, the percentage of men and women religious. In the

The Vatican document appeared to accept that the lay role in Catholic schools is here to stay. That’s not necessarily a bad thing, said Msgr. Angelo Zani, undersecretary of the education congregation.

“In fact, from being an improvement, this transformation constitutes a great potential for the Catholic school,” Msgr. Zani said.

A mature and committed laity has emerged, he said, and they consider church-run schools an important part of their religious community.

Lay salaries, of course, have made Catholic schools more expensive to operate.

Polish Cardinal Zenon Grocholewski, head of the education congregation, took aim at countries — including the United States and Italy — where the church has had little success in winning direct state aid to private schools.

“The Vatican letter

JOHN THAVIS

“The United States is a disaster, because the state does not recognize formal religious freedom as far as schools are concerned,” Cardinal Grocholewski said.

U.S. Catholic schools are just as good as public schools, the cardinal said, but without state aid they labor under a greater economic burden. Dioceses and parishes are forced to pass on higher costs to the parents of students, and sometimes have to close the institutions, he said.

Overall, Catholic schools are enjoying success, and Msgr. Zani gave several examples:

• In Lebanon, Catholic schools are attended by 210,000 students who belong to 18 different faiths

Advent time to set priorities

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Mt 24:37-44

W

ith this weekend, the church begins its new liturgical year. In so doing, it also begins to use the A Cycle of readings at Sunday Masses.

The first part of the Book of Isaiah is the source of this reading. Isaiah also was an interesting person. He had access to the movers and shakers of his time. He hardly liked everything that he saw. He denounced national policies, that in his view, toyed with the people’s bond with God. His frankness generated great dislike. Critics raged against him.

Isaiah engaged the top echelon, but he addressed himself also to the people. He called upon them to be faithful to God. They acquiesced in the bad judgment of the leadership by not themselves protesting.

While Isaiah condemned ignor

ing God, he also insisted that God would protect them. He would protect them. But, they had to be faithful to God.

With this weekend reading, the church offers us its first scriptural lesson for the new year, for Advent 2007. It is a call to faith and a warning that if we voluntarily allow ourselves to stray from God, we risk disaster. However, we

must never despair. God will pro

tect us and guide us.

St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans furnishes the next reading. Always, Paul urged Christians to be true to their calling to find God in Jesus. This of course referred to life in the world, on earth. However, Paul also impressed upon his audience in the first century A.D., and impresses upon us through this reading, the fact that we must live our lives on earth with the afterlife clearly in our mind.

The Gospel of St. Matthew supplies this weekend’s last reading. It brings to the fore an ancient New Testament belief that has unfortunately been misconstrued and then thumbed about, by some fundamentalists.

It is the belief that some day, in some overexuberant way, Jesus will come again to earth in glory. Hearing this reading is a good time to remember that the Catholic Church teaches that proper reading of the Gospels requires realizing three perspectives: 1) The Gospel event in the actual time of Jesus; 2) The event as its implications came to be understood in the time when the Gospels were written, decades after Jesus; and, 3) The place that the event occupies in the general literary structure of the individual Gospel.

This is important since when Matthew was written, Christians, pursued by the authorities and immersed in a hostile pagan culture, found great comfort in remembering, or being told of, the Lord’s pledge to come again in glory.

Reflection

Advent, an old and beloved Christian liturgical season, too often can be dismissed as being just somehow a preparation for Christmas, rather hopelessly lost because of its somberness in exuberance with which the society accepts Christmas.

Actually, it is much more than merely getting ready, even spiritually ready, for the feast of the Lord’s Nativity on Dec. 25. It is a time for us to remember first and foremost that just as God entered the world, through Jesus, two millennia ago when the infant Lord was born of the Virgin Mary, God will vitally enter the world again through Jesus, and most importantly for us individual- ly, God will enter our lives one day in eternity when we die.

Thus, the church calls us to be good Christians and to rid ourselves of any of those things in the way. We know neither the day nor the hour.

Advent is a time to set our priorities. When Jesus comes, will we be ready? We must prepare our- selves. We must recommit our- selves to be true disciples of the king born in Bethlehem. We must shape our lives with these priorities in mind.

READINGS

Sunday: 1-b-1-5 Ps 122-1-9 Rom 1311-14 Mt 2437-44

Monday: 4-2-6 Ps 122-1-9 Rom Mt 8-5-11

Tuesday: 1-11-1-10 Ps 721-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 Lk 1021-24

Wednesday: 1-25-10 Ps 231-6 Mt 9-27-31

Thursday: Is 261-6 Ps 118-1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27 Mt 7-21, 24-27

Friday: 29-17-24 Ps 271, 4, 13-14 Mt 9-27-31

Saturday: Gn 39-15, 20 Ps 981-4 Eph 13-6, 11-12 Lk 12638

CATEQUIZ’EM

By Dominic Campion

Tis the season to erect a tree inside a house. While this custom is associated with Christmas it is clearly not biblical. This quiz branches out to look at trees in Scripture and beyond.

1. Despite the image of the Holy Land as a desert land, references to trees occur at least many times in scripture:

a. 50 times
b. 100 times
c. 300 times

2. The most notorious and, it turned out, fateful tree was this one:

a. the family tree of Mary Magdalene
b. the tree of knowledge
c. the tree house of Notre Dame

3. What type of apple did it bear?

a. Granny Smith, "Smythe" being a medieval word for "destroyed"
b. a crab apple, reckoned to be poisonous and deadly
c. none that we know of, its fruit is unspecified but imparted fatal knowledge

4. What was the tree of life?

a. the same as the tree of knowledge
b. another tree planted in Eden
c. not a real tree, a corruption of Old English "medicale treetment"

5. If we learn from the admonition to destroy these places, pagan tribes often placed these under trees:

a. shrines to their gods
b. ziggurats
b. weapons caches

6. This is confirmed in 1 Kings 14 when the Jews are condemned for erecting these "under every green tree"

a. arb, tents and booths
b. high places, pillars and sacred poles
c. statues, saraph serpents and cherubim

7. Because of these associations, it was forbidden for the Jews to plant a tree near

a. a settlement of people who had not come over to Judaism.
b. a water source.
c. an Altar of the Lord.

8. Samuel 14 tells us that Saul’s headquarters were under this tree, which bears unusual fruit:

a. pomegranate
b. eggplant
c. pligberry

9. In the Bible these trees are almost always associated with Lebanon

a.oak
b. pine trees
c. cedars

10. The first of the Psalms tells us that those that are true to God are like

a. oaks who have sons as numerous as acorns
b. squirrels who are surrounded by trees bearing nuts
c. a tree planted near streams of water

11. According to Luke’s Gospel a yacmene tree was used in this way by Zachaeus

a. He climbed it to see Jesus, as he was short.
b. He used it to illustrate the dual nature of Jesus, both vine root and branch.
c. He cut its branches to pave the way from Jesus to ascend to the upper story of the Cenacle for the last Supper.

12. In Acts the apostles refer to the Sadducees and their followers having killed Jesus by...

a. hanging him on a tree.
b. being stoned.
c. being crucified.

13. Whose epitaph asks in chapter 3 an apparently silly question: “Can a fig tree, my brothers, produce olives or a grapevine figs?”

a. Josiah Malus Agricola
b. Paul

14. Long before the Da Vinci Code this book gave a spurious family tree linking Jesus to, of all people, the deposed Merovingian kings of France:

a. Holy Blood Holy Grail
b. The Franks and the Burgbers
c. The Linguini Code

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

15DECEMBER 2, 2007
I notice this year that the holy day of the Immaculate Conception falls on a Saturday, Dec. 8. Is it a day of obligation this year? If so, can I go to Mass on Saturday evening and have it count for both the holy day and Sunday? T.P., Leo

Even though the holy day of the Immaculate Conception falls on Saturday this year, all Catholics are still obliged to attend Mass. When the other holy days (Assumption, All Saints) were changed to fall on Saturday or Monday, the obligation is lifted, but the obligation is never lifted for this holy day because under the title of the Immaculate Conception, Mary is the patroness of the church.

Now, concerning how one fulfills this obligation, a person cannot go to the Saturday evening Mass and have it fulfill the obligation for both the holy day and Sunday. There is no “two for one” here. However, since the Saturday evening Mass could count for either the holy day or the Sunday, one could attend the Saturday evening Mass for the holy day, and then go to the Sunday Mass to complete the obligation for Sunday.

Several years ago, I asked my friend, Cardinal Christoph Schönborn of Vienna, what he thought about the delays in the beatification process for Franz Jaegerstaetter, the Austrian peasant beheaded for refusing to serve under arms in Hitler’s Wehrmacht. Cardinal Schönborn is a theologian of no small accomplishment; he’s also a man of deep piety, a giant of no small accomplishment; he’s also a man of deep piety, an inspired writer who is unwilling to repent and change their lives. So, not just those who have attempted remarry- age outside of the church, but also any Catholic who persists in mortal sin, cannot receive Communion.

Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, Fort Wayne, answered this week’s questions.

Blessed Franz, at last

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FORT WAYNE — Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) girls’ teams will swing into action with opening games beginning this Saturday, Dec. 1. The Queen of Angels Invitational at the University of Saint Francis previewed several different CYO teams over Thanksgiving weekend with the ladies from St. Jude 7 placing a strong third. Memioral Park and St. Peters were the top two finishers.

St. Jude 7

The Lady Eagles list Julie Bazur, Brianna Campbell, Elizabeth Chandler, Allyson Christman, Danielle Colone, Ciara Feipel, Ariana Jehl, Maria Mettler, Kelsey Richard, Sara Spaulding, Jennifer Staudanger, ShaDarrain Warfield and Megan Spaulding, Jennifer Staudinger, Mettler, Kelsey Richard, Sara Spaulding, Jennifer Staudanger, ShaDarrain Warfield and Megan Westendorf on their 2007-2008 roster. Coach David Westendorf feels this group is tight knit and is very team oriented with no one standout. "The girls work really well together and if we work on playing our best, the winning/losing thing takes care of itself," he explained.

Westendorf had coached for 15 years now, but this is the first team he has had with one of his daughters on board. "It is neat to have known this group since kindergarten," he lists depth as one of the team’s strengths this season and says that all nine players are fundamentally sound. Along with his assistants, Jack Bazur and Paul Spaulding, Westendorf and his Lady Eagles plan to take one team at a time in a competitive CYO White League.

BOYS TOURNAMENT NAMES WINNERS

NO. 5 USF GOING WEST TO CHALLENGE UNBEATEN NO. 2 CARROLL

The University of Saint Francis (USF) will keep its bags packed for a trip west Dec. 1 to play second ranked and undefeated Carroll College in Helena, Mont. The kickoff is at 2:07 p.m. Indiana time. USF is playing in its fifth consecutive NAIA Football Championship Series semifinal while the Carroll Saints advanced to their seventh semifinal in eight seasons. The Cougars advanced 30-27 on the foot of sophomore place-kicker Rhys Barnhart, who kicked a 39-yard game-winning field goal at Bethel College in McKenzie, Tenn., on Nov. 24.

BOYS TOURNAMENT NAMES WINNERS

The St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel, Squires took top honors in the 10-team Queen of Angels Basketball tournament. The Squires went 4-0 over the Thanksgiving weekend beating St. John, New Haven, 37-22, in the championship game. In the photo are the following: front row, Wil Knappke, Alex Miller, Brian Nitcher, James Knappke and Mitch Castleman; back row, Coach Tom Miller, Coach Jim Knappke, Carter Rauner, Jedd Minnich, Michelle Marqueling, Courtney Lahrman, Kelli Kruckeberg, Vachon and Leah Painter. Returning starters Alyssa Bosler, Alisha Gerardot and Katie Gnebel will be relied upon heavily to lead the Twins this season. These two schools have combined efforts with St. Joseph, Hessen Cassel, who contribute Meghan Minnich and Lauren Wyss to the combined sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade roster. Brenna Keppel, Claire Steuerzenberger and Cassandra Lomont complete the list of this year’s squad.

The team will once again be coached by Mindy Castle, Melissa Harris and Ava Meyer. In the preseason, the team has been working on outside shooting, rebounding and post play, Harris reports, “This group works very well together.” The Twins will open against Must Precious Blood on Dec. 1.

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St. John the Baptist, New Haven

Coaches Lori Fendel, Vince Fendel and Emily Krueckebarger are hoping the hard work their team put in during the off-season will pay off this year. The seven-deep unit played over 20 games together in the Parks and Recreation program this summer and will bring a lot of experience to the court. According to Vince Fendel, the team hopes to win their league this season.

“We have good team chemistry and decent size," concluded Fendel. This year’s personnel include eighth graders Emily Lahrmann, Kelli Krueckebarger, Michelle Marqueling, Courtney Heddens, Kayla Fendel, Carrie Vachon and Leah Painter.

The Twins will open against Most Precious Blood on Dec. 1.

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A day of Indian pride, not sadness

Saint Joseph’s hopes for state championship title flagged at the dome

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

SOUTH BEND — “It’s the most wonderful time of the year” was the song the Saint Joseph’s High School’s football team sang on their way into the RCA Dome on Saturday, but sadly left the state finals being defeated by Chatard.

The Indians started the game strong, but the game was turned over on downs at the Chatard 15-yard line, but that advantage would only go backward because two penalties forced the Indians all the way back to the 41-yard line where the ball was eventually turned over on downs.

Matthews put Saint Joseph’s High School on the scoreboard with a 24-yard score from quarter-back Rob Doyle to Steve Webster. Saint Joseph’s beat a shut out with No. 3 Indian’s player Zach Matthews 37-yard return of a fumble for a touchdown midway through the fourth quarter.

After the half by running the ball with his 36-yard return off Indians’ interceptions including one by Mike Krzyzewski recovered a fumble on the Chatard 15-yard line, but that advantage would only go backward because two penalties forced the Indians all the way back to the 41-yard line where the ball was eventually turned over on downs.

It was a disappointing day for the Indians, but they kept their school pride and ended the day with a joint prayer between Saint Joseph’s High School and Chatard on the RCA Dome field.

“We want to be remembered as one of the two teams that went to the dome, and every game we played our hearts out,” said Jordan Taylor to the press. “We want to go down in history as a team that was strong and had a good bond and brotherhood.”

Saint Joseph’s High School did live with one very special award. Senior Mitchell Speer was awarded the Phil N. Eskew Mental Attitude Award after the game. He is the fourth Saint Joseph’s High School student to win the IHSAA mental attitude award and the first since 1993.

When the team returned to South Bend, they were greeted by their faces, others painted their bodies and everyone in the stands wore the signature Saint Joseph’s High School blue.

Students of all ages and grade levels came out to support their school at the state competition held at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis on Saturday, Nov. 24. Some painted their bodies and everyone in the stands.
Devotions
Little Flower Holy Hour
Fort Wayne — Father Ron Rieder, OFM, Cap will celebrate the holy hour at MacDowell Chapel on Tuesday, Dec. 4, at 7:15 p.m. Father Ron is pastor of Sr. Peter and Paul Parish in Huntington. Join in praying for priests and vocations.

Journey through Advent
Fort Wayne — Secular Franciscan Bob Deck will offer an Advent day of recollection Saturday, Dec. 15, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lunch will be potluck style. A freewill offering will cover the cost. Bring a Bible and a pencil. Call (260) 490-9571 to register by Dec. 14.

Rosary for families
Fort Wayne — The first Sunday all family rosary will be Sunday, Dec. 2, in MacDowell Chapel from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. The intention is for all families. Father William Hodde, retired, and Sister M. Carol Meyers, OSF, will be attending.

Breakfast to help Women’s Care Center
Fort Wayne — A pancake, egg and sausage breakfast hosted by the Knights of Columbus will be Sunday, Dec. 2, in MacDowell Chapel from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cost of the breakfast will be a freewill 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.

Advent Carols combine choirs
Elkhart — An ecumenical Advent Lessons and Carols will be held Sunday, Dec. 2, at 5 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 1108 S. Main St.

Outdoor Nativity
Columbia City — A live Nativity will be Friday, Nov. 30, and Saturday, Dec. 1, from 6-8 p.m. at the Whitley County Courthouse.

Misc. Happenings
Creighton Model taught locally
Fort Wayne — Creighton Model Services is a holistic health care system, which helps women with irregular cycles and infertility and assists couples with either achieving and avoiding pregnancy in a way that is both effective and ethical. The introductory session for learning to map out menstrual cycles, is held on the second Wednesday of the month from 7:30-8:30 p.m. at 3111 Rupp Dr. To register call Theresa Schortgen at (260) 494-6444 or e-mail ctschortgen1980@hotmail.com. Cost is $50 for the introductory session.

Montreal Pilgrimage
South Bend — Christ the King Parish is organizing a pilgrimage to St. Joseph’s Oratory in Montreal June 16-20, 2008, and will cost $475 per adult (based on a double-occupancy room). Registration forms can be found online at www.christkingonline.org. A $50 deposit will reserve your seat. For information call Linda Fitzpatrick (574) 272-3113 ext. 315 or Deacon Steve Lacroix at ext. 316.

Christmas potluck
Fort Wayne — The National Catholic Society of Foresters St. Antoinette Court 870 will have a Christmas potluck Sunday, Dec. 9, from noon to 3 p.m. at the Sacred Heart School basement, 4643 Gaywood Dr. Call (260) 447-2157 for information.

Late Night Catechism Christmas
Fort Wayne — Bishop Dwenger High School and Saints Alive! will present Late Night Catechism Christmas Wednesday, Dec. 5, at 7 p.m. Tickets are $25, $30 and $40. Call (260) 496-4801 for information.

Santa and pancakes Dec. 1 at Wabash
Prices are wreath — $16, swag — $4, children are $3, and those two and under are free. Call (260) 496-4801 for information.

Rosary Society will have a cookie walk in the church lower level 12-12:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Large assortment of cookies will be available for $4 a pound.

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Santa and pancakes Dec. 1 at Wabash
Wabash — St. Bernard School and Saints Alive! will have breakfast with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 6-8 p.m. Call (260) 496-4801 for information.

Cookie walk supports Rosary Society
Mishawaka — The St. Monica Rosary Society will have a cookie walk in the church lower level on Saturday, Dec. 15, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Large assortment of cookies will be available for $4 a pound.

Greener sale for the holidays
South Bend — St. Augustine Parish will offer greenerery 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.

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Knights conquer the dome for seventh time

Luers claims 2007 IHSAA 2-A football championship

**BY SEAN MCBRIDE**

INDIANAPOLIS — The Bishop Luers Knights converted a record-tying 11th trip to the state finals into their seventh state championship on Friday night. The Knights were led by their crushing defense, as they have been all year, and their offense proved to have too many weapons for the Heritage Christian Eagles.

The first half saw two well-coached and disciplined teams battling for field position and opportunities for the other team to make a mistake. While the Knights had two opportunities to score early, the half-time score was 0-0. Coach Matt Lindsay mustered his troops during half-time, and the Knights took to dominating the second half.

The momentum clearly shifted in the third quarter as Quinn Schafer hit Adrien Spencer for a 71-yard touchdown reception with 2:16 to go in the quarter. Tony Kebede’s PAT was successful; giving the Knights a 7-0 lead.

On the resulting drive, the Heritage Christian team was able to get their initial first-down of the second half with 2:08 to go in the quarter. On first and 10 on the Heritage Christian 34-yard line, Tyquan “The Hammer” Hammock delivered a 6-yard sack and resulting fumble. Hammock “brought the wood,” and the tide was turned. Josh Archbold recovered the fumble and the Knights never looked back.

On the next series of downs, Isaac Baker punched the ball into the end zone from the 2-yard line to bring the score to 14-0 after Kebede’s PAT was good. After the Knights kicked off, the Eagles were visibly shaken, and on second down, the Eagle quarterback threw an interception to Lawrence Barnett, who scoched the Eagles on a 28-yard touchdown runback with 9:58 to go in the game. The Eagles were able to score a touchdown with 3:22 to go, but Barnett blocked the PAT, resulting in a score of 21-6 for the Knights. The Luers offense, led by Quinn Schafer, was able to put up 370 total yards. Tyler Watts had six carries for 80 yards. Isaac Baker had 17 carries for 59 yards. Schafer passed the ball 20 times and connected 11 times for 203 yards. The Knight defenders held the Eagles to 126 total yards with only 13 yards rushing. Knight defenders Goodwin, Spencer and Barnett each had interceptions.

This seventh state championship is the Knights’ seventh straight victory.

At a victory pep rally at Bishop Luers High School the Monday following the game, Bishop John M. D’Arcy offered the opening prayer.

“Help us to learn from this,” the bishop prayed, “that when we all stick together and respect one another and work hard, much can be accomplished.” He concluded, “May we enjoy this and, with God’s help, be here one year from today for another one.”

Bishop Luers Principal Mary Keefer noted that both the commissioner and associate commissioner of the IHSAA had told her that the Luers football team was one of the finest groups of young men that had played in the state finals in a while, citing the team courtesy and good conduct.

“Those skills will last you a lifetime,” Keefer told the team. “Thank you for being gentlemen.”

Coach Matt Lindsay offered a round of thanks including teachers at Luers for their flexibility, the team’s numerous assistant coaches for their help, and the Bishop Luers student body for their support.

**SEAN MCBRIDE**

The Bishop Luers Knights football team and all of the assistants pose for a photo in the RCA Dome after winning the state Class 2-A title for the seventh time.

**MARK BUSH**

Lawrence Barnett celebrates in the end zone after a 28-yard touchdown runback.

**MARK BUSH**

**MARK BUSH**

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