WALKERTON — Bishop John M. D'Arcy announced to parishioners and staff at St. Patrick Parish, Walkerton, this past weekend that next fall the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will merge St. Patrick School with St. Michael School, Plymouth. In making the decision, Bishop D'Arcy said, "We have kept St. Patrick School going as long as possible, but it is no longer educationally viable. We need always to do what is best for our students."

In March 2005, Bishop D'Arcy shared with St. Patrick parishioners a decision he had made after extensive consultation that the parish school would close at the end of the 2005 school year. The following June, however, Bishop D'Arcy announced to parishioners that due to the efforts by members of the parish to reach part of the goals which the diocese set out for them — so St. Patrick’s could be sound both financially and educationally — the school would remain open for three more years.

"As you know, I have been very patient on this matter," Bishop D'Arcy said, "We have kept St. Patrick School going as long as possible, but it is no longer educationally viable. We need always to do what is best for our students."

In doing so, Bishop D'Arcy noted that the founder of Pontifical College Josephinum, Msgr. Joseph Jessing, knew a great deal about orphans, as an orphan himself who founded an orphanage, which eventually spawned a seminary, now the only pontifical seminary in the Western Hemisphere.

The church and our deacons-to-be have witnessed the ordained body of St. Padre Pio. The exhumed body of St. Padre Pio lies in a glass sepulchre in the crypt of the saint’s shrine in San Giovanni Rotondo, southern Italy, April 24. The body of Padre Pio, who died in 1968, will be on display until at least September.
Pope challenges Americans to recapture Catholic vision of reality and present it way, to a society which markets any number of recipes for human fulfillment.”

Especially to young people

We saw his teaching once again in his meeting with young people and seminarians at St. Joseph Seminary in New York. In both cases, he noted, what many are finding in pastoral life, that many young people are emerging in our high schools and colleges and in our parish youth ministries who “must open an integral way of life. Pope Benedict XVI said: “We see that the church is a place where we can grow in love, which we must open to their freedom and allow God’s grace and the goodness of God’s people to respond fully. The pope went on to say, however, that “perhaps America’s brand of secularism poses a particular problem: it allows for professing belief in God and respects the public role of religion and the churches, but at the same time it can subtly reduce religious belief to a lowest common denominator.”

In other words, the danger here, and the pope says we must “diagnosis this danger,” is a growing separation of faith from life. Living, says the pope, as if God did not exist. Here this pope is speaking on something, which he touches on regularly, and refers to as the “dichotomy of relativism.” In this separation of faith from life “each person believes he or she has a right to pick and choose, maintaining external social bonds but without an integral, interior conversion to the law of Christ. Consequently, rather than being transformed and renewed in mind, Christians are easily tempted to conform themselves to the spirit of this age (cf. Rom 12:2).”

The pope is earnestly asking us as bishops, and this surely would include priests, deacons and catechists, to present the fullness of church teaching on revealed truth. But he is also asking those who hear the word of God to understand that we cannot “pick and choose.” He says, “We have seen this emerge in an acute way in the scandal given by Catholics who promote an alleged right to abortion.”

Many of this is related to freedom, a concept cherished and often misunderstood in our country. The pope sees freedom “as a liberation both from the limitations of sin and for authorized and fulfilling life.” The word of God has to be preached and taught as an integral way of life. Pope Benedict challenged all of us with his belief “that the Church in America, at this point in her history, is faced with the challenge of recapturing the Catholic vision of reality and present it in an engaging and imaginative way, to society which markets any number of recipes for human fulfillment.”

A day at Bishop Luers

I have completed my pastoral visits to the four high schools. Luers usually comes first in late January but was put out of business by a snow day. So it was a pleasure to visit there in the height of spring and to see the changes made in the infrastructure, which can only improve the educational and spiritual making up-to-date in one of our oldest buildings.

The visit of the bishop is above all to affirm the level of Catholic identity, to affirm it and strengthen it. It was a significant year for Luers with the state championship in football and boys’ basketball. Also, it moved from being a school which was commendable to the exemplary category, the highest academic category which all our Catholic high schools have now attained.

In my meeting with students, I was encouraged to hear how their faith has been strengthened. I noted that priests are available for confessions two or three days every week, and a large number of young people come forward to receive the sacrament of penance. The service dimension is very strong as it always has been at Luers and in both classes which I attended you could see young people receiving the fullness of the Catholic faith. Of the 16 young men who are now in our seminaries studying to be priests in our dioceses, nine have graduated from our Catholic high schools and two of the last three who have been ordained graduated from Bishop Luers. While the home remains the main place for the encouragement of vocations, these numbers show the importance of our Catholic high schools and it was joy to see the strong Catholic identity at Bishop Luers and also among every positive family atmosphere there present."

**BISHOP JOHN M. D’ARCY**

**The pope answers questions**

At the conclusion of his address to bishops, which followed Evening Prayer on a lovely spring night at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, the Holy Father took three questions. The first spoke about “the challenge of increasing secularism in public life and relativism in intellectual life, and his advice on how to confront these challenges pastorally and evangelize more effectively.”

The pope noted, and I also heard Pope John Paul II speak on this to a small group of bishops, that unlike many places in Europe, in America “the secular mentality has not been intrinsically opposed to religion.” He said “within the context of the separation of church and state, American society has always been marked by a fundamental respect for religion and its public role, and if polls are to be believed, the American people are deeply religious.”

The pope went on to say, however, that “perhaps America’s brand of secularism poses a particular problem: it allows for professing belief in God and respects the public role of religion and the churches, but at the same time it can subtly reduce religious belief to a lowest common denominator.”

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**PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**
Ronald McDonald House residents get unscripted moments with pope

BY CAROL ZIMMERMANN

NEW YORK (CNS) — As they prepared to meet Pope Benedict XVI for his first papal visit to the United States, many U.S. Catholics couldn’t help but compare him to Pope John Paul II, whom many had known for nearly three decades.

In part, that was because they just didn’t know much about Pope Benedict before the fourth of his pontificate during his April 15-20 trip to the United States. The immediacy of his election was April 19.

He has often been portrayed as being strict and scholarly and lacking the charisma of his predecessor.

But that perception seemed to change during his six-day visit.

“A lot of people thought he couldn’t replace (Pope) John Paul II, but he can,” said Carol Henglein, a parishioner from St. Virgilius Church in Queens prior to the April 20 Mass at Yankee Stadium.

She described the 81-year-old pontiff as having “an aura about him” and said there was “something like a new level of inspiration to young people.”

And sure enough, the young people seemed to get him, especially during the April 19 rally for seminarians and young people on the grounds of St. Joseph’s Seminary, Yonkers, which was reminiscent of a World Youth Day with Pope John Paul.

During the rally, the 25,000 participants frequently cheered for Pope Benedict and he in turn, much like his predecessor at youth events, seemed visibly invigorated.

At the rally, the pope smiled broadly and even spontaneously moved to the first few rows to grasp hands with the youths.

During his address the crowd repeatedly interrupted him with applause and cheers, unlike the crowds at most Pope John Paul’s public appearances. There was very little applause or interruptions were few.

If the clapping was restrained in some cases, it may have been because his listeners did not fully understand the pope, who delivered his speeches in a soft voice with a German accent.

And sometimes the words were just not sound-bite material that would generate a cheering response. Many of his talks reflected his scholarly background and might have to be read and reread to unpack their meaning.

Several priests and women religious at the April 19 Mass for clergy and religious at St. Patrick’s Cathedral told Catholic News Service they wanted to get a copy of the text and look at it closely. Catholic college presidents said the same thing after he spoke to them April 17 at the Catholic University of America in Washington.

But even if they didn’t pick up every word of the pope’s remarks, those who heard him still came away with a familiarity with the pontiff they hadn’t had before, along with a deeper appreciation for him.

Father Joseph Ferraro, pastor of St. Anthony Parish in Belleville, N.J., left the Mass at St. Patrick’s Cathedral overwhelmed by the experience but also with a sense that the pope was not a distant leader but “just like one of the family.”

The pope also showed a humility that did not go unnoticed. At the end of the cathedral Mass, Pope Benedict made impromptu remarks thanking the priests and women religious for their love of the church, the Lord and also for “their love to the poor successor of St. Peter.”

“I will do all that is possible to be a real successor of the great St. Peter, who also was a man with his faults and some sins, but he remains finally the rock for the church,” he told them.

Sister Elizabeth Welsey, a Sister of St. Joseph who is chancellor of administration and chief operating officer for the Diocese of Orlando, Fla., said she wanted to “absorb it all, but she was impressed with how he described himself as a ‘poor successor of St. Peter.’”

Throughout Pope Benedict’s U.S. visit, reminders of Pope John Paul were not hard to find. Pope Benedict quoted him on several occasions.

Many places Pope Benedict visited — the White House, the United Nations, the Catholic University of America and Yankee Stadium — repeated his predecessor’s words.

Many who were analyzing the U.S. papal visit suggested that during his six-day visit Pope Benedict came out from under Pope John Paul’s shadow. And one television commentator comparing the two popes put it this way: “Pope John Paul II made us feel, Pope Benedict makes us think.”

People wave white clothes and cheer as Pope Benedict XVI speaks during an April 20 Mass at Yankee Stadium in New York.

The precinct’s jurisdiction includes Ronald McDonald House and the archbishop’s residence, and officers helped provide security during Pope Benedict’s April 18-20 New York visit.

The group waited for 30 minutes before Pope Benedict emerged close to 9 p.m. The families, standing behind metal barricades set up outside the residence, held up their children to receive the pope’s blessing.

About 80 people from the neighborhood, including priests from St. Catherine of Siena Church, also attended.

“That’s probably the one human being on earth that I believe is closest to the Lord,” said Charles Griffin, who met the pope with his wife, Sonia, their 5-year-old daughter, Faith, and 2-year-old son, Elijah, and his mother, Bernadette.

“It speaks volumes to the kind of pope he is,” said Charles Griffin, who is Lutheran. His wife is Catholic. “His understanding is he gave the police department some troubles in the sense that he kind of went wherever he wanted to. He didn’t care (about security). He came here to see people and to pray.”

All the parents said they appreciated the last-minute, unscheduled moment. “We’re nobody special or famous, and here we were inches away from the pope,” said Frei.
Catholic student traces her Jewish history in concentration camps of Germany, Poland

BY TRISH LINNER

NOTRE DAME — Jackie Rothschild never thought much about her last name. “I knew my grandfather was Jewish, but that’s about all I knew about him,” she said. The Catholic girl with a Jewish name was raised in Fort Worth, Texas, and is now a student at Saint Mary’s College, Notre Dame.

During her classes as a religious studies major, she began to question her background as she learned more about the Jewish faith during a class with Assistant Professor Stacie Davis.

“She’s an amazing profes- sor. She’s why I chose to become religious studies major, she began to explore her family’s Jewish roots.

The trip to the concentration camps. “The history is so awful,” she says, “But I didn’t shed one tear walking through the places. I couldn’t feel a personal connection between the history I have learned and myself.”

Jackie was able to bond with another student who also had a grandfather who fled the Nazis. “We held hands as we walked through Auschwitz,” Jackie states.

The trip is over, she has more to learn. “There are many monuments to the survivors and the victims, they were beautiful and it was very moving,” Jackie says. “Our guide told several stories of heroism and had parents who had survived the concentration camps.

Not only was it a Jewish syn- agogue, and it was there that Jackie felt truly overwhelmed by all the knowledge she had and was learning about her grandfather and his faith. It seemed so strange as I sat in this beautiful synagogue that all I know about the Jewish faith I learned in a Catholic school. I felt a connection to my grandfather, but I didn’t feel like I belonged there.”

Over the next few days, the group toured several concentration camps in Poland and in Germany. Jackie was able to find evidence at the Berlin Holocaust Museum that two of her grandfather’s brothers were killed at Auschwitz.

While Jackie thought the visit was a trip of a lifetime, she found it frustrating that she didn’t feel more of an emotional connection during the visits to the death camps. “The history is so awful,” she says, “But I didn’t shed one tear walking through the places. I couldn’t feel a personal connection between the history I have learned and myself.”

Experts say high food prices permanent; bishops urge help for poor

BY BARBARA J. FRASER

LIMA, Peru (CNS) — As protests over rising food costs spread around the globe, experts warned that high prices are here to stay, and Catholic bishops are calling for governments to take emergency measures to keep their poor-est citizens from going hungry.

Already this year, demonstrations linked to spiraling food prices have struck more than a dozen countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Protests forced Haitian Prime Minister Jacques- Edouard Alexis out of office April 12, and demonstrators have been killed in Cameroon, Peru and Mozambique.

The price increases are fueled by a variety of factors that “are all coming together at once,” said Lisa Kuennen, director of the public resource group at Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. bishops’ international relief and development agency.

Drought last year in Australia and Canada pushed wheat prices up, while flooding destroyed crops in various parts of the world, said Craig Poulson, director of the global agriculture program at CRS.

An additional factor is the rising standard of living in China and India, which has led to increased demand for luxury foods such as meat and milk. Because it takes seven or eight pounds of grain to produce a pound of meat, increased meat consumption drives up demand for grain and, therefore, the price.

In China, per capita milk consumption quadrupled between 1990 and 2000, while poultry consumption doubled, and the consumption of fish nearly doubled. In India, the consumption of meat, milk and fish has also increased.

Price increases hit poor coun- tries — and their poorest citizens hardest. 

In Guatemala, the price of tortillas, a staple food, has risen 30 percent in the past few months. Poor Mexicans, who eat nearly a pound of tortillas a day per person, have seen the price double in the past two years. Workers earning the minimum wage of about $4 a day now spend as much as one-third of their earnings on tortillas for the family.

“There has been an uncontrollable rise in the price of tortillas and other basic elements,” said Mexican Bishop Felipe Arizamendi Eusquel of San Cristobal de Las Casas said last month. “Society and the church have to support social development programs so that the poor can be self-sufficient and not have to depend on govern- ment and private help.”

Inflation last year in Ethiopia was 31 percent, and church work- ers reported people, especially women and children, living on the streets and knocking on church doors to ask for help. Kuennen told Catholic News Service.

In Burkina Faso, prices of sta- ple foods rose between 14 percent and 67 percent, she said, and fami- lies now spend as much as 75 per- cent of their income on food. Unlike last years, this year these price increases are appearing at harvest time, when products are most abundant and prices should be low, Kuennen said.

High prices can be good news for farm families, but they can also be very expensive to ship food to those who need it most.

In Haiti, “we’re cotton mill workers, and the cotton mill workers can’t get their own food — higher food prices mean there is less money to spend on other essen- tials, such as health care or chil- dren’s education.”

The scope of the food crisis puts an extra strain on organizations, Kuennen said. In the past, food shortages were more local and foreseeable, making it easier for humanitarian groups to respond. The current crisis is striking all around the world, however, and it is extremely expensive to ship food to those who need it most.

The U.N. World Food Program had budgeted $2.9 billion to aid some 70 million people this year. In March, however, officials esti- mated that they needed another $500 million to meet that target, and by April that figure had grown to $755 million, partly because of increased shipping costs.

Great Britain has pledged an additional $900 million in assis- tance to the World Food Program.

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A walk side-by-side with the Lord and one another

Notre Dame students, friends express their faith in eucharistic procession

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

NOTRE DAME — “It is a visi-
ble, professional faith of praise in
our Lord in the Eucharist, as well
as a profession of our love for
him,” said Thomas Haan, who
assisted in the organization of the
Fourth Annual Eucharistic Procession on the campus of the University of Notre Dame.

Over 600 people, mostly stu-
dents from Holy Cross College,
Saint Mary’s College and the
University of Notre Dame, took
part in the eucharistic procession
on Sunday, April 20, which began
after the Basilica of the Sacred
Heart’s 11:45 a.m. Mass.

Participants celebrated their
love and faith in the Blessed
Sacrament in song as they pro-
cessed to four different altars.
Each was sponsored by an organ-
ization whose members led the
prayer that included Scripture, a
reading and intercessions.

Eucharistic processions are not
new to Notre Dame. “This was a
common event 25 years ago on cam-
pus, and it was celebrated in June
at the feast of Corpus Christi,” said Holy Cross Father David T. Tyson, provincial superior, Indiana Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross, processed with the Eucharist on the campus of the University of Notre Dame after the 11:45 a.m. Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

The Fourth Annual Eucharistic Procession at the University of Notre Dame on April 20 included 600 worshippers. Holy Cross Father David T. Tyson, provincial superior, Indiana Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross, processed with the Eucharist on the campus of the University of Notre Dame after the 11:45 a.m. Mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

A picnic lunch was provided by the campus Knights of Columbus.

The Fourth Annual Eucharistic Procession at the University of Notre Dame on April 20 included 600 worshippers.

The Fourth Annual Eucharistic Procession at the University of Notre Dame on April 20 included 600 worshippers.

and the U.S. government has
decided to release $200 million of its emergency food aid reserve.

Aid workers say it is important
to allocate money to rebuild the reserve as soon as possible.

Kuennen said that U.S. food aid
dropped to its lowest level last
year and is expected to be below
the legally mandated mini-
num of 2.5 million tons this year.
Between 2001 and 2006, the U.S.
government donated an average of 4.4 million tons of food a year to
poor countries, she said.

Food assistance is only a stop-
gap measure, Kuennen said, but
such aid, along with programs to
provide cash or vouchers to poor
families, is a crucial response to
the immediate crisis.

“People need to be kept from
starving and from rioting,” she
said.

After violent protests in Haiti in
early April, the country’s Catholic
bishops urged the government to
implement both emergency and
long-term policies to tackle
hunger. In a statement issued April
12, the Haitian bishops’ confer-
ence condemned the violence that began with protests in the southern city of
Les Cayes and left at least five
people dead.

If oil prices remain high and the
demand for staple foods continues
to grow, countries will need long-
term policies to deal with the
effects of food-price increases
and quell discontent.

Some countries have begun pro-
viding food subsidies, have low-
er import tariffs on food or have
halted exports of grains and veg-
etable oils. John Hoddinott, a sen-
ior research fellow at the Inter-
national Food Policy Research
Institute in Washington, said those
measures are misguided. Subsidies are costly and difficult to eliminate, he
said, while lower tariffs push prices
down and discourage farm-
ners from planting more crops,
because they cannot be sure of
cuming enough to cover their
costs.

Many countries have limited
exports of certain staples. China
has blocked rice and maize
exports, while India has stopped
exporting milk powder and Bolivia
has banned the export of vegetable
oil to its South American neigh-
bors. Those bans exacerbate short-
ages, Hoddinott said, driving
prices up further.

Kuennen said developing coun-
tries also must connect small farm-
ers with markets, help people
diversify their sources of income so
they are not as vulnerable to
volatile food prices, and imple-
ment land reform.

Land reform is a pressing issue
in Kenya, where only 20 percent
of the land is suitable for growing
crops. Conflict over access to
land was a factor in the violent protests
that followed the recent Kenyan
presidential elections, said

Archbishop Peter Kairu, who
heads the Kenyan bishops’ justice
and peace commission. An esti-
mated 1,000 people were reported
killed and more than 300,000 peo-
ple were displaced in the unrest in
Kenya, where absentee landlords
have huge expanses of land.

Ultimately, experts say that
effective long-term policies are
crucial to keeping large numbers
of people from slipping back into
hunger and poverty.

“We really need to help poor
people become better off,”
Hoddinott said. “That is the long-
term solution.”
Pope Benedict moved in meeting with abuse victims, cardinal says

BOSTON (CNS) — Meeting victims of clerical sexual abuse at the papal residence in the city’s capital during his six-day U.S. visit was a moving experience for Pope Benedict XVI, said Cardinal Sean P. O’Malley of Boston. Speaking April 23 with The Pilot, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Boston, Cardinal O’Malley said the meeting between the pope and victims from the Boston Archdiocese was important to both parties. “The many times he addressed the sexual abuse crisis (during the trip) indicate how deeply he understands the situation of our church and what happens here,” the cardinal said. “He obviously feels a great sorrow over what has happened and that he is ashamed but, at the same time, wants to encourage us on the path to healing and reconciliation. I think it was important for the victims to feel as though they had access to the Holy Father,” Cardinal O’Malley added. The meeting was arranged after the cardinal’s original request that the pope include a stop in Boston during his trip was denied. Cardinal O’Malley then proposed a meeting with victims at another location and the Vatican approved.

Traditionalist society says it’s not time to reconcile with Vatican

ROME (CNS) — The head of the traditionalist Society of St. Pius X, said it’s not time to reconcile with the Vatican.

Cardinal Edward M. Egan of New York, mayor received Cardinal O’Malley about legal abortion and related issues.

ASSISI, Italy (CNS) — Assisi — The birthplace of St. Francis, saint of the poor — has instituted a ban on begging.

Pope cites Vatican official’s ‘zeal and passion’ to protect family

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Cardinal Alfonso Lopez Trujillo, president of the Pontifical Council for the Family, led church efforts to safeguard and promote a Catholic view of marriage and family life with untiring “zeal and passion,” Pope Benedict XVI said. The 72-year-old Colombian cardinal died April 19 at Rome’s Pius XI clinic, where he had been hospitalized since early April with a respiratory infection. Cardinal Angelo Sodano, dean of the College of Cardinals, celebrated Cardinal Lopez Trujillo’s funeral Mass April 23 at St. Peter’s Basilica. Pope Benedict entered the basilica after Communion to preside over the final commendation and farewell and to address the congregation. “How can we not thank him for the courage with which he defended the nonnegotiable values of human life?” the pope asked. “We all admired his uniring activity.”

Cardinal holds book of names of abuse victims

Cardinal Sean P. O’Malley of Boston holds a book containing over 1,000 names of known Boston victims of clerical sexual abuse prior to an April 17 meeting with Pope Benedict XVI in Washington. The book was presented to the pontiff during the meeting between the pope and five Boston abuse victims at the apostolic nunciature in Washington.

Vatican official calls liturgical renewal ‘irreversible path’

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Liturgical renewal launched by the Second Vatican Council is an “irreversible path” and has not been affected by Pope Benedict XVI’s concession on wider use of the Tridentine rite, a Vatican official said. “The pope’s decision has so far not produced any change in the celebrative practice of our ecclesial communities. His gesture was only one of service to unity,” Archbishop Piero Marini, who arranged papal liturgies for more than 20 years, said in an interview April 25 in the Vatican newspaper, L’Osservatore Romano. “Therefore let’s look ahead and let’s continue with enthusiasm the path undertaken by the council,” he said. Late last year Archbishop Marini was named to head the Pontifical Committee for International Eucharistic Congresses. The archbishop remains involved in international liturgical issues, and he said a revision of the committee’s statutes is giving it wider authority over eucharistic congresses at the national and regional level, too.

Paraguayans elect retired Bishop Lugo as president

ASUNCION, Paraguay (CNS) — Retired Bishop Fernando Lugo was elected president of Paraguay April 20, ending the six-decade rule of the Colorado Party. Bishop Lugo took an early lead in the pre-election polls, despite official disapproval from the Vatican and, initially, from the Paraguayan bishops’ conference. As support for Bishop Lugo remained strong in the largely Catholic country, the conference refrained from further comment. Bishop Lugo, 58, retired from the Diocese of San Pedro in 2005. The Vatican suspended him from exercising his priestly ministry when he decided to run for president, but rejected his request for laicization after more than 30 years as a bishop and priest. The Paraguayan bishops’ conference made no official statement after the elections, but the Paraguayan newspaper ABC quoted Bishop Adalberto Martinez Flores of San Pedro, secretary of the Paraguayan bishops’ conference, as saying that the conference “accepts and acknowledges the victory of (Bishop) Lugo as president-elect of Paraguay.”

Web site chronicles Catholic high school days from long ago

NEW YORK (CNS) — If you’re a 1990 graduate of Immaculate Conception Academy in Davenport, Iowa, and you lost your class photo, you’re in luck. Rita Piro has a copy. In March Piro launched catholicschooldays.com, a Web site documenting U.S. Catholic high schools from about 1900 to the present day. The bulk of the site is devoted to memorabilia from schools that have closed, like Piro’s school, and vintage photographs. She said she has listed every Catholic high school from about 1900 to the present day. The bulk of the site is devoted to memorabilia from schools that have closed, like Piro’s school, and vintage photographs. She said she has listed every Catholic high school from about 1900 to the present day.
aroUND THE DIOCESE

JACkS is the recipient of the 2008 Top HAT Award

SOUTH BEND — Alice V. Jacobs turned her disability into an ability.

When her arthritis forced her to go “from one cane to two canes,” she became very skilled at getting and giving information over the phone to help the poor.

Jacobs is the recipient of the 2008 Top Hat Award by the St. Vincent de Paul Society, for her work as “call director” at her home parish, St. Joseph Catholic Church.

The award is given every year to an outstanding Vincentian. It gets its name from Frederick Ozanam, founder of the worldwide Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Ozanam did not have a phone to learn about the needs of the poor. He, like other learned men, wore a top hat when he went out in public. So he wore it when he and other law students at the University of Sorbonne went to meet with the poor in the tenements of Paris.

Jacobs has been a Vincentian for about 10 years. When she first started with the St. Vincent’s board of directors, she met the poor in their homes.

But arthritis in her knees, ankles and spine forced her to start using a second cane in the late 1990s. “That forced me into doing more work on the phone,” she says. “Some of the work is trying to pair up personalities. Sometimes you have a client with a strong personality, so you need a volunteer who has one to match.”

Jacobs says she enjoys getting all the phone calls she can from St. Vincent’s assistance office, and then acting on it. “We like to know as much as we can about a client before we make the home visit. And then, on the other hand, we can bring information back, too, to figure out if we can do something further for them.”

She has also seen the Vincentian group at St. Joseph Catholic Church go from being all men, to mostly women. “And, some of these women work full time, even some families, so you need a volunteer who has one to match.”

Jacobs is a former member of St. Vincent’s board of directors, serving during stressful times of transition such as the 1999 move of the Thrift Store from its downtown location to its present location on Portage Trail.

She also served on the search committees to find two executive directors.

Jacobs lives on the south side of South Bend with her husband, Roger Jacobs, who is retired from the law faculty of the University of Notre Dame.

The Top Hat Award was given to her on Sunday, April 20, the kick off for the 175th anniversary on the international society.

A DAY IN THE SUN AT CHILDREN’S COTTAGE

Third- and fourth-grade students from the St. Louis, Besancon, St. Rose, Monroeville, religious education program recently spent a sunny afternoon with the children from Catholic Charities daycare, Children’s Cottage, in Fort Wayne, reading books and playing on the playground.

Retreats offered at Hartford City

HARTFORD CITY — The John XXIII Retreat Center in Hartford City will offer the following retreats in May:

- Directed Retreat — May 11, 7:30 p.m. to May 16, 1 p.m. Retreatants can choose from three or more days at $70 per day. Quiet prayer and one-to-one spiritual guidance with either Sister Joetta Huelsmann, a Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ sister, or Father Al Naseman, a Society of the Precious Blood priest, is available. Father Naseman has given retreats throughout the United States for over the past 20 years. Sister Joetta has been trained in Ignatian spirituality and also has been an intern at the Center of Action and Contemplation in New Mexico. Register by May 7.
- A Walk With Dorothy Day — May 14, 9:15 a.m. to 2 p.m. This retreat offers participants to learn more about Dorothy Day, the cofounder of the Catholic Worker movement. Topics that will be explored are “Living Nonviolent Poverty” and “Active Love.” Dorothy Stewart, business manager of John XXIII Retreat Center will facilitate the day.
- Are Not Our Hearts Burning — May 9, 7 p.m. to May 10, 6 p.m. This retreat is based on Henri J.M. Nouwen’s book “With Burning Hearts: A Meditation on the Eucharistic Life.” The themes that the book and the retreat will cover are: Mourning our losses, discerning the presence, inviting the stranger, entering into Communion, and going on a mission. Sister Joetta Huelsmann, director of John XXIII, will facilitate this retreat. Fee $75 for overnight and $55 for commuters. Register by May 5. Call (765) 348-4008, e-mail john23rd@sbcglobal.net or visit www.john23rdretreatcenter.com. Private retreats or directed retreats are available.

University of Saint Francis offers art classes for children

FORT WAYNE — The School of Creative Arts at the University of Saint Francis has announced summer art classes for children in grades 1 to 6 in the “Art in the Morning” Youth Art Program. The classes will run from July 7 to August 1 (four-week term), Monday through Friday from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at the Mimi and Ian Rolland Center for Art and Visual Communications on Leesburg Road. This program is made possible through the generous support of the Foellinger Foundation.

Area art teachers and art education majors will instruct children in drawing, painting, printmaking, multimedia and ceramics. All art materials and a daily snack will be provided.

The cost is $75 for each child and includes all materials and instructional fees. Scholarships are available to those students who receive the Free and Reduced Lunch Program at their respective schools.

Registration must be received no later than June 20. Space is limited. For information, call (260) 499-7700 ext. 8001.

This land purchase reflects the Medical Center has provided.

The university has been offering programs in Crown Point for almost two years at Saint Anthony Medical Center, beginning with an LPN to ASN program in 2006. The university has since added an RN to MSN transition program, a master of science in nursing (MSN) family nurse practitioner, a master of science in community health education, and a master’s in healthcare administration. All of these are duplicates of programs offered on the main campus in Fort Wayne.

University President Sister M. Eliza Kris, OSF, noted, “We can have more students than we originally expected this quickly. As we have increased in the number of students and programs, we have found that before too many years we will outgrow the space that Saint Anthony Medical Center has provided. Because we would like to stay in close proximity to the medical center, we have purchased land adjoining theirs.” She added further, “This land purchase reflects the university’s strong commitment to Crown Point.”

South Bend Knights provide scholarship

SOUTH BEND — In maintaining its more-than-half-a-century of tradition of providing financial assistance to Catholic school students, the Santa Maria Council 553 of the Knights of Columbus announced the 2008-09 scholarship program.

Applicants must be Catholic, children or grandchildren of council members and current or incoming students at Saint Joseph’s or Marian high schools.

Students must complete applications forms, submit a grade transcript and three letters of recommendation.

These scholarships are in addition to the Miles-Priesbsy four-years scholarships, which the council has awarded each spring to students or council members.

The council also authorized financial assistance to two seminarians in the diocese — Gabriel Hernandez, 51, of South Bend, and the diocesan chaplain. — EJD
Safe environment education

Awakening an awareness of child abuse prevention

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — When Pope Benedict XVI visited Washington, D.C., and New York City, April 15-20, his expression of sorrow and meeting with victims of the priest sexual abuse scandal brought attention to a major wound on the U.S. Catholic Church.

Keeping children safe at our parishes is important to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Cathie Cicchiello, the diocesan resource who coordinates safe environment training throughout the diocese, added it is important that our parishes and schools are “safe environments where we can impart faith in a nurturing and loving place.”

Safe environment training has three components: a background check of any person who volunteers, coaches, teaches or works with children; abuse education for those working with children; and an educational component for children.

― Running a background check is a very cumbersome, very time-consuming effort, “Cicchiello said. And it is Cicchiello’s purpose to help parish religious education, schools and other programs involving children ensure these background checks are completed accurately and effectively.

Shelley Tourney, who works at the Brooklyn Avenue campus of St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School in Fort Wayne, knows the importance of accuracy and thoroughness of these background checks. At the beginning of each school year, Tourney asks teachers, coaches and volunteers who work in the building, those involved with lunch duty or volunteers who plan to help with field trips, to complete a background check form. Tourney then checks each name against a log.

For those who have lived outside of Indiana within the last 10 years, there is an additional search, a national check, which Cicchiello completes.

“It’s a lot of paperwork, but in the end, the ultimate goal is the safety of our children,” Tourney added. “It runs pretty smoothly. Next year the school will have implemented the program for the fifth year.”

The second part of safe environment training involves adults, who work with children or volunteers, to watch a video, which is also available now on the diocesan Web site, www.diosesfwab.org. Each sign a form providing confirmation of viewing. St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School also makes the video available at the back-to-school night.

Tourney said she doesn’t run into reluctance of cooperation from a parent or volunteer. “Everybody wants the safety of their own children,” Tourney said. “They like the idea that we are being proactive. We’re making our building as safe as we can have it. Our first goal is the safety of their children.”

A third part of the safe environment training is the educational component for children. Beth Keen, a school counselor at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School for the last seven years, takes care of that training. Each year, Keen presents safe environment training to the students, kindergarten (next year pre-kindergarten) through grades 8.

“The diocese has provided us with a script,” Keen said, in order to reach the different grade levels, which presents a diverse maturity. The scripts are kindergarten through second grade, third through sixth grades, and the seventh and eighth grades in which the school uses a boundary book.

Keen said this educational component is done early in the year, every year, and this is a good thing. “For one thing, I think kids just need to be reminded,” she said, and it assists in building a comfort level where students can talk to her if needed.

“I would say the diocese is being proactive in actually ensuring this is implemented in absolutely every school at every level,” Keen told Today’s Catholic. “And there are very strict guidelines that make sure we are covering everything we need to. We report back to the diocese when we’re finished and the goal is reached.”

And the school takes this training very seriously for every child. Keen said, “If a student was even absent that day, we either send it home or make it up. So we make sure it gets to every student.”

At St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, Keen is pleased the school has taken an expanded training program on the boundaries program. “...We’ve added it to an ‘owning-up’ curriculum, which is a 10-week program,” Keen described. “We separate the genders and meet with them separately in small groups and talk about all kinds of issues that are somewhat related to this — social, peer relationships.”

Cicchiello has served the diocese as the safe environment coordinator for one year. The diocese has been involved with safe environment education “for five years, and we’re still on the ‘up-part’ of the learning curve,” Cicchiello said, “and we’re going to continue to improve it, but we’re in the beginning stages, about the issue and the problem and how to best meet it through prevention efforts.”

According to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), Child Abuse Prevention is a major initiative of the Catholic Church in the United States. As a result an estimated 1.6 million people have undergone background checks: 1.8 million priests, deacons, candidates for ordination, educators, employees and volunteers have gone through safe environment programs and approximately 6 million children in parish school and religious education programs have received age-appropriate instruction in this area.

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Lay missioner offers face of Christ to Bolivian street kids

BY KAY COZAD

COLUMBIA CITY — Lee Sendelbach will be the first to tell you that life is an adventure. This from a young man who has worked in the corporate world and the Third World.

Sendelbach spent most of his youth in Columbia City where he was one of eight children of a blended family. He attended Catholic elementary schools, and following graduation from Indiana University, he began work in the accounting field first in a bank and then at Verizon.

During his over 10 years of corporate employment, Sendelbach began to feel a calling to something more in life. He says, “In my job I felt dead...

What was I actually contributing to better the world around me? It kept nagging me.”

His thoughts turned to volunteerism — reflection of the efforts he says, of his parents as they sacrificed to raise eight children. He was also inspired by his stepfather,一个 who volunteered at St. Mary’s Soup Kitchen in Fort Wayne.

So when Verizon offered a management buyout package, he jumped at the chance and began at 6:30 each morning to fix breakfast for the boys. After making their beds, the boys brush their teeth, comb their hair, and then gather in the dining room for a prayer “thanking God for another day and to protect us in our work,” he says.

Following breakfast the boys complete chores at the house before going out for work, which may consist of washing windshields on the streets, selling candy or shining shoes. “If they are lucky,” says Sendelbach, “they have stable work like carpentry.”

The boys return around 5 p.m. with earned wages that are recorded and locked in a box. Then each boy showers and attends a four-hour night school.

Dinner is at 8 p.m., and social activities “ranging from sports to catechism” are enjoyed together before bedtime at 10:30 p.m. The evening prayer, consisting of three Hail Marys and gratitude for another day, is recited in chorus before lights out.

If a boy shows an increased desire to study and better himself, he is promoted to living in another saleian house called Youth of Don Bosco, where the boys attend school, which is not mandatory in Bolivia, and school-related activities rather than work. “This house is also meant to provide hope,” says Sendelbach.

A weekly event that is anticipated by all is Sunday Mass. Sendelbach reports that in keeping with the “very colorful country, rich in ritual and tradition,” the services include electric guitars, drums and much clapping and singing. “Even dogs enter the church to pray,” he says.

The struggles with the boys, Sendelbach says, have made his faith stronger. “I am challenged more than I ever thought possible. I see the world in a different light. And not one time have I asked myself that nagging question ... ‘Is there more to life than this?’”

He adds, “I came to show these boys the face of Christ... But after time I began to feel that I cared about them. They became my family. My motivation is that someday some of them will have changed their lives. They will have accepted responsibility and will have known that someone cared for them there more to life than this.”

Sendelbach would encourage anyone interested in becoming a lay missioner or donating to the mission to contact Adam Rudin at adamr@salesianmissions.org or write him at 2 Lefevre Lane, New Rochelle, N.Y. 10801.

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Matthew Horvath
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Christina Millhouse
Bishop Dwenger High School

Megan Warner
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TODAY’S CATHOLIC 9 May 4, 2008
St. John the Baptist School goes green

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Being good stewards of our world and its natural resources is not easy these days. But one Fort Wayne school is determined to try. St. John the Baptist School had its kickoff to going green on April 9, with Green Day assemblies focused on educating the kindergarten through eight graders there. The students were encouraged to wear green shirts to school to celebrate their respect for the environment.

According to St. John School Principal Jane Sandor, the entire school is enthusiastic about going green. Green Day, inspired by the parent-run committee, Eagle P.R.I.D.E. (Positive Reason I Decide Everyday) has been developing since last year. It spotlights the needs of the environment as the committee strives to emphasize the positive at the school.

The fan hands-on educational assembly held in two segments was led by Allen County Solid Waste representative Kira Blacketor. Kindergarten through fourth graders joined Blacketor for an exciting recycle relay where students were randomly chosen to make up two teams, who would decide which recycle bin to place specific items. Following the relay, Blacketor offered the students an explanation as to why each item was recyclable.

The second segment of the assembly concentrated on educating the fifth through eighth graders on going green. “How long does your trash last” activity had the students learning the decomposition rates of 11 items furnished by Blacketor. The entire student population left their segment of the assembly excitedly anticipating their role in the school’s newly developing recycle program.

One Eagle Pride committee member, Derride Fazio is the mom in the know. She has been instrumental in locating businesses and interested others in assisting St. John’s with their recycle program. St. John’s Director of Religious Education Amy Woodfill and fourth-grade teacher Susan Henry have also played vital roles in the development of the program.

The school will be recycling not only paper goods but fluorescent light bulbs, cell phones, computer ink cartridges and used electrical equipment.

Principal Sandor says the school has informed the parish community of their program through the school newsletter, which outlined the different items to be recycled at St. John. The school currently has a collection box in the main hallway for batteries and cell phones. A designated day of the month is being planned soon to encourage families to bring in their old fluorescent light bulbs for recycling.

And eventually, says the principal, the school may open their recycle collection dates to the community at large.

Sandor knows the program is in its infancy but has great hope for future growth. “We started this spring to establish habits with the kids. Then next year it will grow,” she says, adding that it’s the qualitative response through education that is important. She is expecting a good response from the parish community.

“The excitement comes from the personal decision to improve life. These people take whatever they do to heart and do it in earnest. St. John’s cares about the community in which they live, trying to make it just a little bit better,” she says in awe, adding, “I see this as a responsible decision in our faith to accept God’s gift of nature and use it as he meant us to use it.”

The parents, staff and students of St. John School seem to know going green is the wave of the future and have hope that other schools and parishes in the diocese will soon swim aboard.

The distinguished Pillar of Life Award for meritorious service with the Saint Joseph County Right to Life was presented to Betty and Glenn Terry of South Bend by Thomas Gill, president of the Right to Life organization. Glenn and Betty Terry have devoted more than 35 years of voluntary service to the group; Betty has previously served as office manager and Glenn has served Santa Maria Council 553 of the Knights of Columbus in directing Right to Life activities.

Geneva parish celebrates 125th jubilee with mission

GENEVA — This year is the 125th anniversary of the founding of St. Mary of the Presentation, Geneva. From 1883 this church has nurtured the faith and healed the hearts and minds of all those who worshipped there. This church has seen a long “faith journey.”

The parishioners are celebrating the jubilee year with a variety of programs. The first of the programs — a parish mission — was planned by the jubilee committee to bring about spiritual renewal. It was held April 14-16 with the help of the diocesan Office of Spiritual Development who supplied the speakers.

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Parish puts on walking shoes to rally for homeless, Vincent Village

BY JENNIFER MURRAY

FORT WAYNE — The weather was perfect for a Sunday walk on April 27. And walk they did. Over 300 parishioners and students from St. John the Baptist Parish, Fort Wayne, joined hundreds of other people at Headwaters Park in Fort Wayne to support the homeless through the annual Homeward Bound walk.

For the second year, St. John the Baptist Parish and School has raised money for the homeless through this walk. Students helped raise most of that money as they gathered pledges for the walk. In the weeks prior to the walk, the students’ awareness of the homeless was raised as they listened to guest speakers talk about the problem of homelessness.

A student at St. John’s, Dana Baldus, said the walk was important “because we raised about $7,000 because the number of homeless is increasing and we need to help.” Her friend, Carly Gradner said it was important for students to become involved in the walk “because when they’re older, they’ll help people” like those who have become homeless.

Amanda Carroll, mother of five, explained why she wanted her children involved in the walk: “I think it opens their eyes to the plight of others. I told them they can’t judge them for being homeless. There are different reasons and they just need to help (the homeless).”

Amanda was pushing the stroller of her daughter Lilly, who, at 9 months, is experiencing her second Homeward Bound walk, this time outside the womb. St. John the Baptist has chosen to support the Vincent Village Inc., through their contributions to the walk. Vincent Village offers several different programs that help homeless families.

Vincent House offers transitional shelter and serves about 35 families each year. Within a three-block radius of Vincent House is Vincent Village, which consists of 30 remodeled houses. Families rent these affordable houses while still receiving services from the Vincent staff as they learn to become self-sufficient.

Pathways to Success is another program that helps families find affordable homes and continues to help these families learn the skills they need so they don’t become homeless again. There is a youth services program, which helps 150 children each year, and an outlet store, which provides free furniture as well as an opportunity for employment training.

Ann Helmke, executive director of Vincent Village Inc., said, “Vincent Village is the only transitional shelter providing housing for two-parent families and single- and male-headed families” in Allen County.

But Vincent Village goes beyond shelter. “The major focus of all Vincent Village programs is to improve the self-sufficiency of homeless families with children to prevent recurring homelessness.”

Homelessness is not something far removed from us. People become homeless because of many different circumstances such as a crisis or losing a job. About 70 percent of the homeless are our most innocent, the children.

Helmke stated, “Families with children are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population. Lack of affordable housing is a major cause of family homelessness. As high wage manufacturing jobs continue to be moved to other countries and are replaced by lower-wage service jobs, more families are finding it harder to make ends meet. Rising costs of gas, food, utilities and other necessities threaten the economic stability of many families. While homelessness may seem far removed from the lives of many of us, the economic insecurity that is the underlying cause of family homelessness is not.”

For those people who missed the Homeward Bound walk, there is still an opportunity to help. Helmke said, “Cash and in-kind donations are always needed. We are currently developing a program to use volunteers more effectively in our operations.” To learn more about Vincent Village Inc., please call (260) 456-4172.

Notre Dame’s Center for Pastoral Liturgy Conference to focus on sacraments

By Ann Carey

NOTRE DAME — Laiy as well as priests and laymen will have a unique opportunity this June to explore how Christ’s life operates through the sacraments of anointing of the sick, reconciliation, marriage and orders.

The 36th annual conference of the University of Notre Dame’s Center for Pastoral Liturgy on June 16-18 will focus on those four sacraments and feature breakout sessions such as “Planning the Wedding Liturgy as Sacramental Catechesis,” “Parish Programs to Support the Sick” and “Preparing for the Celebration of First Reconciliation.”

These annual pastoral liturgy conferences are intended for anyone interested in thinking more in depth about the issues addressed each year. They are open to any-one in the parish, lay persons as well as staff. The center’s director, Professor David Fagerberg, believes this year’s topic is especially well suited for everyone because the sacraments are such an integral part of parish life.

The conference is entitled “The Forgotten Sacraments” because those four sacraments often don’t get as much attention as baptism, the Eucharist and confirmation, Fagerberg said. He related that someone attending a liturgy conference two years ago mentioned this fact, so the 2008 conference was designed to focus on these “forgotten sacraments.”

“All the sacraments deserve our attention because all the sacraments are expressions of the church in motion,” Fagerberg said. “The church as sacrament lives in the Wider Community.”

Adults and some children will have the opportunity to participate in the celebration of the Eucharist in the campus pilot program and in the liturgy service of this conference.

Also speaking at the conference will be two staff members from the United States Conference of Bishops: H. Richard McCord, executive director of the U.S. Bishops’ Secretariat for Family, Laity, Women, and Youth, and Father William Schooler, pastor of St. Pius X Parish in Granger, will give one of those sessions: “Reconciliation: Celebrated Community in the Parish, Lived in the Wider Community.”

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The annual St. George’s Day Mass was celebrated April 27 at St. Pius X, Granger. Father Bob Lengerich presided and awarded the Scouts their Ad Altare Dei medals. The Ad Altare Dei program helps Boy Scouts develop a fully Christian way of life in the faith community using the sacraments as a means toward spiritual growth. The Ad Altare Dei emblem-medallion was awarded by Daniel Burmeister, Troop 451, Christ the King Church, South Bend; Dylan Burress, Troop 750, St. Thomas the Apostle, Elkhart; Gus Ladwig, Troop 105, St. John the Baptist, South Bend; Thomas Mauck, Troop 750, St. Thomas the Apostle; and Adam Snyder, Troop 1, St. Thomas the Apostle. In the photo are: front row, from left, Laura Ray, Thomas Mauck, Gus Ladwig and Father Bob Lengerich; back row, Dylan Burress, Daniel Burmeister and Adam Snyder. Ad Altare Dei translates to “you are God.”

Students and parishioners of St. John the Baptist in Fort Wayne partici-pated in the Homeward Bound walk on Sunday, April 27, to raise funds for Vincent Village Inc., which helps the homeless in Allen County.

EMBLEMS

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Sonya Murry
In his vineyard — Father Barry England celebrates 40 years of priesthood

MISHAWAKA — The question frequently asked by the laity is when or why does a young man or adult choose the religious vocation to the priesthood. The answer to this question was witnessed early in the life of Father Barry England as he nurtured the desire to follow in the footsteps of Jesus and his disciples.

The mission of working in vineyard as a priest was not driven by his desire to do something, be something or have something, but it was driven by the needs of others and the needs of the world.

Through the encouragement of his parents, William and Anne, and the examples and support of his teachers and the parish priests, he reached the conclusion of a vocation to the priesthood.

Barry Charles England was born on Aug. 9, 1942 in White Plains, N.Y. He attended grade school at St. Francis Xavier, LaGrange, Ill., and St. John the Baptist in Fort Wayne. His high school years were spent at Our Lady of the Lake Seminary, Syracuse. He received his bachelor of philosophy and master of divinity degrees at Mount St. Mary’s University, Norwood, Ohio.

His ordination was on, May 25, 1968, Bishop Leo Pursley granted a request to Deacon England to be ordained in his home parish, the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus, Joliet, Ill., by Bishop Romeo Blanchette. He celebrated his first Mass in the Joliet cathedral and later, a first Mass was celebrated at St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne.

Father England’s served as an associate pastor at St. Mary Parish, Huntington, and at St. Charles Borromeo, Fort Wayne. His first pastoral assignment was in 1979 being assigned to St. Joseph Parish, Roanoke, and St. Catherine, Nix Settlement. Future assignments followed at Queen of Angels, Fort Wayne, St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend, and then to his present assignment to St. Bavo Parish in Mishawaka.

Father England has served on the Presbyteral Council of the diocese and as chairman of the Priests Personnel Board and as judge in the marriage tribunal. He was chaplain of the diocesan DCCW and a board member of the United Way of Allen County serving on the Allocations Committee. He was on the Bishop Dwenger High School Board of Education and presently serves as a chaplain for the Knights of Columbus, Council 1878, Mishawaka.

Having served the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend for 40 years, he finds his greatest satisfaction in the daily celebration of the Eucharist. Through the Eucharist he is able to relate to people in every day experiences of hurt and need, being ever present in the faith and hope in Jesus.

As a leader of a parish family, he guides his flock on their personal journeys from birth to death.

Among Father England’s hobbies may be playing a game of golf — although sometimes the score may not be the greatest — or being in attendance at the many sporting events on the campus of the University of Notre Dame.

In preparation for the 40th anniversary of his ordination, Father England will make a week-long retreat at the St. Meinrad Retreat Center. On Sunday, June 1, he will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at 1:30 p.m. with his St. Bavo Parish family and close friends. An afternoon reception will follow in the parish center.

Sisters of the Holy Cross celebrate 1,695 vowed years

NOTRE DAME — Thirty-one Sisters of the Holy Cross will celebrate their jubilee anniversaries on July 20, at 10:30 a.m. in the Church of Our Lady of Loretto at Saint Mary’s College.

One sister is celebrating 75 years since her first profession; 17 are celebrating 60 years; 11 are marking 50 years; and two are celebrating 25 years of vowed life.

Twelve of these 31 sisters have taught or ministered in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend during the sisters’ collective 1,695 years of vowed life in the congregation.

75-year jubilarian

Sister Agnes Solaris (Sister M. Regina Rosarri) celebrates 75 years since her first profession of vows.

60-year jubilarians

The following sisters are celebrating 60 years and have served in the diocese:

• Sister M. Alberta Zimmer

70-year jubilarian

Sister Claudette Metcalf was born and raised in Elkhart. She attended Saint Vincent de Paul School and entered the Sisters of the Holy Cross from the parish. She taught at Sacred Heart School, Fort Wayne, 1954-56; St. Thomas

Sisters of the Holy Cross (Chu) celebrates 75 years

The following sisters are celebrating 75 years of vowed life in the congregation.

Among these 75-year jubilarians are 18 sisters who are celebrating 60 years; 11 are celebrating 50 years; and three are celebrating 25 years.

The following sisters are celebrating 75 years of vowed life:

• Sister M. Claudette Metcalf

Among the sisters celebrating 75 years are 12 who have taught or ministered in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

A week-long formation program followed by a week-long retreat at the Malvern Retreat Center in Elkhart will mark 75 years since their first profession.

CONGRATULATIONS

To our former pastor

Father Barry England

Congratulations, Ad Multos Annos!

St. Anthony de Padua Parish
SOUTH BEND

Thank you

Father Barry England

for your years of service at
St. Joseph Roanoke
St. Catherine Nix Settlement

Congratulations on the 40th anniversary of your ordination to the priesthood!
• Sister Dorothy Kebo (Sister M. Mount Carmel) served in various capacities at the University of Notre Dame, 1989-2001.
• Sister M. Gertrude Anne Ots served as registrar at Saint Mary’s College, Notre Dame, 1950-58, and taught theology, 1959-67. She has done retreat work and spiritual direction, 1992 until the present.
• Sister Margaret Lorraine Devine (Sister M. Henrica) taught at Sacred Heart School, Fort Wayne, 1952-53 and Holy Cross School, South Bend, 1959-66.
• Sister M. Michaelene Frieders served in administration at St. Joseph’s Hospital, South Bend, 1949-65. Currently she volunteers in Hispanic ministry, St. Adalbert Parish, South Bend.
• Sister Patricia Ann Thompson (Sister M. Catherine Siena) served as the director of mission services, Sisters of the Holy Cross, Inc., Saint Mary’s, Notre Dame. Founded in 1841 in Le Mans, France, the congregation numbers over 500 members worldwide and ministers in the United States, Bangladesh, India, Brazil, Peru, Mexico, Uganda and Ghana.

In the South Bend area, the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross is the sponsor of Saint Mary’s College and founder of Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center.

25-year jubilarians
Sisters celebrating 25 years are Sister Patricia Ann Carroll and Sister Hasitu Margaret Pereira from Bangladesh. The Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross is an international congregation with administrative offices located at Saint Mary’s, Notre Dame. Founded in 1841 in Le Mans, France, the congregation numbers over 500 members worldwide and ministers in the United States, Bangladesh, India, Brazil, Peru, Mexico, Uganda and Ghana.

Thank you for all your love, guidance and compassion toward all of us and our wonderful Parish.
May God Bless You Always
With much love,
Your St. Bavo Family

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The next step is ours

The recent visit of Pope Benedict to the United States and the increased media attention surrounding his time here certainly gave the church in this country an opportunity to speak to the larger culture, including lapsed, inactive and lukewarm Catholics.

Pope Benedict was not here to sightsee: he was here on a mission. The scandals of the past decade and the particular challenges facing Catholics in the United States no doubt loomed large in his mind as he readied for his historic visit. But like any retreat, the real fruits or benefits of his time with us will be known only in the long term (retreats, which prompt short-lived fervor but offer no long-term conversion promise little in terms of lasting effect). And that is why it is largely up to us to Catholics to make a difference.

That is, Pope Benedict’s warmth, intelligence and genuine humanity were all obvious to anyone who spent more than a few minutes watching the news reports or the broadcasts of his various liturgical and extra-liturgical talks. Unlike almost all modern politicians and civil leaders, he writes his own speeches and carefully crafts his words to fit his audience and his purpose; he has no “speech-writers” on the Vatican payroll, which makes his words all the more compelling because they are intensely personal.

Yet his words — as beautiful, heartfelt and true as they are — cannot alone make a difference. It is up to us as Catholics, men and women, young and old, lay, consecrated and ordained, who must together renew our commitment to the Gospel and deepen our love for the truth and beauty of the Catholic faith.

The most effective and compelling witnesses — that’s what “martyr” means — are those who live the faith with joy and whose daily life speak Christ to others. The relativism, which so (rightly) concerns Pope Benedict, can make it easy for us to think that Jesus is just one option among many other competing and equally valid options. But it is possible that in Jesus, God has offered a decisive and definitive answer to the deepest questions in the human heart.

One of Pope Benedict’s favorite ways of understanding Christ is as the Word-made-Flesh: and the Greek word “Logos” is much broader than the English term “Word”; it also means “reason,” “order,” “principle of coherence,” and even “meaning.” And it is this last, which Pope Benedict in his earlier writings liked to emphasize, that is the face of Christ, the Incarnate Logos of God, is the One that bestows and reveals the meaning of our life, existence and of the entire narrative of human history.

The pope has come. He has prayed with us. He has spoken, preached and taught among us. He has diagnosed the problems that face us and he has offered us insight into their solution. And now the rest is up to us.

Primary responsibility

With Indiana’s May 6 primary election rapidly approaching, Today’s Catholic would like to once again point out some of the moral imperatives associated with voting. While the purpose of a primary election is not to elect officials, but to allow partisans from each of our political parties to have a say in which candidates appear on the November ballot, the church still advocates moral positions for its members, not just on an array of issues. Voters can read the Faithful Citizenship documents published by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops at www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship/FCStatement.pdf.

While a primary election leaves room for independent voters not to participate in the process, the church still affirms the responsibility of Catholics living in a democratic society to listen to the positions the church advocates, make their own conscientious decisions based on the offerings of each candidate and exercise their right to vote.

Good questions needed

One of the beautiful aspects of our rich Catholic faith is that a person can always come to a deeper and deeper understanding of it. Part of this is accomplished through questioning. Today’s Catholic offers a regular question-and-answer feature, That’s a Good Question, that aims to deepen Catholics’ knowledge and understanding of their faith by answering questions big and small with the help of priests and other experts on different areas of the faith.

If you have questions, please e-mail them to editor@fw.dioceseweb.org or mail them to Today’s Catholic, 915 S. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, IN 46802.

Finding the face of Christ in experiential learning trips

By Mary Tracy

Notre Dame — What does it mean to see the face of Christ? What does the face of Christ look like? Is it perfect, whole, without blemish? Or is it full of scars? In this season of Easter, students are reflecting on where they have found the face of the resurrected Christ in their service and immersion experiences.

Every year, several University of Notre Dame students encounter this face of Christ in service and experiential learning opportunities. Ever since its founding by Blessed Basil Moreau, Holy Cross has carried its trademark missionary zeal, commitment to service and formative education into communities it has established throughout the world. Exploring these Holy Cross apostolates in Phoenix, Ariz., and Coachella, Calif., students find the face of Christ in many places. And they find it in each other as well.

The face of Christ in Phoenix, Ariz.

After a recent Holy Cross mission in education seminar in Phoenix, Ariz., over Christmas break, students shared some reflections on their experiences.

One education student named Kassi recalled asking a young boy at the Andre House soup kitchen how his New Year’s was. He smiled wide and said he had a great one. He had a new shirt and the whole family got to sleep inside. He was also excited to be eating this great food that they helped to prepare and serve. It was his gratitude and joy in receiving basic food and shelter that struck Kassi. Other students told similar stories of individuals who had impressed them.

Students witnessed Phoenix residents working together with Holy Cross apostles like Andre House and Maggie’s Place for pregnant women to eliminate poverty and promote life. They came to Phoenix with knowledge of Catholic social teaching but they left Phoenix with a mental photo album of the face of the risen Christ living here on earth.

The face of Christ in Coachella, Calif.

Other students spent their spring break on a Holy Cross Mission in Hispanic Ministry seminar in California. Like the students who went to Arizona, the students on the Coachella seminar had prepared for their trip by reading church social teachings on issues like immigration, mission and solidarity. The face of the Beloved Christ emerged in the warm hospitality of their hosts, in the committed community engagement of the recently immigrated workers there, in the advocacy for just wages and fair housing in support of healthy family life and full human development.

After returning to campus, students submitted integrative papers and then met to reflect on the many faces and lives they encountered throughout their immersion experiences. Students grappled with issues such as reckoning free market economics with the church’s teaching that a worker has a right to a fair wage, or upholding a country’s right to control its borders alongside a person’s right to migrate in order to support a family. The face of Christ displays all the difficulty of the issues, but it is also the face that both offers and receives hospitality in Christian friendship.

The face of Christ in mission and education

Once back on campus, students were greeted by another face, that of the Congregation of Holy Cross founder, Blessed Basil Moreau’s education and mission vision. The Congregation of Holy Cross has its roots in the ministry of Blessed Thomas More, who was burned at the stake for his commitment to education and for his vision of a university college for the training of young men to work in a world called to move out in loving service. The students who participate in the Holy Cross experiential learning and immersion trips study in campus and how beautiful and universal the complex face of the risen Christ truly is in mission and vocations, in parish life and in their very own studies.

Mary Tracy is a third-year master of divinity student and assistant instructor at the University of Notre Dame. She helps plan the experiential learning seminars.

Today’s Catholic welcomes letters from readers. All letters must be signed and include a phone number and address for verification.

Today’s Catholic reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. Address letters to: Today’s Catholic • P.O. Box 11690 • Fort Wayne, IN • 46865-11690 or e-mail to: editor@fw.dioceseweb.org

Blessed Martyrs of England and Wales

1336-1680 feast - May 4

This feast honors 285 Catholics martyred in England and Wales over a 145-year period. They were men and women, priests and laity, rich and poor. Most were charged with treason for denying the Roman Church’s head of the church, for reconciling with the Catholic Church, for being a Catholic priest entering or remaining in the realm, and for harboring or assisting such priests. Pope John Paul II beatified 85 of them in 1987; earlier popes had beatified the rest. Another Forty Blessed Martyrs of England and Wales were canonized in 1970; their feast is Oct. 25.
Young man dedicates years to walk the world for Christian unity

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — While the church officially dedicates a week every year to pray for Christian unity, one young man has dedicated two years to try to heal divisions by walking across the world.

Samuel Clear, 29, said when he asked friends and family whether he should circle the planet promoting for unity one of them replied, “He said the idea was ‘too stupid to be anything but from the Lord.’”

After he began his journey on foot 492 days ago from Cabo Branco in Brazil and spent time April 21 speaking with Vatican officials from the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity about his mission.

Clear told Catholic News Service he was inspired to walk the world not as a pilgrim but as a missionary inviting people to pray daily.

“People have cell phone alarms for 4:01 as a reminder to pray daily,” he said.

Christians set their clock, watch missionary inviting people to pray

While speaking with Vatican officials in Brazil, Clear reached an understanding with the Lord’s ascension into heaven, salvation continued as the biblical translations.

This arrangement remains today in inseparably linked. Acts simply continues the story first given in Matthew’s Gospel. Again, the status of the apostles is the point. They are with Jesus. They have seen, and heard, the risen Lord. In this sense, they have experienced the Resurrection.

Jesus tells them to go into the world. They should exclude no one. They should bring all humankind into God’s family by baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

In this last instruction from Jesus is a clear and direct revelation of the Holy Trinity.

The church, having proclaimed the Resurrection, now calls us to look at ourselves and our times. Christ still is with it, it declares emphatically. As the bond between Luke and Acts tells us, salvation, perfected in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, still is on earth. Jesus is with us, even after the Ascension.

He is with us now in the church, because the church stands on the foundation laid long ago by the apostles. From them it has received the message of Jesus. From them, it received the power to forgive sin and to bestow the new life of grace. From them, it received the sacraments, now offered to us.

The church brings us to Jesus, and it brings Jesus to us. However, we are not dragged kicking and screaming to Jesus. We must turn to Jesus willingly. We humbly must realize our need for Jesus. As Ephesians tells us, only Jesus is the source of truth. He did not just live twenty centuries. He still lives. He still gives life, blessing us, forgiving us and taking us home to heaven.

READINGS


Monday: Acts 19:1-8 Ps 68,2-5accd, 6-7b In 16:29-33


CATEQUIZ’EM

ByDominic Campillossi

This quiz focuses on the recent visit by Pope Benedict XVI to the U.S.

1. Pope Benedict’s visit to the U.S. was a visit by a head of state — but which state?
   a. Bavaria, where he was born
   b. the Vatican, as it is an independent country
   c. the Catholic Church

2. How long was Pope Benedict’s visit?
   a. six days
   b. 10 days
   c. 12 days

3. Seeing U.S. guards in the White House was not the first time Benedict had seen GIs. What was that first, less auspicious occasion?
   a. at the end of WWII when he was, briefly, a POW
   b. when served as a NATO chaplain in Vietnam
   c. when his aunt married an American GI stationed in Bavaria

4. The pope met this other head of state here: a. President George Bush b. Prime Minister Wesley of Canada c. The Shah (in exile) of Iran


6. This was a first for that building, Why?
   a. It was the first visit by a pope there.
   b. It was the first time Benedict XVI had been outside the Vatican.
   c. It was the first time a pope had said Mass there.

7. The pope said Mass for 60,000 in this Bronx sporting venue:
   a. Candlestick Park
   b. Yankee Stadium
   c. Wrigley Field

8. It is likely the last Mass there because: a. secularism trumps faith
   b. the stadium is likely to be demolished soon
   c. it was ruled unconstitutional by the NY State Courts

9. The pope met 350 of these at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception: a. bishops
   b. callope players
   c. macons

10. He referred to the “Mother Diocese.” Which diocese was he referring to:
    a. Virginia, named for the Mother of God
    b. Baltimore, the first U.S. diocese
    c. Maryland, first state to be named a diocese

11. The pope visited one of these, becoming the first pope to visit an American one:
   a. church
   b. a chipmunk sanctuary
   c. synagogue

12. There he gave this rather appropriate greeting:
    a. Have a nice day
    b. Shalom
    c. What’s cooking fryers?

13. The pope greets 26,000 of these at a special rally: a. young people
   b. hermits
   c. citizens of the Vatican living undercover in the New York area

14. The pope told them about his youth in this land: a. six days b. 10 days c. 12 days

15. The pope also visited and prayed at this tragic scene: a. Ground Zero, center of the 9/11 attacks b. Ellis Island, scene of much misery c. The Battery Park, a shocking venue

16. What did the pope also celebrate while he was here: a. his 50th year as a priest
   b. his 50th year as pontiff
   c. his 81st birthday

ANSWERS: 1.b, 2.a, 3.a, 4.b, 5.c, 6.b, 7.a, 8.c, 9.b, 10.c, 11.b, 12.c, 13.a, 14.c, 15.a, 16.c

Apostles proceed with Jesus’ mission

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN E. CAMPION

Ascension Mt 28:16-20

Many dioceses in the United States this weekend liturgically celebrate the feast of the Ascension of the Lord. Other dioceses observe this week’s activities as the Seventh Sunday of Easter.

These reflections will refer to the biblical readings for the feast of the Ascension.

The first reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, is from the beginning of Acts. As with the Gospel of Luke, the author addresses Theophilus, whose identity is unclear. Was Theophilus his actual name? Perhaps it was. Perhaps it was not. Theophilus also is a title, meaning “friend of God.”

In any case, this initial form of address recalls that Luke’s Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles are inseparably linked. Acts simply continues the story first given in the Gospel. (At some point, editors divided these books and place the Gospel of John between them. This arrangement remains today in biblical translations.)

This is important. It shows that in the mind of the holy author the process of salvation did not end with the Lord’s ascension into heaven. After the Lord went to heaven, salvation continued as the apostles proceeded with the mission made perfect by Jesus, ordained long ago by God. A lesson to be learned is how important the apostles were. It is a lesson not presented subtly. As Acts continues, the text clearly reveals that the first Christians greatly revered the 11 surviving apostles, that Peter led these apostles and spoke for them, that they performed miracles just as Jesus had performed miracles, and that they exercised the very power of Jesus in calling Matthias to be an apostle.

Still, despite all these assertions as to their dignity, they are only humans. They need the inspiration of God.

As its second reading, the Church presents a selection from the Epistle to the Ephesians. This reading is a prayer that all Christians might find true wisdom.

However, true wisdom reposes in the Lord. Earthly wisdom can be faulty, and often it is faulty. For the last reading, the church gives us a lesson from St. Matthew’s Gospel. Again, the status of the apostles is the point. They are with Jesus. They have seen, and heard, the risen Lord. In this sense, they have experienced the Resurrection.

Jesus tells them to go into the world. They should exclude no one. They should bring all humankind into God’s family by baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

In this last instruction from Jesus is a clear and direct revelation of the Holy Trinity.

Reflection

The church, having proclaimed the Resurrection, now calls us to look at ourselves and our times. Christ still is with it, it declares.
A religious, rather than political party

Who were the Sadducees in the time of Jesus?

Scholars are not sure of the origin of the term “Sadducees.” One opinion is that a Sadducee is a Zadokite, a descendant of the high priest Zadok, who was appointed a priest by King David and oversaw the ark of the covenant. It is assumed that the Zadokites were the priests who had charge of the ark. Another opinion notices that “Zadok” is in the name Melchizedek, a king and a priest who offered bread and wine in the restored temple, the Zadokites being the most important person in the Jewish community in Israel after the Babylonian exile. Probably lies in the position of the patriarchal ruler, rather than a political party. They are a religious band and me — this is my consolation and state, were very material in their pleasures. Practicing virtue leads to happiness, but peace of mind that this happiness was not sensual enjoyment, but peace of mind that comes from cultivating virtue. Practicing virtue is the way to happiness. Later on the followers of Epicurus gave into sensual enjoyment, as in the phrase “eat drink and be merry for tomorrow we die.” This is called Epicureanism. So the Sadducees, who enjoyed a privileged position in both church and state, were very material in their pleasures.

The origin of the Sadducees probably lies in the position of the high priest during the Persian administration (559-330 B.C.). The high priest was the most important person in the Jewish community in Israel after the Babylonian exile. The high priest was the head of the cult, the president of the Sanhedrin, or supreme council of the Jews, and the chief representative of the people to the ruling officers of the foreign powers who ruled Israel. The priestly families enjoyed prestige and political influence as representatives of the people. Under the Hasmonean dynasty (135-36 B.C.), the Sadducees were the ruling party. John Hyrcanus I (130-104 B.C.) threw his support to the Sadducees because he felt the Pharisees lied about his brother. Hyrcanus’ son Alexander Janneaus (103-76 B.C.) had studied under Greek tutors in Rome and liked the Greek ideas of the intellectual Sadducees.

W. White says the Sadducees adopted the beliefs of the Greek philosopher Epicurus (342-270 B.C.) who taught that the highest good is happiness. W. Smith says this happiness was not sensual enjoyment, but peace of mind that comes from cultivating virtue. Practicing virtue is the way to happiness. Later on the followers of Epicurus gave into sensual enjoyment, as in the phrase “eat drink and be merry for tomorrow we die.” This is called Epicureanism. So the Sadducees, who enjoyed a privileged position in both church and state, were very material in their pleasures.

At the time of Jesus, Amasias the Sadducee had so exerted his influence that six high priests in succession had been members of his own family. Caiphas, the seventh, was his grandson by law and was the architect of Jesus’ crucifixion. It is probable that the Sadducees in the Sanhedrin secured Jesus’ condemnation.

Father Richard Hare, pastor of St. Martin de Porres Parish, Syracuse, answered this week’s questions.

Lost

My son, 20, who will be traveling to Rome in a short month, lost his passport. He was in Florida last week telling me for days, surely hoping he would find it. It probably did not help his stress that when he called to report this his response was emphatic and frantic, “Oh my gosh, No! Do you realize you’re supposed to keep two sets of parental and supporting documents. They are a religious band and me — this is my consolation and state, were very material in their pleasures. Practicing virtue leads to happiness, but peace of mind that this happiness was not sensual enjoyment, but peace of mind that comes from cultivating virtue. Practicing virtue is the way to happiness. Later on the followers of Epicurus gave into sensual enjoyment, as in the phrase “eat drink and be merry for tomorrow we die.” This is called Epicureanism. So the Sadducees, who enjoyed a privileged position in both church and state, were very material in their pleasures.

Everyday Catholic

Theresa A. Thomas

“Your kidding! You’re kid- ding! Oh my gosh! Where was it?” He didn’t seem to hear me.

“I don’t know how it could be there,” he complained. “I already looked there. It wasn’t there. Now it’s there.”

“It was by your bed? It was on the shelf?”

“It was in a bunch of papers on the shelf. I already had looked there.”

I had told him to stop right there, as soon as we got off the phone, and say a “Hail Mary” in thanksgiving.

“Okay mom. I love you.”

And we hung up.

This little consolation and demonstration of God’s care and protection reinforced my faith that he will care for us in all our needs, big and small. God had touched me on the shoulder to reassure, “Yes, I’m here and I care.” It was a small thing but so significant to me. I know we are going to sell this house soon. And I know the kids are going to turn out fine. If we stay steadfast and “pray unceasingly,” they will surely make it to heaven. God everything will be all right. I just know it.

Theresa Thomas, parochioner of St. Matthew Cathedral Parish in South Bend, is the mother of nine children and wife of David. Visit her Web site at www.there- saathomas.typepad.com.

Scripture Search

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for May 4, 2008

John 17:1-11a

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Seventh Sunday of Easter, Cycle A:

The Lord’s prayer on the night before the Passion. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

Heaven

Your Son

All People

True God

On Earth

Kept

On

I'm here and I care.” It was a small thing but so significant to me. I know we are going to sell this house soon. And I know the kids are going to turn out fine. If we stay steadfast and “pray unceasingly,” they will surely make it to heaven. God everything will be all right. I just know it.


Easter

May

At

Luke

Here

I am and I care.” It was a small thing but so significant to me. I know we are going to sell this house soon. And I know the kids are going to turn out fine. If we stay steadfast and “pray unceasingly,” they will surely make it to heaven. God everything will be all right. I just know it.


Letter

Continued from page 15

Colombia and Panama since the road was dangerous and the border was extremely dangerous. Walking 18 to 31 miles a day and resting every 10th day, Clear did not always make it to towns where he could replenish supplies which meant his skinny 6-foot-5-inch frame had to skip plenty of meals. Once in Venezuela, he ran out of water and food and ran into a puma.

“Had a standoff,” he said, “but after slowly backing away, Clear said the puma eventually went away hungry, too. From Mexico, he crossed the border into the United States and tromped through Texas, a thin strip of water and food and ran into a puma.

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Pope ordains new priests, tells them to spread Gospel joy

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI ordained 29 new priests, including an Iraqi, and told them their mission was to spread “the Gospel joy.”

“To be collaborators in the joy of others in a world that often is sad and negative, the fire of the Gospel must burn within you, the joy of the Lord must dwell within you,” the pope said April 27 at the ordination Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica.

The new priests were ordained for the Diocese of Rome; the group consisted of 22 Italians and men from France, Haiti, Paraguay, Colombia, Chile and India.

The 29th ordination was Father Jarjis Louis Besancon Parish, who is attending St. Joseph School this year and running for the Raiders again this season, was the single athlete taking home four blue ribbons for the week. The eighth grader finished first place in the long jump, 800-meter run, 1,600-meter run and ran a leg on the winning 4x100 relay team. Other blue ribbon recipients were Whislers, Krouse, Berghoff, Llorente, Vian, McDermitt, Leeue, Beier, Kinley, McGauley, Niese, McCann, Ware, Trevino, Hilger, Current, Hill, Smethers, Leja, A. Fendel, Casterline, K. Fendel, Gorman, Gorz, Tippmann, Barton, Jauch, Eckrich, York, Sordelet, Schrader, Rosewarne, Tippmann, Messman, Hoffer, Johnson, Leffers, Dorman, Painter, Hedddins, Bowers, Baumgartner and Marquelling.

FATHER LACROIX LAUNCHES CHET WAGGONER LITTLE LEAGUE

Newly ordained Holy Cross Father Steve LaCroix of Christ the King Parish in South Bend hit the ground running. He braved the cold weather for opening day ceremonies last Saturday, April 26, at Chet Waggeron Little League, offering the invitation to officially start the season.

FATHER LAcroix launches CHET WAGgoner LITTLE LEAGUE
SAN DIEGO (CNS) — The creator and the publisher of a board game called “Vatican: Unlock the Secrets of How Men Become Pope” said they hope players will have fun with it but learn something along the way about how a pope is elected.

Stephen Haliczer, the game’s creator, is a research professor at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Ill. The history of the Catholic Church is one of his areas of interest.

The game, available on the Web at www.vaticanboardgame.com, was published by the College of DuPage Press in Glen Ellyn, Ill.

“Vatican” is for two to six play- ers, who assume the roles of promi- nent, fictional cardinals viewed as possible papal contenders. To win, a cardinal must earn the support of at least two-thirds of the 150 cardinals voting in the simulated papal conclave.

According to the instruction booklet, “Vatican” is a simulation of processes and events that are in reality far more complex and nuanced than in the game. Though “designed for enjoyment,” the sim- ulations are “distillations from the recent history of papal elections,” which Haliczer and the publisher hope will also provide players with “some solid knowledge along the way.”

There are three phases in the game. The first phase makes use of a game board, while the second and third phases are played exclusively with the game’s card decks.

During the first phase, “Life and Career,” players establish some of their characters’ key biographical details, as well as their credentials for the papacy.

In the second phase, “Electoral Run-Up,” players have an opportu- nity to grow in prominence as they stand up to scrutiny from the press and their fellow cardinals during the nine days between the death of the pope and the beginning of the papal conclave.

The objective of the first two phases is to acquire “influence points,” which are converted at the end of each phase into cardinal votes.

The third and final phase is set during the conclave itself, when players must earn the remaining votes needed to emerge from the conclave as the next pontiff.

The game is clearly intended to be an entertaining, educational and interactive experience of the process by which the Catholic Church elects its pontiffs. But poten- tial players should be warned that some of the cards present scenarios that might strike some players as morbid, unduly tongue-in-cheek or uncomfortably realistic.

One scenario even has the pope dying after an accident in which the “popemobile rolls over after hitting a truck carrying bananas,” and several of the “career events” cards, which add to or subtract from a player’s influence points, directly reference how the player’s character handled clerical sex abuse cases within his archdiocese.

To order a copy of “Vatican: Unlock the Secrets of How Men Become Pope,” visit www.vaticanboardgame.com, or call: (800) 290-4474.

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‘Vatican’ board game helps understand how a pope is elected

BY DENIS GRASSKA

NEW YORK (CNS) — Following are capsule reviews of movies issued by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Office for Film and Broadcasting.

“Baby Mama” (Universal/Relativity)

Frequently funny but morally problematic romantic comedy about a hard-driving grocery chain executive (Tina Fey) who, incapable of bearing a child, hires an unpolished woman (Amy Poehler) to be a surrogate mother, subse- quently becoming her roommate when the latter splits from her deadbeat common-law husband (Dax Shepard) while herself becoming attached to an ex-lawyer turned juice-bar owner (Greg Kinnear). Writer-director Michael McCullers’ partially improvised feature debut, with a cast that also includes Sigourney Weaver and Steve Martin, abounds in comic energy but implicitly accepts current mores regarding fertility that are contrary to Catholic values.

Acceptability of surrogate parent- ing and artificial insemination, implied premarital sex, some crude and crass language, sexual and scatological humor, and a drug ref- erence. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is O — morally offensive. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13.

“Constantine’s Sword” (First Run)

Earnest but unbalanced docu- mentary, adapted from ex-priest James Carroll’s “Constantine’s Sword: The Church and the Jews — A History,” surveys the fraught history of Christian anti-Semitism, particularly as it plays out among American evangelicals today, and its roots dating back to the early days of the Roman Catholic Church, incorporating semanal episodes from his life story, includ- ing his sometimes conflicted rela- tionship with his father, and his ultimate disillusionment with the institutional church. Director Oren Jacoby’s film ignores some signifi- cant nuances in the historical record, as it broadly outlines the tragic conflict. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is L — limited adult audience.

“Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed” (Premise/Rampan)

Provocative documentary intended to show how academics and research scientists are penal- ized for merely suggesting that there might be flaws in the prevail- ing theory of Neo-Darwinian evolu- tion and that purported scientific evidence for the alternate theory of intelligent design is being system- atically ignored. Director Nathan Frankowski’s unabashedly partisan film — using old movie clips to humorously underscore the film’s themes of suppression and duplici- ty, and with at least some of the interviewees seemingly caught of guard by the line of questioning — is impressively hosted and co-written by Ben Stein. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG.

“Where in the World Is Osama bin Laden?” (HBO)

Genial but not particularly insightful documentary in which average citizen Morgan Spurlock’s attempts to find the titular terror- ist takes him to North Africa and the Middle East, where he meets with locals and ponders the origins of Islamic extremism. Spurlock, who also directed, rushes the familiar shortcomings of American policy in the area, and makes a vague plea for a more humane world, but suggests no specific reforms. Two gory scenes, three uses of the f- word, and occasional crude and crass language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13.

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Spring movies offer up some plums

“Plumm Summer” (Home Team/Fairplay)

Gentle and winning fact-based coming-of-age tale, set in 1968, in which a 13-year-old aspiring detec- tive (Chris J. Kelly) and his girl- friend (Morgan Flynn) search their small Montana hometown for the TV puppet with whom his kid brother (Owen Pearce) is obsessed and who has made the show’s host (Henry Winkler) a local star, while he also supports his mother’s (Lisa Guerrero) struggles with his father’s (William Baldwin) alco- holism. Director Caroline Zehlder’s nostalgic first feature, narrated by Jeff Daniels, gleams with inno- cence and affection, and takes full advantage of its magnificent rural setting. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG.
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

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

DEVOCTIONS

Little Flower Holy Hour
Fort Wayne — Father Glenn Kohrmann will celebrate the holy hour at MacDougal Chapel on Tuesday, May 6, at 7:15 p.m. Father Glenn is pastor of St. Mary of the Lake Parish in Culver. Join in praying for priests and for vocations.

Rosary Bowl
South Bend — St. Jude’s Altar and Rosary Sodality will sponsor a rosary bowl on Saturday, May 17, at the gazebo (across from the office/rectory), 19704 Johnson Rd., at 11:30 a.m. Refreshments will follow. Please bring lawn chairs or blankets.

FUNDRAISERS

Fish, chicken and tenderloin dinner
Huntington — St. Mary Parish will have a fish, chicken and tenderloin dinner, Friday, May 2, from 4:30-7:30 p.m., in the activities center. Dinner includes spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, drinks and dessert. 50/50 raffle and carry-out available.

Spaghetti dinner
Fort Wayne — Queen of Angels Boy Scouts will have a spaghetti dinner Thursday, May 17, from 5-7 p.m. in the activities center, 1600 W. State Blvd. Adults $7, grades K-8 $4, families $25. Dinner includes spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, drinks and dessert. 50/50 raffle plus other prizes.

BBQ chicken sale supports community healthcare
Grabill — Christian Community Healthcare Clinic will be selling BBQ chicken for $5 a half on Saturday, May 3, in downtown Leo from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. to offset operating expenses.

Good old-fashioned paper drive
Fort Wayne — The Social Justice Club of Bishop Dwenger High School will have a paper drive Friday, May 9, from 7-8 a.m. and 3-4 p.m., and Saturday, May 10, from 8-11 a.m. in the southernmost lot near the main entrance. All types of paper and cardboard will be accepted, including old paperback books and phone books. Profit received from the recycled paper will be given to Catholic Charities. For information, contact Melissa Wheeler, mwheeler@bishopdwenger.com.

Knights plan fish fry
Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a fish fry on Friday, May 2, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The cost is $7 for adults, $3 for children 12 and under. Fish, two sides and beverage are included.

Christ Child garage sale time
Fort Wayne — The Christ Child Society will have a garage sale Friday, June 6, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday, June 7, from 8 a.m. to room at Queen of Angels activity center, 1500 W. State Blvd. Proceeds assist needy children in the area.

Spaghetti dinner helps seminarians
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council #5570 will have a spaghetti dinner to benefit diocesan seminarians on Thursday, May 8, from 4-6 p.m. Adults $7, children ages 5 to 12 $3 and under free. Tickets are available at the school or at the door.

Silent card party and meeting
South Bend — The Daughters of Isabella, Notre Dame Circle 572 will have a silent card party at their May 5 meeting at 2 p.m. at the Logan Center, 2505 E. Jefferson Blvd. Helen Deppe, state regent, will attend.

Performing arts at Dwenger supported
Fort Wayne — There will be a Nelson’s Chicken BBQ at the outside concessions stand off the main parking lot of Bishop Dwenger High School Sunday, May 10, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost will be $5 for a half chicken.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Women’s health assistance
Fort Wayne — Cregitton Model Services (CGMS) is a holistic women’s health care approach assisting women with PMS, irregular cycles, post-partum depression and couples with infertility, among avoiding pregnancy. Register for the introductory session held on the second Wednesday of the month from 7:30-8:30 p.m. by calling Theresa Schortgen at (260) 494-6444 or e-mail chhardtaily365@verizon.net.

St. Patrick’s 150th anniversary Mass celebration
South Bend — St. Patrick Parish will celebrate a 150 year anniversary with a Mass Sunday, May 10, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The Mass will be celebrated by Father Glenn Kohrmann. The Mass will be followed by a social hour.

Bremen
Christian Jimenez, 17, St. Dominic

Bristol
Laurel C. Miller, St. Mary/Annunciation

Fort Wayne
Sharon L. Skelly, 72, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Phyllis J. Gilbert, 68, Queen of Angels
Marcella M. McCarthy, 100, St. Peter
Elizabeth J. Brennan, St. Peter
Granger
Ardie J. Rathauff, 84, St. Plus X

Huntington
Sister Carolyn Louise Neff, OLVM, 92 Victory

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Director of Christian Formation
St. Joseph Parish, South Bend, Indiana seeks a Director of Christian Formation. A member of the Pastoral team, this full-time minister furthers the mission of the parish through oversight of the process that includes both Christian initiation and ongoing formation for the Christian life. Qualified applicants will have a love for the Church, be conversant in Church teaching, and have a pastoral theological understanding. They will have a collaborative spirit and a desire to grow with the parish community. Applicants must possess a bachelor’s degree, and at least one year of ministry experience. A bachelor’s degree in theology or a related field is preferred; an advanced degree in ministry is highly preferred. Salary is commensurate with education and experience and in compliance with diocesan guidelines. Qualified candidates should send a letter of introduction and resume to:

Director of Christian Formation Search Committee
SAINT JOSEPH PARISH
211 N. ST. LOUIS BLVD., SOUTH BEND, IN 46617
Questions may be directed to Father John DeRiso, CSC, Pastor (at 574) 234-3134

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Denny Cree, 86, St. Anthony de Padua
Earl Dean Bly, 76, Little Flower
Martin Patrick Hoban, 81, St. Joseph
Beverly J. Torzewski, 81, St. Jude
Richard E. Geraghty, 77, St. Matthew
Cathedral
Lola Guzicki, 87, St. Matthew Cathedral
Katherine H. McDermott, 94, St. Anthony de Padua
Walkerston
Deborah E. Millice, 54, St. Patrick

Director of Christian Formation
St. Joseph Parish, South Bend, Indiana

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Provena Health, a Catholic health system, builds communities of healing and hope by compassionately responding to human need in the spirit of Jesus Christ.
many of our neighbors, those with no faith, those who can not entrust themselves to the Lord — to be like orphans,” Bishop Olmsted said, inviting those to be ordained to bring a Christ to such people through their ministry.

At this point, each candidate promised obedience to his bishop, with those from Phoenix, Robert Holding, Thielo Ramirez and William Schmid, promising Bishop Olmsted directly, while the three from Fort Wayne-South Bend promised Bishop Olmsted that they would respect and obey their ordinary, Bishop John M. D’Arcy, and his successors.

The six then prostrated themselves before the altar while the congregation and choir prayed the litany of the saints. The laying on of hands and prayer of consecration followed, after which the new deacons were vested, presented with the Gospels and greeting by deacons were vested, presented with the Gospels and greeting by the bishop. The diocesan bishop, Father Galic, said five to be a missionary over there.”

The book begins with the changing face of the family. Families are no longer just biological and married mothers, fathers, and children. Families come in different packages. And to raise a family in a culture that is tainted with consumerism is a challenge today for those of us who want to raise our children to be the “best-version-of-themselves.”

Kelly talks of his only family in Australia. He challenges parents to have vision, make decisions, lead by example, be trustworthy, be a storyteller, collaborate with others, be persuasive, and persevere — to possess the traits of great leaders. He talks about what children really need.

Questions for discussion
1. What did you think of the comment that Kelly made about advertising and consumption driving our American culture?
2. What is your grand vision for your family? How does the culture nurture or hinder that vision? How does the church, your faith, play a role in that vision?
3. Do you indulge in the culture of consumption? What effects do you think this has or does not have on your family?
4. Kelly describes intimacy as “you and me revealing ourselves to each other.” How do you reveal yourself to your children? How do you “ask (your children) the right questions” as Kelly explains in his book?
5. What are your dreams for your children? What are your children’s dreams? How do you nurture these?
6. Have you ever considered the following analyses after watching a television program: “I am definitely a better-version-of-myself for having watched that show?” How do you think our lives would change if we made this analysis more often?
7. What can you do to foster a prayer life in your family? Service?