FORT WAYNE — Pope Benedict XVI described his upcoming visit to the United States as a “special missionary experience” and requested prayers for its success.

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Two days before his first visit as pope to the United States, Pope Benedict XVI described the trip as a “special missionary experience” and requested prayers for its success.

The pope made the remarks at his weekly noon blessing at the Vatican April 13, his last public appearance before his April 15-20 visit to Washington and New York.

When he appeared at his apartment window, a group of well-wishers in St. Peter’s Square unfurled American flags. Others held up a huge sign that read “Buon Viaggio” (“Have a good trip”).

Speaking in English, he looked forward to the visit, which includes a major address at the United Nations headquarters in New York and 14 other encounters. He summarized the message he will bring throughout his trip.

“With the various groups I shall meet, my intention is to share Our Lord’s word of life. In Christ is our hope,” he said.

“Christ is the foundation of our hope for peace, for justice and for the freedom that flows from God’s law fulfilled in his commandment to love one another,” he said.

“Dear brothers and sisters, I ask you all to pray for the success of my visit, so that it may be a time of spiritual renewal for all Americans,” he said.

In his Italian remarks, the pope said he was entrusting to Mary “the special missionary experience that I will have over the coming days.”

The pope spoke on the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, and the theme of his main talk was that Christ is the foundation of our hope for peace, for justice and for the freedom that flows from God’s law fulfilled in his commandment to love one another.

St. Jude RCIA makes man’s pope trip a reality

Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend well represented at papal audiences

BY DON CLEMMER

FORT WAYNE — As Pope Benedict XVI journeys to the United States, representatives of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will meet him at many of his stops along the way. Many of these will be in Washington, including Bishop John M. D’Arcy, who will meet him at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Debbie Schmidt of Catholic Charities and Fred and Lisa Everett of the Office of Family Life, who will attend the White House ceremony, and Holy Cross Father Steve Kempinger, superintendent of Catholic Schools, who will attend the pope’s address to educators at Catholic University of America.

But also in Washington, attending Mass in Nationals Park, will be another 50 people from the diocese, one of whom almost wrote off his chances of seeing the pope as a lost cause until the support of his parish community helped him achieve that goal.

Jonathan Moosey, age 25, joined the Catholic Church through the RCIA program at St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne. Moosey doesn’t drive.

At the reception after the Rite of Election on Feb. 10, Moosey had his picture taken with Bishop John M. D’Arcy. When Moosey e-mailed Father Tom Shoemaker his picture with the bishop, Father Shoemaker e-mailed back that the picture was very nice and that someday he’d like to see Moosey’s picture with the pope.

Moosey responded that he was working on it, that he had registered with the diocese for the lottery for tickets to the Mass with Pope Benedict XVI.
Bishop hopes to bring pope’s message back to the diocese

The goal of all theology, after all, and the goal of pastoral care must be to draw the soul to a life of intense faith. Theology can too easily become like studying chemistry. The great definition of St. Anselm that theology is “faith seeking understanding” comes easily to our lips but it is not always understood. What is evident in the writings of Joseph Ratzinger the theologian and Benedict XVI the pope is what one could call “kneeling theology.” It is an attitude on revelation, truth, which draws one to understand more deeply the person of God and to a life of communion with him.

It seems that this pope, who after all has taught in the great universities of Europe, likes the format of question and answer. He has done this frequently with the priests, both in Rome and in the small northern European dioceses where he, like Pope John Paul II, goes on vacation. He has also used this format with young people. One priest asked the help of the pope in preparing sermons. The pope said that he looks at readings a week ahead; and at first, they are like dead rocks. Then, he indicated that he takes them to prayer and tries to determine not what Joseph Ratzinger wants to say but what does Christ want to say to the people through these readings. Then he said they come alive. I do not yet know what his talks will be, but I know they will not be anticlimactic. They will be fine because the pope is functioning. There are about 1,050 students here, and Father D’Souza. He, like Cardinal Ratzinger, is a person on love and the other on hope, are like grand spiritual coaches, whose specific work is not always known.

In this brief passage, we can begin to grasp something that is very precious in the church, which seems at times to have been lost, but which this pope personifies. I refer to the value of a life of intense and deep study, which is also concerned in adoration and times of intense prayer. Sister Jane Carew, director of our Office of Catechesis, told me some years ago that she went to Rome in the year 2000, the jubilee year, and that Cardinal Ratzinger, in his presentation to catechists around the world, told them that they should establish in their dioceses and parishes what he called “a school of prayer.” He reminded me of the words of Pope John Paul II that “the graces of renewal will only be given to a church that prays.”

In preparation of the journey

I am putting these few notes together on Sunday evening, and on Tuesday, I will go to Washington. While there has been much in the secular papers about Pope Benedict XVI and also in documentaries on television, it must be said that this is a man who is not so easily known. I prefer to seek spiritual nourishment in his writings. Certainly, the two encyclicals, one on love and the other on hope, are like grand spiritual coaches, whose specific work is not always known.

Our studies, as I have said, were propelled by our common hunger for knowledge. I also said that it was for this reason that I was at our rector at the time, Michael Link, who had been in the concentration camp at Dachau for five years and who soon acquired the nickname “the father” for his kindly and affectionate way. He was also a lot of music in the house, and on festive occasions we had theatrical performances. But my most precious memories remain the great liturgical celebrations in the cathedral and the hours of silent prayer in the house chapel. The grand and venerable figure of the cathedral and the house chapel impressed me deeply. You could not help but feel the presence of so many fine young men in our seminaries, who were much older and had seen the bitterness of war come back to the seminary and surely loved the quiet after the years of bombardments and explosions.

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BISHOP JOHN M. D’ACRY

For our diocese.

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the pope in Washington. His name was drawn. He could request up to four tickets. He couldn’t remain in Norfolk, Va. and made arrangements to stay with her and her daughter. He asked for three tickets, as they would all go to D.C., attend the pope’s Mass and sight see. On Tuesday morning, April 1, the pope’s friend called. Due to a family crisis, she would be unable to host Moosey during his stay. He couldn’t afford to stay at a hotel, so rather than asking for help, Moosey called the diocese for further help.

He then called St. Jude’s RCIA director, Joyce Racine. Racine’s son and daughter-in-law had already given him money for bus fare, and Moosey wanted to know if they would want it back since he wasn’t going to see the pope.

At this point, another RCIA sponsor had given 20 toward Moosey’s “pope money,” and Racine knew more planned on contributing. Therefore, she was not so quick to give up on Moosey’s journey. “I asked him if he would still like to come and if we could help make it happen and the tickets could be reclaimed. He did,” says Racine. Racine called Linda Furge at the diocese. She had not yet redistributed Moosey’s tickets, so technically, they were still his. Racine contacted St. Jude’s former development director, Amy Thompson, who lives just outside Washington with her hus-

band Chris and three children. “I told them about Jonathan and his tickets,” Racine says. “Amy was most grasping in volunteering to pick up Jonathan at the bus station, get him to the Mass even if they couldn’t get tickets, book him and be his tour guide around D.C. for a day or two.”

What followed was a wave of support from the St. Jude RCIA class and beyond, coming together to make Moosey’s trip a reality.

Racine says the group has almost been living vicariously through the excitement generated by supporting Moosey on the trip. The results have far exceeded what was originally a few individuals donating bus fare. “An RCIA team member e-mailed that he could contribute frequent flier miles. Now Jonathan is booked for his first ever airplane ride,” notes Racine.

“I feel really blessed, being Catholic only three weeks,” says Moosey of his opportunity to see the pope. Through his conversion, he says he’s found a church home at St. Jude, and this experience has cemented that. “I’ve come to a sense of what Christianity is,” he says, “just being there for each other.”

Racine adds that every RCIA class has someone or something that brings the group together and makes the year special. This year, it has been Moosey and his journey to see the pope. Now the group will watch and wait to see if Moosey returns with a picture of himself and the pope. “This may be highly unlikely, but it could happen. It was also unlikely he’d even get there.”

Contributing to this story was Joyce Racine.

Jonathan Moosey pictured with Bishop John M. D’Arcy at the reception after the Rite of Election in February of 2008. Moosey is one of 50 people approved by U.S. church leaders for the papal flight. (Photo courtesy of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.)
ELKHART — A small crowd huddled together on a chilly morning to watch the first shovel break ground for what has long been a dream of many at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in Elkhart.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held on April 9 for a new eucharistic adoration chapel. Father Bill Sullivan, pastor, said, “This is a dream come true. We’ve always dreamed of having it near or attached to the church.”

For those visiting the parish the chapel can also be difficult to find. According to Kromkowski, the chapel is kind of hidden. People are instructed to ring a bell to get in, but very few make the effort. The new chapel will be much better, he thinks, less noisy and closer to the church.

An adoration chapel was built at St. Thomas as part of the parish center addition 11 years ago, but it is located in an area heavily traveled by students, which can get a little noisy, he said. Sullivan “is kind of hidden. People are instructed to ring a bell to get in, but very few make the effort.”

A regular visitor to the adoration chapel at the church in 1992; seven years later in 1999 the current adoration chapel at the school was built. The groundbreaking was the third step and the fourth for Kloska is perpetual adoration.

“We’ve been working on this since 1992 so it is absolutely a dream come true,” Kloska said.

Kloska said the current chapel is kind of hidden. People are instructed to ring a bell to get in, but very few make the effort. The new chapel will be much better, he thinks, less noisy and closer to the church.

According to Kromkowski, the chapel will not hold a tabernacle, but there would also be space for perpetual adoration. The chapel will have the capacity for 20 to 25 people.

“We are also relocating the stained glass window from the existing chapel to the new addition,” Kromkowski said.

Parishioner Theresa Hock, a regular visitor to the adoration chapel said of the event, “This is a long-awaited moment, such a joyful time. We’re so looking forward to having the chapel here. Many didn’t know where it was because of its remote location from the church. This will bring others to worship Jesus.”

Father Sullivan blessed the ground and said, “The work we’re beginning will enliven faith and help others become God’s own cowokers.”

Sullivan offered prayers for the work on the chapel, asking God to “bring this construction to successful completion and keep all workers safe from injury.”

Bob Giel, member of the steering committee and co-chair of the capital campaign said the groundbreaking is bringing the chapel “back where it belongs, attached to the church.”

Parishioner Kay Gonsoski also shared her feelings about the event. “I just can’t express the joy I’m feeling. We’ve been looking forward to this since before opening the chapel in the school,” she said.

“We’re hoping the saying, ‘If you build it, they will come,’ will bless the parish with fruits. We need more priests, and we’re hoping to bring to fruition those prayers to God. I’m just so full of joy. This is a very exciting day,” Gonsoski said.

Father Sullivan said the new chapel is part of a capital building project, which also includes plans to renovate the school. “We call it an educational facility because it’s also used by adults,” he said.

“We’re hoping to dedicate the chapel at the same time we break ground for the educational facility.”

Weather permitting, construction of the new chapel should take between six to eight weeks so Father Sullivan is hoping to be able to hold that dedication the first or second Sunday of June.

Once the new chapel is open, hours of adoration are planned for Monday through Friday from 3-9 p.m.

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At ground zero, pope will pray for victims and families, world peace

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In addition to praying at ground zero in New York for the victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks and for their families, Pope Benedict XVI will pray for peace and understanding in the world.

On April 10 the Vatican posted on its Web site the missal Pope Benedict will use during his April 15-20 visit to Washington and New York; the missal includes the prayer he will recite at ground zero April 20.

Describing the site as “the scene of incredible violence and pain,” the prayer asks God to grant eternal light and peace to all who died there when terrorists flew two planes into the World Trade Center. It also recalls those who died the same day at the Pentagon and in Shanksville, Pa.

According to the missal, the pope will pray: “God of peace, bring your peace to our violent world: peace in the hearts of all men and women and peace among the nations of the earth.”

The pope will ask God to “turn to your way of love those whose hearts and minds are consumed with hatred.”

And he will say, “God of understanding, overwhelmed by the magnitude of this tragedy, we seek your light and guidance as we confront such terrible events.

“Grant that those whose lives were spared may live so that the lives lost here may not have been lost in vain,” the prayer says.

“Comfort and console us, strengthen us in hope, and give us the wisdom and courage to work tirelessly for a world where true peace and love reign among nations and in the hearts of all,” it concludes.

The missal says the pope will begin the visit by kneeling in silence. He will then light a candle and recite the special prayer written for the occasion.

After he has finished the prayer and before he offers a solemn blessing to the small group of survivors and family members scheduled to attend, he will use holy water to bless the ground.

People look through a fence Jan. 17 to see where New York's World Trade Center towers stood before they were brought down by terrorist attacks Sept. 11, 2001. At least 2,819 people perished in the collapse of the towers. Pope Benedict XVI will visit ground zero Sunday.

BY CINDY WOODEN

PeOPLE LOOK THROUGH A FENCE JAN. 17 TO SEE WHERE NEW YORK'S WORLD TRADE CENTER TOWERS STOOD BEFORE THEY WERE BROUGHT DOWN BY TERRORIST ATTACKS SEPT. 11, 2001. AT LEAST 2,819 PEOPLE PERISHED IN THE COLLAPSE OF THE TOWERS. POPE BENEDICT XVI WILL VISIT GROUND ZERO SUNDAY.
Pope names bishops for Des Moines, Little Rock, three new auxiliaries

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI appointed Auxiliary Bishop Richard E. Pates of St. Paul and Minneapolis to head the Diocese of Des Moines, Iowa, and Father Anthony B. Taylor, a priest of the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City, as bishop of Little Rock, Ark., April 10. He also named Father Oscar Cantu, pastor of Holy Name Parish in Houston, as auxiliary bishop of San Antonio. Msgr. James D. Conley, pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Wichita, Kan., as auxiliary bishop of Denver; and Father William J. Justice, San Francisco archdiocesan vicar for clergy, as auxiliary bishop of San Francisco. The appointments were announced in Washington by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

New Orleans restructuring aims for ‘smaller but stronger’ church

NEW ORLEANS (CNS) — Archbishop Alfred C. Hughes of New Orleans said the biggest challenge he faced in deciding on the second phase of a major restructuring plan for parishes, schools and ministries in the archdiocese was the prospect of adding another burden to Catholics already laboring to recover from Hurricane Katrina. “The losses in the Katrina and post-Katrina experience have been a very difficult cross for people to carry, and the last thing in the world I want to do is to complicate that for people,” the archbishop said. “I know how people look to the Lord, to his church and to their local churches for strength and comfort,” he said. The plan that will take effect July 1 provides a facilitation process lasting up to six months to allow parishioners to discuss the closure of more parishes and closures. Although it affects dozens of parishes, the plan results in a small number of priests serving in parishioners, the archbishop said. Currently there are 117 parishes and five missions operating in the archdiocese — a total of 122 Sunday worship sites. After the plan takes effect, there will be 108 parishes, nine missions and two university campus ministry sites, a total of 119 sites for Sunday Mass.

Study explores support for vocations, response to decline in priets

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Although three-quarters of U.S. Catholic respondents in a new survey have noticed a decline in the number of priests serving in parishes, the last thing in the world I want to do is to complicate that for people,” the archbishop said. “I know how people look to the Lord, to his church and to their local churches for strength and comfort,” he said. The plan that will take effect July 1 provides a facilitation process lasting up to six months to allow parishioners to discuss the closure of more parishes and closures. Although it affects dozens of parishes, the plan results in a small number of priests serving in parishioners, the archbishop said. Currently there are 117 parishes and five missions operating in the archdiocese — a total of 122 Sunday worship sites. After the plan takes effect, there will be 108 parishes, nine missions and two university campus ministry sites, a total of 119 sites for Sunday Mass.

German cardinal discusses church’s use of slave labor during WWII

MAINZ, Germany (CNS) — A German cardinal said a report detailing how the church used slave laborers during World War II was an “important building block” for reconciliation. “The church’s memory was blind for too long to the fate and sorrows of men, women, youngsters and children who were brought from all over Europe as slave laborers to Germany,” said Cardinal Karl Lehmann of Mainz, former president of the German bishops’ conference. “This document, scientifically examining a forgotten chapter of contemporary church history, cannot and should not be understood as a final reckoning. It is rather an important building block on the way to a future of reconciliation for the Christians of Germany and Europe,” said the cardinal. After eight years of research by a special commission, the 703-page report called “The Catholic Church and Forced Labor 1939-1945” was presented in Mainz April 8.

Catholic Charities USA aims to tackle poverty, racism together

WASHINGTON (CNS) Catholic Charities USA affiliates nationwide are seeking to establish links between poverty and racism in hopes of cutting both significantly. In 2007 Catholic Charities adopted a goal of cutting poverty nationwide in half by 2020. This January it released “Poverty and Racism: Overlapping Threats to the Common Good,” an issue brief that laid out the framework for establishing links between the two. The initiative got a renewed push from a three-hour electronic town-hall meeting conducted online April 2 with participants from across North America and several other countries. Some Catholic Charities affiliates have already made inroads at establishing the poverty-racism link. In Detroit, archdiocesan officials are looking to go well beyond the annual “Keep the Dream Alive” awards bestowed annually around the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. birthday holiday for the past 28 years.

Cardinal: Pope’s reflections should help Americans during elections

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI will not bring political directives during U.S. trip, but his reflections should help Americans make a “deeper moral judgment” during this year’s election campaign, a leading U.S. cardinal said. Cardinal J. Francis Stafford, one of two U.S. cardinals who will accompany the pope from Rome to the United States in mid-April, said he thinks Americans will listen closely to what the pope has to say. “The pope is coming at a particularly sensitive time, with the presidential election scheduled for Novembers,” Cardinal Stafford told Catholic News Service in an interview April 8 in his Vatican office. The cardinal said he does not expect the pope to address partisan political issues, but to “heighten people’s awareness” about what is right and what is wrong. “That is what a religious leader is about, to help raise the level of moral thinking,” he said. And how we, as an American people, can create a higher level of virtue in this country through the choices we make in November,” he said. Cardinal Stafford is the head of the Vatican office that deals with penitential issues.

Pope: Europe must undergo ethical renewal to avoid repeating mistakes

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The future of Europe cannot rest solely on political and economic unity; the continent must also undergo an ethical and spiritual renewal if it is to avoid repeating its past mistakes, Pope Benedict XVI said. A crucial source for that renewal can be found in St. Benedict, the patron saint of Europe, who is still the best teacher to show people “the art of living true humanism,” he said. The pope spoke about St. Benedict, the fifth-century father of Western monasticism and “patron saint of my pontificate,” during his April 9 general audience in St. Peter’s Square. The pope referred to St. Benedict the Great’s writings about St. Benedict in describing the life and contributions of this Italian saint. He lived from 480 to 547. He said St. Gregory wrote the book “The Dialogues” during a time when Europe was experiencing a “tremendous crisis of values” and turmoil caused by “the fall of the Roman Empire, the invasion of new peoples” and traditional customs sinking into decadence. The sixth-century pope believed that St. Benedict was “a shining star” whose life, example and rule could light the way out of such dark times in history, the pope said.

Pope urges world to slash military spending, funnel savings for peace

VATICAN CITY (CNS) Pope Benedict XVI urged nations to slash military spending and funnel savings into peaceful development projects around the world. He also called on nations to halt the spread of handguns and other small-caliber weapons “that fuel local wars and urban violence and unfortunately kill too many people across the world every day.” The pope made his comments in a written message préparé for an April 11-12 seminar sponsored by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace. The international seminar, which brought together dozens of experts and representatives from the church, governmental agencies and grass-roots groups, was titled “Disarmament, Development and Peace: Perspectives for an Integral Disarmament.” In his written message, the pope praised the gathered bishops for making the topic was “timely” and “urgent.”

Survey assesses Catholics’ beliefs, practices on Mass, sacraments

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A new survey has found key differences among Catholics of different generations about the importance of the sacraments in their lives. Asked which sacrament was most meaningful in their lives, 39 percent of respondents named baptism, 26 percent said marriage and 25 percent named the Eucharist. Among those who said they attended Mass was more often, 52 percent said said the Eucharist was most meaningful in their lives. The study also divided respondents into four generations related to the Second Vatican Council: pre-Vatican II, comprised of those born before 1943; Vatican II, born between 1943 and 1960; post-Vatican II, born 1961 to 1981; and millennial Catholics, born after 1981. While those of the first three generations chose the Eucharist as their most meaningful sacrament, 43 percent of the millennial Catholics said marriage was the sacrament most meaningful to them. The survey of 1,007 self-identified adult Catholics was commissioned by the U.S. bishops’ Department of Communications and conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate at Georgetown University in Washington.

3.1 percentage points. The 178-page CARA report, titled “Sacrifices Today: Belief and Practice Among U.S. Catholics,” was made public April 13. It summarized responses to a wide range of questions about Catholics’ attitudes toward and participation in the Mass and the sacraments, their knowledge of the Catholic faith, their views on church leadership and teachings, and their experience with vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

PAPAL MASS TICKETS GET STUFFED

Diana M. Padilla, right, and Alexandra Bastien of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, N.Y., stuff tickets to Pope Benedict XVI’s Yankee Stadium Mass into envelopes April 10. More than 11,000 requests were received by the diocese and 1,000 tickets were distributed to lottery winners for the April 20 Mass.
**Year of celebration under way at Auburn parish**

AUBURN — immaculate Conception Parish, Auburn, is marking its golden jubilee of the current church and school a year of celebration. The parish invites all to join in the special jubilee activities.

Earlier this year, the parish created and erected several interior and exterior church banners, which proclaim the golden jubilee. Several parishioners submitted personally composed prayers from which an official Golden Jubilee Prayer was created. This prayer is being prayed at all weekend Masses throughout 2008 and has been made available to all parish members as a keepsake of the celebration.

Other projects undertaken include the following:

• A memory wall, containing historical photos and memorabilia, is being erected to link the past with the present. Parish members and friends are contributing artifacts to enhance the exhibit, which will be displayed in the parish hospitality room next to the church.

• Thirty-five historical pages will be compiled with a pictorial directory of current parish members and staff to create a unique commemorative album. Photos will be taken during the first two weeks of April and all church members are being encouraged to participate in this effort.

• Golden jubilee T-shirts and tote bags are being designed to express the Catholic pride of the parish. The items can be ordered in early May and are suitable for the family to wear to the jubilee picnic Sunday, Aug. 3.

• The jubilee parish mission with the theme “Sing a New Song Under the Lord” will be held May 18-22, at 7 p.m. each evening. Speakers include the following: Father Glenn Kohrman, Good Hope; Father Mark Gurtner, Our Lady of Good Hope, Fort Wayne; and Bishop John M. D’Arcy. The last night of the mission, Thursday, May 22, will feature a Christian family concert with Tatiana, an internationally acclaimed vocalist from Croatia. A freewill donation will be taken.

• Immaculate Conception Parish will conclude the golden jubilee year on Sept. 21, the actual date of the establishment of the church and school, with the rededication of the buildings and property, and the celebration of a special Mass for the parish, followed by a catered banquet in the parish hall.

For more information contact the parish office at (260) 925-3930, or e-mail at iacuburn@yahoo.com.

**Tree giveaway for Arbor Day on April 25 at USF**

FORT WAYNE — The University of St. Francis will conclude its Earth Day week with a free tree giveaway for Arbor Day on Friday, April 25, from 7:30-10 a.m. in front of Trinity Hall.

Fort Wayne Arborist’s Association will give away tulp trees, red bud trees and conifers on the drive in front of Trinity Hall. Free trees will be limited to three per person based on supply donated. In addition, there will be a tree planted on campus and free demonstrations on proper plant pruning.

**VIA GROUP HOSTS BASKETBALL PARTY**

The Youth In Action boys of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish had their annual NCAA basketball party on March 27. The Youth In Action are middle school aged boys. They host this event for the kindergartener through fourth-grade boys to share fun and fellowship. They are coached on how to host and role model their faith when in a sporting activity.

All participants attempt three different basketball skills, receive prizes, make crafts and eat snacks. Door prizes included some artwork, which reflects our Catholic faith. Pictured with the drawing is Billy Magda who chose a picture by artist Mary Hilger.

The new name and officers elected at Vincent Village

FORT WAYNE — What started as a small shelter serving homeless families, Vincent House, Inc., has grown into a neighborhood now called Vincent Village, Inc., where families are strengthened and children are nurtured. More than a house, Vincent Village provides shelter, services and affordable housing for 70-75 families a year.

The Vincent Village board of directors has elected the following officers for 2008: president, Marrian Welling, In House Counsel for Universal Casualty; president-elect, David Reed, Raymond James; treasurer, Jeff Tiner, CPA, Dulin, Ward & DeWald; secretary, Sue Swift.

The following board members were elected for a three-year term: Dr. Meg Wilson, University of St. Francis; Mike Rohrbach, local realtor and contractor; Vince LaBarbara, communications director, Diocese of Fort Wayne–South Bend; Carl Minick, Otto Bonahoom and Bruce Lehman have renewed their three-year terms.

Diocese disperses $221,469 to 12 needy parish projects

The Annual Bishop’s Appeal of the Diocese of Fort Wayne–South Bend includes a funding program to assist less affluent parishes. A Parishes-in-Need Fund Committee, appointed by Bishop John M. D’Arcy, met recently to review parish requests for “needy” projects. The committee recommended a total of $221,469 be granted to 12 parishes for essential projects, enabling them to arrive at a more stable existence.

“Obviously, we can’t meet every request submitted by the parishes,” said Father Robert C. Schulte, vicar general/chancellor of the diocese. “We have to consider the nature of each request in light of the total needs and financial resources of the parish as well as the other parishes in the diocese requesting funding assistance,” he continued. “If all or part of a request cannot be met, often the committee will recommend the parish apply to another fund of financial resource in the diocese or community, or seek other alternatives.”

Some funds usually remain in the account for use throughout the year by parishes when a new need arises, Father Schulte indicated. If all the money is not used in 2008, however, it will be carried over to next year. Parishes-in-Need fund, he explained.

“Hopefully, this money will strengthen these parishes financially, increase their outreach and improve their ability to do the work of Christ,” said Bishop D’Arcy.

This year’s allocation of Parishes-in-Need funds brings to $4,449,802 the amount granted from the Annual Bishop’s Appeal to parishes in need during the 21 years of the appeal. This year’s dispersion and the primary parish projects include:

- **Fort Wayne**
  - Most Precious Blood — $27,750 to replace roof on parish rectory
  - St. Henry — $1,570 for ParishSoft computer program expense
  - St. Therese — $19,895 to clean, prepare and paint school building exterior; and $2,500 to re-key interior and exterior doors in school, church and office building.

- **Fort Wayne area**
  - St. Joseph, Garrett — $10,000 to replace church storm windows
  - St. Aloysius, Yoder — $35,000 to replace roof on old part of school
  - **South Bend**
  - Holy Cross — $40,000 to replace school boiler
  - St. Mary Hungary — $15,000 to repair interior church walls
  - St. Adalbert — $24,087 for air conditioning of Heritage Center
  - St. Casimir — $18,756 to replace rectory roof
  - St. John the Baptist — $11,650 to replace windows in rectory-office building, and $1,061 to replace windows in school principal’s office
  - St. Joseph — $9,800 to replace ceiling and lighting in church basement

South Bend area

- St. Monica, Mishawaka — $2,000 to provide rectory with Internet access, and $1,500 to remove tree near playground.

Top 10 seniors announced at Bishop Luers

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School has announced its top 10 seniors. These students have not only worked diligently the last four years to maintain their impressive grade point average, but are an integral part of the spirit that makes up the Bishop Luers community. In alphabetical order, with their parish or school community, they are the following: Andrea Allbook, St. Therese; Joseph Crouch, St. John, Fort Wayne; Elizabeth Harrison, St. John, Fort Wayne; Amanda Lazzaro, Bluffton-Harrison; Janae Meyers, St. Louis, Besancon; Madison Pepe, St. John, New Haven; Elise Rorick, St. Jude; Michael Scher, SS. Peter and Paul, Huntington; Lindsay Shutt, St. Therese; and Bridgette Wyss, St. Aloysius, Yoder.

**Top 10 seniors**

- Andrea Allbook, St. Therese
- Joseph Crouch, St. John, Fort Wayne
- Elizabeth Harrison, St. John, Fort Wayne
- Amanda Lazzaro, Bluffton-Harrison
- Janae Meyers, St. Louis, Besancon
- Madison Pepe, St. John, New Haven
- Elise Rorick, St. Jude
- Michael Scher, SS. Peter and Paul, Huntington
- Lindsay Shutt, St. Therese
- Bridgette Wyss, St. Aloysius, Yoder

**Ludus and Saint Mary’s College graduate to speak at Earth Day address**

SOUTH BEND

Louise Weber, will give the Earth Day address at a campus wide meeting at Saint Mary’s College on April 22, in Carroll Hall at 7 p.m.

Weber is a 1983 graduate of Saint Mary’s College and currently the department head of environmental studies at Warren Wilson College near Asheville, N.C.

The college has a large working farm, forest and garden, all beneath the gentle, blue peaks of the highest of the Appalachians and some of the finest environmental studies in the nation.

Weber will speak on "environmental concerns of colleges, and hope for the environment." The meeting is open to the public and there is no admission charge.

The group will depart for the Saint John the Baptist School in Fort Wayne and is a 1978 graduate of Bishop Luers High School.

**Earth Day**

- **TOP 10 SENIORS ANNOUNCED AT BISHOP LuERS**
- **LOUISE WEBER**
- **SOUTH BEND**
- **LOUISE WEBER**
- **AROUND THE DiOCESE**
- **TRAVEL**
FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School staff and students are known for their spirit, a spirit that includes faith, respect and responsibility. One man, Jeff Bunn, is working to nurture that theme in his student athletes with a unique program called Strike Out Autism Around the World.

Bunn, whose passion for baseball had him playing throughout his school years and later coaching youth leagues and his own sons’ travel team, has been assistant baseball coach at Bishop Luers since 2002 and after working with the “young men who care about others and play baseball with a purpose” about the “right way” to live on and off the field, Bunn has been inspired to link his spirited baseball team with the broader community.

Following a speech given by a friend last year at a fundraiser for autism, Bunn felt moved to find a way to help children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and their families.

“I tell the boys, ‘We take so much for granted every day. Her (the speaker’s) son would love to one day do what we can do,’” he says.

After taking the inspired idea of a buddy system and fundraising for the autism supports in the area to his friend, a committee was formed that has been working diligently to make the program a reality. And Strike Out Autism Around the World was born.

According to Bunn, the purpose of Strike Out Autism is to create a buddy program in which the student athletes interact with area children challenged with ASD by engaging in classroom activities alongside them during the school day. The Bishop Luers athletes will each be matched with a student with ASD from Covington Elementary School and Children’s Autism Center each week to build relationships and have some fun.

The children and their families will be invited to each of the baseball games Bishop Luers plays with the hope that the athletes and students can interact, walk the bases together following the games and support other family members as well. The baseball team members plan to host a baseball clinic for the children sometime in April as well.

The program has the school’s support as well. Bishop Luers Principal Mary Keef er is “150 percent behind the program,” reports Bunn. Keef er feels the program holds promise, saying, “The chance for our young men to work with children who have autism is just ideal…. I’m eager for our young men to learn and grow from this experience.”

In addition to the buddy opportunities, the program hopes to generate funding for two local organizations to assist with scholarships for summer camps and therapies offered, by soliciting donations from local businesses and with pledge cards from each baseball player based on their performance per game.

The first organization, Children’s Autism Center (CAC), is a nonprofit outpatient therapy center, open year round, specializing in assessments and training for children on the Autism Spectrum using the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) model of treatment. Jill Forte, the center’s founder and director says, “I was very pleased that the Luers team would do this to benefit the center. We will use the funds to expand our social skills program. The boys will give our students great role models. That’s key.”

Autism Community Together of Northeast Indiana, Inc. (ACT) is a nonprofit advocacy group whose mission is to engage and support those who surround individuals with ASD. ACT supports a parent mentoring network, Web site, newsletters, camps and community-awareness seminars, and serves over 1,000 families each year.

Founder and director Pam Meissner says, “This will be a learning experience for these boys, an opportunity for awareness. It’s not about the money; it’s what it can do for the kids.”

Each of the 28 varsity and junior varsity baseball players at Bishop Luers, including Tyler, Bunn’s son, are enthusiastic about the program. “The boys are jumping at the idea. They are ready to go,” says Bunn. “The program began the first full week in April. Perfect timing as April is nationally known as Autism Awareness Month.

Luers athletes will also have the opportunity to volunteer at the summer camps as well as walk in the ACT sponsored Walk-to-Talk for Autism on May 17 at Lawton Park.

Bunn is grateful to be a part of the fund-raising efforts for the center and advocacy group, but says, “The real treasure in this is what we get between the athletes and the students. ... It’s all about the children.”

He adds with a tender smile, “To have our players get this gift from these kids, who truly are God’s children. ... And the rest of us get to be touched by this!”

Where this program will go is anyone’s guest says Bunn. His hope is that it will continue long after the baseball season is over. But for now he and his team are gearing up for a very special season. “Something has brought us together,” says the humble coach. “This is Luers spirit, another link in the chain of Luers spirit.” Batten up!
Young guitarist hopes to help others learn

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Cody Rice loves to play the guitar. “I can sit down for hours a day and play,” he recently told Today’s Catholic.

And this 13-year-old St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School seventh grader is inspired to share the joy he has found in playing guitar with other young people who visit the Euell A. Wilson Community Center in Fort Wayne.

Euell Wilson was a Bishop Dwenger High School student in the early 1990s. He was active in sports and died unexpectedly of adult SIDS. Soon after the funeral of this beloved student, friends started asking Wilson’s mother what could be done to keep Euell’s memory alive, and this Christian-based community center on Oxford Street was the result.

Rice is one of five students who plays guitar in a combo group that also play at school Masses at St. Joseph Church. Rice often leads the group. In the year and a half that Rice has been playing guitar, he has learned much from his mentors and teachers. Ken Jehle, music director at St. Joseph Parish, and Jon Swain, his music teacher.

“(Jehle) was the first one to teach me methods for guitar,” Rice said. “And a lot of it I (learn) by myself.”

Playing music at school Masses has taught Rice how to play with a group of musicians and has helped him become acquainted with the sound equipment. “I feel nervous sometimes,” Rice said, “but it feels really good” to be able to utilize his gifts and talents in a setting for Mass.

Rice, whose family belongs to St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne, chose the Euell Wilson Community Center because his mother’s brother was a friend of Euell Wilson. And Rice’s mother, Diane, was acquainted with the Wilson family.

He hopes to get enough electric guitars, equipment and accessories that could be used at the center to teach guitar to several young people. But he said, “at this point, I am hoping to just get a (single) guitar.”

Rice prefers the electric over the acoustic guitar “because the bodies are thinner, and easier for younger kids to play on,” he said. The donated guitars don’t necessarily have to be perfect.

“We have people who will help us get the guitars into shape,” Rice said. “Unless it is absolutely broken, it should not matter what shape it is in that much.” Rice is doing his part of the setup by offering to change the strings.

Sweetwater Sound, a major national music merchandiser in Fort Wayne, has offered to help set up the guitars and get the guitars playable for Rice’s project.

Rice is also seeking electric guitar accessories — amps, cables, picks, tuners, sound effects, etc. He added to the wish list a recorder. “If (those learning to play guitar) can record (their music) at certain points, to realize how much they are improving and visualize it, I think that would help them... to stay committed.”

Rice plans to teach guitar lessons at the Euell Wilson Center in group sessions.

As far as instructional materials, “all kinds would be good,” he said. Tablature allows a beginner guitar to “pick it up right away. And I would like them to read music at the same time,” he said. Rice also likes instructional DVDs that break down the lessons at a slower pace.

Rice envisions young people coming into the center, being able to select a guitar they desire, “...and I (will) tell them how the notes on the frets work.”

Contact Rice at (260) 437-1623 if interested in donating a guitar or equipment. Rice will make arrangements for pick up.

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In this global economy and this global world how can we not respect the earth and each other?

Care of environment
common theme
for Pope Benedict

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The obligation to care for the environment and protect the earth as the “common home” of all humanity is a theme that increasingly is found in the teaching of Pope Benedict XVI, his spokesman said.

Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi told Vatican Radio that ecology “is an argument which comes up with more frequency in the words of the pope, mirroring the growing ecological concerns of humanity.”

Father Lombardi spoke to the radio Jan. 5, explaining why concern for the environment was one of the major themes in Pope Benedict’s message for the Jan. 1 celebration of World Peace Day.

Father Lombardi told the radio, “Until recently, the theme of the environment seemed like a concern of the rich rather than the poor, of developed countries rather than developing nations for whom economic growth is an absolute priority. To regulate and limit this growth seemed like a luxury, a way of keeping the weak subjugated.”

Now, however, people are realizing that ecological exploitation and destruction worsens the effects of natural disasters and mortgages the future of the poorest countries, he said.

Pope Benedict’s approach, Father Lombardi said, is “a strong moral appeal to solidarity on the basis of a recognition of the universal destination of the goods of creation, which belong also to the poor and to future generations.”

“Knowing we are created by God makes us responsible before him and before others, but it is also with the hard work of reason and dialogue that we must find feasible paths for the future of the human family in this, our common home,” Father Lombardi said.

In his World Peace Day message, the pope wrote, “We need to care for the environment: It has been entrusted to men and women to be protected and cultivated with responsible freedom, with the good of all as a constant guiding criterion.

“The problems looming on the horizon are complex and time is short,” the pope said, suggesting that new international agencies may be needed to help promote and coordinate global efforts to halt the pollution and destruction of the environment.

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Families can find ways to make homes environmentally friendly

BY MICHICLLE DONAGHEY

MISHAWAKA — The Monhaut family, co-owners of Peace Paws in Mishawaka is on the journey of becoming a very environmentally conscious family. The Monhauts, which include husband and wife, Bill and Ann, and children Joe, Regina, Andrew and Ann do several things at home, they hope will make a difference in saving the environment, notes Ann.

“We have more recycling items that we do trash for pick up. We’ve trained the kids to take the inside recycling bin and fill the three large plastic dumpsters full of recyclables,” says Ann. The family has also started using “the big curly Q light bulbs (compact fluorescent) replacing them whenever a light bulb burns out in a room.

Drying clothes is done in a high efficiency dryer so “we don’t have to dry as long” and their water heater is turned down to a lower temperature to save energy and also “because we have got young kids in the house,” adds Ann. (The youngest child is 3 1/2 years old while the oldest is in eighth grade.)

“We save all our banana peels, potato peels, food the kids will not eat, etc. and put it in an ice cream bucket,” Ann says. “The kids love to go to the backyard and throw this over our garden fence. In the spring, we till it under for fertilizer. Bill also plants wheat in our garden as a cover crop that is also plowed under, he calls it green fertilizer. This way we treat the land better and preserve its fertility.

As a typical young family, they do use their car, but Ann says that the family makes an effort to not use it as much as they used to. “We do multiple things in one trip. It’s important to us, so we do what we can,” adds Ann who has not been driving at all lately due to medical problems.

While it may seem that these are little things if everyone pitched in as the Monhauts, our world will be “greener” for everyone.

Besides regular recycling, buying CFL light bulbs, high efficiency appliances with the Energy Star logo and turning down the water heater temperature, there are many easy things that families can do to “go green” everyday.

Think refillable, washable

Use refillable items and washable dish ware to try to keep down the trash. Instead of getting a Styrofoam cup from your local coffee shop, bring along your own refillable mug and ask them to fill it with the same amount of coffee. Don’t use paper plates, napkins and plastic ware, but instead, opt to wash.

Don’t go paper or plastic

Instead of opting for paper or plastic at the store, purchase some inexpensive cloth or mesh bags or make your own. Be sure to store them in your car. If you can’t seem to get rid of the plastic bags, take a few along inside your reusable bags and reuse them. Don’t throw them away when they are not usable anymore, but find a recycle location that will take them.

Break the plastic habit

Plastic is one of the worst items that are filling up landfills. Do not use plastic bottles, but be sure to recycle. Plastic is now being used in several things that you can buy — be on the lookout.

Make your own cleaners

One of the best cleaning solutions that is good for the environment is vinegar. You can use it to clean your windows, counters and bathrooms.

Carpool or walk

Sharing a ride is one of the most efficient ways to cut down on emissions. If you don’t live that far from work, walk when you can.

Buy in bulk

Instead of opting for many packages of smaller items at the store, try to buy them in bulk from bins whenever possible or buy a large bag and sort into reusable containers at home.

Creative ways to recycle

Many items around the house that we might use once and throw away can be recycled or reused for other purposes. For example:

• Cut up this year’s Christmas cards and use those to make next year’s gift tags.
• Styrofoam egg cartons are excellent for sorting and storing small items such as beads or buttons. If you are a gardener, they are great for sorting and storing seeds. Styrofoam peanuts can be used in place of rocks in flower pots for drainage.
• Use alternative gift wrapping rather than paper and ribbon that is used once and thrown away. You can be extremely creative with this, use newspaper comics, magazines, fabric or any kind of colored paper.
• Old newspaper has many uses in the garden. Use it as a weed block when starting new flower beds. It can also be shreded and put in the compost bin.

Easy switches to be “green friendly”

• Use reusable containers instead of plastic bags for bagged lunches.
• Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs.
• When buying toys, look for FSC — certified wood ones. Stay away from PVC’s.
• Look for natural cotton and wool for clothing.
• Instead of tossing something out, consider Freecycle, www.freecycle.org/ or give to charity.
• Instead of individual bottled drinks, use a reusable drink bottle and refill.
• Instead of driving your car everywhere, use your legs, bike or bus.
• Use around four tablespoons lemon juice, 2 tablespoons olive oil and 3-4 tablespoons water instead of store bought as furni
ture cleaner.
• Homemade toothpaste can be made from 4 teaspoons baking soda, 1 teaspoon salt, a few drops of flavoring extract if you like. Mix all well and keep the mixture in an airtight container.
• Buy a reusable travel coffee mug and always use it instead of disposable ones that are provided at your local coffee stop location.
• Use castor or mineral oils to lubricate switches and hinges instead of lubricants containing solvents.
• Add white vinegar to the...
**Parishes and school communities going ‘green’**

**FORT WAYNE —** One may be surprised how parishioners, parish schools and churches in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are beginning to connect environmental stewardship with a faith perspective. Here are a few samples and some ideas that can benefit the community.

### Going geothermal

Harvesting geothermal energy is a relatively new trend in green living and Larry and Michelle Heckber are not shy about exploring it.

In August of 2006, the longtime parishioners of St. Aloysius, Yoder, bought 80 acres next to the proposed 60-acre Archbold Wilson Memorial Park in Ossian — the future site of a geothermal subdivision.

Heckber said his interest in green practices was peaked when he read a few articles about WaterFurnace’s geothermal product. WaterFurnace has a manufacturing facility in Fort Wayne.

“We started talking to them and we felt we could be tied in with them,” he said about the relation.

Once completed, The Bridges geothermal subdivision is a four-phase project. His vision for the first phase of the project consists of 23 traditional homes and 25 villas, all utilizing geothermal energy.

Heckber said that so far 20 percent of the lots have been sold. Phase one of the project is nearing completion, although Heckber said he “still has a lot of grass to plant.”

The Hecks are partners in the venture with their daughter and son-in-law, Melissa and Kirby Sink.

### ‘Green’ education

“Go green” has a double meaning for John and Pamela Steinbach. The couple has developed a model for nonprofits to earn money, while promoting environmentalism.

The founders of the local environmental organization, Grassroots Green, have designed a “Green Living Guide” to sustainable living with the intention of enhancing life, benefiting and educating people.

The guide consists of feature stories and photographs and coupons that encourage the purchase of environmentally friendly products and services.

### Rethinking ‘green’

The University of Saint Francis has caught the green bug. The university will accept outdated or broken electronics at the North Campus, 2702 Spring St., Saturday, April 19, from 9 a.m. and running until the semitrailer is full or until 3 p.m. All Fort Wayne residents are invited to participate. Recycling is free, but cash donations will be accepted to offset recycling costs. One “carload” per person will be accepted. This event is cosponsored by Recycle Force of Indianapolis and Action Environmental Inc. of Fort Wayne.

USF students in the Advanced Environmental Science class worked to develop a curriculum of environmental awareness and stewardship the Franciscan way. April 19, from 9 to 11 a.m., third to fifth-grade children and their families are invited to the forest, 2702 Spring St., for hands-on, field lessons about ecology.

The school announced it will conclude its Earth Week celebrations with a tree giveaway from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Arbor Day, April 25. Fort Wayne’s Arborist Association will give away tulip trees, red bud trees and a couple of blue daffodil trees in front of Trinity Hall. Free trees will be limited to three per person, based on supply donated. In addition, there will be a tree planted on campus and free demonstrations on proper pruning.

For more information, contact Jim Laughlin at (260) 434-7439.
Recycling waste paper means money for Catholic schools and parishes!

At St. Patrick parish, Arcola, parishioners fill five 90+ gallon Totes each week with newspapers. Father Cyril Fernandes endorses the recycling program as good stewardship and as a cooperative method of conserving resources. He also appreciates the financial return which supports parish activities.

At Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, seniors Joe Ladowski (left) and Matt Brown are active in the Social Justice Club and assist in recycling efforts. The school’s waste paper fills 8 to 9 Totes per week, the money from which supports charities of the Social Justice Club.

To earn dollars for your parish or school, contact PAPERWORK in Fort Wayne at (260) 969-0280. Paperworx collects waste paper within a 50 mile radius of Fort Wayne.

CRS would like to recognize their customers that make the effort to focus on sustainability of the Fort Wayne area by actively recycling materials used in new home construction sites; Cardboard, drywall, paper, plastic, shingles, vinyl and wood. Through the systematic efforts of the firms shown here, more than 20,000 tons of jobsite waste has been diverted from local landfill!

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- Bartlett Inc.
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- E & B Paving
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- Grabill Painting and Drywall
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- Habitat for Humanity
- Henny Builders
- Hoepner Construction
- Heritage Food Equipment
- Hoosier Park LP
- Instant Copy
- K & S Pallets
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- The Garrison Company
- Transformations
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- Unique Lamp
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Saint Isaac Jogues Garden Crypt

**Pre-Dedication Special**

$250 off crypt space

The Saint Isaac Jogues Garden Crypt (above-ground entombment) is scheduled for dedication in 2008. Pre-arrange your entombment before dedication and receive a $250.00 discount per crypt.

In addition to garden crypts, the Catholic Cemetery has many other burial options available including in-ground burial lots, cremation niche columbariums and mausoleum entombment spaces.

**Call Larry Fisher at 260.426.2044 for an appointment or visit the Cemetery Office at 3500 Lake Avenue from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.**

Promotion ends June 30, 2008.

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**Through contacts, past trips, pope has finger on pulse of U.S. church**

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — When Pope Benedict XVI visits the United States this week, he will not be stepping into the unknown. Through his many personal contacts with American church leaders and papal diplomats, his past trips to the U.S. and his ability to remember much of what he hears and reads, Pope Benedict has his finger firmly on the pulse of the church in the United States.

Bishops from around the world coming to Rome consistently have expressed awe and admiration for the pope’s remarkable depth of knowledge, his familiarity with everyday events worldwide, and his recollection of minute or even obscure facts and past events.

“He has always been amazingly well-informed on the U.S.,” said U.S. Jesuit Father Joseph Fessio, who studied under the future pope in the 1970s.

Father Fessio, founder and editor of Ignatius Press, said that every time he met with then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger during annual meetings of the directors of Casa Balthasar — a Rome-based center that aids priestly discernment and study — he would always find him extremely aware.

During those meetings “I would generally have two or three items I wanted to bring to his attention. He almost always was already aware of what I spoke about,” Father Fessio said in a recent e-mail response to questions from Catholic News Service.

“In a way, the pope’s long stint at the Vatican’s Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith was the perfect place to become well-versed in the situations and challenges the Catholic Church faces in the United States. The congregation has weekly meetings with experts on current prominent topics — such as advances in medicine, writing reports from the world’s bishops,” Washington Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl said.

“With his finger on the bishop’s pulse, the pope has a good idea of what we are doing and thinking in the United States.”

In a recent phone interview with CNS, he recalled that in January 2005 he had to visit the Vatican’s doctrinal congregation for a project on which he was working.

Cardinal Ratzinger was elected pope just a few months later, and that May Archbishop Wuerl returned to Rome and greeted the pope at the end of a Wednesday general audience.

“When I went up to greet him, he said, ‘Have you completed that project?’ I thought to myself: How would he even remember, with all the things on his desk right now, as pope, this little project of mine?’” the archbishop said.

Despite this ability to recall surprising amounts of minutiae, Pope Benedict does not get bogged down in the details, the Washington archbishop said.

“The pope ‘strikes me as a person far more aware of the bigger picture,’” he said.

Collaborators, both past and present, who have worked alongside the pope are also quick to point out the pope’s gigabyte memory bank.

“He has an amazing power of retention. He reads an enormous amount. Still, I don’t know how he does it,” said Father Fessio.

As head of the doctrinal congregation and as pontiff, Pope Benedict has always had Americans on his staff. For instance, U.S. Archbishop James Harvey is one of his private secretaries, and his former San Francisco archbishop, Cardinal William J. Levada, is now head of the Vatican’s doctrinal congregation.

People who know Pope Benedict say he is a good listener.

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and accessible, and it made meet-
ing with him as head of the doc-
tinal congregation a positive ex-
perience.

“Not only was he present, as
opposed to having just someone
from the office meet (us), but he
would listen, he would respond to
questions, and he would seem to
already have considerable knowl-
edge of whatever the issues we
brought to discuss,” said
Archbishop Wuerl.

He said bishops’ group talks
with Cardinal Ratzinger began
with a prayer and with him ask-
ing participants what their issues
and concerns were “rather than
give a talk to us first.”

“He didn’t come to the meet-
ing with an already formed vision
of what was happening. He lis-
tened, and he responded across
the board,” the archbishop said.

The pope’s ability to see
things from so many points of
view is also a sign of his having
“a very wide vision” and sources
of information that “were of con-
siderable breadth,” the
Washington archbishop said.

Pope Benedict’s movements
and schedule are much more
restricted now that he is the pon-
tiff, but he also has access to a
whole new network of informa-
tion.

Staffers at the Vatican’s
Secretariat of State and Vatican
representatives in the United
States — the papal nuncio,
Archbishop Pietro Sambi, in
Washington and Archbishop
Celestino Migliore, the Vatican’s
observer at the United Nations in
New York — act as an informa-
tion clearinghouse, keeping the

American View
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Holy Cross Village’s Andre Place

- Blood Pressure
- Balance Testing
- Total Blood Sugar
- Grip Strength
- Cholesterol Screening
- Walking/shoe presentations as well as chair
massages conducted by Memorial Health and
Lifestyle
- Pharmacists available all day to answer questions

11 a.m. & 1 p.m. Healthy cooking
demonstrations
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Tours of our beautiful
senior living community.

Holy Cross Village
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Back Pain?  
Fort Wayne, IN: According to a recently released back pain relief report, most back pain sufferers have no idea how to eliminate their pain. Some use heat, others ice. From sleeping on the floor to pillows underneath the legs, back pain relief techniques vary. But thanks to a free report, local back pain sufferers finally know exactly what to do.
To get a copy of the free “Back Pain Relief Report”, call toll-free 1-800-288-9491 (Toll-Free recorded message)
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550 Per Ticket
Only 3500 tickets to be sold
Grand Prize up to $25,000*

Entries must be received by Catholic Charities not later than June 4, 2008 to be considered eligible for the drawing.
Drawing to be held on June 5, 2008
Return this form with check or money order to:
Catholic Charities
1817 Miami St. South Bend, IN 46613
or call 1-800-686-3112 or 574-234-3111
to purchase a ticket with a major credit card.
License # 112991
*Prize amount may be proportionately reduced if less than 3500 tickets are sold.
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Phone: (260) 496-4700 • Fax: (260) 496-4702
www.bishopdwenger.com

Summer Camps

Boys Summer Basketball League
for current Grades 5-8
Required informational meeting on June 2nd at 6 p.m., with games played between 12/15 - 3:00 p.m. on June 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, and 26.
Cost: $40, includes game shirt
Contact: Coach Matt Noffke, (260) 489-6613

Football Skills Development Camp
for current Grades 5-8
June 2-5, from 9:30 - 7:00 p.m.
Cost: $40, additional campers $30, includes shirt
Contact: Coach Chris Svarczkopf, (260) 496-4718

Volleyball Camp for incoming Grades 4-9
June 2-6
Grades 4-7, 4:53-10 p.m. and Grades 8-9, 5:30-7 p.m.
Cost: $40, includes camp shirt
Contact: Coach John Minnick, (260) 459-3162

Saints Basketball School for current Grades K-8
Session 1: June 9-12 • Session 2: July 7-11
Cost: $40, includes camp shirt
Contact: Coach Dave Scudder, (260) 496-4700 x336

Future Saints Boys Soccer Camp
for incoming Grades 5-8
June 9-12, from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Location: Hefner Soccer Fields on California Road
Cost: $30, includes camp shirt
Contact: Coach Mike Khoshal, (260) 483-0800

Boys Heart and Soul Wrestling Camp
for current Grades 1-12
June 9-12, from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Cost: $100 (reduced group rates available), shirt incl.
Contact: Coach John Bennett, (260) 486-5805

Dance Team Camp for incoming Grades K-8
June 16-20, from 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.
Cost: $40 ($45 at the door), includes camp shirt
Contact: Coach Haley Wood, (260) 433-2306

Cheerleading Camp for incoming Grades K-5
July 26 - August 1, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Cost: $50, includes outfit ($30 w/o outfit)
Contact: Coach Amy Gonczagowski, (260) 496-4700

Squad Stunt & Cheer Camp for incoming Grades 6-8
July 26 - August 1, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Cost: $50, $30 extra for outfit or one piece for $15
Contact: Coach Amy Gonczagowski, (260) 496-4700

All camps are held at BHIS unless otherwise noted. Additional Information and forms are available on the website at www.bishopdwenger.com, and in the front office of the school. Please check the website regularly for changes and cancellations. Thanks!

Summer School
Session 1 runs from June 9-27, and Session 2 from July 7-25. Classes meet from 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; students must attend every class in order to receive credit. The cost is $260. Class information and registration forms are available on our website under the Guests/Summer School link.

Driver’s Education
Session 1 runs June 2-13, and Session 2 from June 16-27. Classes meet from 9:40 a.m. - 12:40 p.m., or 4:30-7:30 p.m. Students must turn 15 before the last day of class to enroll. Cost is $325. Classes fill up fast so enroll as soon as possible! Applications are on our website under the Guests/Driver’s Education link.

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Building the Domestic Church Through God, Family and Love
May 17-18, 2008
Kokomo High School - 2501 S. Berkey Road, Kokomo, Indiana

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Registration Fees before April 27, 2008
Single Adult: $50          H.S. Youth: $30
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Dr. Ray Guarendi
Reverend Peter Laird
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*Prize amount may be proportionately reduced if less than 3500 tickets are sold.
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Zip Code: Phone:

www.bishopdwenger.com
**Reflections on the papal visit to the U.S.**

**BY BISHOP JOHN M. D’ARCY**

**Pope Benedict XVI,** the successor of St. Peter, is coming to our nation’s capital and to the great city of New York, “the capitol of the world,” as Pope John Paul II called it. I thought it might be helpful to reflect on a few points about him, discovered mostly from the media but also through conversations during the time when each bishop makes to Rome, to the Apostolic See of Peter every five years. These are called visits “ad limina” — “apostolorum,” to the tombs of the apostles. This approach is by any standards a commendable and acceptable theologian. Before becoming pope, he had written over 50 books, many of them published in this country by Ignatius Press. Most recently, he has completed “Jesus of Nazareth” — the first of two volumes, which he calls, “my personal search for the face of Christ.” I first came to know the depths and originality of his thinking when I was teaching a course in spiritual theology to candidates for the priestly formation at St. John’s Seminary in Boston in the early 1970s after returning from doctoral studies in Rome. I was teaching a course entitled “The Life of Faith and Spirituality of the Priest.” I discovered a recently published work entitled, “Introduction to Christianity.” It came out of a series of lectures which Father Ratzinger had given in the summer of 1967, at the historic German University of Tübingen. In the opening chapter of the book, this young theologian showed a remarkable understanding of the difficulties which modern man experiences in a life of faith. I find this to be a characteristic of this pope. Because of his great knowledge of philosophy as well as contemporary theology and art, he is able to get inside the heart of the person struggling to be open to the gift of faith. He writes, “Just as the believer knows himself to be constantly threatened by unbelief, which he must experience as a continual temptation, so for the unbeliever faith remains a mystery and a threat to his apparently closed world.” — “Introduction to Christianity.”

Cardinal Ratzinger cites St. Therese of Lisieux, the Little Flower, and notes that although she grew up in a time in which the signs of faith were everywhere, she experienced in her last years the great sense of distance and distance from God.

**A man not given to the superficial answer**

I also found that at time two articles translated from German on the life of the priest. There was a time, shortly after the Second Vatican Council, when there was much controversy over the nature of the priest, especially in light of the emphasis on the Second Vatican Council on the call of every baptized to participate more fully in the work of the church.

Joseph Ratzinger chose to go deeper, rooting the vocation of those holding office in the church in the person and the priest — in the call of Christ to the apostles. Thus he writes, “This office (priest or bishop) rests on the existential posture of the servant who has learned how to allot second place to his own will in favor of the will of another. It is the duty of the servant to be the bearer of this office that he stand in the service of another’s will.” — “Presbytery Ministry: A Search for Its Meaning,” Emmanuel, May 1980, page 254).

This resistance to the superficial is shown in a talk he gave in his early days as pope. While explaining that he had refused to place it in context of availability. This, he says, diminishes the vocation of marriage. Rather, he drew an analogy from the Levites, the priestly family of the Old Testament. Unlike the other families of the Old Testament family, the Levites were not to be “private,” he said. The Lord’s approach calls priests to a much deeper spirituality than mere availability.

**Precious gift**

Happy Easter to all. I wonder how each of you celebrated the greatest day of the Christian faith? I had the privilege of celebrating Easter Vigil at our Cincinnati Hispanic parish of San Carlo Borromeo. It was a pull-out-all-the-stops liturgy with the lighting of the Easter fire, a resurrection fire, and a beautiful Mass during which 25 people received baptism and/or holy Eucharist and confirmation. I prayed for each one and wanted what was like for them on their journey to being a full member of the Catholic Church.

In Chad, Africa, where I was missioned for 12 years, the preparation time is taken very seriously, a process lasting four years. The catechumenate in Chad is not just catechesis; it’s an unrushed journey to discover who we are, where we’re going, and how to begin the encounters with him in daily life. Three times a week for those four years, the catechumens gather in celebration place of the community and listen to the candidate talking and teaching about God and his Son Jesus Christ, about the Holy Spirit and the church, about life lived with God who walks side by side with each of his children.

At the end of the first year, there’s a celebration of the small group with the names of the people asking for baptism are written in the book of the catechumens. At the end of the second year, each catechumen is presented with a special rosary. At the end of the third year, there’s another celebration where the names are written in the book of the elect who will receive baptism the following Easter.

During the year preceding their baptism, the newly elected meet once a month for a day-long retreat where they share their experiences of and learn more about this Jesus so new in their lives.

On Palm Sunday, hundreds gather for a week-long retreat that serves as the final formation session before the sacraments of initiation are administered. During this time, I would meet individually with each person in the presence of the Christian community presenting them for baptism. Once again, I would ask them if they really want to be baptized. I have heard the most beautiful expressions of faith in these meetings with the newly catechumens.

I remember Rosalie and Nدورum, parents of eight children, and married for so many rainy seasons they couldn’t count them. They went back in their life together to recount for the presence of God through the years and how he had accompanied them. They hadn’t known it at the time, but now they saw it as a absolutely crucial and a great sense of distance and distance from God.

When it came time for me to leave Doba, of course I said yes, but my curiosity prompted me to ask why they wanted to go with me. Rosalie said, “Father, God has given you to us, and now he is calling you somewhere else. We are sad, but we know that right now other people need you. We just want to talk to the world of the other parish and tell them to be good to you because you belong to us. You are one of us.”

Rosalie understood the most important thing of all: meeting Jesus Christ is opening oneself to his love and answering the call to share him with others. I had no more words to speak to Rosalie. She was now my catechist teaching me the deepest meaning of my Christian faith.
The healing gift of tears

B
ef, a young mother who
suffered from leukemia, sat weeping as she told the story of little Alex’s
glory to struggle to live. “I’m so sorry,” she said. “I just can’t seem to control these tears.”

Any one of us who has experi-
experienced loss knows there is no apol-
gogy necessary for this honest
expression of the pain she bears
deep within her heart.

I believe tears are a wondrous gift from our creator God. I have experienced my own uncontroll-
able torrent of tears, sometimes in stormy bursts or qui-

citely like a south spring rain. They can be healing and frightening at the
same time. Healing because they release the torrent of our souls, frightening because they sometimes

come unheeded and unwelcome by ourselves and oth-
er.

Like Beth, many of us realize
how uncomfortable others are in our
pain. Perhaps we grew up learning through family and socia-
tal teaching that tears are a sign of weakness. Men in particular may
recall the dishonorizing unrealistic:
“Big boys don’t cry.”

As if to deny themselves the fulfill-
ment of themselves, they denied the
cry, a young mother who
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“Big boys don’t cry.”

As if to deny themselves the fulfill-
ment of themselves, they denied the

cry, a young mother who
suffered from leukemia, sat weeping as she told the story of little Alex’s
glory to struggle to live. “I’m so sorry,” she said. “I just can’t seem to control these tears.”

Any one of us who has experi-
experienced loss knows there is no apol-
gogy necessary for this honest
expression of the pain she bears
deep within her heart.

I believe tears are a wondrous gift from our creator God. I have experienced my own uncontroll-
able torrent of tears, sometimes in stormy bursts or qui-

citely like a south spring rain. They can be healing and frightening at the
same time. Healing because they release the torrent of our souls, frightening because they sometimes

come unheeded and unwelcome by ourselves and oth-
er.

Like Beth, many of us realize
how uncomfortable others are in our
pain. Perhaps we grew up learning through family and socia-
tal teaching that tears are a sign of weakness. Men in particular may
recall the dishonorizing unrealistic:
“Big boys don’t cry.”

As if to deny themselves the fulfill-
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We draw ourselves into community

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

5th Sunday of Easter
Jn 14:1-12

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The Acts of the Apostles once more is the source of the first

reading. The early chapters of Acts marvelously reveal to us the

birth of the first Christian community.

The apostles led the communi-

y, as Jews at the time called foreigners.

Thus, nationalities mixed. So, Acts

refers to Jews, but also to “Greek,”

where the apostles are deacons. It was an exer-

cise in their task was to teach the Gospel.

Instead, they chose seven holy

men to be deacons. It was an exer-

cise in their task was to teach the Gospel.

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Town cursed by Jesus refused to repent of their sins

What was important about Chorazin, the town that Jesus cursed?Anonymous

Jesus was upset about the town of Chorazin because he had worked a miracle there and the people did not repent of their sins. So Jesus cursed the town: "It will go down to Gehenna, and it will be remembered no more by men." If the miracles had taken place in Tyre and Sidon (in ancient Phoenicia or modern Lebanon), they would have been revered in black-clotk and ashes long ago. It will go easier for Tyre and Sidon than for you because you did not repent." Jesus also cursed the towns of Bethsaida and Capernaum for the same reason. And Jesus even cursed Chorazin, saying, "Lest Tyre and Sidon might be exonerated more than you!"

The town of Chorazin continued to exist from the seventh to the ninth centuries and was then abandoned and destroyed. In the 12th to the 13th centuries, a small settlement was established. The synagogue at Chorazin, says J. Finegan, is on the main road facing south towards the Sea of Galilee. The current synagogue is a large public building with a ritual bath and a cistern. East of the synagogue is a large public building with two systems of drains. The best preserved buildings are from the 12th to the 13th centuries. Here a number of olive presses have survived. Olives were spread on mats and used a few more stolen bases.

Where have all the heroes gone?

When I was a kid back in the 1960s and early ’70s, athletes didn’t seem real to me. Basketball players such as Pete Maravich and baseball players like Hank Aaron were mythical figures. You would read about them, occasionally see pictures of them in magazines, and perhaps catch them on TV, particularly if you were fortunate enough to be in range of a TV out of Chicago. But someone like Maravich, who scored points in unfathomable proportions but was seldom seen, was in a different league than the “local” athletes like the cheerleaders and newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is the editor of “Prayer Book for Widows,” Our Catholic Register and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author and writer for Today’s Catholic newspaper.
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**CYO opens softball season**

**BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN**

FORT WAYNE — In an exciting opener of the 2008 Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) softball season, the girls from St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth came up a run short against St. Jude on a sunny afternoon, April 8. The Lady Eagles scored three runs late in the game making the final score 11-10. St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth coach Monica Zwick was pleased with her team’s performance in their first outing.

“The girls led much of the game and played well,” she said. Schray Hammock and Julia Hayes both hit doubles in the loss.

This year’s roster for St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth is 20 deep and includes two eighth graders, five seventh graders, and 13 fifth and sixth grade players. Of the 20, two members are fielded from St. Therese and two from St. John, Fort Wayne.

**CYO softball, track and soccer coaches are encouraged to send spring scores to mmcastleman@aol.com.**

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**HOLY CROSS COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HOSTS GOLF OUTING**

The Holy Cross College Golf Outing, with proceeds benefiting the Holy Cross College Alumni Association, will be held on Friday, April 18, at Knollwood Country Club in Granger. Registration and lunch will begin at noon with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. There will be an awards ceremony along with a tailgate-style get together featuring appetizers and a cash bar. Prizes will include two opportunities at $25,000 for a hole in one along with longest drive, closest to the pin and more. Registration is $100 for an individual and $400 for a team. Register at www.holycrossgolfouting.org or by contacting Craig Horvath at (574) 239-8368.

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**DANISH VOLUNTEERS ALLOW STRUGGLING FARMERS TO KEEP THEIR CATTLE**

By Debra Grosvenor

The Danish decided to spend their summer months helping farmers in the area, the group will be returning to America.

---

**Holy Cross College hires Phillip O’Connell as head hockey coach**

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross College is proud to announce the addition of Phillip O’Connell to its athletic staff. O’Connell has just been hired as the college’s head hockey coach.

O’Connell has been playing hockey since he was four years old in Lansing, Mich. He played in several junior leagues as goalie and began to coach children’s leagues while still in high school. He was the assistant hockey coach at Marian High School for four years and then established a high school league for Lakeshore/St. Joseph in Michigan. He has served as the head coach of this league for the past two years. He was contacted by Nathan Walker, athletic director at Holy Cross College, and Greg Moela, former head coach.

“It is exciting to bring Phil O’Connell in to coach our hockey team. He is committed to developing both the hockey program and the student-athlete. I am confident that we will be successful in the classroom and on the ice,” says Walker.

---

**DIREC T OR - Catholic Charities**

Catholic Charities of Northwest Indiana is currently taking resumes for the position of Executive Director. Must possess working knowledge of the social teachings of the Catholic Church and have experience in providing oversight of programs and service of a charitable agency. Must have a graduate degree in Human Service/Mental Health or a related field. Resumes should be c/o Catholic Charities of Northwest Indiana, 600 South Broadway in Merrillville, IN 46410. Search Committee.

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**TODAY’S CATHOLIC**

April 20, 2008

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The earth is God’s gift to all

SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

I
t doesn’t take a rocket scientist to look around and see how poorly many human beings treat the earth and her many gifts. When I was still living at home, my mother would always tell us not to run the water needlessly or to turn off the lights when we left a room. At that time I thought she was just nagging. Now I see that she was probably the first environmentalist I ever met.

The growing violence in the world is disturbing. Who of us is not saddened when we hear of cold-blooded killings or witness the devastation of so many people because of senseless wars? On the other hand, I wonder how many of us reflect on the violence that dehumanizes? That millions of people go to bed hungry every day, some in our own country, and many die daily while we erect buildings on farmland that could be used to grow enough food to feed the world.

Our economy today has its problems, but we still have been blessed with much more than that we have brothers and sisters around the world. This abundance is not our entitlement. We have an obligation to share it with those in need around the world.

I spent social studies as a young sister and often used an exercise to get across to the students the reality of the world situation as far as consumption of goods is concerned. I would get some great food and 5 percent of the class would be given 60 percent and the rest would have to share the remaining 40 percent. Of course there would be a lot of griping and cries that it was unfair. The exercise usually made the point. Sadly, many years later we still have this inequity.

Yes, it was and is unfair and unjust that a small part of the world has access to the majority of the earth’s resources while millions live in poverty. We are surrounded with consumerism and materialism while others do not have their basic human needs met. Some of us also live like these resources will never run out. What about future generations? What is our obligation to them?

All of this can be overwhelming and we can be at a loss as to where to start to address the reality of the situation. Most of us are inclined to think, “What could I possibly do about it?” On the contrary, I think we all can do something. Maybe it is as little as not letting the water run while brushing our teeth, remembering the millions of people who have no access to clean water. We can be conscious of the life of trees by using paper instead of paper plates or taking the effort to recycle all our papers and magazines.

We can do our bit to slow down global warming by carpooling and watching our use of electricity. There are many other examples.

We all can do something. This Easter season is a good time to move out of our comfort zones and think of others more, including Mother Earth. Remember that God gave all humans the earth and told us to take care of it. How are you doing on that score? How do you use or abuse God’s many gifts?

And the next time you buy a new cell phone or computer think about what happens to the old one.

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

Don’t let your résumé become your identity

I
arried at the career fair with high hopes, 20 résumés and dozens of story ideas turning in my mind. I had prepared meticulously, ironing my suit, straightening my hair, trying everything into submission. I had memorized the morning’s news, donned my glasses for a scholastic effect and applied a dab of lip gloss. I was set.

The recruiters quickly lowered my lofty expectations. The heavy hitters weren’t exactly interested. Neither were the middle-of-the-roaders. The warmest reception I got from the editor of a teen-sy-tiny paper offering a yearlong internship for meager pay and no benefits. Is that all I’m worth? I wondered as I filed into a long line.

Finally my turn came to talk to the recruiter of a bi-time paper where I had applied for an internship. My application had arrived with that much-hyped distinction, the recommendation of a staff member, and I was eager to follow up with an in-person introduction.

The recruiter spent less time reading my résumé than it had taken to print, proceeding to point out everything it lacked. “Come back in 10 years,” she growled. The job hunt can be a rude awakening to young adults with super-supportive parents and super-expensive degrees. Not only are many head hunters hostile, so is much of the job-searching advice.

“Your present résumé is probably much more inadequate than you now realize,” cautions one Web site. “A job often attracts between 100 and 1,000 résumés these days, so you are facing a great deal of competition.”

“No jewelry is better than cheap jewelry,” another site asserts. And when selecting attire, “avoid rayon blends.” And whatever you do, don’t you dare use high-quality résumé paper: “Employers HATE pretentious parchment paper. They think they’re phony and toss them out.”

That is, be polished, but not too phony. And whatever you do, don’t let your résumé become your identity.

For the love of Christ, “heralds impelled by the Spirit,” as Pope Benedict XVI put it last month. God overlooks our typos, seeing us for who we are — and who we might become.

While career consultants induce panic, St. Paul instills peace: “Let the peace of Christ control your hearts. And be thankful.”

We are thankful because we have been granted the greatest mission on earth. No matter what company name is stamped on our paychecks, we are ambassadors of Christ, “heralds impelled by the Gospel,” as Pope Benedict XVI put it last month.

God overlooks our typos, seeing us for who we are — and who we might become.

When we seek his kingdom first, everything else is added onto us. Take it from me. I survived that awful career fair one year ago, and four months later the big-time paper that had rejected me ran my article on its front page.

Christina Capcechi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. E-mail her at christi-nacap@gmail.com.

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SOMETHING

TWENTY

BY CHRISTINA CAPECCHI

DEFIES ALL THESE SILLY RULES. ENOUGH
INDIANAPOLIS — Julie Young, author of the award nominated “A Belief in Providence: a Life of Saint Theodora Guérin” will appear at Mitchell Books at 6360 W. Jefferson Blvd. in Fort Wayne on April 19 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Barnes & Noble, Mishawaka, on April 20 at 1:30 p.m. The book is the first all new biography of Indiana’s first saint and makes a wonderful keepsake for any member of the family.

I am very excited to be traveling throughout the northern part of the state and visiting some of the places where Mother Theodore had such a huge impact,” Young says. “Not only did she have an establishment in Fort Wayne, she also worked closely with Father Serm who founded Notre Dame.”

While in the diocese, Young will also be speaking at Saint Joseph’s High School in South Bend on April 21 where she will sign copies of her book as well. Orders are being accepted through the school.

Young will show her photos from the 2006 canonization and talk to the students about the affect Mother Theodore has in her every-day life. “I think most younger students assume saints have to walk around with halos and holy water, but Mother Theodore is a great role model for any young Catholic. She was funny. She made mistakes. She wasn’t perfect, and yet her reliance on her faith helped her persevere in some very harsh conditions,” Young says. Julie Young is a freelance writer/author from Indianapolis. Her work includes: “A Belief in Providence: a Life of Saint Theodora Guérin” (Indiana Historical Society Press 2007) and “Images of America: Historic Irvington” (Arcadia Publishing 2000) as well as a number of local, regional and national magazines, journals and periodicals including The Indianapolis Star, The Indianapolis Monthly, Evansville Living, Today’s Catholic Teacher, Dance Teacher Magazine, House and Home, and ADVANCE for Nurses Magazine.

She is a graduate of Saint Mary of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in professional writing. She appeared on the Oprah Winfrey Show in 2000 and was a former writer with the Associated Press.
What’s Happening?

What’s Happening carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today’s Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or e-mail: fhogan@fw.diocesefwsb.org. Events that require an admission charge or payment to participate will receive one free listing. For additional listings of that event, please call our advertising sales staff at (260) 465-2824 to purchase space.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Refugee speaker offered to teens
New Haven — On Sunday, May 4, St. John the Baptist Parish will have a program for high school teens and their parents from 6:30-8 p.m. in the community center. Nyoem Chan, refugee resettlement director for Catholic Charities, will discuss “Our Burmese neighbors are welcomed but not required. Donations to help our Burmese neighbors are welcome but not required.

Run with the Knights
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School with the support from News-Sentinel is hosting a 5K Run/Walk on May 10 at Foster Park. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. and the race begins at 9 a.m. Pre-registered runners are $13 per person (ending on May 2) and $20 per person day of the race. Registration forms can be downloaded at www.bishop-sentinel.org or contact the office at (260) 465-1201.

Port a pit chicken supports youth
New Haven — St. John the Baptist youth group will have a port-a-pit chicken dinner on Saturday, April 19, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Scotts at Georgetown parking lot.

Wizard of Oz performed
Fort Wayne — The St. Therese Little Flower Theatre group will perform “The Wizard of Oz” Friday, May 9, and Saturday, May 10, at 7 p.m. at the University of Saint Francis North Campus Auditorium located on the North Side of Spring Street. Tickets are $7 for adults and $5 for students. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (260) 477-2343.

Family pasta dinner
South Bend — St. Matthew Cathedral School Athletic Association along with Papa Vino’s Italian Kitchen will host a family pasta night Friday, May 2, from 5-7 p.m in the school gym, 1015 E. Dayton St. Adults $7 at the door ($6.50 in advance), seniors $6 at the door ($5.50 in advance), students $4 at the door ($3.50 in advance). Carry-outs available for $7. Children 3 and under are free. Tickets are available at the school or at the door.

RUMMAGE SALES

Spring rummage sale
Fort Wayne — St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel will hold a spring rummage and bake sale on Friday, April 25, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, April 26, from 8 a.m. to noon in the school gym. $3 bag sale on Saturday.

Rummage sale
Bremen — The St. Dominic Altar and Rosary Society will have a rummage sale Thursday, May 1, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, May 2, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the parish hall, 803 Bike St.

Rummage and Bake Sale
Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood School will have a rummage and bake sale Thursday, May 1, and Friday, May 2, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

REST IN PEACE

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Sheila M. Bawcum, 84, Catherine Kasper Home
Elkhart
Robert J. Ferrell, 77, St. Thomas the Apostle
Sister Antonio Ritucci, 72, St. Thomas the Apostle
Fort Wayne
Betty Jean Carr, 85, St. Therese
William P. Harkenrider, 50, Queen of Angels
Jennie E. Sicolak, 88, St. Charles Borromeo
Letha F. Adang, 81, St. Charles Borromeo
Loris Jean Braun, 72, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel
Thomas E. Drew, 88, Our Lady of Good Hope
Thomas Freiburger, 71, Queen of Angels
James C. Terrell, 80, Most Precious Blood
Roseann M. Kohrman, 73, St. Vincent de Paul
Grainger
Alex A. Stopczynski, 81, St. Plus X
Patricia A. Sharp, 62, St. Plus X
Mishawaka
Julia Ann Schroff, 80, St. Joseph
Jeanette Minne, 67, St. Bavo
Nicholas M. Carlo, 79, St. Bavo
Eugene L. Gulyanics, 56, St. Monica
David J. Meinel, 66, St. Bavo
Notre Dame
Justine H. Polack, 84, Sacred Heart Basilica
South Bend
Kevin J. Keenan Jr., 21, Christ the King
Loretta Bukowski, 90, St. Hedwig
Paul E. Hertel, 79, Holy Cross
M. Gertrude Schaefer, 92, St. Joseph
Gertrude H. Szewda, 85, Holy Family
Elma M. Horvath, 96, Our Lady of Hungary
John B. Romano Jr., 67, Holy Family
Genevieve M. Molnar, 94, St. Stanislaus

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