COLUMBIA CITY — When Michelle Alles stopped by the parish office at St. Paul of the Cross Church one day and learned that the parish might be canceling its 11 a.m. Friday Stations of the Cross, her reaction was immediate.

“I was like, ‘Jacob and I will do it!’” recalls Alles, who owns and operates a tutoring center in Columbia City with her husband, Jacob. “And I went home, and I said, ‘Guess what — we’re leading stations now.’”

Michelle’s snap decision to volunteer herself and her husband for the Lenten stations was fueled in part by a devotion to the Stations of the Cross that began a decade ago. She grew up in a rough area of Detroit with not much of a family life, so when she rediscovered her Catholic faith as an adult, the stations really clicked for her.

“I was going through very troubling times in my life,” she says. “It was something that I really felt I could connect with. I really felt like I was going through that darkness myself.”

It helped her feel closer to Jesus and to all the suffering people of the world. It also gave that suffering meaning.

Jacob, a lover of history, also has a devotion to the stations, but for him, they bring him closer to the historical event of the Passion of Jesus. They also bring him closer to the countless faithful pilgrims over the years who have either traveled to Jerusalem to walk the Way of the Cross or, if they could not, “Jerusalem to walk the Way of the Cross or, if they

Jacob and Michelle Alles draw on their mutual love of the Stations of the Cross to lead the devotion on Friday mornings at St. Paul of the Cross Church in Columbia City. The couple continues the tradition led by the late Deacon Joseph Zickgraf.
Vocations, religious education build strong Catholic identity

BISHOP JOHN M. D’ARCY

Saint Joseph’s High School

A splendid day at Saint Joseph’s High School, South Bend. What you always look for as bishop when you visit a high school is Catholic identity. We began as always, John Gaughan and I, with the holy sacrifice of the Mass and then followed the great Saint Joe tradition of honoring the senior scholars and various other awards and then the valedictorian and salutatorian. We were Thomas Everett and John Aversa. Both are from Corpus Christi Parish.

Among the things we learned were that several groups of students go to the chapel daily to say a decade of the rosary in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. There was a meeting of about 15 young people, boys and girls, who meet on a regular basis to think about the priesthood for the boys or the consecrated life for the young women. Father Cam Tirabassi, one of the three priest chaplains, runs this meeting and Sister Lois of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration of Mishawaka runs a similar meeting for the girls. We do not know how many of them will take up religious life or the seminary, but it is a credit to their families and to this high school that they are considering it.

One has to be impressed with the splendid team that Principal Susan Richter has gathered around her. It includes Marty Harschman as dean. Marty is a former basketball player at Saint Joe. Marilyn Gibbs is assistant principal. There was much praise for her efforts in strengthening the academic element. She is a superb educator and a former principal of Corpus Christi School. Also, the athletic director Eric Gohel is outstanding.

A special classroom

One can never say enough about Andy Oross. Andy is a Notre Dame graduate who received his advanced degree in theology at the University of Dayton through our diocesan system. I visited his classroom when he teaches a course on great Catholic thinkers. What to say to hear the young people reflect on their readings and on their interests, and what the bishop considered to be good writers of theology. Many are well versed on the writing of Joseph Ratzinger, who is now Pope Benedict XVI, and were preparing to study Catherine of Siena. I was told about the famous “wager” of Pascal, and how one young man had shared this with a relative as a proof for the existence of God. Senior Ryan Richter is an outstanding left-handed pitcher who will enter Notre Dame in the fall and play baseball there. He will be among those entering the church at Easter.

It is a work of faith and learning that is going on at Saint Joe High, and there is joy in that building and love for the school by students and faculty alike. A day of prayer with St. Augustine

Despite a wintry morning and snow-covered highways at least on the eastern end, about 50 of our priests gathered at St. Martin de Porres Parish in Syracuse for a Day of Recollection. Our speaker was John Cavalini, chair of the theology department at Notre Dame. His topic was the spirituality of the preacher as seen in the homilies of St. Augustine. We learned how Augustine always had his focus on Christ and that the word of God never completely unity until it is proclaimed. It is in the proclaiming that the word of God takes residence in the souls of the listeners. It was challenging and enriching and a great preparation for all of us as we take the sacred responsibility of drawing our people closer to the mystery and the person of Christ in Holy Week and Easter, and as always there was appropriate time for the sacrament of reconciliation. Speaking of Holy Week, I urge as many of our people as possible to attend the chrism Mass which will be this night in South Bend and Tuesday in Fort Wayne. Above all, if your health allows, you should make the complete triduum, that is Holy Thursday night, the good Friday event and the Easter Vigil in your parish church.

On Good Friday, there will be the collection for the Holy Land, which is taken up through the Catholic Church. Even though there is only one service in most parishes, this collection, which by the way is the oldest collection in the universal church, one of our largest. People naturally turn to Jerusalem on this day. Remember that St. Paul took up a collection for the church in Jerusalem as is recorded in the scriptures.

Farewell to a good priest

On a snowy wintry morning, we celebrated the Mass of Christian Burial for Father Robert Hoevel. There is a great story here. Father Bob served 65 years as a priest. The land southeast of Fort Wayne was once all farms. His grandfather, Henry, and his father, Ben, gave the land to the diocese, as his grandfather had always wanted to have a church built there. Thus, Father Bob was made the first pastor of a church in that growing area. The parish was cut off from St. Andrew and Sacred Heart, and it flourished. Here is what he wrote to me about this special moment in his life in a letter written to me as I prepared to preach on his golden jubilee as a priest.

Grandpa Henry often said that he would be happy to have a Catholic church on his land, but there was no need. When my parents were married in 1916, it was farther north of St. Henry’s for a mile and a half. All was farmland too, west of St. Henry’s, up to Rudisill Blvd. So when we attended St. Andrew School, we walked nearly three miles. Even the block east of St. Andrew’s was farmland when it was built.

My father, Ben, repeated to the diocese, the wish of Grandpa Henry, that if ever the diocese wanted land for a new parish, he would give the land. So in 1956, in the city moved rapidly south, the offer was made. Bishop Parulek offered the holding of that parish to me (father Hoevel) and said: “Think it over. There are pluses and minuses to your doing that.” I was thrilled to accept.

So we brought him back to his first parish, and St. Henry’s was full as it had been in the old days when he was pastor. Father Bob Schulte and I accompanied him to his place of burial at the Catholic Cemetery east of Fort Wayne. He was a great friend of many of our priests including the late Msgr. Edward Hession, and like Father Ed, was known for his devotion to prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

On the question of immigration

Every year the bishops and the major religious superiors of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend host their priests and sisters of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend in Indiana for meet and discuss on an area that concerns us both. This year the topic was immigration. Glen Tebbe, who is the director of the Office of Vocations, religious education build strong Catholic identity
R
everend John Jenkins, CSC, and I have given in
communication about his decision to allow performances of “The Vagina Monologues” at Notre Dame. I am grateful to Father Jenkins for the extensive time he has put into our conver-
sation and for his correspondence on these matters over the last two
months, and I have taken care in this statement to present his position accurately in order to make a fair response. Father Jenkins has informed me that,
while he thinks that this play is a bad play, he believes that permitting it to be
performed is necessary for the following reasons:

- Is the play not inherently in its nature objectionable? How can one decide which scenes can be performed and which are offensive?
- What is the proper context for performance? How can one determine if the performance is educational or artistic?
- Is the play simply wrong? How can one determine what is right and wrong in terms of art and culture?

I must publicly and respectfully disagree with Father Jenkins’ decision. I am convinced that permitting performances of “The Vagina Monologues” is not consistent with the identity of a Catholic university. This decision is not comparable to the long accepted academically acceptable traditions through which a wide variety of authors are read and discussed in classes at Notre Dame and in all institutions of higher learning.

In the first place, the difference between the works of authors such as Nietzsche, Gibbon, Luther and Joyce, and “The Vagina Monologues” is a difference, not of degree, but of kind. The former works have serious significance for the human person and are antithetical to Catholic teaching. According to their Web site, the international campaign to show “The Vagina Monologues” has extended the time when this play can be performed to March 30. But if this play is performed during Holy Week, it will be held during Easter, the holiest time of the church year. Notre Dame has a long and blessed tradition of liturgical excellence, a tradition which is a sin. It

But there is an enormous difference between showing a pornographic film in 2006 and showing it in 1938. deserves respect. In light of Father Jenkins’ decision to allow performances of “The Vagina Monologues” at Notre Dame, I believe that early days of Nazism, which clearly show the fount of truth.’”

— John Paul II, Discourse to the Congress of the State of New York, June 1, 1980, cited in “Ex Corde Ecclesiae.”

For these reasons, I believe that permitting performances of “The Vagina Monologues” even with one or more persons willing to present Catholic teaching as opposition to both the spirit and letter of “Ex Corde Ecclesiae.” Also, because it depicts and endorses sinful sexual actions, it is inconsistent with the teaching of the Church.

A “faith that places itself on the margin of what is human, of what is the true culture, would be a faith unfaithful to the fullness of what the Word of God manifests and reveals, a decapitated faith, a faith still, a faith in the process of self-anamnisis.”


Some would say that a performance of the play followed by a panel will “engage the culture” and that out of such a discussion the “truth will emerge.” Sadly, “Ex Corde Ecclesiae” is even cited in defense of this position. 

The decision to allow performances of “The Vagina Monologues” at the University of Notre Dame

While claiming to deplore violence against women, the play at the same time violates the standards of decency and morality that safeguard a woman’s dignity and protect her, body and soul, from sexual predators.

March 2008
**Father Robert Hoevel, St. Henry founder, dies**

FORT WAYNE — Father Robert J. Hoevel died Wednesday, March 5, at Saint Anne Home. He was 92. A devoted priest and lover of sports, he served eight parishes as either pastor or assistant pastor during his 65 years of priesthood. Most notable among these was his role as founding pastor of St. Henry Parish in southeast Fort Wayne.

Born Feb. 2, 1916, in Fort Wayne, he was the son of Benjamin W. and Marie U. (Steib) Hoevel and grew up on a farm northeast of town. Hoevel was an altar server at St. Henry Church. He attended St. Andrew School in Fort Wayne and in fifth grade decided he wanted to be a priest.

After attending St. Joseph College in Rensselaer, he was the recipient of a diocesan scholarship for two years of study at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. Highlights of this time included playing baseball in Latin America and studying in Italy. His major assignments were at St. Peter’s Basilica and participating in community service activities. The observances surrounding the death of Pope Pius XII and the election of Pope Pius XII. His first assignment was Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. A devoted priest and lover of sports, he served eight parishes as either pastor or assistant pastor during his 65 years of priesthood. Most notable among these was his role as founding pastor of St. Henry Parish in southeast Fort Wayne.

In 1949, Father Hoevel was appointed assistant pastor at St. Bernard Parish, Wabash, and continued to take care of St. Francis Xavier Parish in 1950, he was appointed resident pastor of St. Francis Xavier.

In 1956, Father Hoevel was appointed assistant administrator of St. Henry Parish, Fort Wayne. Father Hoevel’s father had donated six acres of farmland to the diocese for the new parish. The parish was named St. Henry, in honor of Father Hoevel’s grandfather, Henry Hoevel, the original owner of the land. On Oct. 8, 1957, Bishop Leo Pursley dedicated the church and school, a rectory and a residence for the pastor.

In 1968, Father Hoevel was appointed pastor of St. Henry Parish. For Hoevel, this time included playing baseball, Father Hoevel enjoyed fishing and golf, often accompanied by Msgr. William Faber. “We were very close friends,” recalls Becker. “He had a great, deep respect for him because he was first a priest,” Msgr. Faber says of Father Hoevel. “He was a tremendously good, sincere priest.”

Father Hoevel also was friends with Msgr. Edward Hession, founder of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne. Father Hoevel retired in 1984, finishing his residence at St. Bavo, Mishawaka. He later moved to and assisted at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Kendallville, in 1990. After his retirement, he lived in an apartment in Sylvan Springs near Rome City and, finally, Saint Anne Home in Fort Wayne.

Father Hoevel is survived by a sister, Helen Berghoff of Fort Wayne, a brother, Benjamin Hoevel of South Bend, 14 nieces and nephews and 42 great-nieces and nephews, Mass of Christian Burial was Saturday, March 8, at St. Henry Catholic Church in Fort Wayne. Burial was in Catholic Cemetery, Fort Wayne.

**Social effects of sin greater than ever, says Vatican**

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In today’s globalized culture, the social effects of sin are greater than ever before and deserve the church’s urgent attention, a Vatican official said.

New forms of sin have arisen in the area of biotechnology, economics and ecology, and many involve questions of individual rights and wider social effects, said Bishop Gianfranco Gritti, bishop of the Apostolic Penitentiary, an office that deals with questions relating to penance and indulgences. He made the comments in an interview March 8 with the Vatican newspaper, L’Osservatore Romano.

Bishop Gritti said the sense of sin in today’s world should be even more acute than before, since the effects of sin are often widespread.

“If yesterday sin had a rather individualistic dimension, today it has an impact and resonance that is above all social, because of the great phenomenon of globalization,” he said.

“In effect, attention to sin is a more urgent task today, precisely because its consequences are more abundant and more destructive,” he said.

**LOVE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

on the back burner — that of “a personal meeting with God, the father of good will and mercy. “It’s necessary today to let the person who confesses feel that divine tenderness toward the penitent sinner,” which is seen in many moving accounts in the Gospel, he said. “I think of St. Luke’s account of Jesus’ encounter with a repentant woman in the house of Simon the Pharisee. The pope reminded the priests how valuable their ministry of administering “divine mercy for the salvation of souls” was for the church and urged them to be examples of “authentic Christian life.”

One of the course’s organizers and a top official at the Apostolic Penitentiary, Bishop Gritti, told the Vatican newspaper the sacrament of penance in Italy was in a “period of crisis” and a “serious state of difficulty.”

In a March 4 article in L’Osservatore Romano, the bishop referred to a 1998 survey that found 30 percent of Catholics in Italy believed there was no need for a priest to be present in confessionals. Twenty percent said they had difficulty in talking to another person about their sins while 10 percent considered the priest to be an obstacle to direct conversation with God.

While the survey is dated, he said, “things have not improved” since then.

Bishop Gritti told the paper the course also addressed special penitents like the divorced, remarried and couples who were living together outside marriage. He said the priest should use the opportunity to slowly suggest solutions that would rectify the person’s situation so that he or she may eventually be able to receive the Eucharist.

While priests must follow doctrinal rules concerning divorced and remarried Catholics, their pastoral attitude must be inspired by the Gospel and “cannot and must not bring someone despair,” he said.

When hearing the confession of other priests or religious, the confessor must be a “just judge” and “good doctor of the spirit”; he must “never take on an apocalyptic tone” since taking too hard a line has often “been fatal for many,” the bishop said.
Annual abuse audit and survey find soaring costs, fewer allegations

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The costs to the Catholic Church for legal settlements in abuse cases, therapy for victims and sexual abuse, support for offenders and legal fees soared to more than $600 million in 2007, the fourth year of reporting on the handling of abuse cases by U.S. dioceses and religious orders.

The 2007 Survey of Allegations and Costs released by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops March 7 also reported a continued decrease in the number of new credible allegations of abuse: 599 new allegations were made in 2007, compared with 635 in 2006, 695 in 2005 and 898 in 2004, the first year of the survey.

According to the survey conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University, dioceses and religious institutes paid $615 million for legal settlements, therapy, support for offenders, attorneys’ fees and other costs. In the four previous years of the survey, the highest amount paid out was $647 million in 2006.

Of the $615 million, dioceses spent $499 million and religious orders paid $116 million. Teresa Kettelkamp, executive director of the U.S. bishops’ Office of Child and Youth Protection, said legal costs may continue to be high in coming years, as dioceses pay off settlements to victims of abuse.

In 2007 several dioceses and religious orders announced large settlements, including $660 million for the Los Angeles diocese and $116 million for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. The two declarations of bankruptcy by priests was also covered, including $660 million for the Los Angeles diocese and $285 million for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

In any event, Kettelkamp said it’s difficult to predict whether the number of allegations of abuse will continue to decrease, partly because victims of sexual abuse often wait decades to report what happened to them. “We’ve seen no pattern of people who are being sexually abused are not coming forward,” she said.

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In any event, Kettelkamp said it’s difficult to predict whether the number of allegations of abuse will continue to decrease, partly because victims of sexual abuse often wait decades to report what happened to them. “We’ve seen no pattern of people who are being sexually washed, the flight of those numbers; the need to develop and maintain concise record keeping ... and the time-consuming process of select- ORS, crucifixes, pictures, gifts, jewelry, Bibles and religious books.

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STATIONS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

They find that the stations have a real ecumenical value in that, since they are not a Mass, non-Catholics find them more accessible.

I want a rosary from All Saints for my First Communion!

First Communion and Confirmation Gifts
Books, Bibles, Crucifixes, Rosaries, Statues, Baptismal Gowns and Gifts
Pope Benedict XVI and Ecumenical Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople look at a picture during a private meeting at the Vatican March 6. The two spent almost half an hour speaking privately March 6 before going into a small Vatican chapel to pray together. It was Patriarch Bartholomew’s first visit to the Vatican since the election of Pope Benedict in April of 2005.

POPE MEETS WITH ECUMENICAL ORTHODOX PATRIARCH

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI is still working on his social encyclical, but it probably will not be ready before summer, a top Vatican official said.

“The pope is reflecting and revising, and therefore we cannot predict. But I presume it will not be published before the summer vacation period,” Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, the Vatican secretary of state, said March 9.

Vatican sources said the pope began work on the encyclical last year and that it would treat topics related to Catholic social teaching. His first two encyclicals examined the virtues of love and hope. Cardinal Bertone, who spoke with the Italian news agency ANSA while visiting Azerbaijan, said the pope was preparing his new text carefully. “It needs to be very well. The pope is making his reflections and annotations and is checking things rigorously,” he said.

“I’m not saying the pope is a true perfectionist, but in a certain sense he is,” the cardinal said.

Pope expresses alarm at Holy Land violence, urges dialogue for peace

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI expressed alarm at a new wave of violence in the Holy Land and urged Israelis and Palestinians to set aside the logic of revenge. “In recent days, violence and horror have once again blooded the Holy Land, feeding a spiral of destruction and death that seems to have no end,” the pope said at his noon blessing March 9.

On March 6, a Palestinian gunman killed eight Jewish seminarians and four Israelis and wounded 11 others.

The attack came after an Israeli military assault on Gaza left more than 100 Palestinians dead. The pope prayed for the innocent victims of the attacks and expressed his condolences to the families of the dead and wounded. He asked everyone to pray for peace in the region. “I ask everyone, in the name of God, to leave the twisted paths of hatred and revenge and to responsibly take up the paths of dialogue and trust,” he said.

Vatican, Muslim representatives establish Catholic-Muslim Forum

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Representatives of the Vatican and of the 138 Muslim scholars who wrote to Pope Benedict XVI last October proposing a new dialogue have established the Catholic-Muslim Forum. The forum will sponsor a seminar in Rome Nov. 4-6, with 24 invited speakers on each side, according to a statement released at the end of a March 4-5 planning meeting at the Vatican.

Pope Benedict XVI invited the Muslim seminar participants in November, the statement said. Accepting the invitation, the leaders of the 138 in their letter to the pope and other Christian leaders, the seminar planners have said the theme will be “Love of God, Love of Neighbor.” The Nov. 4 session will focus on the theological and spiritual foundations of Christian and Muslim teachings about the obligation to love God and one’s neighbor. The second day will focus on “human dignity and mutual respect” and the third day will be a conference open to the public, the statement said.

Vatican spokesman calls rumors of rehabilitation of Luther groundless

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Rumors that the Vatican is setting to rehabilitate Martin Luther, the 16th-century leader of the Protestant Reformation, are groundless, said the Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi. News reports in early March alleged that Pope Benedict XVI was dedicating a planned September symposium with doctoral students to re-evaluating Luther, who was excommunicated and condemned for heresy. The story “does not have any foundation, insofar as no rehabilitation of Luther is foreseen,” Father Lombardi told the Italian news agency ANSA March 8.

Vatican officials said the topic of the pope’s annual summer gathering of former students this year has not yet been decided. Of the two topics under consideration, Luther is not one of them, one official told Catholic News Service. Excerpts in 16th-century preaching about indulgences and in Catholic penitential practices sparked Luther, a theologian and Augustinian monk, to seek reform in the church. His concerns sparked a movement that led to the Protestant Reformation. The church excommunicated Luther for preaching a philosophy doubting the pope’s infallibility.

Italian archbishop expresses concern about fate of kidnapped prelate

LONDON (CNS) — An Italian archbishop has expressed concern that the Chaldean Catholic Archbishop Paul Faraj Rahho of Mosul, Iraq, who was kidnapped for ransom, is sick, injured or has been killed. The archbishop said he received word from Archbishop Rahho since he was kidnapped Feb. 29 after he finished leading the Way of the Cross in Mosul, said Chaldean Catholic Archbishop Louis Sako of Kirkuk, Iraq, in an interview with Aid to the Church in Need, a Catholic charity helping persecuted Christians. The interview was released by the British branch of the charity March 10. Archbishop Rahho “was able to make a call from the back of the car in which he was kidnapped but since then nothing,” said Archbishop Sako. “The people in contact with the kidnappers have had several days asked to hear the archbishop’s voice, but they are constantly refused.”

Archbishop Sako said he was worried the captors have increased the ransom for Archbishop Rahho’s release from $1 million to $2 million to $3 million. “It leaves us with two possibilities,” he told the charity. “Either the archbishop is sick or injured or he has been killed and the kidnappers just want to get as much money as possible.”

Chicago cathedral dose for ceiling, roof repairs

CHICAGO (CNS) — The Chicago Archdiocese announced March 7 that Holy Name Cathedral will remain closed until early May so the building’s ceiling and roof structure can be repaired. The cathedral has been closed since Feb. 26 when forensic engineers determined that structural weakness caused a 10-pound piece of decorative wood to fall from the ceiling during the night.

Workers began securing the decorative 19th-century wooden ceiling from a canopied altar and moving the parish’s vestments and other possessions to the nearby cathedral of Turin, Italy, was opened March 3, Father Livio Demarie, spokesman for the Archdiocese of Turin. Both the tomb of Blessed Pier Giorgio and the Shroud of Turin are venerated in the Turin cathedral.

California’s high court hears arguments in case on defining marriage

SAN FRANCISCO (CNS) — The California Supreme Court’s opinion on the definition of marriage will mark a step in a national debate that remains far from settled, according to a law professor who audited the high court’s March 4 hearing in San Francisco on a legal challenge to a voter-backed measure upholding traditional marriage.

The measure, Proposition 8, passed by a 52 percent majority in November 2008, was intended to define marriage as the union of one man and one woman is valid or recognized in California. It was overturned by an overwhelming majority of California voters in 2000. “No matter what the decision is, we’re in a real constitutional war as far as marriage rights across the country,” said Beth Hillman, a professor at the University of California’s Hastings College of the Law.
Syracuse Knights recognized for philanthropy works

**CORPUS CHRISTI HONORS TEENS**

**SYRACUSE** — The Knights of Columbus 6223 of St. Martin de Porres Church, Syracuse, have a reputation in the community as the “go to” people when help is needed. Because of their community involvement they’ve received several awards — most recently the Philanthropy Award by the Syracuse-Wawasee Chamber of Commerce and Donor of the Year Award by area food banks.

The Knights of Columbus at St. Martin’s was established Oct. 28, 1971 as a Father Francis Pitka Council and began with 33 members. Currently there are 122 members. About 90 of those members are locally active, the rest have moved away but kept their membership, according to Grand Knight Don Curry.

The Knights are heavily involved in the community but all in their parish. Over the last several years, they’ve coordinated the church Christmas party and parish picnics, and donated $22,500 to the building fund over a four-year period, to the Annual Bishop’s Appeal and recently purchased a dozen lightweight tables for the church basement.

In the community, the list is even longer and far-reaching, encompassing many other area parishes including St. John the Evangelist, Goshen; St. Dominie, Bremen; St. Patrick, Ligoniér, and Sacred Heart, Warsaw.

Trustee Mike Delucayen said the Knights send the sixth graders at St. Dominick’s on a trip to Chicago every year, for example, and donate to St. Patrick’s food bank.

Other benefactors include the Syracuse Fire Department every Boy Scouts running Nappanee Boy Scouts — Gimbalt School for Boys in Terre Haute, Wawasee High School athletic and music departments ($10,000 in 2003), area grade schools, Our Father’s House in Warsaw, several area preschools and day cares, Syracuse and North Webster food banks and three $1,000 scholarships each year.

In 2002, $94,510 was given to organizations from the Knights of Columbus. In 2003 $65,375 and last year, $61,733.60.

“An actual number of people come to us and ask us to help them raise money, “Curry said.

The money is raised generally through a Saturday night bingo at the Knights’ Hall or a pancake breakfast.

About 50 weeks ago a bingo is going on at the hall and food is collected for the food banks. Last year $5,700 went to Syracuse and $2,600 to the North Webster food bank, which is why they just received a Donor of the Year Award from the food banks for raising the most money and collecting the most food.

DeLucayen said it started with member Ray Darr who came up with the idea to collect food because the food banks were hurting, and now, every week food is collected.

Teen Parent’s Succeeding

**AROUND THE DIOCESE**

**CATHOLIC THROUGH THE YEARS**

**Corpus Christi Parish honored students who have had much success at Saint Joseph’s High School, South Bend, in academics, athletics and service, with a special plaque that will be displayed at the parish. In the photo, from left, are Tim Kaniewski, Ted Pajajowski, Kevin Healy, Father Tirabassi, Mitchell Speers, Chris Kosinski, John Keefer wrote. “We will once again receive our 50th freshman class,” Keefer added, “The hallways are lighter and brighter due to new, modernized panels that will cut our heating inefficiency. Replacing hundreds of the 50-year-old building’s energy inefficient panels has cut our heating costs, though we are needed to experience just how hot it gets in the future just as Bishop Luers has coming our 50th freshman class, “Keefer reported in a construction phase of renovation.

FORT WAYNE — St. Joseph-St. Martin de Porres Church, Fort Wayne, celebrated its second annual Era Day on March 3. This year the school focused on the 1950s. Students met an Elvis impersonator and learned music and dances of the era. They also played with some of the games and toys of the ‘50s including hula hoops, Clue, Lincoln logs, a slinky and Mr. Potato Head.

Students also watched the popular television show “Happy Days” and learned ‘50s trivia playing Jeopardy. They also worked on an art project from the ‘50s. Lunch was the favorite ham- burgers, fries and shake. The after- noon included a sock hop, which incorporated the favorite songs and dance steps they had learned.
Adult stem cell proposal expected to pass this year

INDIANAPOLIS — Cancer patients and people faced with a debilitating disease may have an enhanced source of adult stem cells for transplant therapy if legislation to create a public umbilical cord blood bank clears the Indiana General Assembly this year.

The cord blood bank proposal, House Bill 1172, authored by Rep. Peggy Welch (D-Bloomington) would require the Family and Social Service Administration (FSSA) to: 1) create a governmental nonprofit corporation to establish and operate an umbilical cord blood bank; 2) establish an umbilical cord blood donation initiative; and 3) promote public awareness concerning the medical benefits of umbilical cord blood. The Indiana Catholic Conference supports the bill.

Many believe stem cells only come from embryos, but Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, a leading national stem cell expert, told Indiana legislators in 2005 at a luncheon hosted by the Indiana Catholic Conference that stem cells can be taken from umbilical cords, the placenta, amniotic fluid, adult tissues and organs such as bone marrow, fat from liposuction, regions of the nose and even cadavers up to 20 hours after death.

There are four categories of stem cells: 1) embryonic stem cells; 2) embryonic germ cells; 3) umbilical cord stem cells; 4) adult stem cells. Father Pacholczyk says that since embryonic germ cells can come from miscarriages where no deliberate interruption of pregnancy occurs, three of the four categories (2, 3 and 4) are potentially morally acceptable, and the church vigorously encourages research in these areas.

Umbilical cord blood is a rich source of adult stem cells and an ethical, non-controversial option, which can be used for many types of transplants.

Welch said that prior to the 2008 session, a coalition of cord blood advocates including medical professionals, economic developers, legislators and members of the Hospital Association did extensive research and frequently met to discuss what other states were doing so that they could recommend language to the General Assembly this year.

“The language this coalition developed is found in HB 1172 and the bill has been refined and improved as it has moved through the process,” said Welch. “The priority of the cord blood bank would be for transplants.”

Dr. Scott Goebel, who is a stem cell transplant doctor responsible for cord blood transplants at Riley Children’s Hospital in Indianapolis said, “One thing we are certain of, new applications cannot be discovered and or perfected without research units as well as clinically banked units, all donated by the public for the public good.”

“Currently, out of 10 cord blood donations, only two are of transplantable quality. The other eight would have research value,” said Welch. “What is exciting about this legislation is Indiana will be receiving hundreds of thousands of umbilical cord blood units with postnatal tissue for transplants and research. Postnatal tissue includes the cord blood, cord and placenta.

The goal is that we will increase the number of transplantable stem cells, help save lives of cancer patients, provide more research quality stem cells and improve the quality of life for Hoosiers both physically and financially.”

Welch anticipates a public blood bank will bring more researchers and “big” research dollars to Indiana and help in the area of economic development because of the spin-off businesses that will be created. Welch said, according to the business plan, it is estimated that the public cord blood bank will be self-supporting in two to three years from its inception.

Welch, a practicing nurse in the cancer unit at Bloomington Hospital said she’s always had an interest in health issues, and, as a cancer nurse, she’s had a particular interest in stem-cell research and the promise it offers cancer victims.

Private donations of umbilical cord blood can be made for about $1,000 plus an annual storage fee $100, but there is no provision for public donations.

Private and public umbilical cord blood banks have proven invaluable to the medical community. Many blood and immune diseases have been successfully treated using cord blood. Doctors use cord blood cells to treat about 70 diseases, mostly anomalies or cancers of the blood, such as leukemias and lymphomas.

Sen. Patricia Miller (R-Indianapolis) Senate Sponsor of HB 1172, who chairs the Senate Health Committee and the interim Health Finance Commission said, “Stem cells have such a great future in helping those suffering from cancer and other diseases. Unlike the use of embryonic stem cells, which destroys human life, Miller said, “Cord blood stem cells are a moral, readily available source for stem cells which doesn’t hurt another living person in the process.”

HB 1172, which also contains licensing for various professionals, is in conference committee. Welch, who is one of the committees, said the bill has bipartisan support, she is hopeful the bill will pass before the March 14 adjournment deadline.

Cord blood stem cells

Umbilical cord blood is one of three sources for the blood-forming cells used in transplants. The other two sources are bone marrow and peripheral (circulating) blood. The first cord blood transplant was done in 1988. Cord blood plays an important role in transplant today. Doctors are still learning about the ways cord blood transplants are similar to and different from marrow or peripheral blood transplants. Umbilical cord blood is collected from the umbilical cord and placenta after a baby is born. This blood is rich in blood-forming cells. The donated cord blood is called a cord blood unit. (Source: National Marrow Donor Program)

According to Dr. Scott Goebel, who is the stem cell transplant doctor responsible for cord blood transplants at Riley Children’s Hospital in Indianapolis, some of the diseases currently treated with cord blood stem cells include: leukemia; Hodgkin’s lymphoma, non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma, sickle cell disease, aplastic anemia, neuroblastoma, retinoblastoma, multiple myeloma. Clinical trials are ongoing utilizing cord blood stem cells for multiple sclerosis, Krabbe disease, ALD, Tay-Sachs disease, Niemann-Pick disease, breast cancer, Ewing’s sarcoma and renal cell carcinoma. Experimental treatments are underway for juvenile and rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn’s disease, type 1 diabetes mellitus, scleroderma, lupus, Parkinson’s disease, Alzheimer’s disease, ALS and spinal cord injury.
Dedication of St. Mother Theodore Guérin statue in Washington, D.C. planned

ST. MARY-OF-THE-WOODS — The Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods have announced plans for a major celebration May 10 at Washington, D.C., in honor of the dedication of a statue of St. Mother Theodore Guérin, the congregation’s foundress.

The statue, sculpted by Terre Haute artist Teresa Clark and carved by Oberlein, Ohio, artist Nicholas Fairplay, has been placed in the Marian Garden outside the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

The statue was carved in Indiana limestone. It is in commemoration of the life and legacy of St. Mother Theodore, who was canonized a saint in the Catholic Church on Oct. 15, 2006 by Pope Benedict XVI.

Indianapolis Archbishop Daniel M. Burke, OSB, will preside at the celebration of the Mass at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 10. It is open to the public. The liturgy will be in the Crypt Church of the basilica, or the Upper Church if the number of guests warrant.

After the liturgy, pilgrims will walk the short distance to Mary’s Garden for the blessing and dedication of the statue, after which there will be a reception at the Pope John Paul II Cultural Center, a short drive from the garden. The Indiana Society of Washington, D.C., is hosting the reception.

Travel arrangements may be made through the Sisters of Providence. Round-trip motor coach transportation is available for $275. Cost includes transportation, two-night hotel accommodations with a deluxe continental breakfast and transportation to and from events related to the ceremony. All other meals and room charges of a personal nature are at each person’s expense.

Two buses will leave Saint Mary-of-the-Woods at 7 a.m. (EDT) on Friday, May 9. Other buses will leave from the Indianapolis Archdiocesan Catholic Center and from Guerin Catholic High School in preparation for the remainder of the trip.

Registration for travel arrangements may be obtained by contacting Kerry Scott at (812) 535-2800 or at kscott@spsmw.org. Information also may be obtained by visiting www.SistersofProvidence.org.

Easter Triduum Schedule

**HOLY THURSDAY, March 20**

- 7:30 PM - Mass of the Lord’s Supper
- 9:00 PM Individual Reconciliation following the liturgy

**GOOD FRIDAY, March 21**

- 8:30 AM Morning Prayer
- 1:00 PM Commemoration of the Lord’s Passions and Death
- 2:30 - 5:00 PM Individual Reconciliation
- 7:00 PM Solemn Stations of the Cross
- 7:30 - 9:00 PM Individual Reconciliation 8:00 PM Taize Prayer
- 9:30 PM Night Prayer (Paschal Watch Continues)

**HOLY SATURDAY, March 22**

- 8:30 AM Morning Prayer
- 8:30 PM The Great Easter Vigil

**EASTER SUNDAY, March 23**

- Easter Masses 7:00, 8:45, 10:30 AM & 12:15 PM
- 5:30 PM Solemn Paschal Evening Prayer (NO MASS)

**Palm / Passion Sunday, March 16**

- 10:00 AM: Sunday Mass with outdoor procession
- 12:00 PM: Sunday Mass with outdoor procession
- 7:15 PM: Stations of the Cross

**Monday of Holy Week, March 17**

- 11:30 AM: Mass 5:15 PM: Mass
- 11:30 AM: Mass 5:15 PM: Mass
- 11:30 AM: Mass 5:15 PM: Mass

**Tuesday of Holy Week, March 18**

- 11:30 AM: Mass 5:15 PM: Mass
- 7:00 PM: Campus Wide Stations of the Cross (procession departs from Grotto)
- 9:15 PM: Opportunity for individual confession (follow Stations in the Basilica)

**Wednesday of Holy Week, March 19**

- 11:30 AM: Mass 5:15 PM: Mass
- 9:00 AM: Morning Prayer
- Noon: Basilica closed until 4:00 PM
- 5:00 PM: Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper
- 6:30 PM: Adoration in the Lady Chapel
- 11:00 PM: Tenebrae

**Good Friday, March 21**

- 9:00 AM: Morning Prayer
- Noon - 3:00 PM: Silent hours of Prayer
- 3:00 PM: Celebration of the Lord’s Passion
- 7:15 PM: Stations of the Cross

**Holy Saturday, March 22**

- 9:00 AM: Morning Prayer
- Noon - 3:30 PM: Silent hours of Prayer
- 3:00 PM: The Paschal Vigil Mass

**Easter Sunday, March 23**

- 8:00 AM: Easter Sunday Mass 10:00 AM: Easter Sunday Mass
- Noon: Easter Sunday Mass 7:15 PM: Easter Paschal Vespers

**Confessions During Holy Week**

(March 17 through March 22)

- Monday: 11:00 AM, 4:45 & 7:00 PM
- Tuesday: 11:00 AM, 4:45, 7:00 and 9:15 PM
- Wednesday: 11:00 AM, 4:45 & 7:00 PM
- Holy Thursday: 11:00 AM, Noon & 7:00 - 8:00 PM
- Good Friday: 10:30 AM, 2:30 PM & 6:30 - 8:30 PM
- Holy Saturday: Noon to 1:00 PM, 3:00 PM to 5:00PM
Corpus Christi pastor rallies youths to the Way of the Cross

BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND — Incense abounded the celebration of the Stations of the Cross as the participants brandedish Saint Joseph’s High School, Corpus Christi and Washington High School letter jackets — even a lone Marian High School garment was present here.

Pastor of Corpus Christi Parish and Saint Joseph’s High School chaplain Father Camillo Tirabassi called to the youths he serves to observe a special devotion of the Stations of the Cross on Friday evening, March 7, and they responded by filling the parking lot and the pews.

With small children gathered around, young adults knelt silently and the five white clad altar boys stood quietly as Father Tirabassi spiritually traveled the 14 steps that will lead us to Easter.

“As many of the saints have said before, to celebrate the joys of Easter you must go through the cross,” reflected Father Tirabassi. “The Stations of the Cross have helped guide me through my personal life, and I would hope that our youth may find the same vision.”

“Father Cam (as he affectionately called) invited me to the Stations of the Cross, and I couldn’t let him down,” explained Kevin Healy a senior at Saint Joseph’s. “I really should come to the stations anyway. Usually I would be playing video games or going to the movies with some friends. The stations will help me focus on Holy Week.”

“I came to the stations tonight because Father Cam asked me to come,” remarked Chris Kosinski, a senior at Saint Joseph’s. “I’m participating in the Stations of the Cross at the high school as Pontius Pilate and this service has given me some time to reflect.”

Out of the many young adults who attended the stations after passing up on video games, movies, hanging out with friends or just watching television, there was very honest seventh grader.

“I came tonight because my parents made me,” commented Chris Freeby, Corpus Christi School student. “Father Cam nailed it when he said that I would have been watching TV, but I really thought about Jesus’ suffering during the 11th station, the Crucifixion.”

“It is amazing how little the sacrifices we make are when placed against the ultimate sacrifice made by Jesus Christ,” commented Ryan Richter, Saint Joseph’s High School senior and Father Cam invitee. “The 11th station really shows the complete suffering and sacrifice and the real focus of the stations.”

“I think that the 11th station means the most to me,” explained Kosinski, “Jesus showed how much he loved us, and that really hits home.”

As the students reflected and embraced the torment that Jesus endured for us on the 11th station, Father Tirabassi’s focus was entrenched with another one.

Saint Joseph’s High School students, sophomore Josh McMillan, junior Ben McMillan, assist Corpus Christi pastor Father Camillo Tirabassi, with the Stations of the Cross along with Saint Joseph’s junior David Osowski, freshman Pete Freeby and senior John Aversa, Father Tirabassi rallied youths from his parish and Saint Joseph’s High School to a special celebration on March 7.

Bishop D’Arcy to celebrate chrism Masses

The annual Chrism Mass for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will be on Monday and Tuesday, March 17 and 18, in South Bend and Fort Wayne, respectively.

The Masses will be held at 7:30 p.m. at St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend on Monday and at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne on Tuesday.

The oils of consecrated chrism — through which all Catholics are anointed and directed toward God — and other holy oils will be blessed during the Chrism Mass by Bishop John M. D’Arcy. The oils are a sign of the strength that is needed to live a faithful Christian life.

There are three oils that will be blessed for use in parishes throughout the year: oil of catechumens — used for the sacrament of baptism; sacred chrism — used for the sacrament of confirmation; and oil of the sick — used for the sacraments of anointing and holy orders. At the Mass of chrism, priests also renew their promise of celibate love and pastoral service.

“It is fitting that the oils are blessed during Holy Week, the week Jesus Christ consecrated the world through his death and resurrection,” said Bishop D’Arcy. “This is one of the most important liturgical observances of the year.”

The bishop invites all priests, religious brothers and sisters, deacons and lay people of the diocese to attend the Chrism Mass in South Bend or the Chrism Mass in Fort Wayne.

St. Michael TRIDUUM Schedule of Services

Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord’s Supper 7:00 pm

Good Friday:
Morning Prayer 10:00 am
Ecumenical Community Prayer 11:30 am
Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion 12:30 pm
Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion (in Spanish) 3:00 p.m.
Way of the Cross 7:00 pm

Holy Saturday:
Solemnity of the Easter Vigil 8:00 pm
Easter Sunday Masses:
7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 am
Easter Sunday Mass (in Spanish) 2:00 pm

St. Michael Church • 211 North Center Street • Plymouth

Join Us!
Novena Divine Mercy Chaplet
Good Friday to Mercy Sunday
3 PM in St. Jude Church
FORT WAYNE

St. Jude Church - Randallia Dr., at E. State Blvd., Fort Wayne
www.stjudewf.org/adoration

The people of St. Jude Catholic Church
Randallia Drive at East State Blvd. in Fort Wayne
invite all to join in the celebration of the Paschal Triduum

Holy Thursday, 7:00 PM
Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper

Good Friday, 12:30 PM
Celebration of the Lord’s Passion

Holy Saturday, 8:30 - 11 PM
Easter Vigil Mass including all 7 Old Testament Readings

Easter Sunday Masses:
7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 AM
Marched to death

At the outset of Holy Week, we feel in a unique way the force of St. Paul’s words to the Corinthians: “behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” During this great week, our focus turns to Christ’s suffering, death and resurrection. But how many of us think of weddings and marriage during this week?

In the events of Holy Week both images — a wedding and a funeral — are brought together, especially in the East-Roman liturgical tradition better known as the Byzantine rite. The Byzantine rite is second only to the Roman or Latin rite in the number of those who follow it. It is used by most Eastern Catholics (such as myself) and most Eastern Orthodox as well. In that rite’s services, for the first three days of Holy Week, we repeatedly find the theme of Christ the bridegroom: Behold, the Bridegroom is coming in the middle of the night. Blessed is the servant he shall find watching, for the master of the house coming in the middle of the night. Blessed is anyone who keeps watch and remains awake. The theme of Christ the Bridegroom, found in Matthew’s Gospel (25:1-13), is perhaps most clearly seen in St. Paul’s letter to the Ephesians, the text most commonly seen in St. Paul’s letter to the Corinthians, pales alongside what husbands must do: they must be prepared to die for their spouses. Husbands must pattern themselves after Christ, who “loved the church” and “gave himself up for her.”

The Lord’s teaching is found in Matthew’s Troparion, t. 8.

Christ the Bridegroom is seen not just in Scripture but also in this icon called “Christ the Bridegroom” or sometimes “Extreme Humility”. This icon features a downcast Christ bound as a common criminal and standing in his own tomb. It is hand painted, crowned of thorns crowned of thorns crowns him who is King of Angels. He is wrapped about with the purple of mockery who wrapped about with the purple of mockery. He was transfixed with nails who is the bridegroom of the church, the Matsins of Great and Holy Friday. What does this icon teach us about marriage and family? It illustrates for us how doing and wives the most “extreme humility” the world has ever seen. Here he “whom none may touch is seized.” The Christ is struck by a hand of a creature. The Judge of the living and the dead is condemned to the cross. — Veopers for Gt. Friday.

But I also want to suggest that it teaches us to love death. The patron of the university where I teach, St. Francis, concluded his celebrated “Canticle of the Sun” by exclaiming: “We praise you, Lord, for sister death, from whom no one can escape.”

Now in our culture, it is not common to consider death our sister. Any intimate congress with death is something devoutly to be avoided. If we do not like thinking about death even at the time of death, even fewer of us contemplate death on our wedding day.

By now you are wondering who would contemplate such “morbid” things on one’s wedding day. Perhaps I may hereby mark myself down as slightly unhinged if I confess that I had, if only for a moment, those thoughts on my own wedding day.

Then and since, I realized that a marriage, to be Christian, must be marked by an undying love of death-to-self without which there will be an incredible death of love. Without a ceaseless crucifixion of one’s ego, selfishness will murder the marriage. Only by dying to ourselves can we learn finally and fully the meaning of love.

How ought we to love our spouse? The answer is very simple: we are asked to love as God does, with an undying love that knows no end, that does not count the cost, but pours itself out entirely, withholding nothing. Perfect love, as we realize this week, is love crucified.

And only love that is crucified will know the joy of Pascha — when we are able to sing “Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and to those in the tombs giving life!”

Adam DeVille is a theology professor at the University of Saint Francis.

Married to death

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
1100 South Calhoun Street - Fort Wayne - 424-1485

Holy Week and Easter Schedule

Holy Thursday, March 20, 2008
Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 6:00 pm
Good Friday, March 21, 2008
Celebration of the Lord’s Passion at 1:00 pm*
Way of the Cross at 7:00 pm
Holy Saturday, March 22, 2008: Easter Vigil at 8:00 pm* Easter Sunday Masses, March 23, 2008
7:30, 9:30* and 11:30 am (No 5:00 pm Mass)
*Bishop D’Aryvo presiding

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE OFFERED:
Holy Thursday 4:00 to 5:00 pm and Good Friday after services
Holy Saturday 2:30 to 4:30 pm

Grade school students make a difference in society

B Y IRISH LIN NER

SOUTH BEND — The Lenten season of giving is in full swing throughout the grade schools of South Bend. Each school has taken on several projects to help the community and participate in the Lenten season of almsgiving.

“Our children are very excited about their projects this year,” said Principal Sister Joan Shillinger of Holy Family School, located on South Bend’s west side.

The students at Holy Family are participating in three main missions this Lent. Their first is a school-wide penny war. “The penny war is always fun for the kids, and they can see their money add up quickly,” Sister Shillinger said. The second is a raffle called Feast with Father. The winner of the raffle needs a hearty appetite as Father Galic will be cooking up a meal for six for the lucky winner — and yes, he can cook.

The funds from these two projects will go the help Father Joe in Africa. Father Joe spent a year at Holy Family School and the kids want to help the children in his home parish.

The third mission is raising funds for two local families in South Bend who have faced tragedy this year. Former student Brian Johnson recently passed away, and the children are helping his family. And like many schools in the area they are also raising funds for the Jeni Bishop family at St. Matthew’s. Bishop lost her life in the Lane Bryant tragedy in Tinley Park, Ill., earlier this year.

“The children are very touched by these events and want to do everything they can to help,” Sister Shillinger said.

St. Joseph School in downtown South Bend is getting in the giving mood as well. Each grade is participating in a special service project in addition to school-wide dress down days for the Bishop family and collecting pantry items for the Northeast Neighborhood Association.

“Our older children have been very busy,” said Principal Suzanne Wivi, “Each grade is collecting items and volunteering their time at local agencies.”

The third grade is helping St. Margaret’s House. The fourth grade is volunteering with the retired Sisters at Saint Mary’s College. The fifth grade is collecting donations for the Archdiocese and the sixth grade is helping the Christ Child Association. The school has also been fortunate to have local representatives of nonprofits come in and speak to them about what their time and contributions mean. The entire school will also participate in the annual Holy Thursday seder service.

St. Matthew’s School also has several projects going on, some coordinated by their Young Vincentian group.

“We are donating Easter baskets to children in need and also participating in the Children’s Hospital program. The eighth grade is helping the Christ Child Association. The school has also been fortunate to have local representatives of nonprofits come in and speak to them about what their time and contributions mean. The entire school will also participate in the annual Holy Thursday seder service.

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Opening prayer

Teach us your ways, Lord, that we may be open to the fire of the all-consuming Spirit that flows between you and the Father— the Spirit of joy, of courage, of faith, of peace, of wisdom, of love. Help us to change how we live so that we truly become your grace-filled sons and daughters in the body of Christ. This we ask in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Reading: Lk 18:9-14

Commentary

Honesty, I was not sure how to start an article on grace because this ancient biblical concept has always been vague for me, both in definition and, more importantly, in my spirituality. We hear the word used all the time in Scripture, at Mass and in homilies. It is part of our daily vocabulary; it is fundamental to our faith... we need to really “know” grace so, taking a deep vocabulary; it is fundamental to time in Scripture, at Mass and in our spirituality.

We hear the word used all the time in Scripture, at Mass and in our spirituality. We need to remind ourselves of the long awaited connection grace and virtue in need of conversion and forgiveness.

The Pharisee and the tax collector

We need to remind ourselves often that this Christian experience is not like the checklist mentioned above through which we “get better” and “make progress” towards holiness. Remember the parable of the proud Pharisee and the humble tax collector from a previous faith-sharing. Drawing again on the many lessons within this story, the Pharisee completely followed the prescribed style as he offered official prayers of thanksgiving in a conspicuous place in the temple. Having worked on his checklist of sins and considering himself a righteous Jew, we can almost see him patting himself on the back for “being a good boy.” Because he was so caught up in his own virtue, when he caught sight of the tax collector standing in the back of the temple, he was no way to draw a comparison between the publican and himself.

The tax collector, however, made no such comparison. He understood he was a sinner in need of God’s forgiveness and grace. He was simply—“God, be merciful to me a sinner.” The parable gives no indication that the tax collector was working on a checklist or on making progress. He simply stood before God with humble knowledge of his sinfulness and asked for God’s forgiveness, God’s grace.

This parable highlights that Jesus came to earth not for the self-righteous (those focused on themselves) but for the sinners (those focused on God). The good news of Jesus is, first and foremost, that we are sinners and that we need God’s forgiveness.

It is really a grace, a blessing, to fully realize that we are sinners in need of forgiveness. “There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over 99 righteous persons who need no repentance.” — Lk 15:7.

Sinners and saints

That is not to say that we should not strive to be virtuous and holy. Instead we need to rethink our definition of saint — as a continually repentant sinner who has more completely recognized his or her dependence on God’s love and mercy. It is the person for whom the tax collector’s prayer has become the prayer. In this cry, there is “...only love, the embrace between Father and the prodigal, between Jesus and the publican, the long awaited connection between Grace, at sin and God’s mercy.” — “Tuning In To Grace”

Becoming virtuous and striving to be holy fulfills our part of the covenant, the union that God’s grace establishes between God and us. We try to live grace-fully out of love for God. Being in the state of grace is living as we were created to live — in the image and likeness of God, who is love itself. When we humbly acknowledge our sinfulness and our dependence on God’s grace, when we strive to live as loving persons, “we share in the life of the Godhead, but by no means possess it in its fullness.” – “The Spiritual Life.” This is our earthly call to holiness and our promise for eternal salvation.

To live grace-fully we choose life; we must choose life. First of all, we must choose God’s life, grace, to give life to our spirit. We must choose a life of virtue to give life to our souls. And, lastly, we must choose life as a way to peace to give life to our bodies and to our world.

Reflection and discussion

• What is your understanding of grace? How has it changed over the years?
• Who are the people you most admire in your life for their virtue, with a particular sin and who, through the grace of God, have found strength in the corresponding virtue?

Closing prayer

In this moment draw me to yourself, Lord, and make me aware not so much of what I’ve grown, but as of all I have received and so have yet to share. Send me forth in power and gladness and with great courage to live out in the world what I’ve learned and shared, that, in sharing, I may do justice, manifest God’s grace, grow in love, enjoy myself, other people and your world now and forever.

Ted Loder, “Guerrillas of Grace”
Developing a compassionate heart

**THE CUTTING EDGE**

**SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC**

Jesus often tells us to be compassionate as God is compassionate. It always amazes me that Jesus has so much confidence in us that he suggests that we have the capacity to behave like God. I guess it goes along with our being made in the image and likeness of God. The question is, what are some practical ways to develop this beautiful virtue in our daily lives?

When I was growing up we learned about the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. They were tools for living a good Christian life.

Jesus tells us about the corporal works of mercy in chapter 25 of the Gospel of Matthew. He challenges us to feed the hungry; to give drink to the thirsty; to clothe the naked; to visit the sick and to bury the dead; to visit the imprisoned; to shelter the homeless; to visit the sick and to bury the dead; to visit the imprisoned; to shelter the homeless; to visit the sick and to bury the dead.

At first glance we might think that we are rarely presented with opportunities to exercise these works, but, if we look a little closer, we might be surprised how often they present themselves. For instance, feeding the hungry and thirsty does not have to be limited to literal food and water. People have all kinds of hungers and often thirst for many things. A common hunger that we all share is the hunger for love. We can help satisfy that hunger by reaching out to people, especially the lonely, and being kind and generous to others.

Another hunger that we all share is the hunger to be listened to, to have people really care about what we say. The hunger to be known is so great that some people resort to paying for this service in therapy when all they might really need is a listening ear. Do we really listen with compassionate hearts?

There are also people who thirst for affirmation. How many times are we presented with opportunities to affirm the gifts of others, to let them know we notice the good they do, but never get around to it?

What about clothing the naked? How do we do this? It might be as easy as opening our closets and deciding we don’t really need 20 sweaters or 15 pairs of shoes. We can share them with others and bring them to St. Vincent’s, Goodwill or the Salvation Army.

The next question is how do we visit the imprisoned? Do we have to literally go to prisons or jails? That is good, if the opportunity arises, but there are other ways people can be imprisoned. Maybe we could confront those who imprisoned by drugs or alcohol and encourage them to get help or visit or call shut-ins who may who experience a kind of “imprisonment” in their homes.

To shelter the homeless might mean volunteering at a shelter. We all have opportunities to visit the sick and bury the dead, but do we take them? Are we afraid of hospitals and funeral homes? If so, can we at least send get well or sympathy cards.

I’m sure that we have all heard that hunger by reaching out to people, especially the lonely, and being kind and generous to others.

A related spiritual work of mercy is to pray for them.

Sister Margie Lavonis, CSC, a former campus minister and vocation director, works for the Sisters of the Holy Cross communications department. mlavonis@chsisters.org.

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**SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**

4500 Fairfield Avenue - Fort Wayne (260) 744-4393

**RECONCILIATION:**
Sunday, March 16: After 6:00 PM Stations Monday, March 17: 7:00 AM & 7:30 PM Tuesday, March 18: 9:00 AM & 4:30 PM Wednesday, March 19: 7:00 AM & 6:30 PM Thursday, March 20: 9:00 AM & 3:00 PM Friday, March 21: After 1:00 PM Service After 7:00 PM Stations Saturday, March 22: 9:00 AM

**HOLY WEEK LITURGIES:**
Wednesday, March 19: 5:30 PM - Annointing of the Sick Mass Holy Thursday, March 20: 8:00 AM - Rosary and Morning Prayer 7:00 PM - Mass of Lord’s Supper Good Friday, March 21: 8:00 AM - Rosary and Morning Prayer 1:00 PM - Liturgy of Holy’s Passion 7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross Holy Saturday, March 22: 8:00 AM - Rosary and Morning Prayer 8:00 PM - Easter Vigil Easter Sunday, March 23: Masses at 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM A Blessed & Happy Easter to all!

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**Holy Cross and St. Stanislaus Parish**

**Memo to Martha:**

There is need of only one thing

In preparation for my first TV interview, I hit the Mall of America. I had a mission: to find a top. The Top. A TV top like the anchors wear. I always experience sensory overload at MOA. It is a lot to process. Caricatures and characters. Mohawks and midriffs. Runny noses and roller coasters.

So when I slipped into a fitting room, I was ready to soak up a little silence.

And yet, as soon as I closed my door, I heard the woman in the next stall talking on her cell phone. Something about her husband’s retirement. I focused my attention back on the shirts at hand, until an “It’s A Small World” ringtone pierced the air, and the woman to my other side began describing her outfit, evidently intended for Friday.

That’s when it struck me. Our most private places are eroding. Before cell phones entered our purses and pockets, a fitting room was a personal space. Sure, its halls hosted heated debates between moms and daughters, with friends waiting in the wings. But what happened inside a stall’s cramped quarters was a private exchange, an unflinching showdown between woman and mirror, birthing hard-to-swallow epiphanies like “I have gained weight” and “This looked better on the hanger.”

These days the fitting room is yet another place where busy women can be accessed. Rather than protest, we answer the call, half naked, elbow in shirt, hobbling.

Young adults have been raised on the notion that we can do and have it all. We walk on the moon, become president, cure cancer and get weekly massages. The key, we forget, is to multitask. If you’re doing more than one thing, you’ll advance much more quickly. And if you want to be an All-Star multitasker, buy an iPhone.

Lofty as our ambitions are, we often feel crummy about our outcome. My friend reminded me of this in a recent e-mail. “Life has been crazy and stressful,” she wrote. “Just trying to juggle work, family, friends and myself. Dropping a lot of balls.”

Her e-mail arrived on a night when I was keenly aware of my own dropped balls. I felt as if I was attempting a lot but excelling at little. Worse yet, I was so preoccupied preparing to catch the next ball that I wasn’t really enjoying the game in hand.

Being present to the moment is harder than ever for young Catholics. It defies our cultural training and dismisses our high-tech aids.

Our faith calls us to slow down and attend to each moment, “to be still and know that I am God.” The essence of spirituality, quite simply, is being awake.

Jesus was the ultimate multitasker. Despite the weight of his earthly mission — to save humankind — he focused on the here and now. As a result, he touched countless souls.

When he encountered multi-tasking Martha, who was peeved by her single-minded sister, he gently rebuked her. “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things.” Jesus said. “There is need of only one thing.”

Mavior.

Christina Cappechi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. E-mail her at christi-

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**Twenty Something**

BY CHRISTINA CAPECHI

A related spiritual work of mercy is to forgive all injuries. What a challenge, especially if we have been hurt deeply. One time when I was having difficulty doing this my spiritual director said that sometimes we have to pray for the desire to forgive.

Finally, compassionate people express their concern for others in prayer.

During this Holy Week, it might be helpful to focus on one of these works that needs to be strengthened in our lives.

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**Easter Sunday**

8:00 & 11:00 a.m. Holy Cross Church 9:30 a.m. St. Stanislaus Church

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**TODAY’S CATHOLIC**

**March 16, 2008**
Renewing our faith in the Son of God deepens our belief

In 2007, several atheists stepped up their attack once again on belief in God in the form of published books. Christopher Hitchens wrote a book called “God is not great: Why Religion Poisons Everything.” Richard Dawkins wrote “The God Delusion” and Sam Harris wrote “Letter to a Christian Nation.” All became national best sellers. For us who believe, the growth of atheism is a frightening prospect. Each time the truth card is in hand as expressed by the words of St. Augustine: “Our hearts are restless, O God, until they rest in you.”

This coming week, we Catholics, and indeed most of the Christian world, enter the most sacred time of the church year. Holy Week and the sacred triduum, the most solemn celebration of the Lord’s Passion, Death and Resurrection. In these most solemn rites, the church puts before us the infinite love of God shown to us in Jesus Christ. Through participation in these sacred rites, our hearts, minds and souls are filled ever more deeply with the love that came down from us for heaven to die on the cross.

In our belief, we know that we were made for God, to be with God, and it is only by living in his love that we truly are at peace. “Our hearts are restless, O God, until they rest in you.” No one has to prove to us that God exists. Our hearts tell us that it is so.

So why do many in the world still not believe? Because faith takes humility, the humility to acknowledge that we are not self-sufficient, the humility to recognize that we do not have the complete answer to the presence of evil in the world, the humility to acknowledge that we have contributed to that evil by our own sins, and humility is one thing that many recoil from. Pride is the cause of the fall of Satan, pride is the cause of man’s sin, and the temptation to pride still infects all of us. With pride, there is no room for belief in God because one’s world is only big enough for one. Humility is the doorway to faith because humility one can see that one is not the center of the universe but rather that God is. During Holy Week, Jesus shows us the way. Though he was God he humbly submitted himself into the hands of sinners who nailed him to a cross. By humbly renewing our faith in the Son of God, our belief is deepened, and our hearts are at peace.

Finding the truth about the dignity of women

While the production of the “Vagina Monologues” raises controversy every year on the campus of the University of Notre Dame, another conference on the campus, the Edith Stein Conference 2008, gets kudos for its portrayal and understanding of the dignity of women. Scheduled March 28-29, the conference is based on Pope John Paul II apostolic letter, “On the Dignity and Vocation of Women.”

The conference is on the life of Edith Stein, the project’s patron saint, “celebrated women’s unique gift to act as instruments of empathy in her writings and therapeutic outreach.” According to the Notre Dame-Stein Project Web site, Edith Stein, a Jewish philosopher who converted to Catholicism and became a Carmelite nun, was a martyr of Auschwitz and a strong advocate for the truth about the dignity of women.

The project’s mission statement on its Web site says, “The Edith Stein Project is an annual conference offering an optimistic perspective on the future of feminism by emphasizing the dignity of human persons and the unique role of women in society. It began as a student-initiated forum for discussion about the dignity of women and the problems women face in our culture. Just as the women who organized the first conference (in 2004), we feel strongly that the issues that led them to take place at the University of Notre Dame, where modern culture and Catholicism intersect in a unique way. In this community that seeks to excel academically and to foster a life of faith, we believe that a conference is the best way to achieve the objectives of education and genuine dialogue concerning these issues.”

Highlights of the upcoming conference include the following speakers: Bishop John M. D’Arcy; Barbara Nicolson, director of Act Global; and Edith Johnson, author of “The Thrill of the Chase.” Dr. Philip Mango, St. Michael’s Institute for the Psychological Sciences; and Father Walter Schu, author of “The Splendor of Louise.”

To learn more about this conference, visit the Web site, www.nd.edu/~idnd/edithstein/.

Laetare Medal selection questioned

It’s interesting to see that Notre Dame has awarded the Laetare Medal to National Review editor Martin Sheen. The background given about Mr. Sheen appears to be compelling. It’s the opinion of recipients of the medal include “outstanding” contributions to their faith. I don’t recall Mr. Sheen as the president on “West Wing” as denouncing abortion rights, for example, in defense of his faith on that series. That would be outstanding to have a sitting president abolish in some real way the end to abortion on demand.

Further, he acknowledges the likes of Dinesh D’Silva and the late Cesar Chavez as spiritual devoirs of his. This is an outrage for most faithful Catholics who remember those hooligans.

Surely, with the descriptions of some of the earlier recipients, Notre Dame could have rallied around some equally or more faithful and truly Catholic. This seems to be a great problem for the church right now... favors Catholics and Catholics in name only for their specific agendas. When will we be more discerning about our “choices”? Our accountability is showing for the rest of the world to see. We will be crucified on this one.

Louise Gonya

Mary and Women’s History Month

For 21 years, Women’s History Month has been celebrated in March. In 2008, this observance will end on the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord (celebrated on March 31 instead of the traditional March 25, so as not to conflict with Easter Week). It’s fitting to end on this high note, paying tribute to the most pivotal woman in the history of human kind. Yet I wonder whether lesson plans for this awareness-raising month will raise any awareness of her.

It’s a marks that decisive moment when Mary, not yet fully understanding what the angel Gabriel was saying to her, nonetheless responded out of her love for God and said “yes” in her famous “fiat”. “I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done (fiat) to me according to your will.”

The rest, as they say, is history. Not a distorted feminist “her story” that seeks to erase references to men. Indeed, Mary’s whole mission in life is to point others to her Son, the God-Man who could never exploit us in the way that is done (fiat).

As such, this cultural transformation will take much prayer. The Pro-Life Secretariat produces prayer resources for use in parishes, schools, homes and ecumenical activities, including a beautiful Annunciation Novena called “A Heart Open to God’s Will” found at www.usccb.org/prolife. You may also download our new “Say Yes to Life” ad for your pro-life outreach.

In honor of Our Lady’s pivotal role in history, consider praying this novena before her feast day. May our imitation of her help bring an end to abortion and build the culture of life.

Deirdre A. McQuade is assistant director of policy and communications, Office of Pro-Life Activities, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Go to www.usccb.org/prolife to learn more about the bishops’ pro-life activities.

Patrick

c. 389-461
feast – March 17

Born in Britain, Patrick was carried off by raiders and enslaved in Ireland. He became prayerful and spent several years as a herdsman. After escaping, he made his way to Gaul, on the continent, where he trained as a priest. In a dream he was called to evangelize England, and in about 430 he returned as a bishop. For nearly 30 years he was the apostle to the Irish, bringing an organized church into existence in a pagan land. Toward the end of his life he made a 40-day retreat in Mayo that gave rise to the famous ongoing Clogher Patrick pilgrimages.

Saints for Today © 2008 CMS
The seasons of grief

It was another cold winter morning as I looked out my window and was greeted by the blur of the rising sun stretching across the eastern sky. Though the temperature was near freezing, hope dawned on my hibernating heart, and the warmth of the sun held the promise of spring. It was then that I realized that the natural seasons have much to teach us about the seasons of our grief.

Those early days following my husband’s death were like the fall. As leaves of every color fell to the earth and left the trees skeletons, so the leaves of my life were stripped away, leaving only the bare branches of my existence. I did not know how to feel, to think, to live. It was as if I had been born at a time and doing just that day at a time and doing just that simply surviving. Feelings of connections of my loss.

I felt a natural need to prepare for the earth’s winter cycle; it runs its own course, in its own time. Winter grief can be as unpredictable as the weather with the myriad of emotions and memories that flood our lives. Time alone to mourn becomes as important as seeking support from compassionate others.

As we allow ourselves to retreat, over time we will begin to trust again and find a hint of the coming of spring. Those sad days will begin to hold sweet memories in place of tears, a foresight of the resurrection of life to come. Creating a new life can be difficult. If we don’t mourn our loss, the sprouts of new life may be

HOPE

IN THE MOURNING

KAY Coad

Receive the Lord’s love

The Sunday Gospel

Palm Sunday
Mt 26:14-27:66

This weekend the church begins Holy Week by offering the two jewels of its magnificent liturgical treasury. As the week proceeds, the church will call us to join with believers everywhere in celebrating the reality of the eternal Christ in the Mass as cathedrals, in the Mass of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday, the powerful liturgy of the Lord’s death on Good Friday, and the brilliantly hopeful and joyful Easter Vigil.

On this weekend, the liturgy commemorates the arrival of Jesus in Jerusalem. This liturgy too is profound in its simplicity but extraordinary message. At the beginning stand the readings from the Gospels. The first occurs at the blessing of the palms and as the procession of the faithful bearing the palms assemblies.

This reading reveals both the Lord’s divine power, seen through the hearts that the ass and colt are in the village ahead, and the Lord’s mission as messiah. He is enterprising and bold; he is Lord’s capital, the city in which to sacrifice is to God is offered. This is the people salute the Lord as “son of David,” greeting Jesus as their own legitimate king.

Beginning the Liturgy of the Word on any other day, the church then reads from the third part of Isaiah. One of those eloquent and expressive sections of Isaiah scholars call the “Songs of the Suffering Servants,” this passage lauds an unflinching, self-sacrificing servant of God, who despite abuse and persecution remains steadfastly loyal. Christians always have seen Jesus prefigured in these beautiful poems.

The Epistle to the Philippians provides the next lesson. Eloquent, it excoriates proclaims, usually with three readers for the sake of drama and impact, the Passion Narrative of St. Matthew’s Gospel.

It is too bad that the four Evangelists’ individual and distinct insights into the Passion often are lost by dwelling upon the horror of Roman crucifixion. More important is to see all that happened. Matthew’s Passion Narrative offers the same lesson. Pilate’s wife, almost certainly a Roman, and a pagan, adores Jesus. She warns her husband not to mistreat Jesus. After the crucifixion, the Roman soldier announces that Jesus is the Son of God. Ethnicity is not the issue. Coming to God is the issue.

Douglas, ignorance or neglect of religion may cause people to be estranged from God. Causes matter. The past matters not. Jesus is the Son of God. Testifying to this fact were the striking events after the crucifixion, such as the tearing of the temple’s veil. Jesus died for us. Jesus loves us.

At Holy Week, the church calls us to respond to the Lord’s love. He awaits us. Despite whatever we have done, whatever keeps us away, Jesus loves us and died for us.

READINGS

Sunday: Mon 2:7-17 Ps 27:1-3, 14-16
Tuesday: Is 49:1-6 Ps 71:1-4a, 5ab, 15, 17 Jn 12:33-33, 36-38
Wednesday: Is 50-4:9 Ps 69:10-1, 21-22, 33-34 Mt 14:24-25
Thursday: Is 51:1-8a, 9b-9 Ps 89-21-22, 25, 27 Ps 1:1-8 Ps 4:1-6 Ps 14-21-21
Saturday: Gen 1:1-2 Ps 104:2-5, 6-10, 12-14, 24, 35 (2:22-21 Hv 16:5, 8-11) (3) Ex 14:15-15:1 Ps 15:1-6, 17-18 (4) Is 54:15-18 Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13, 15-18 Ps 6, 8, 15, 19-21 (5) Is 55:1-11 Ps 11:2-3, 4-6 (6) Bar 3-9, 15-32, 4-4 Ps 19-11, 7 Ex 36:16-17, 18-28 Ps 32, 54:3-3:4, (8) Rom 6:3-11 Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (9) Mt 28:1-10

Catequiz’em

By Dominic Campbell

One of the key players in the Easter events is Judas. This quiz looks at that despised player in the drama of Good Friday.

1. What is special about the name Judas?
   a. It indicates “Jew”-so is clearly anti-Semitic.
   b. It is a personal name, but refers to the Judaeans as a whole.
   c. Nothing. Like Jesus it was a common male name in New Testament times.

2. In fact, Jesus might have had a familial Judas connection, for when Jesus preaches in Nazareth the locals wonder if he is not a. speaking on behalf of all Jews from, Judas to Jeremiah
   b. the brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon
   c. only supposed to preach in Judea, not Galilee, where Judas Maccabbeus lived.

3. What was Judas’ original relationship to Jesus?
   a. He was one of the Twelve Apostles.
   b. He was a second cousin.
   c. He was likely an early disciple who left Jesus began to preach in Judea.

4. Judas is referred to as Iscariot. What clue might this give about him?
   a. It means he was a Roman citizen.
   b. He was likely a member of the Druze faith who converted to Judaism.
   c. He was likely not a Galilean like the other 11.

5. What is the Gospel of Judas?
   a. nothing, there is no such thing
   b. a copy (4th century) of a 2nd century Gnostic work, one of many such texts
   c. the book that the pope hid for centuries, now available at fine bookstores

6. Does this work (question 5) mean that Judas wrote a Gospel?
   a. No, lots of Gnostic texts were written about and attributed to biblical figures.
   b. Yes, and it is time for the church to fess up.
   c. Yes, though it means he may have survived his suicide so the implications are enormous.

7. How can these types of (question 5) works portray Judas as being good?
   a. They cannot.
   b. It is predestination, as taught by the sect of the Judites.
   c. Gnostics often believed that the created world was evil, and that God authored all sin.

8. In fact the sect that produced the Gospel of Judas might be one that believes in the rehabilitation of many “scoundrels” of the Bible, perhaps the reason for their name a. Cainites
   b. Dolcinites
   c. Vice Versists

9. Although the Gospel of Judas has seen several readings, that, or a similar text, was counted by this early church father: a. Herod Agrippa in his alter ego of Herod Antipas
   b. Nimrod the Hunter, known as the Orion in Rome
   c. St. Irenaeus of Lyons in his work “Against the Heresies”

10. What motive does Matthew’s Gospel give for Judas’ betrayal?
    a. Judas was disappointed at Jesus’ failure to raise a revolt.
    b. Jesus had bypassed Judas when selecting Peter as the leader.
    c. Surprisingly no clear motive, though Matthew hints at greed for a reward.

11. What about Mark’s Gospel — what motive does that suggest?
    a. Even less; Mark does not say much about a motive, just the act of betrayal.
    b. It is clear that it was Jesus’ failure to start a revolt that upset Judas.
    c. Judas was, according to Mark, not pleased that the Jesus would not make him the leader.

12. Luke’s Gospel and John’s Gospel are clear that a. the devil made him do it.
    b. Jesus acted out of the goal of bringing on the Resurrection
    c. there was a motive.

13. What did Judas receive for betraying Jesus?
    a. thirty pieces of gold
    b. thirty pieces of silver
    c. Farty shekels

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

March 16, 2008

15

Commentary
**Sandbox and seminar rooms**

**D**iving through the Harvard catalogs recently, I had a great life-imitates-art moment: a sign on Interstate 271 announcing two impending exits, one for “Harvard Rd.” and the other for “Chagrin Blvd.”

**Please don’t get me wrong.** Some of my best friends went to Harvard; one of my best friends teaches there; Harvard is to one of our sons what the Sun is to the Earth. But Harvard is also the name of a family farm near where I grew up. It’s a name that will always lead me to one form of chagrin or another. Why? Because Harvard College is known for its undergraduate education seriously.

It will, of course, tell you that it does and point you toward the recently released Task Force on General Education, the result of years of labor by the Harvard faculty. One acute observer, himself a denizen of the academy, notes that as a result of that heavy-lifting, “we now have a useful, readable constitution for postmodern undergraduate education in America. The old Harvard can be transmuted into a constitution for an intellectual and moral banana republic.”

**Too harsh?** Try this, from the aforementioned report: “The aim of a liberal education is to unsettle assumptions, to defamiliarize the familiar, to transmute what is going on beneath and behind appearances, to disorient young people from the habits your Harvard can be treated as a constitution for an intellectual and moral banana republic.”

I recall the first day I heard a poem at that Harvard Farm. One acute observer, himself a denizen of the academy, notes that as a result of that heavy-lifting, “we now have a useful, readable constitution for postmodern undergraduate education in America. The old Harvard can be transmuted into a constitution for an intellectual and moral banana republic.”

**To summarize:**

- The aim of a liberal education is to unsettle assumptions, to defamiliarize the familiar, to transmute what is going on beneath and behind appearances, to disorient young people from the habits your Harvard can be treated as a constitution for an intellectual and moral banana republic.

- The undergraduate level might well have a look at the Cardinal Newman Society’s publication, “Choosing a Catholic College: What to Look For and Where To Find It.” As with any guide, reasonable people can differ about some of the judgments made about the 22 schools profiled, or the selection (or omission) of certain schools; I, for one, would certainly add Providence College in Rhode Island to the list of schools well-worth-considering.

- The college should be a guide to full-of-useful detail about every facet of life on the campuses studied.

**Questions: Guides like this are gold and frankincense compared to rubbish like the annual U.S. News & World Report rankings. The college should also give students some of the signs of hope that the intellectual sandbox won’t prevail — which is no small thing. Nothing less than the future of the West is at stake in our continued ability to make rational arguments on behalf of freedom lived for excellence.”**


**Early Creed**

- H U M B L E D E A H O
- G F L E S M I H D R O J
- D R O L I E M A N E H T
- G L O R Y Q S S E D E T
- H H K E M L S F B N M N
- T E W P A O E M D U A I
- R A L V R J F K L M N O
- A V E C T O N G U E Y P
- E E A N A E O H O E R E
- N N A E P C B H D E H
- O B E D I E N T S G V T
- K N Y T I L A U D E C

**Scripture Search**

*By Patricia Kasten*

**Gospel for March 16, 2008**

**Philippians 2:6-11**

Following is a word search based on the Second reading for Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion: Cycle A, an early profession of Christian faith. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

**Early Creed**

- H U M B L E D E A H O
- G F L E S M I H D R O J
- D R O L I E M A N E H T
- G L O R Y Q S S E D E T
- H H K E M L S F B N M N
- T E W P A O E M D U A I
- R A L V R J F K L M N O
- A V E C T O N G U E Y P
- E E A N A E O H O E R E
- N N A E P C B H D E H
- O B E D I E N T S G V T
- K N Y T I L A U D E C

**Sandra McCall,** director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, answered these questions.
Christ the King, St. Pius teams shine in ICCL fifth and sixth grade league

BY GREG SCHULTHEIS

SOUTH BEND — Thirty-four teams battled to the end, but in a game rescheduled initially due to the inclement weather, Christ the King A1, behind Ryan Wollie’s 18 points, defeated Christ the King A2, 42-20, who were led as they were all year by Mathew Monserez who scored 14 points.

The win enabled the Kings A1 team to complete an undefeated 11-0 season while the Kings A2 team finished 10-1 overall. St. Anthony stayed close and completed the regular season with a 8-3 overall record. In the De Porres sixth-grade A division, St. Joseph, Mishawaka, completed their regular season, Billy Doslak led St. Pius to the win with a strong 18-point effort.

The Martin De Porres fifth-grade B division was a tight three-team race all year. St. Bavo from Mishawaka and St. Matthew from South Bend had identical 6-2 division records, while St. Bavo was 8-2 overall and St. Matthew 7-3. St. Michael from Plymouth had a 5-3 division record and was 7-3 overall. All three teams split their regular-season matchups in head-to-head meetings. The top individual performance during these exciting matchups was St. Matthew’s Kevin Traunmueller scoring 23 points in the win over St. Michael.

The year-end tournament had many close and exciting games. In the end St. Pius from Granger completed their fifth-grade dominance and won the B League tournament title.

St. Joseph, South Bend, Blue got hot at the right time and made a great tourney run winning the sixth-grade league championship title. St. Joe, South Bend, Blue beat tourney favorites and regular-season champs, Christ the King A1 and St. Joe, Mishawaka, along the way to the title.

In the B League consolation game, South Bend rivals our Lady B defeated Christ the King B2, 28-25, as Mikal Henderson scored 14 points and Austin Smith 10 points for our Lady and Lou DeTrempe scored 10 points for the Kings. The A League consolation game featured a double overtime thriller as Christ the King A2 defeated fellow South Bend team Holy Cross A, 39-38. Holy Cross battled back the entire game as Pat Conner’s forced the first overtime by scoring with less than 20 seconds left and finishing with a game high 18 points. Tommy Bernacchi forced the second overtime with his shot with eight seconds left and Casey Coleman added eight points for Holy Cross. Matthew Monserez scored 16 points, Pat O’Conner 10 points and Cole O’Conner 10 points for Christ the King A2.

In the B League championship St. Pius B defeated Holy Family B, 40-24. Nate Miller tossed in three three-pointers and finished with a game high 17 points for St. Pius while Billy Doslak scored 12 points and Conner Young 10 points to support the cause. Wesley Short shot in 10 points to lead Holy Family.

In the A League championship St. Joe, South Bend, Blue completed their tourney run, as they have most of the year, by coming back from six points down in the fourth quarter to win the championship, 29-27, over their South Bend cross town rival St. Anthony A1. 29-27. Paul Byczewski hit two clutch free throws with 15 seconds left to seal the win. Byczewski finished with 10 points while Sam Hosinski and Tommy Clark added eight points each. Denton Gillis led St. Anthony with 14 points and Sam Roykova had 10 points for St. Anthony A1.

USF guard one of three Cougars named to 2007-08 All-MCC Team

FORT WAYNE — University of Saint Francis senior Mike Steimau has been named to the Mid-Central Conference 2007-08 All-Conference team selected by MCC coaches.

Other Cougars earning recognition included junior Nate Bojrab, who was named to the honorable mention team, and freshman Matt Edmonds, who named to the newcomer team.

Steimau, a Bishop Dwenger High School graduate who concluded his career as the No. 3 scorer on the USF career scoring list with 1,617 points, was fifth in MCC scoring this season with a 17.3 average. He finished with 537 points this season, the second consecutive season with 500 or more points. He scored in double figures in 27 games, scored 20-or-more in 12 games and 30-or-twice with a career and season high 37 vs. Indiana Wesleyan on Jan. 19. He notched two double doubles. Steimau also finished No. 5 in NAIA, No. 2 in the MCC in free-throw percentage at .906, the third best season for a Cougar. He hit 146-of-163 free throws, just 17 misses. At .859, Steimau finishes No. 2 in MCC in free-throws made list with 378. The 6-foot-1 guard also finished No. 2 in MCC assists per game at 4.1 and 128 total in 31 games 2007-08. He was No. 42 in NAIA assists per game. Steimau was a second team All-MCC pick in 2006-07 and led USF in scoring.

Bojrab, a Dwenger graduate, finished the season No. 3 in MCC in steals per game at 3.0 and No. 1 in the MCC with 88 in 29 games. His 88 steals in a single season is a USF record and he stands No. 4 on the USF career list with 201 steals. He also led USF in blocked shots (21) despite suffering a painful mid-season ankle injury. He notched two double doubles including a 32 point, 11 steal effort vs. Algoma on Dec. 21.

Edmonds, an East Noble High School grad, finished fourth in the MCC in rebounds per game averaging 7.6 with a total of 256. The 6-foot-5-inch forward led the MCC in offensive rebounds per game at 3.2 and a total of 99, the fourth best season in USF history. He had 12 double-figure scoring games, six double figure rebounding games with a high of 15 vs. Indiana Tech, and two double doubles.

BISHOP LUERS BASKETBALL AIDS FOR SEMISTATE TITLE

The Bishop Luers High School boys basketball team will vie for a semistate basketball title at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 15, as the team takes on Westview (24-1) for the Class 2-A Warsaw Semistate championship. Luers beat Tipton and Northfield March 8 to win its first basketball regional. Luers is 22-3. The game will air live on Redeemer Radio — Catholic Radio AM 1450.
I

in this very honest book, Maura Weis, wife of Notre Dame football coach Charlie Weis, describes her journey as a mother searching for answers when her daughter Hannah, around the age of two, slowly begins to change. Hannah retreats from an exuberant and playful baby after giving the Weises a health scare while very young. Her mother, arms and slipped into emotional and developmental delays. Maura Weis recounts the parade of doctor visits trying to pinpoint what was wrong with Hannah. After seeing scores of doctors including her pediatrician, geneticists, therapists and neurologists, the diagnosis would finally come as severe global developmental delay (mental retardation) most likely caused by a rare seizure disorder.

The book describes Maura’s passage from anger, frustration and depression and how she was finally able to work through her own feelings of despair to accept her situation and move forward. Maura’s experiences with Hannah have given her a closer view of the world. She has taught the lesson of unconditional love to the Weis family in a way few people can understand. The Weises founded the nonprofit foundation called Hannah & Friends in South Bend in 2003 to honor Hannah and all people with special needs. They are currently working on the construction and ongoing operations for a residential community for adults with special needs on a farm in northern Indiana.

For information about Hannah & Friends, please visit www.hannahfriends.org.

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### Miles from the Sideline: A Mother’s Journey with Her Special Needs Daughter**
Author Maura Weis, with the frustrations, blessing in raising a special needs child. The big name in small jobs.

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**TODAY’S CATHOLIC**

March 16, 2008

**Weis tells the frustrations, blessing in raising a special needs child”**

“Miles from the Sideline: A Mother’s Journey with Her Special Needs Daughter” Author Maura Weis, with Jessica Trobaugh Temple

In this very honest book, Maura Weis, wife of Notre Dame football coach Charlie Weis, describes her journey as a mother searching for answers when her daughter Hannah, around the age of two, slowly begins to change. Hannah retreats from an exuberant and playful baby after giving the Weises a health scare while very young. Her mother, arms and slipped into emotional and developmental delays. Maura Weis recounts the parade of doctor visits trying to pinpoint what was wrong with Hannah. After seeing scores of doctors including her pediatrician, geneticists, therapists and neurologists, the diagnosis would finally come as severe global developmental delay (mental retardation) most likely caused by a rare seizure disorder.

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For information about Hannah & Friends, please visit www.hannahfriends.org.
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

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

FISH FRIES

Fish Fry at St. Paul of the Cross
Columbia City — St. Paul of the Cross Parish will have a fish fry on Friday, March 14, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Adults $7.50, children 6-12 $4.50 and children under 5 free. Carry-out available.

Fish fry in Culver
Culver — The Knights of Columbus Council #13720 will have a fish fry Friday, March 14, from 4-7:30 p.m. in the basement of St. Mary of the Lake Church – 124 College Ave. Tickets are $7 for adults and $4 for children.

Fish fry at St. Matthew
South Bend — A Jonah fish fry will be held Friday, March 14, from 4-7 p.m. in the St. Matthew Cathedral School cafeteria. Adults $6, seniors $5, children (7-12) $4 and children under 6 free. Carry-out available.

Fish dinner at St. Augustine
South Bend — St. Augustine Parish, 1501 W. Washington St., will have a fish dinner Friday, March 14, from 4-8 p.m. Adults $6, children 6-11; and children 5 and under free. Carry-out available.

Fish fry offers healthy fare
South Bend — Knights of Columbus #553 will have fish fries featuring grilled, baked or fried fish Friday, March 14, at 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Adults $6, children 6-12 free and children under 5 free.

Fish fry hosted by Knights of Columbus
Mishawaka — The Knights of Columbus Council #8617 will have a fish fry on March 14, at Queen of Peace Parish hall, corner of Vistula and Bittersweet from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Drinks and sides included. Desert available for donation. Tickets are $7 for adults, $4 for children 6 to 12. Drive-through available.

Scouts sponsor fish fry
Fort Wayne — St. Vincent Scouts will have a fish fry dinner on Friday, March 14, in the school cafeteria. Tickets are $7.50 adults, $3 children 6-11.

Arts and enrichment sponsor fish fry
Fort Wayne — St. John the Baptist will host a fish fry Friday, March 14, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the Parsley Center, 4500 Fairfield Ave. Adults $7.50, children 6-12 $4.50 and children under 5 free.

Fish fry information is available at www.diocesefwsb.org/TODAY

$1. Drive-through service available behind the school.

Knights plan fish fry
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 6153 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on each Friday of Lent, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults $7.50, children 6-11 $3. Chicken strips for $7.50 and shrimp for $8.50 will be available.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Day of reflection
Mishawaka — A Day of reflection will be offered at St. Francis Convent on Wednesday, March 26, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is “II Grain Could Talk.” Please bring your Bible. The cost is $15 and includes lunch. Please register by Friday, March 21, to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

Single conference announced
Chicago — A National Catholic Singles Conference will be held April 25-27, in Chicago, Ill. Social events and dynamic national speakers on the single life will be featured. Register at www.NationalCatholicSingles.com or call (815) 828-5094.

Garage sale offers great deals
Fort Wayne — St. Vincent de Paul HASA will have a garage sale Friday, April 4, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday, April 5, a $3 bag sale from 8 a.m. to noon at the parish hall (enter through door 10).

Soup and salut luncheon
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus #553’s ladies soup and salut luncheon will be Monday, March 31, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at 553 E. Washington St. Tickets are $5 per person and includes beverage. Carry-outs available.

Card party and salad bar
New Carlisle — St. Stanislaus Kostka will have a card party and salad bar Saturday, March 30, at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are $5 each in advance by calling Louise at (574) 654-3336 or Nancy at (574) 289-2966. All proceeds will purchase church linens, candles, etc.

Easter bake sale time
St. Matthew Cathedral — The Altar Rosary Society of St. Casimir Church, 1308 W. Dunham St., will have an Easter bake sale Saturday, March 15, from 9-6:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 16, from 8-11 a.m. at the school. Easter lamb cakes, pies, cookies and more.

Divine Mercy pilgrimage
Catholic Heritage Tours has asked Father Bob Lengerich to lead a pilgrimage to Poland and Italy from March 24 to April 9. Questions and reservations may be handled by Sharon at (619) 225-1840.

SCHOOL REGISTRATIONS

Round-up time
Fort Wayne — St. Therese Catholic School’s preschool and kindergarten round-up will be Wednesday, April 16, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. All students of ages 3-5 by Sept. 1 are invited to attend. Call (260) 747-2343 for further details.

Registration announced
Monroeville — St. Joseph School is now accepting registrations for the 2008-09 school year. Call (260) 623-3447 for information.
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**SPECIAL NEEDS SEATING**

The floor of the arena is reserved for those with special needs and one escort. If you have a special need please describe it below.

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