

TODAY'S CATHOLIC



Academic achievement

Diocesan high school scholars celebrated

Pages 10-13

Myanmar cyclone victims try to survive amid devastating losses



CNS PHOTO/INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES, REUTERS

Myanmar Red Cross workers unload rice donated by the World Food Program in Yangon, Myanmar, May 11. The World Food Program is delivering emergency food to Myanmar's cyclone-ravaged Irrawaddy delta at just a fraction of the rate needed by the storm's 1.5 million survivors, officials said May 12.

LEIEINTAN, Myanmar, FORT WAYNE (CNS) — Workers at Catholic Charities in Fort Wayne understand the extended effects of the cyclone in Myanmar. Not only are they connected to the resettled refugee population of 3,500-4,000 living in Fort Wayne, six employees themselves are refugees from the country formerly called Burma.

One of these employees is refugee resettlement director Nyeinn Chan, who, like so many, is still trying to make contact with his family in Myanmar. Chan has learned through contacts in Asia that almost all homes were destroyed in the area where his family lived. He remains hopeful, but has yet to speak to them.

On the ground in Myanmar, families are experiencing separation and loss on an enormous scale.

Pascal Than Hlaing is just one of many who are grieving in Leieintan, a village where only one house is left standing and the Baptist and Catholic churches had their roofs torn open.

Than Hlaing mourns the death of two of his three children.

"One of my sons was swept away when the water level was up to his neck," the 31-year-old Catholic father told the Asian church news agency UCA News May 9, referring to his 6-year-old boy. Cyclone Nargis hammered the Irrawaddy delta region early May 3 as it blew in from the Bay of Bengal, sending a wall of seawater inland for miles.

Several days later, Than Hlaing's 3-year-old son "passed away after he caught a cold." Now he and his wife are left with their remaining son; they are being sheltered in the Baptist church because their home was destroyed.

A small Catholic Church volunteer group from the Yangon Archdiocese that arrived within days of the

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'We pray for the vocations to the priesthood'

Time with Father Tirabassi's vocation club

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Movie potential

Angelus film festival creates optimism

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Sign of the cross

Bluffton statue greets travelers

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Think Green
Recycle this paper

Superintendent reflects on papal meeting

BY DON CLEMMER

FORT WAYNE — Of all the representatives of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend to attend various events during Pope Benedict's visit to the United States, Holy Cross Father Steve Kempinger, superintendent of Catholic schools for the diocese, had an up-close seat at one event that generated a great deal of attention and speculation, the pope's April 17 meeting with Catholic educators at Catholic University of America in Washington.

Father Kempinger attended the meeting with Father John Jenkins, president of the University of Notre Dame, and Dr. Carol Mooney, president of Saint Mary's College. A superintendent among a crowd of mostly university presidents, Father Kempinger was taken aback when he reached his assigned seat and found it was in the front row.

"I was so shocked to be so close," Father Kempinger recalls. The educators were seated at 4 p.m. and waited an hour for the pope's

arrival. As he waited, what was happening began to sink in.

"There was a little mystery in the sense that you didn't know what was going to happen," Father Kempinger says, adding, "I also had a sense of the privilege that he wanted to see us." This was because the pope's visit featured huge events with tens of thousands of people at stadiums and other outdoor venues. "And yet he wanted to carve out a little time to talk to educators."

As the pope's arrival grew nearer, Father Kempinger says, the excitement in the room mounted.

The meeting with educators had been one of the most greatly anticipated events on the pope's itinerary, with some speculating that he would have harsh words for leaders of Catholic universities on the topic of Catholic identity and adhering to Catholic teaching.

Father Kempinger found the experience to be just the opposite.

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PILGRIMS HOLD CANDLES



CNS PHOTO/JOSE MANUEL RIBEIRO, REUTERS

Pilgrims hold candles during Mass at the Marian shrine of Fatima in central Portugal May 12. Thousands of pilgrims joined in celebrations marking the 91st anniversary of the first apparition of Mary to three shepherd children. Lucia dos Santos and her cousins, Francisco and Jacinta Marto, received the first of several visions of Mary May 13, 1917.

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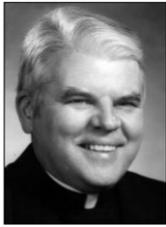
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'The Gospel must be preached and taught as integral way of life'



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

Reflecting on Pope Benedict XVI

The successor of Peter has come and gone, and the media has passed judgment, which has been positive. As the pope himself said, he came to confirm and strengthen the faith and apostolic life of the church in this country; but he also found himself confirmed and strengthened by those he met and those who listened to his teachings.

Those who are familiar with the writing of Joseph Ratzinger over the years as priest, theologian, university professor and cardinal know that this is an extraordinary teacher and that his words are instructive. He is especially at home responding to questions. One prepared question from a bishop asked about the "challenge of increasing secularism in public life and relativism in intellectual life."

Pope Benedict indicated that unlike some places in Europe, "the secular mentality in this country has not been intrinsically opposed to religion." But he said the subtle danger lies in the "growing separation of faith from life." This brings about, said the Holy Father, Christians who are "easily tempted to conform themselves to the spirit of this age." cf. Rom 12:3. The pope says, "We have seen this emerge in an acute way in the scandal given by Catholics who promote an alleged right to abortion." The pope says, "The Gospel must be preached and taught as an integral way of life, offering an attractive and true answer, intellectually and practically, to real human problems."

The pope uses a frequent expression: "the dictatorship of relativism." He used it also on the White House lawn. The "dictatorship of relativism," he says is a real threat to genuine human freedom, and that this freedom only matures in generosity and fidelity to the truth.

What is being asked for here is a full Easter faith — a faith which effects our decisions and will make us a leaven in society. The pope says, "I think in particular of our need to speak to the hearts of young people, who, despite their constant exposure to messages contrary to the Gospel, continue to thirst for authenticity, goodness, and truth." The pope then lays down the challenge: "much remains to be done, particularly on the level of preaching and catechesis in parishes and schools, if the new evangelization is to bear fruit for the renewal of ecclesial life in America."

I will be meeting with all our priests on May 20 and with our Presbyteral Council on May 27. I hope that I can address this and other comments by the pope. This is the whole meaning of the universal church and of the papacy, and this is the grace of his visit: to allow ourselves to be confirmed in the faith and strengthened by the one who holds the office of Peter.

There is much more, which the media has missed, but which we must not miss as we reflect on the challenges placed before us during this visit.

Our metropolitan archbishop

Many of our priests know Archbishop Daniel Buechlein, OSB. This is an important figure for our diocese because the metropolitan archbishop exercises a kind of pastoral concern and communion with the other bishops in the state or province. Archbishop Buechlein is a theologian, a Benedictine monk, and a native of the well known town of Jasper, probably the most Catholic community in the state. He served as rector of the famous St. Meinrad Seminary, where many of our priests knew him and also as bishop of Memphis in Tennessee. He was stricken with a serious cancer and has had chemotherapy once a month for six months. Now he has embraced a program of radiation five days a week for six weeks.

This has meant an almost complete curtailment of what had been a very vibrant and effective ministry. However, he made himself available for our spring meeting this past week. I am pleased to report that we found him in good health despite having been through the rigors of therapy. He sent

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his greeting to the priests and people of this diocese. It will be August or September before he is able to resume full ministry. However, the prognosis is good, and the outlook is for a full return and, with God's help, many more years to continue the strong vital leadership he has given to the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. The archbishop has also served on one of our most important episcopal committees, the Committee on Catechesis. He gave a strong and enlightening talk some years ago about the problems, which his committee found with many of the high school religion texts. In close collaboration with publishers, Archbishop Buechlein and my old friend, Archbishop Al Hughes, and other bishops have corrected these problems, and we are now receiving texts in full conformity with the Catechism of the Catholic Church. It is painful for him to have missed Holy Week and Easter and the chrism Mass, and those beautiful things that are central to the spirituality of the bishop and the flock.

I promised that we would all keep him in our prayers. He has been encouraged by thousands of letters and cards from his people. His address is: Most Reverend Daniel Buechlein, OSB; Archdiocese of Indianapolis; 1400 North Meridian St.; Indianapolis, IN 46206.

The situation in Burma (Myanmar)

As you know, through the hard and dedicated work of Catholic Charities, the Fort Wayne area of our diocese has welcomed many refugees from Burma. There has been criticism of this because they have come in such strong numbers. We have no control over it, but we have continued the great heritage of Catholic Charities in this diocese of welcoming refugees, in this case, from Burma. Now their country is being ravaged by the effects of a terrible cyclone and the military government is slow to allow in humanitarian assistance. Let us keep them in our prayers. Those who wish to make a donation can send it to Catholic Relief Services since they have people on the ground in Asia. The address is: Catholic Relief Services; P.O. Box 17090; Baltimore, MD 21203-7090; Memo line: Southeast Asia Natural Disaster.

A beautiful season

I have completed 26 confirmations, two this past weekend were very moving. The first was at St. Joseph's, La Grange, 40 young people from that parish and 10 from St. Gaspar Del Bufalo in Rome City. Father Mark Weaver, OFM, Conv., fluent in English and Spanish, has been a marvelous pastor at La Grange. He lives at St.

Anthony's, Angola, and stays one night a week in La Grange. It was a joy to be with him and also Father Matthew Jozefiak, CPPS. Father Matt, who has been an exemplary priest in our diocese, sadly, is leaving us as the Precious Blood Missionaries depart from this diocese after 50 years in Rome City and over 100 years in Precious Blood, Fort Wayne. We greet their departure with sadness, but with gratitude for over a century of service.

Another beautiful confirmation the next night at St. Paul's, Columbia City. I was so impressed with the youthful catechetical team that Father Larry

Kramer has put together. One lady, a grandmother I believe, told me: "Bishop, the class this year received 'meat and potatoes' in their instruction." She was declaring that the young people received instruction filled with content. She said, what is well known, that the previous generation did not always receive such instruction. I stayed at length afterwards talking to the catechists, young married people, eager to bring Christ to those preparing for confirmation.

A week to remember

In the current week, I will have three meetings in Warsaw, three baccalaureate Masses, one television Mass, one graduation, and a delightful brunch at the home of Professor Larry Cunningham and his wife Cecilia and the theology faculty of Notre Dame, along with those students majoring in theology at Notre Dame. I think when I am a retired bishop I will miss weeks like this.

A strong team

Despite a couple of losses when our closer was unable to close, the Red Sox seem to me to be one of the strongest teams in baseball and one of the best to represent Red Sox Nation in many years. Time will tell.

I will see you all next week.

Experts: Church must address role of Internet in identity, community

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Catholic Church and particularly its social teaching must begin to grapple with the potential and the problems posed by the Internet, particularly when dealing with questions about personal identity, community involvement and solidarity, several social scientists said.

Members of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences, meeting at the Vatican May 1-7, explored how solidarity and subsidiarity can come together to promote the common good.

As part of their discussion, they looked at the role of the market economy and the state in promoting the exchange of goods, but also at the role played by communities and groups that support people, give them identity and teach them how to contribute to society.

For an increasing number of people, computers are the way they connect to the communities where they test and forge their personal identities and where they express their creativity and contribute to the production of goods, several academy members said at a May 6 Vatican press conference.

Margaret Archer, a professor at the University of Warwick in England and co-organizer of the May meeting, said academy members were discussing the "common good" as those things which "are vital for the flourishing of the human person," including respect for human rights and the sharing of gifts and talents.

"Many of the old methods through which people learned to take part in society — to obey, to contribute, to receive — are threatened or gone altogether," she said.

The primary agent of socialization in the past was the family, led by a person's biological mother and biological father; "only 50 percent of the West's population" now grows up with both parents at home, she said.

The other significant agent was a person's specific culture, whether it was a nationality or a religion, she said. But increasingly people do not feel bound by those identities.

"It's more pick and mix now," she said.

And particularly as people live longer, she said, more and more



CNS

Travis Boudreaux, the tech-savvy Louisiana Catholic who founded CatholicTube.com, posts daily some of what he considers the best Catholic videos and podcasts uploaded to major sites such as YouTube.com and GodTube.com, as well as those from smaller operations such as LoveToBeCatholic.com. Pictured is a screen grab from the LoveToBeCatholic home page.

of them are living alone, increasing their distance from traditional forms of communal life.

"Here virtual communities could help," she said. "YouTube and Facebook may not be appropriate for people over 55, but we can develop communities for them."

"We cannot compare virtual reality to what we grew up with if we had two parents, but that reality no longer exists for most people," Archer said. "Virtual communities cannot replace the traditional family, but can it fill some of the space?"

"We may be nostalgic, but we cannot turn the clock back," she said.

As the academy members — economists, sociologists, legal experts and theologians, many of whom are not Catholic — engage in a dialogue with church leaders on social topics, Archer said they notice "gaps in Catholic social teaching because the world is changing so rapidly."

"If you go through the documents, you will find very little on information technology," she said.

Michel Bauwens, a Belgian philosopher and theorist specializing in "peer-to-peer" Internet collaboration, said that "the

vision of civil society in the documents is constituted by very formal organizations, which are being substituted by more flexible communities," including those formed by people who meet, socialize, work and share primarily through the Internet.

The philosopher said that cooperative, free projects such as the Linux computer operating system and the Wikipedia Internet encyclopedia are the result of a computer culture that encourages people to participate, work together and make their products available in a form anyone can use and access.

"It runs counter to the overbearing influence of both the market and the state," he said.

"Peer-to-peer work is an exemplar of subsidiarity because each person participates to the degree he or she wants, but to translate that into solidarity is an issue that still needs to be developed," he said.

Archer said, "Solidarity is the huge problem left behind by modernity. There is a huge deficit of solidarity," but increasing connections between and among people is probably the first step toward addressing the problem.

astically sharing what they had heard.

"People were riding high," he recalls. He also found himself thinking about how to apply various points of the pope's message — such as every child has a right to a Catholic education — into his work as superintendent.

Ultimately, Father Kempinger says he thinks the pope enjoyed his time with educators, noting, "He wasn't just someone who sat up there and read a speech. You could tell he meant what he was saying. And he was there with us."

of being role models to the youth and leading them to a deepening faith in God and love of God. This was tied in with the theme of the pope's visit, "Christ our hope."

"Educators have a huge part in that, bringing hope to the young," Father Kempinger says.

He adds that the pope expressed solidarity with educators as they face challenges in the modern world such as secularism and relativism.

In the wake of the meeting, Father Kempinger found himself, along with the other educators, scribbling down notes and enthusi-

MEETING

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"This was a warm, loving and caring person, talking from the heart and out of his faith," he recalls. "It was obvious that, through his affirmation of our vocation, he stands with us in education, and I think that means a lot."

Father Kempinger took from the pope's message the importance

Aid agency accepting donations for victims of Myanmar cyclone

The following U.S. aid agency, part of the Caritas Internationalis network, is working with Caritas agencies in southeastern Asia and are accepting donations to assist cyclone victims in Myanmar:

• Catholic Relief Services

By phone: (888) 277-7575; online: www.crs.org; or by mailing a check earmarked "Southeast Asia Natural Disaster" to: Catholic Relief Services, P.O. Box 17090, Baltimore, MD 21203-7090.

• Caritas Internationalis

Accessed online at: www.caritas.org.

CYCLONE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cyclone began assisting Than Hlaing and the rest of the 3,000 residents of the village about 75 miles southwest of Yangon. Leieintan was accessible only by boat, given the trees, downed electricity pylons and other cyclone debris blocking the roads.

The humanitarian disaster littered the partially flooded fields in this and other villages with the decomposing bodies of people and cattle. Other bodies float past in the river. U.N. officials have said up to 100,000 people are either dead or missing.

Than Hlaing's blank expression tells what words cannot of the horrors that he and hundreds of thousands of others face in the delta area, the rice bowl of Myanmar.

The Catholic volunteer group of three laypeople, their parish priest and a priest from Yangon had their work cut out in assessing the enormity of the needs in this village, one of the worst-hit in Yangon archdiocesan territory.

They arrived May 9 and the next day began bringing in food and diesel fuel by boat from Pyapon. The fuel is for running a rice-husking machine in the village and pumping out dirty water from a tank of drinking water. The church workers also began distributing sacks of rice and clothes.

One of the volunteers, Mary Khin from the Karuna Myanmar Social Services' office in Yangon, said she was "shocked" and it "pained" her to see all the dead bodies of people and animals that washed in at night over the delta. Karuna Myanmar is the local Catholic Church's relief and development organization.

Villagers were trying to come to grips with the tragedy. About 70 were living in the one house left standing, 150 in the Baptist

church, and 20 more in St. Joseph's Catholic Church. The rest were staying in the wreckage of their homes.

Ko Naing, 30, a Buddhist, told UCA News that his only child, just a year old, died in the nighttime flood.

"My wife can't swim, so we had to hang on to a tree. I picked her up to put her up the tree, and at the same time the water swept away my child," he said. They did not see the baby again.

One woman, who gave her name as Rosy, said her 4-year-old son was washed away by the flood and she and her husband climbed a tree in the dark to stay above the water, which rose to 13 feet.

Almost a week later, "our first problem now is food," the 47-year-old woman told UCA News.

On May 8, Archbishop Charles Bo of Yangon hosted the visiting apostolic delegate to Myanmar, Archbishop Salvatore Pennacchio, for a tour of the disaster area.

More than 15 villages simply disappeared. About 70 percent of the trees in Yangon were uprooted. All churches, priests' houses and convents have been damaged, Archbishop Bo said.

The church in Myanmar has appealed for international aid. Through the newly formed Myanmar Disaster Relief Committee, under the leadership of the Yangon Archdiocese, the local church has begun offering food, clothing, shelter materials and medicine to the affected people.

The greatest destruction occurred in the area of Yangon, Myanmar's capital and largest city, and the Irrawaddy delta region to the southwest, covered by the Pathein Diocese.

Contributing to this story was Don Clemmer.

Holy Cross sisters share their lived American history with college students

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

NOTRE DAME — Abby Van Vlerah, who teaches American history at Saint Mary's College, developed an oral history project for the students in her U.S. history since 1865 course. Twenty-three students were paired with 23 Sisters of the Holy Cross as part of this innovative video project, which aims to bring American history to life through the lived experience of the sisters.

Each student interviewed a sister about her lived experience during such events as the Great Depression, Civil Rights Era, World War II, the assassination of the Kennedys and Vietnam.

Van Vlerah had previously been involved in a couple of oral history projects when she did her graduate work at the University of Wyoming and experienced how effective they can be. Instead of assigning her students a research paper, she developed this project, which involved interviewing, videotaping and making a video to express what they learned as a class. Not only did they learn history, they also learned collaboration.

"I wanted to make history come alive for the students in a way that you can't get from reading a text book. It gave the students the opportunity to be active historians and understand the value of each individual's own contribution to, and encounters with, American history," she said.

When developing the project for her class, Van Vlerah, who graduated from Saint Mary's, thought right away of the sisters. As a student

she was involved with the sisters and knew they were a wealth of wisdom, so she contacted Sister Rose Edward Goodrow, the congregation's area coordinator for the senior sisters living at Saint Mary's, about her idea.

Sister Rose was very enthusiastic and felt that the project reflected the charism of the recently beatified founder of the congregations of Holy Cross. "Father Moreau advocated education, a call to teaching which has endured throughout our Holy Cross history. Many of the sisters involved with the Oral History Project are long-time educators and school administrators. It's marvelous to see these sisters teaching again — this time the classroom has come to them."

The students learned much more than American history. Blaine Nolan, who interviewed Holy Cross Sister Clare Anne Rumschlag, expressed it well when she said, "I learned so much from this experience. I had never been to the convent before our first meeting in February and still have only been there a few times but I feel so welcome. ... When I went into this experience I hoped to learn anything I could. I'm a history nerd and love anything to do with personal histories. I was so impressed with the Army Nurse Corps that Sister Clare Anne told me about (Editor's note: Sisters of the Holy Cross served as nurses in the Civil War).

"The thing that impressed me the most was how smart the sisters are. Their educational backgrounds are so cool, and they don't think anything about it. The three colleges that Sister Clare Anne went

to are all big name schools, but it's nothing to her. It was just what she was expected to do. This was such a great eye-opening experience for me. Learning about my sister and a few of the others really made me feel connected to them. I never felt that way before."

Katie Pariso interviewed Holy Cross Sister Rose Virginia Burt, who spoke of how much society has changed over the decades. "Sister Rose Virginia explained how much we have lost trust in people today. For instance, they never had to lock their doors at home. The kids were encouraged to play in the streets and make their own fun. It was a completely different environment," said Katie. "It really opened my eyes to the thought of what life is going to be like when I'm older. Is society going to continue to plummet? Also, it was interesting to me to branch out of my 'bubble' and learn about a different way of life."

The students were not the only ones enriched by this experience; it gave the sisters an opportunity to reflect upon important times in their lives, and many good and sad memories came to the surface.

Many spoke of the assassination of John F. Kennedy and were able to tell exactly where they were and what they were doing at the time the shooting and death occurred, as well as the details of the following three days.

The students and the sisters not only shared their stories, many have begun relationships beyond the interviews. One student discovered that her sister is legally blind and has volunteered to read to her.



SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

Saint Mary's College students interview Holy Cross Sisters as part of an innovative video project, which aims to bring American history to life through the lived experience of the sisters.

Pope authorizes granting of indulgences for Pauline year events

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Catholics who participate in events connected with the 2008-2009 jubilee year of St. Paul can receive a special indulgence, the Vatican said.

Pope Benedict XVI authorized the granting of a plenary, or full, indulgence in order to highlight the Pauline year and open the way to the "interior purification" of the faithful during its celebration, a May 10 Vatican decree said.

The decree was signed by U.S. Cardinal J. Francis Stafford, head of the Vatican tribunal that deals with indulgences and with matters related to the sacrament of penance.

An indulgence is a remission of the temporal punishment a person is due for sins that have been forgiven.

Pope Benedict established the Pauline year to run from June 28, 2008, to June 29, 2009, to mark the approximately 2,000th anniversary of the saint's birth.

The plenary indulgence is being offered to pilgrims who come to Rome, to Catholics who participate in local events connected to the jubilee year, and to those who may be too ill or otherwise prevented from physical participation.

It can be granted on behalf of the individual petitioner or on behalf of departed souls.

Cardinal Stafford said condi-

tions for the special Pauline year indulgence include the normal requirements set by the church for all plenary indulgences: that the person goes to confession, receives the Eucharist and prays for the intentions of the pope.

The decree explained in detail some specific requirements for the plenary indulgence:

- Those visiting the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls in Rome in the form of a pilgrimage must offer personal prayers before the Altar of the Most Blessed Sacrament; they must also recite the Our Father and the Creed in front of the Altar of the Confession, adding invocations to honor Mary and St. Paul.

- The Catholic faithful in any local church can obtain the indulgence by participating with devotion in a liturgy or other public event dedicated to St. Paul — in any sacred place on the opening and closing days of the jubilee year, and on other days in places designated by the local bishop.

- Catholics impeded by sickness or other serious cause, as long as they have the intention of fulfilling the other conditions as soon as possible, can obtain a plenary indulgence by joining spiritually in a jubilee celebration in honor of St. Paul and offering their prayers and suffering for Christian unity.

The decree said individuals can obtain more than one plenary indulgence during the jubilee year, but not more than one per day.

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Mother's Day event draws pro-life support in South Bend

BY TOM UEBBING

SOUTH BEND — Just two days before Mother's Day, about 70 pro-life advocates gathered at the Women's Pavilion abortion facility Friday morning in South Bend, many carrying signs with a Mother's Day theme.

"It is unfortunate that two days before the day that we all celebrate motherhood, this abortion facility is killing unborn children and depriving women of the privilege and joy of being a mother" a press release said. "We hope the women who come here today realize that being pregnant means they already have a child, they are already mothers. We also want them to know that we are here to help arrange for their prenatal care as well as the care of their child." The release also offered adoption and post-abortion counseling.

Except for an announcement in *Today's Catholic*, this special Mother's Day event was communicated mostly by word of mouth and e-mail.

"It's a surprise tactic," explained Saint Joseph County Right to Life (SJCRTL) office coordinator John Kominkiewicz.

When the doctor who does the abortions arrived and was about to enter the building, a sidewalk counselor cried out to him, "Please, give them at least one mother's day." The abortion doctor yelled back that the mere fact of motherhood was not necessarily honorable.

A contingent of students from Marian High School's Right to Life Club, led by theology teacher Tom Dlugosz, stood across the street from the abortion facility holding signs.

Marian student Beth Clark shared, "A lot of us in Marian Right to Life and Antioch Youth Group come out here every Wednesday to pray a rosary for unborn babies so that they may not be aborted, or the mothers who may have to go through this abortion because we also know that it is a very painful time for them."

Participants talked quietly with one another or prayed alone or in groups. Some walked back and forth on the street carrying signs.

At one point about 20 people prayed together a rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy standing on the little strip of Women's Care Center (a pro-life pregnancy coun-



TOM UEBBING

Young people, shown above, including the Marian High School's Right to Life Club, prayed outside the South Bend abortion facility on May 9, the Friday before Mother's Day.

seling and aid office) landscaping that borders a short section of the driveway into the abortion facility.

There was some excitement when South Bend police arrived in three squad cars. Apparently the security guard for the county welfare department called in a complaint about the pro-lifers taking up all the parking spaces, leaving none for welfare clients. He was visibly upset but started out by saying, "We're not against what you're doing," but the pro-lifers could not take up all the parking spots. Then five people moved their cars from the part of the parking lot near the welfare office.

Next the security guard demanded the police have vehicles in front of the Women's Care Center towed. In a heated exchange, the police refused, saying they could not be sure who owned those cars. The security guard pointed to a couple of vehicles whose bumper stickers were covered with pro-life messages.

The police repeated that they did not know who owned those cars. A counselor from the Women's Care Center came out of the office and said she would move her car if need be so there would be at least one open slot for one of their clients. Finally some of the demonstrators voluntarily moved their cars from that area.

Reifenberg's 'Santiago's Children' offers hope and possibility

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — As a young boy, Steve Reifenberg was continually recording descriptions of the comings and goings of life on any available scrap paper he could find. He saved them all in a special box hidden under his bed. Now, as a well-traveled and learned man, he eagerly offers his first novel, "Santiago's Children; What I Learned about Life at an Orphanage in Chile," published by University of Texas Press.

This 226-page tome is a memoir of sorts presented through the eyes of a younger Reifenberg, who at 23, while searching for his life purpose and much to his parents' chagrin, chose to volunteer in a small orphanage in Chile rather than attend law school. The pages are filled with heartwarming descriptive stories of the antics and anguish of the 13 resilient children who lived at the orphanage Domingo Savio.

The short stories were written, says Reifenberg, as journal entries over 20 years ago during his two-year stay in Chile, as a means of processing life events. Together they became, for the author, a documentation of his own rite of passage into purposeful living.

The second of Jean and Jim Reifenberg's five children, this Bishop Dwenger graduate earned a baccalaureate degree in philosophy from Notre Dame before spending an unfulfilling year teaching high school English and social issues in Colorado. Soon he was applying to law school, hoping that would be the right path on which to find meaning in life.

But a chance meeting with an old friend, Nathan, who was returning to his work in Chile, sealed Reifenberg's fate that fall though he fully intended to study law at Indiana University. "He knew of a woman who ran an orphanage who might need help," says Reifenberg passionately.

Together they composed a letter to the woman, Olga Diaz, in Spanish, offering Reifenberg's volunteer services, and after receiving a welcome response, with \$900 in his pocket, this adventurous young man put law school on hold and headed for Chile.

Knowing little Spanish, Reifenberg did his best to learn from the children, ages one and a



STEVE REIFENBERG

half to 13, and the other volunteers at the orphanage, but continued to feel inadequate there. As he continued to search for meaning and purpose, the young philosopher even considered medical school so as to acquire skills that would be evidence of his purpose in Chile.

But it was his openness to learning about life itself and the relationships that developed that gave him purpose. "I learned what it meant to be open to learning about something that's different. It gives you a new lens to look at your assumptions," he says.

Now he says of the experience, "It was a remarkable experience, full of grace and humor and tragedy. I have a new appreciation for so many things." And those experiences of grace and friendship shine through in his book.

Reifenberg adds another dimension to his story as well with his infusion of the political and cultural tension the Chilean population experienced during the 17-year-long brutal military regime, that he witnessed during his stay. "The challenges I faced with the kids mirrored the challenges the country faced. There was a broader story to tell," says Reifenberg.

Domingo Savio's Matron Diaz, says Reifenberg, was intent on running the orphanage as a family rather than an institution. The children there were all deeply affected by the poverty and fear imposed by the military regime.

Reifenberg's life was so impacted by the resilient children, from the man-child Sebastian to little wide-eyed Karen, and staff of Domingo Savio that the year of

service he had promised turned into two and he only returned home to the United States in 1985.

"I wanted to go to grad school," says Reifenberg, who went on to earn a master's degree in print journalism from Boston University and another in public policy from Harvard. It was there that he realized his passion for "thinking of complicated problems and solving them with people in the real world."

Following graduation in 1988, Reifenberg remained at Harvard as director of an international program for professionals seeking masters' degrees there. He later met and married Chris Cervenak who worked for the United Nations and together they spent a year working in El Salvador.

After the couple moved back to Boston, Reifenberg spent the next six years as executive director of the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard, until he was asked to establish an overseas office. And in 2002 he, his wife and three children moved to Santiago, Chile bringing this writer full circle.

This remarkable family wholeheartedly continues to immerse themselves in the colorful lifestyle present there, where Reifenberg, as an international career counselor, says, "In the educational setting, I'm building bridges for people to make meaningful contributions."

In its final pages, "Santiago's Children" offers an epilogue that leads the reader to present day Chile, with its return to democracy and economic development. Diaz and the orphanage remain intact, though transformed into a day program suited for larger numbers of needy children. Reifenberg has maintained contact with his "family" of orphaned children over the years, who are now adults, and their lives are updated for the reader.

"Santiago's Children" is an enjoyably descriptive memoir of hope and possibility that awakens a deeper understanding of the challenges facing Latin American cultures and the spiritual pursuits of an aspiring young man. The rest of the story remains to be written of the life and times of this passionate author, who is committed to social justice and service.

Visit Reifenberg's Web site at santiagoschildren.com for information.



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Pope defends church's teaching on artificial birth control

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI defended the church's teaching against artificial birth control and said its wisdom has become clearer in light of new scientific discoveries and social trends. In an age in which sexual activity can become like a drug, people need to be reminded that married love should always involve the whole person and be open to new life, he said May 10. The pope made his comments as the church prepared to mark the 40th anniversary of the encyclical "Humanae Vitae." Issued by Pope Paul VI July 25, 1968, it affirmed the church's teaching on married love and said use of artificial contraception was morally wrong. Addressing participants of a church-sponsored conference on "Humanae Vitae," Pope Benedict said the encyclical was a "gesture of courage." He acknowledged that its teachings have been controversial and difficult for Catholics, but he said the text expressed the true design of human procreation. "What was true yesterday remains true also today. The truth expressed in 'Humanae Vitae' does not change; in fact, in light of new scientific discoveries, its teaching is becoming more current and is provoking reflection," he said.

N.Y. bishop ends practice of Communion at celebration of the word

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Bishop William F. Murphy of Rockville Centre, N.Y., has ordered an end to weekday Communion services outside the context of Mass by July 1. Citing guidelines for the distribution of Communion in the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, Bishop Murphy said in a May 9 pastoral letter that his decision would bring the diocese "into conformity with the liturgical norms of the church." The order applies to parishes, schools and social and charitable organizations that had adopted the practice of offering "celebrations of the word" with the distribution of Communion when no daily Mass was scheduled. Such usually brief services often were led by laypeople, nuns or brothers. The distribution of Communion to the sick outside of Mass is permitted as long as the proper ritual is followed, he added. Bishop Murphy said his decision was made after consulting with the diocese's Advisory Committee on Canonical Affairs and the Presbyteral Council.

Vatican makes Latin-language documents available online

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Latin is online at the Vatican. Without fanfare, the Vatican's www.vatican.va site has made hundreds of papal and other documents available in a new Latin-language section. The Latin area went live May 9. Visitors clicking on "Sancta Sedes" (Latin for "Holy See") are taken to a menu of documents arranged by pontificate or Roman Curia office. Also

POPE GREETES SOPRANO AT END OF CONCERT



CNS PHOTO/DARIO PIGNATELLI, REUTERS

Pope Benedict XVI greets soprano Lan Rao at the end of a concert by the Chinese Philharmonic Orchestra in Paul VI hall at the Vatican May 7.

posted is the complete neo-Vulgate Latin version of the Bible and Latin editions of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Code of Canon Law and the documents of the Second Vatican Council. The papal pages — "Summi Pontifices" — cover the last five popes and include encyclicals and other major texts, as well as a selection of speeches, sermons and messages. The last entry on the Latin pages provides information about "Latinitas," the Vatican foundation that promotes the use of Latin.

Pope to send daily text messages during World Youth Day

SYDNEY, Australia (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI will send daily text messages directly to pilgrims during World Youth Day July 15-20 in Sydney, said youth day organizers. The pope's text messages of hope and inspiration will be carried by World Youth Day's official communications partner, Telstra, said a World Youth Day statement May 7. The Vatican has not commented. "We wanted to make WYD08 a unique experience by using new ways to connect with today's tech-savvy youth," said Auxiliary Bishop Anthony Fisher of Sydney, World Youth Day coordinator. A Telstra spokesperson said the GSM cell-phone networks running for World Youth Day "will mean many cell phones used by pilgrims from the United States will also work here." Pilgrims also can purchase a prepaid SIM card for their cell phones when they arrive in Australia. In addition to its official Web site — www.wyd2008.org/index.php/en — World Youth Day also will offer an online social networking site —

www.xt3.com — to be launched in coming weeks.

Pope tells Armenian Orthodox God can work miracle of Christian unity

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — God can work miracles, including the miracle of Christian unity, Pope Benedict XVI told the Armenian Orthodox patriarch and 18 bishops. "If our hearts and minds are open to the Spirit of communion, God can work miracles again in the church, restoring the bonds of unity," the pope said May 9 during a prayer service with Catholicos Karekin II, patriarch of the Armenian Apostolic Church. Catholicos Karekin was visiting the Vatican along with Armenian Orthodox bishops from Armenia, Russia, Georgia, Iraq, Israel, Turkey, Egypt, Syria, the United States, Canada, Brazil, France, Italy and Germany. Some 100 Armenian pilgrims from around the world joined Pope Benedict and the Armenian bishops for the midday prayer service in the Clementine Hall of the Apostolic Palace; afterward, the patriarch joined the pope for lunch.

Retired Stockton Bishop Donald Montrose dies

STOCKTON, Calif. (CNS) — Retired Bishop Donald W. Montrose of Stockton, Calif., died May 7, on the 59th anniversary of his priestly ordination and just six days shy of his 85th birthday. His funeral was scheduled for May 12 at the Cathedral of the Annunciation in Stockton, followed by burial at San Joaquin Catholic

Cemetery. Bishop Montrose had been retired since 1999, after serving as head of the Stockton Diocese since 1986. Prior to that he spent three years as an auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and two years as rector-president of St. John's Seminary College in Camarillo, Calif. He was ordained to the priesthood for the Los Angeles Archdiocese May 7, 1949. An obituary in *The Record*, Stockton's daily newspaper, noted Bishop Montrose's fondness for singing along with the mariachi band in local processions for the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. He also was recalled as a great storyteller with a good sense of humor and a fondness for sweets and golf.

Priest calls for new strategies to keep young adults in church

SAN ANTONIO (CNS) — Every diocese needs a comprehensive pastoral plan specifically aimed at young adults to reverse the hemorrhage of Catholics in their 20s and early 30s leaving the Catholic Church, a national pioneer in young adult ministry said. Father John Cusick, director of young adult ministry for the Archdiocese of Chicago and the father of the Theology on Tap program, said the church needs a savvy "new apologetics" and "satellite sites" away from the parish grounds where young adults can gather to form quality relationships without feeling pressure from the church. Addressing a youth ministry symposium in April at the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Father Cusick cited a recent *USA Today* poll indicating that 10 percent of Americans are former Catholics and said the per-

centage is much higher among people in their 20s and early 30s. "If Catholic youth ministry is so good, where are all the young adults? They're missing in action," he said. "For the moment (in their teens), they have a good sense of church, but then they fall off the end of the table."

Archbishop Naumann: Kansas governor should stop receiving Communion

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Kan., said Gov. Kathleen Sebelius should stop receiving Communion until she publicly repudiates her support of abortion and makes a "worthy sacramental confession" related to her stance. Writing May 9 in *The Leaven*, the archdiocesan newspaper, Archbishop Naumann said the Catholic governor of Kansas has had a long record of supporting and advocating for legalized abortion and that her public stances have "grave spiritual and moral consequences." The column comes after the archbishop said he learned that Sebelius recently received Communion in a Kansas parish. He said he had previously met with Sebelius and discussed his concerns about her position on abortion and her vetoes of legislation to limit abortion in the state. Archbishop Naumann told Catholic News Service May 12 that he sent a letter in August to the governor requesting that she refrain from receiving Communion because of her actions in support of abortion. Sebelius is planning to send a written response to the archbishop, said spokeswoman Brittany Stiffler. "The governor is reviewing the archbishop's letter," she told CNS. "She's not providing any comments at this time."

God made pre-humans into people, Vatican newspaper says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — While apes evolved naturally into pre-human creatures, it was the will and desire of God that turned them into humans, an article in the Vatican newspaper said. "The formation of human beings necessitated a particular contribution by God, though it remains that their emergence was brought about by natural causes" of evolution, it said. The article, published in the May 5-6 edition of *L'Osservatore Romano*, was written by Italian evolutionary biologist Fiorenzo Facchini. The article said that, "when the biological conditions necessary for supporting a being capable of reflective thought were attained, the will of God, the creator, freely desired it, and man came to be." The article posed the question: Does this mean that humans evolved from chimpanzees? "No, it might be better to say that at some point God willed a spark of intelligence to light up in the mind of a nonhuman hominid and thus came into existence the human as a being, as a subject capable of thought and the ability to decide freely," it said.

Family offers scholarship at Bishop Luers

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School alumnus Rick Bail, class of 1973, gives honor to his parents, Phillip and Katherine Bail, by donating \$10,000 annually to three scholarships in his parents' names.

One of six children, Rick is giving back to the community what his parents bestowed on him, an opportunity for a young student to continue his or her Catholic education at Bishop Luers and to aspire toward college.

Together Rick, his wife, Jan and his parents determined the criteria of these scholarships. Their hope is that these scholarships will both recognize and encourage students to do great things at Bishop Luers — and perhaps a younger student might even be inspired to work a little harder at Luers in hopes of receiving one or more of these awards at the end of his/her junior year.

Bail Family Scholarships consist of the following:

- Philip G. Bail, Sr. and Katherine D. Bail Ambassadors — \$2,500 academic and leadership scholarships awarded annually to two rising seniors (one male student and one female student) at Bishop Luers High School who possess exuberant, inclusive personalities, outstanding moral character, have demonstrated leadership in extracurricular activities and who best exemplify demonstrated excellence in academic performance, intellectual curiosity and academic inquisitiveness.

- Philip and Katherine Bail Personal Achievement Scholar — \$5,000 financial need-based academic scholarship awarded annually to a rising senior at Bishop Luers High School who possesses outstanding moral character, who strives to perform to the highest levels of his/her God-given talents, and who does not allow adversity to define or limit the constructive pursuit of his/her dreams.

Holy Cross College offers summer youth enrichment for children

NOTRE DAME — The Holy Cross College Youth Enrichment Program gives children, ages 8-15, a fun and exciting learning experience. A full week of classes include the following: basketball clinic; cheerleading clinic; babysitting certificate (Red Cross); police, fire, emergency camp; digital photography; beginning and advanced beginning guitar; beginning and advanced beginning yoga; Web design; fun with cooking; beginning sign language; working with clay; and much more. Classes are taught by working professionals in their respective fields.

While Holy Cross College Youth Enrichment programs run only in the afternoons, parents can arrange for a full day by also enrolling their children in the Saint Joseph's High School art and computer graphic camp in the mornings of the same week. Students who participate in both programs have lunch at the high school and are escorted across the field to the college for the afternoon program.

"My children have attended summer enrichment over the past

AROUND THE DIOCESE

ST. VINCENT SCHOOL CELEBRATES PRO-LIFE T-SHIRT DAY



PROVIDED BY TRACIA GREGORY

St. Vincent de Paul School, Fort Wayne, participated in the Sixth Annual National Pro-Life T-Shirt Day on April 29. The St. Vincent Respect Life Committee coordinated the T-shirt program at the school. The front bears a picture of St. Vincent holding an infant, and the back has the quote, "Respecting All Life As A Gift From God." In the photo, from left, are Derek Linder, Jillian Gregory and Thomas Hudson, all first-grade students sporting their pro-life T-shirts.

five summers and have thoroughly enjoyed themselves," says mother of two, Jodie Sweet. "They have been able to learn more about cooking, babysitting, police work, leadership, art and have met some new friends from other schools along the way. Holy Cross's Summer Enrichment Program has helped keep my kids busy and active during the summer and they continue to want to go back for more," she continued.

A full week of classes at the Youth Enrichment Program is only \$100 per student plus a free T-shirt. Print an enrollment form at www.hcc-nd.edu/downloads/continuing_education/youth_enrichment_08.pdf and mail it to Pat Adams, Holy Cross College, P.O. Box 308, Notre Dame, IN 46556 or call Pat at (574) 239-8364 and sign up today. For more information she can be reached by e-mail, padams@hcc-nd.edu.

Notre Dame rector professes final vows with Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters

MONROE, Mich. — Katherine Collard, IHM, professed final vows as a member of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary on Sunday, May 4, during a Mass at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Motherhouse Chapel in Monroe,

Mich. Family and friends from Michigan, Indiana and Ontario attended the celebration.

A native of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, Collard is a rector at the University of Notre Dame as she works toward a masters of divinity. She holds a bachelor's degree in religious studies from Marygrove College in Detroit, and a master's degree in pastoral ministries from Assumption University in Windsor.

Collard is a convert to Roman Catholicism. She began to explore the possibility of religious life a few years after her conversion, visiting several communities in search of the right place. She professed her first vows with the Immaculate Heart of Mary Sisters in 2005.

Bishop Luers spotlights senior achievements

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School has announced the following accolades to seniors.

- The *Indianapolis Star* has sponsored The Academic All Stars for 22 years. Every accredited high school in Indiana is invited to submit one entry based on students' SAT/ACT scores, grade-point averages, academic courses, academic achievements, extracurricular activities, community service and leadership. This year Joseph Crouch was selected as one of 40 Academic All Stars in the state.

- On April 14, senior Mandi

Lazzaro played the timpani in the Spring Concert of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Youth Symphony. The Symphony performed "Hummel's Piano Concerto No. 2 in A minor," "Op. 85" and Tchaikovsky's "Symphony No. 5 in E Minor, Op. 64."

- Elizabeth Clinger has earned the coveted Lilly Scholarship. This award pays full tuition, required fees, and a stipend of \$800 per year for required books and needs for four consecutive years of undergraduate study leading to a baccalaureate degree at any Indiana public or private college or university accredited by the North Central association of Colleges and Schools.

At Bishop Luers High School, Clinger is student body president and president of the National Honor Society. She is the sergeant at arms of Key Club, a peer minister, a student ambassador and a freshman mentor. Clinger has participated in every play (12 of them) that the school has presented during her tenure at Luers.

Clinger plans to attend Purdue University and major in event planning or marketing.

- Andrea Allphin and Joseph Crouch were the recipients of the Indiana Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM) mathematics awards.

Retreats announced at John XXIII center in Hartford City

HARTFORD CITY — The John XXIII Retreat Center in Hartford City has announced the following retreats in June:

- A Walk with Dorothy Day — Wednesday, June 4, 9:15 a.m. to 2 p.m., will allow participants to discover the spirituality of Dorothy Day, cofounder of the Catholic Worker Movement. Topics include The Little Way and Enduring Faith. Facilitated by Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ Sister Joetta Huelsmann. The fee is \$18.

- Contemplative Journey — Saturday, June 7, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., where participants will learn more about Thomas Merton and his Spirituality. Topics to be explored: "Inner Work," "The Spiritual Discipline of Solitude," "Living with Purity of Heart," "Finding Our Heart's Deepest Desires." Cost is \$20. The facilitator is Sister Joetta Huelsmann. Register by June 4.

- A Day of Solitude and Quiet Prayer — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday, June 17. Come for the whole day or for part of it. Listen to God within you and enjoy the peace and quiet of John XXIII Retreat Center. Bring a bag lunch and enjoy the beautiful grounds of the center. Beverages and a continental breakfast will be furnished. Offering for the day is \$15. Optional spiritual direction is available for an extra offering.

Minnesota seminary rector named to USCCB

WASHINGTON — Father James P. Steffes, rector of Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary in Winona, Minn., has been named executive director of the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations.

He succeeds Msgr. Edward Burns, who returns to the Diocese of Pittsburgh for pastoral work. The new appointment becomes effective Aug. 1.

Father Steffes holds a licentiate in sacred theology from the Institute of St. Thomas Aquinas (The Angelicum) in Rome. In 2002, he was named rector of the Winona seminary, where he had been director of spiritual formation from 1997. Seminarians from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend attend the seminary for their collegiate studies.

"Father Steffes brings broad experience in seminary and diocesan work to this important office of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)," said Msgr. David Malloy, USCCB general secretary. "His additional background in spiritual direction and retreat work makes him well prepared to serve as the executive director of the Secretariat for Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations," he said.

In accepting the position, Father Steffes said, "I am deeply humbled and honored to have this opportunity to support the bishops of our country in this key area of ministry as they shepherd the people of God toward salvation. I have been blessed to work in vocation and formation ministry for the past 12 years and feel God deepening a call in me to continue this now in a new and special way through this office."

Team participates in Spitzer Space Telescope program

BY LISA KOCHANOWSKI

SOUTH BEND — Saint Joseph's High School seniors Clare Mundy and Curt Collingwood had the opportunity to rub shoulders with some of the greatest science minds in the nation when they traveled to Austin, Texas, with teacher Dr. Thomas Loughran earlier this year.

The team presented two posters, Establishing a School-Based Research Community (SRC) for Astronomy and Student Exploration of Star Formation Rate in Three High-Redshift Galaxy Cluster: an NOAO/Spitzer Education and Public Outreach Project, they created at the American Astronomical Society's 211th meeting.

The trip was sponsored by the Spitzer Space Telescope Observing Program for Students and Teachers, in collaboration with the Research-Based Science Education program of the National Optical Astronomy Observatory (NOAO).

Loughran is one of the participating teachers in the Spitzer Space Telescope Research Program for Teachers and Students. The Spitzer Science Center (SSC) and the National Optical Astronomy Observatory (NOAO) have designed a program for teacher and student research using observing time on the Spitzer Space Telescope. This program has as its goals the fundamental NASA goals of inspiring and motivating students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics as well as to engage the public in shaping and sharing the experience of exploration and discovery. This program allows a team of teachers

and their students to utilize the director's discretionary observing time on the Spitzer Space Telescope for educational observations.

Through the school-based research poster, Mundy and Collingwood presented the results of the study thus far as published in the 2007 *Research Based Science Education Journal* by 2007 Saint Joseph's graduates Matthew Pellegrino and Vinay Patel. Pellegrino and Patel had been investigating star formation rates in clusters of galaxies several billion light years away from earth. With the public outreach poster, Mundy and Collingwood presented the curricular context within which this research was conducted.

"Clare and Curt had to catch up from scratch," said Loughran who noted that Pellegrino and Patel spent a year-and-a-half working on their paper. Mundy and Collingwood started working on learning the research in September 2007.

During the semester, they had to get up to speed on the Spitzer distant cluster star formation rate project. "They basically had a semester to climb into that material and present it. Clare and Curt tried to climb the learning curve to learn and be able to present this stuff and they were able to successfully do that."

According to Loughran, Collingwood and Mundy presented Pellegrino's and Patel's work, as well as their own plans to advance it through error analysis and model reduction using additional Spitzer data at the Austin, Texas event. They will advance the project by conducting error analy-

sis, and using Spitzer IRAC data (not yet reduced) to minimize uncertainty by narrowing down the number of SED models used to calculate total infrared luminosity.

"The task was to present what was done and present how we would move forward with it," said Loughran.

The students received class credit for their research, taking this as an advanced topic and scientific research class at the high school.

"They're (the students) not just learning science but in a certain way they're teaching science," said Loughran. "The students are caring for the scientific community like the scientific community cares for us."

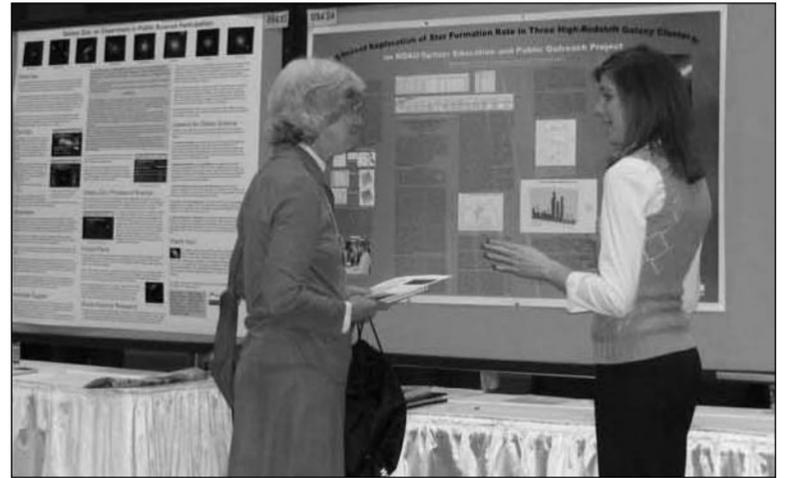


PHOTO BY DR. THOMAS LOUGHRAN

Saint Joseph's High School senior Clare Mundy discusses her work on the Spitzer Galaxy Cluster Star Formation Rate project with Dr. Katy Garmany of the National Optical Astronomy Observatory.

Catholic school friends, reunited at Purdue, win Rube Goldberg contest

WEST LAFAYETTE — Best buddies since first grade at St. Charles Borromeo School, Fort Wayne, Bruce Mahlie and Michael Keefer were separated following eighth grade graduation, when Mahlie's family moved to South Bend. Keefer earned his high school diploma from Bishop Dwenger High School four years later, Mahlie from Saint Joseph's.

Keefer was born a Purdue Boilermaker and was accepted to Purdue University to pursue a career in civil engineering. Much to his surprise, his longtime, long-distance friend Mahlie, a product of two Ohio State Buckeyes, was also bound for

Purdue with interest in the same degree.

The college freshmen found themselves in three classes together and they renewed their friendship.

This year, as sophomores, Keefer and Mahlie have worked together on Purdue's Rube Goldberg team to compete in the Rube Goldberg contest held on April 5.

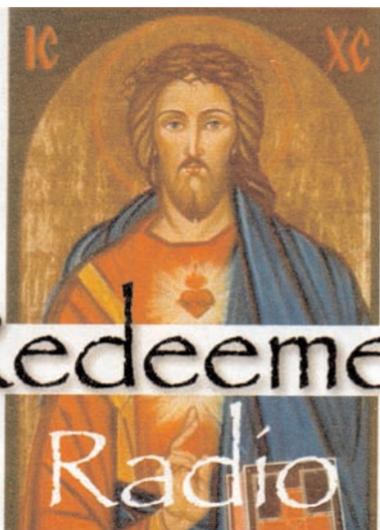
This year's challenge was to assemble a hamburger sandwich with meat patty, buns, condiments and vegetables. Purdue University's team, including Keefer and Mahlie, won the contest with its machine design that used 156 steps to make the burgers.



PROVIDED BY THE MAHLIE AND KEEFER FAMILIES

Reunited longtime friends Bruce Mahlie, left, and Michael Keefer, sophomores at Purdue University show off their first place trophy at the Rube Goldberg contest April 5.

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Signatures of St. Charles' students to be launched into space

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — Students at St. Charles Borromeo School made history May 2 while learning about space.

In an all-school activity known as Signatures in Space, the students and staff signed their names on a poster to be sent off into the depths of outer space.

The Signatures in Space project was a part of Space Day, a day celebrated on the first Friday of May and sponsored by NASA and Lockheed Martin Corp., "to promote math, science, technology and engineering education," said Sandy Shirmeyer, the project's coordinator and fifth-grade teacher.

Shirmeyer said she first heard about the program about two years ago and was enticed, so she applied.

Every year Lockheed Martin selects 500 elementary and middle schools nationwide to participate in the program and St. Charles was accepted as one of them this year.

"As part of the program, we received a poster on which we'll collect the signatures of our students and staff," she said. "The poster will be returned to Lockheed Martin to be photographed and transferred to a computer disk. NASA will include the disk in the payload of Space Shuttle Mission STS-126 scheduled to launch in the fall of 2008."

There is no cost to schools to participate in Student Signatures in Space, as all costs are paid by Lockheed Martin.

Shirmeyer said the mission will be delivering supplies to the



PROVIDED BY ST. CHARLES SCHOOL

In an all-school activity at St. Charles Borromeo School in Fort Wayne known as Signatures in Space, the students and staff signed their names on a poster to be sent off into the depths of outer space in the fall of 2008.

International Space Station and bring some of the ISS crew back to earth. After the mission, the posters are returned to the schools for display, along with an official NASA certification verifying that the signatures flew in space, as well as a photo of the crew that took the signatures up.

Shirmeyer said the project has an educational component, as it promotes interest in the fields of math and science.

"Science is important because it teaches problem solving ... analyzing a problem and coming up with a solution," she said. "It's learning how to think."

The teacher said the project was well-received by the students.

"They were so excited and are looking forward to having their

signatures in space," she said. "It was a fun day."

According to the Space Day Web site, the first signatures project was held to celebrate Space Day 1997. Then, over 96,000 signatures from more than 220 U.S. elementary schools traveled aboard Shuttle-Mir docking mission STS-86 in September 1997. To date, more than 5 million signatures have flown on various missions, including STS-95, the historic shuttle mission that returned Sen. John Glenn to space.

Although Signatures in Space lesson plans are geared more toward elementary and middle schools, the program is open to all schools, including high schools, according to the Space Day Web site.

With Saint Joseph's High School Vocations Club, it's about all vocations

BY DIANE FREEBY

The chapel at Saint Joseph's High School is a busy place most mornings, with students and teachers alike dropping by to pray before the school day begins.

As school chaplain Father Camillo Tirabassi quietly prays the morning office, a few young men begin to trickle in until they fill a row of seats, joining him in prayer. They are part of the newly revived Vocation Club at Saint Joseph's, meeting once a month for prayer and breakfast with Father Cam.

The Vocation Club was initiated about five or six years ago by then-chaplain Father Michael Heintz, who is now rector and pastor at St. Matthew's Cathedral, South Bend. When Bishop John M. D'Arcy asked Father Cam to serve as a high school chaplain, they agreed the Vocation Club needed to be revived.

"The purpose is to get young people to pray," explained Father Cam. "And not necessarily that they will become priests, because nobody knows. It's to pray that God will direct them in whatever life they choose and to help them become prayerful men."

The young men who stopped by this particular Thursday range in ages from freshman to senior, and they see the value in getting together to pray.

"Sure, they'd like you to look at the priesthood," said Jim Kasznia, a junior at Saint Joseph's. "But it's more than that. It's about all vocations, whether that will be married life or the priesthood. It's a good focus on where you want to go in life."

After morning prayer, which begins around 7:15 a.m., the

group moves to a nearby room for some breakfast. Father Cam usually leads a reflection on a saint, but on this day he first wants to hear all about a pilgrimage to Medjugorje two of the young men made during spring break. He is particularly interested in hearing about the many young people who were drawn in a special way to the sacraments.

Senior Joe Torma shares about the overflow crowds he and his friends joined as they attended daily Mass, eucharistic adoration and confession. Father Cam smiles at that thought, then introduces St. Catherine of Siena, sharing some details about how she did so much in her young life during a difficult time in the church.

They also discuss Pope Benedict XVI, who is visiting the United States that week, and the media coverage he is receiving.

In fact, the pope's visit is why Franciscan Sister Lois is absent today. She usually holds similar prayer meetings with the young women at Saint Joseph's. Today, she is driving cross-country with eight members of the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration. They received a surprise invitation to attend Mass with the pope at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York.

"They have eight novices?" asks Father Cam with a grin. "Wow!"

As the meeting breaks up and the seniors leave with their classmates for a day at Wrigley Field and the others head off to class, Father Cam lingers over a cup of coffee.

"We pray for the vocations to the priesthood. We don't know who is called, but prayer sure isn't going to hurt," Father Cam noted.

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Saint Joseph's High School valedictorian: Thomas Everett

BY DIANE FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — He could be a poster boy for the benefits of home schooling. He could also be a poster boy for getting the most out of four years of high school. Tom Everett, son of Fred and Lisa Everett of Corpus Christi Parish in South Bend, is the 2008 class valedictorian for Saint Joseph's High School.

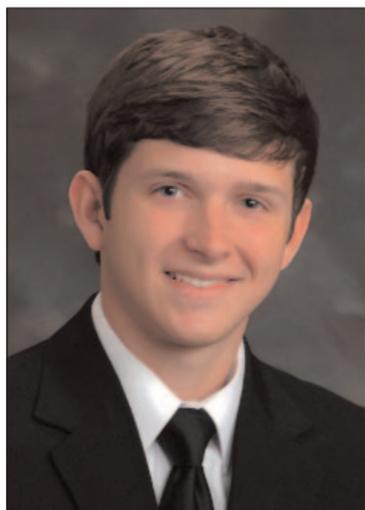
Number one in a class of 214, Everett says he truly values the Catholic education he received both at home and at Saint Joseph's High School.

"A Catholic education not only superbly forms you intellectually and academically," says Everett, who was taught at home by his parents during most of his grade school years, "but also teaches you and gives you the opportunity to form a lasting relationship with God."

Everett, who plans to study political science in the fall at the University of Notre Dame, was involved in a variety of activities at Saint Joseph's. But he says the pilgrimage he made to Medjugorje with classmates during spring break of his senior year stands out as the highlight.

"I was filled with a great sense of peace ... spending time in prayer and contemplation," recalls Everett. "What struck me was how easy it was to be Catholic there, and how much faith is openly expressed. It's easy to pray in Medjugorje. I continue to be struck by the peace of being there. It was a great experience of deepening my faith and reopening my faith with God."

Everett, who participated in



THOMAS EVERETT

cross country this fall, ran track for two years and is currently wrapping up competition in intramural quiz bowl. But folks at Saint Joe remember him for much more.

"Tom demonstrates his outstanding character on a daily basis," says guidance counselor Kathy Utz. "He is an outstanding young man."

Everett says he enjoyed a variety of classes at Saint Joseph's High School, including calculus with Mr. John "The Mayor" Wojtowicz and morality with Mr. Andy Oross.

In addition to being the webmaster for his Boy Scout troop and putting in some hard manual labor for a couple summers working at the Southern Plantation Christmas farm, Everett also knows how to relax.

"I enjoy making short films," he says, eyeing a career in either government or journalism. In fact, Everett has written and produced several short films that have made

their way to YouTube, much to the delight of his fans. He says he also enjoys cars, computers and spending time with pals.

"I would like to thank my family, friends and girlfriend Julia for all the love, fun and support," says Everett.

Family life is important to Everett, the second oldest of seven children.

"In 10 years, I envision myself to be happily married with 2.5 to three kids," he predicted. "In 20 years, an even dozen!"

His advice for the students coming after him is simple and to the point: "Work hard, make good friendships and have fun!"

Salutarian: John Aversa

SOUTH BEND — In what many at Corpus Christi are calling a banner year, another parishioner received top honors. John Aversa, a graduate of Corpus Christi Grade



JOHN AVERSA

School, is the 2008 class salutarian for Saint Joseph's High School.

Aversa, who is the son of Domenico and Dawn Aversa, says he wants to major in chemistry at the University of Notre Dame and eventually become a physician.

Part of a group of young men who played football together throughout their entire grade school and high school careers, Aversa is known as a leader both on the football field and in the classroom.

"John is a real gentleman and a scholar," says guidance counselor Kathy Utz. "His confidence is in balance with his humility, and his knowledge and integrity are unquestionable."

Aversa says his Catholic education helped him grow spiritually as well as mentally in the demanding academic environment.

"Faith is something that allows me to reflect on my life, and gives me perspective on things about which I am uncertain," says Aversa. "I am able to concentrate better on my studies after considering my faith. God's calming influence has definitely helped me to be patient with all aspects of life."

Balance is something Aversa has managed to maintain throughout his high school years.

"My most treasured memories of high school are split between the classroom and the playing field," says Aversa. "I think I can safely say that I had some of the greatest times of my life playing football for Saint Joe. I also participated in Spanish Club for two years and was a GREIA tutor for two years as well. This past year I tried track and field and I threw shot-put and discus."

Among the many classes

Aversa has taken, his favorites range from calculus and chemistry, with Mr. Wojtowicz and Mr. Dolezal, to world history and biblical literature with Brother Ed Foken and Father Walter Bly.

"I would like to thank my parents, teachers and coaches for doing all that they have for me," says Aversa. "I would like to extend a special thanks to all involved in the football program, especially Coach Kevin Downey, Father Cam and the assistant coaches for helping me in the weight room and on the field to become a better athlete, student and person."

Aversa is a great example of how dedication and hard work pay off. The guy who started high school as an undersized freshman football player managed to pack on 100 pounds of mostly muscle in four years by disciplining himself in the weight room.

"I know they may hear this all the time, but I would tell younger students to always do their best," maintains Aversa. "Sometimes you think that it won't be good enough for whatever your goal is, but often times you surprise even yourself. It's always a good idea to do your best and not worry about things you cannot control."

Aversa plans to continue to strike a balance in his life.

"In 10 years, I hope to be at the beginning of a medical career," he shares. "In 20 years, I hope to be married with a family and a practicing physician with a few years under my belt."

Marian valedictorian: Alyssa Barnard

BY THERESA THOMAS

MISHAWAKA — Alyssa Barnard, Marian High School valedictorian, has a broad vision for her future — the world to be exact. This Marian top student hopes to pursue a career in international diplomacy or international law. She first plans to obtain a double major in political science and French at Fordham University in New York City before attending law school eventually.

"In 10 years, I hope to ... (be) working to preserve human rights and to build international relations. In 20 years, I hope to be continuing that field of work, but at that point, I also hope to have a family that I can nurture and raise with the same values with which I was raised."

Born in Phoenix, Ariz., Barnard has lived in Granger for 13 years, and belongs to St. Pius X Parish. She says that her Catholic faith helps focus her efforts, and provides more than direction to her life.

"It is a rock of sorts, a shoulder to cry on," she says. "When times get bad, I can count on my faith to get me through the day."

Barnard believes that the value of a Catholic education is that it focuses on the formation of the whole person — academically, spiritually and emotionally. "There is a clear concern in Catholic education for the total well-being of the student, which doesn't exist in other learning environments," she says.

At Marian, Barnard boasted a 4.6875 grade point average on a 4.0 scale, and particularly enjoyed her history classes, philosophy class and language classes. She says that she will always remember the time spent in the company of her best friends at Marian.

"There are so many little 'inside jokes' and funny stories (from my time there) that I couldn't possibly describe them all. Suffice it to say there are plenty of moments in high school that I will never forget," she says.

Barnard's list of extracurricular activities demonstrates she is talented in and devoted to more than just academics. At Marian she participated in the French Club, liturgical choir, theater, Mock Trial, National Honor Society, and she even played basketball for three years.

"I enjoyed theater and Mock Trial the most though," she admits. "Both of those activities gave me an opportunity to try something new and a little scary, and both have helped me tremendously to grow as a person."

Barnard's awards include being named a National Merit Finalist, an "Outstanding Senior" by the American Association of Teachers of French, and "Best Attorney" in the Mock Trial Competition in grades 10, 11 and 12. In her spare time she enjoys reading, singing, being outside, scrapbooking, listening to music and being with friends.

Gratitude is an important component of Barnard's persona.

"I would like to thank my parents (Tim and Mary Barnard) who



ALYSSA BARNARD

took the time when I was little to read to me and who have supported me all these years." She is also appreciative of her friends who have stood by her, and her teachers who have "gone above and beyond the call of duty to educate me." She is most grateful to God, who, she says, "made me who I am today."

What words of wisdom would Barnard share with younger students? "Dare to dream and dedicate (yourself) fully to (your) dreams. No matter what, if you are pursuing what you love, you will be happy. Be true to yourself and work hard and you can achieve anything."

Salutatorian: Molly Firth

MISHAWAKA — Molly Firth, of Mishawaka, has been named the 2008 Marian High School salutatorian. The daughter of John and Ann Firth, she is a member of St. Pius X Parish in Granger. Molly plans to attend the University of Notre Dame in the fall, and is considering a major of anthropology.

Having earned a 4.6854 grade point average on a 4.0 scale, Firth says her two favorite classes at Marian were Father Dan Scheidt's Great Catholic Thinkers and advanced research. "I enjoy being

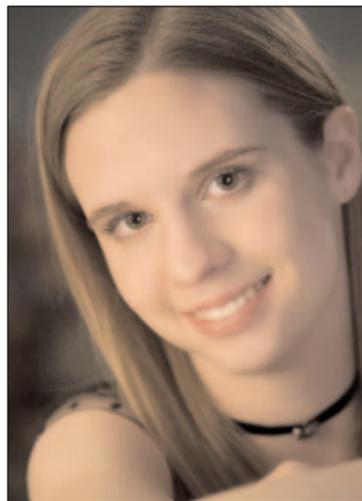
able to think and work independently," she says.

While at Marian, Firth excelled in areas other than academics. She was a four-year member of the swim team, being named "most improved" her freshman year and having lettered during her senior year. She was a four-year member of the French Club, serving as treasurer during her junior and senior years. She was also a three-year member of Mock Trial and the Art Club, and was an active member of the National Honor Society as well.

According to Firth, her most treasured memories of Marian are the little things. "(I most treasure) debating with my friends, sharing a good laugh and getting muffins at Martin's ...," she says.

Firth is grateful for the Catholic education her parents provided. "The thing I think is most distinctive about a Catholic education," she says, "is that students have the opportunity to integrate their faith with their academic pursuits, to grow not only in knowledge but also in wisdom."

She tries to live out her faith and share the many blessings she feels she has been given. Firth would like to thank her parents, her teachers and her friends. "They have all been very supportive of me during high school," she says.



MOLLY FIRTH

While Firth obviously works hard, she also makes time to relax. "I enjoy books, music, good conversation, long drives, thinking and writing," she says. She also takes pleasure in being outdoors and even playing an occasional video game.

Firth shares these words of wisdom with younger students: "Follow your interests, and don't forget to have fun along the way." She also advises, "The key to academic success is to cultivate a love of learning and a passion for knowledge."

In 10 or 20 years, Molly is not certain what she might be doing. She finds the suspense exciting though. "Whatever I'm doing," she concludes, "I hope I can make a positive difference in the world."

Colleges, universities graduation ceremonies

Colleges and universities across the diocese have announced commencement exercises.

• **Saint Mary's College will hold an outdoor ceremony in the Court of Le Mans Hall at noon on Saturday, May 17. A vigil Mass will be held at 4:30 p.m. in Regina Chapel.**

• **The University of Notre Dame's commencement ceremony, will be held May 18 at 2 p.m. in the Joyce Center on campus.**

• **Ancilla College graduated its 41st class in school history on May 3, at the Ancilla Domini Chapel.**

• **Holy Cross College held its graduation Saturday, May 10.**

• **The University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne celebrated commencement exercises Saturday, May 3.**

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Bishop Dwenger valedictorian: Mariel Lee

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger valedictorian Mariel Lee has high hopes for the future.

A Fort Wayne native, Lee will attend Notre Dame. Lee said she has an interest in linguistics and hopes to pursue a graduate degree in the field, but she hasn't decided upon a major.

"I hope to become a linguist and anticipate working in education, research or translation," Lee tells *Today's Catholic*. "I hope to find a job for which I have an excited enthusiasm."

But God, family and service are Lee's priorities. "I anticipate coming home at the end of each day to a family I love above everything else," she says. "I also hope to have a deepened spirituality and faith in God and myself. I want to use my talents to serve people not only in my immediate community but also in other parts of the globe through mission trips."

Lee, a parishioner of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, says she values her education at Bishop Dwenger because religion is a common, unifying factor.

"You can understand everyone on a different level because religion is a common bond," she says.

Moreover, Lee said she values Dwenger's motto of "Citizens of Two Worlds" because you can understand both the religious and the secular.

Faith is a value in her everyday life, Lee says.

"My faith is something that picks up where everything leaves off," she said. "It's a constant challenge to figure it out."



MARIEL LEE

When she looks back at her academic career, Lee says that advanced placement chemistry will stand out. "I'm fascinated with the subject," she said.

The valedictorian says she particularly enjoyed this course because of the teacher. "I want to specifically thank my chemistry teacher, Mrs. Fairchild, for teaching me about patience and resilience," Lee says.

"I want to thank Mr. LaMarca for teaching me about calculus and having a sense of humor and that the most important thing I do each day is trying to do God's work."

Lee also adds that she enjoys calculus, but has a "love/hate relationship."

Lee has several people to thank for support during her high school career. Her parents are at the top of the list. Her sisters also played a supportive role, Lee said, helping to provide "different outlooks" and encouraging her to loosen up. She

also said she appreciates teachers who have provided "good perspectives."

"And lastly, I need to thank my best friend, Richard Schroeder, for teaching me about humility, truth and love," she says.

When she's not hitting the books, Lee enjoys swimming, writing for the school newspaper and serving as vice president for the National Honor Society.

Outside of school, Lee says she enjoys reading and talking to friends online and on the phone.

A few high-school memories will stand the test of time, Lee says. Early morning swim practices and a trip to Costa Rica with Mr. Loney's biology class are among them.

Lee offers a few words of advice for underclassmen.

"Don't procrastinate or over-think yourself... it causes more stress," she says. "One test is not that big of a deal."



KELLY IGNASIAK

Salutatorian: Kelly Ignasiak

Kelly Ignasiak is bound for greatness.

The Bishop Dwenger salutatorian is slated to attend Loyola College in Chicago and pursue an undergraduate degree in political science.

It's no coincidence that Ignasiak chose a Catholic university, as she values the solidarity at Bishop Dwenger.

"The value (of a Catholic education) is the closeness we have... I can share my faith with those at school," she says. "You get to know everyone because we have such a small school."

Moreover, Ignasiak, a parishioner at St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Fort Wayne, says her faith life helps her to excel in the academic world.

"There is that other side of who we are," she said. "You can go to (it) and leave all this behind... it's an escape."

Ignasiak enjoys chemistry and history. Chemistry is a favorite course because Mrs. Fairchild has been an inspirational teacher. Also, the salutatorian says she has always had an interest in history.

Looking back, Ignasiak says she values her parent's support. Ignasiak has a close relationship with her mother and looks up to her father.

"They've always been interested in what's going on in my life," she says. "It's good to be able to talk to them."

Ignasiak has an active extracurricular life. A member of the Spanish Club, *Golden Trumpet* newspaper, National Honor Society and orchestra, she finds a balance between work and play.

A self-described "movie buff," she enjoys watching favorites.

The high school senior says she will treasure the times spent after school working on the newspaper. Her trip to Mexico with the Indiana University Honors Program ranks highly, as well.

Ignasiak offers the following words of advice for younger students.

"Try to follow your gut instinct and not think so hard," she says. "If you have a talent, work hard."

Ignasiak says her ultimate plan is to become a lawyer at a successful law firm, happily married with two or three children.

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Bishop Luers valedictorian: Amanda Marie Lazzaro

BY JENNIFER SIMERMAN

FORT WAYNE — Dream big. Amanda Marie Lazzaro does just that, with her ultimate personal dream of someday becoming a Disney Imagineer.

Amanda was born in Ohio but currently resides in Bluffton, where her church, First United Methodist Church, is located. This outstanding young lady has earned the honor of being named the 2008 Bishop Luers High School valedictorian. "God must have a plan for me, and good grades must be a part of it" says Lazzaro.

Amanda has always liked math and chemistry classes, so it is fitting that she desires a degree in either electrical or computer engineering from Valparaiso University.

As she completes her high school career, she is very grateful to her teachers, her parents and her friends. "My parents kept me going when I was stubborn and not in the mood to do my work," she tells *Today's Catholic*. "My friends are always there for me when I am having a bad day, and my teachers, well, they taught me."

Her studies are a big part of Lazzaro's life, so much so that she has these words of advice to younger students: "Study hard but be sure to save time for fun. That was my major problem, especially freshman year."

Lazzaro has tried to take her own advice and included many different extracurricular activities to her routine. She is a part of the Luers band playing percussion, and the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Youth Orchestra where she serves as section leader. She also joined Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) and is a part of the group SADD. When free time allows, Amanda's hobbies include reading and riding her bike.

Looking back, treasured moments are many, like her trip to Disney World freshman year with FBLA, or her more recent experience of senior prom where her dad rented a limo for Lazzaro and her friends.



AMANDA MARIE LAZZARO

It is with great optimism, however, that Amanda looks forward. She imagines herself in 10 or 20 years, married, with a family, and working for Disney as one of their Imagineers. Lazzaro knows she can achieve her dreams, she has been given the foundation at Bishop Luers.

"Bishop Luers is a great school where the teachers really care and want to see you achieve your goals," says Lazzaro.

Salutatorian: Joe Crouch



JOE CROUCH

Joe Randall Crouch of Fort Wayne has been named the 2008 Bishop Luers High School saluta-

torian. Joe and his family belong to St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Fort Wayne, where he grew up and attended school for his primary education.

Crouch is the epitome of a well-rounded student with his high academic marks as well as involvement in show choir, peer ministry, drama, student council, baseball, soccer, Academic Super Bowl and National Honor Society. Crouch believes all the extracurricular activities have given him opportunities outside the classroom to learn life skills and problem-solving skills that he will use for the rest of his life.

He hopes to continue his success at Notre Dame, majoring in mathematics and eventually becoming a professor in the field.

Crouch's faith is an integral part of his everyday life and says his experience at Luers has helped him to grow in his faith and learn how to apply it to situations in and

outside of school. He believes the value of a Catholic education lies "in the fact that the teachers are permitted more room in every subject, not just to teach students, but develop them into well-rounded people."

He continues, "Bishop Luers is the total package. It develops students in every way. You can come here and have a completely fulfilling experience spiritually, academically, in athletics, in drama and the arts, just about every way you can think of."

Crouch would like to thank his parents for instilling in him the "initiative to work hard and do my best" and his teachers and peers "for helping me to develop as a student and person for the past four years."

And while his hard work leaves little time for relaxation, he enjoys any free time watching television, playing cards or just hanging out with his friends.

His advice to underclassmen: "Every day is an opportunity to improve or learn something new."

Everyone has a favorite high school memory, and Crouch is no different, he will always treasure his very last show choir performance during this school year's invitational. "It was just crazy to know this would be the last time performing with these people that I had spent countless hours with over the past four years and knowing how much I'll miss them," he says.

Where does Crouch picture himself in 10 years? "Hopefully, if I'm out of school, I'll want to continue learning. I want to always learn new things and pass on my knowledge to other people," he says.

And in 20 years? "If all goes as planned, I'll have a family, comfortable job as a professor, and will be sailing into the golden years of my life."

Congratulations and Best Wishes, Graduates

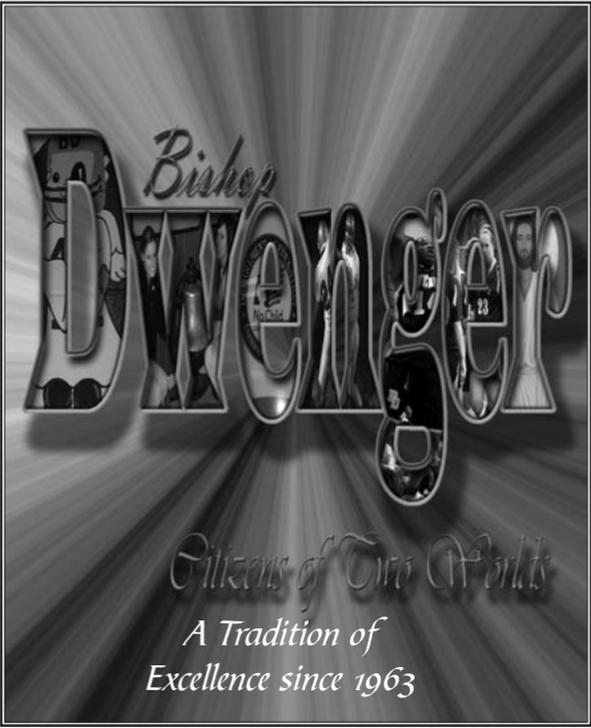
From Sister M. Elise Kriss, President and the faculty and staff of the University of Saint Francis.



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EDITORIAL

The gas crunch takes a bite out of the wallet

If you are finding you have a few less dollars these days, most likely, it's the cost of gas taking an extra bite out of the wallet. Transportation costs impact us all: whether it is increased grocery costs — farmers need gasoline for their farm equipment, oil for some insecticides and fertilizers, to transport the crops to market, to transport the products to the supermarkets, etc. Or pull out the menu from a favorite restaurant and notice higher prices as well as fewer customers.

As Catholics, we need to especially be concerned about the poor during these difficult times. Local news has reported families tightening the belts, cutting back on medicines, food, heat or electricity, to be able to pay their transportation fees.

Catholic Charities is one of the agencies on the front line. Their wish list of items and for volunteers can be found on their Web site, www.ccfwsb.org. They operate two food pantries: one at 1817 Miami St., in South Bend, and another, the Community of Caring Food Pantry, at 109 W. 5th St. in Auburn. Interestingly, gas cards are the second item on the wish list.

Also many parish food banks could use assistance.

St. Mary's Soup Kitchen in Fort Wayne has reported the numbers of people coming to their window is growing at an alarming rate.

So the need to help our brothers and sisters is becoming ever more important with donations, volunteerism or help.

For the rest of us, tightening the belt may become a necessity. To save on gas, fuelconomy.gov offers the following gas mileage tips: drive more efficiently — drive sensibly, observe the speed limit, remove excess weight, don't idle the car, use cruise control and overdrive gears. The Web site also recommends keeping your car in shape — keep the engine tuned, check and replace the air filters, keep tires properly inflated and use the recommended grade of oil. They also pose planning and combining trips — stop at the market on the way home from work. Lastly, they suggest choosing a more efficient vehicle.

Some resort to using public transportation, carpooling, or using a bike or walking — two healthy alternatives.

Environmental stewardship

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Environmental Justice Program urges "Catholics throughout the country to become more aware of the links between reverence for the environment and social action on behalf of those negatively impacted by the environment," according to their Web site. "As a result, a primary thrust of the program has been to develop local programs and local leadership to ensure that the message of environmental justice became part of the fabric of Catholic life, especially as that life impacts low income communities."

We live in a global society. We all have a stake and a part to play in taking care of the world. We need to be good caretakers of our environment and this starts with our own little piece of the world.

A few weeks ago we featured environmental stewardship. Since that time, several schools and parishes and the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center have received the services of PaperWorx, a company in Fort Wayne that collects and recycles newspaper, cardboard, magazines, books, junk mail, office paper. PaperWorx then pays the parish, school or the diocese \$20 per ton of recyclable materials collected. It is a good environmentally-friendly way to be a good steward of our earth and make some money for a charitable cause.

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Our newsprint can be recycled. But only a few may be aware that *Today's Catholic* can be e-mailed as a PDF file to your home computer. This electronic version of *Today's Catholic* looks exactly like the print version, readers can adjust the size of the content on their computer screen, get it delivered as early as Wednesdays and directly link to any Web site and e-mail address. It's our way of being green by utilizing new technology and it requires no production — ink, paper, transportation costs or U.S. postal delivery costs. It's something to think about.

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

COMMENTARY

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

Student recounts class trip to Medjugorje

When friends and family ask what Medjugorje is like, it is incredibly hard to talk about because the experience that I had during this pilgrimage was personal and unique. It is hard to explain to others a place that consists of so much peace and inspiration.

Imagine, for a moment, a place full of many graces. This place is a village and it is filled with people who love Christ. Everyone in this village knows each other and respects one another. Pilgrims can feel this strong sense of unity. The friendliness and joyful faces of the people make one feel welcome.

Imagine waking up to the birds singing, the church bells ringing and the sensational feeling that God and the Blessed Mother are present everywhere. These are my feelings and observations of Medjugorje as I reflect on a place that fulfills a dream and embraces a heavenly atmosphere.

I stepped foot for the first time on the pavement in Medjugorje and

thought, "Wow, this trip is going to be life-changing." From that first moment, I could already feel the presence of Christ around me. From climbing Cross Mountain to Apparition Hill, I felt much peace. I remember one day I was sitting on the top of Apparition Hill and it was dead silent. I sat and reflected on my life, prayed and looked down capturing the glorious glimpse of graces throughout the village.

St. James Church was filled with many different cultures and languages. This was the first time where I saw a diverse group of people come together to praise God for his everlasting love. One night for adoration, I remember how awesome it was to see the church filled with people who were in deep prayer and sung the hymns of praise. This demonstrated to me a great unity of faith.

It is through all of our experiences in life that we are able to have a deeper conversion with Christ. I was very fortunate to have been able to travel on this pilgrimage. It was God's will and a special calling from Our Lady that invited me to travel to Medjugorje. Many go to this special place because they hear about the apparitions and want to meet the

visionaries.

Though the apparitions and visionaries are important, I believe that the real reason many travel is because they respond to the call from Our Lady. Still to this day, I continue to ask myself this question: Why were my 13 friends and I called to make this pilgrimage out of 850 students at Saint Joseph's High School? I fondly believe that Our Lady has good things in store for us and that she will challenge us to convert many hearts as we provide a strong testimony to truth. It was this experience that opened the door to a whole new light.

So as I close, I leave you with a few messages that Vicka, one of the visionaries, spoke about one day. She said the most powerful weapon is the rosary. With many difficulties in families these days, Vicka encourages us to pray the rosary as a family. Go to confession, fast and read Scripture. It is Our Blessed Mother who walks with us day by day and leads us to many graces in life. This is the lesson that I learned during my trip to Medjugorje.

Monica Murphy
Saint Joseph's High School
South Bend, Ind.

Young urged to 'Proclaim the Lord Christ'

BY LINDSAY HARRIS

"Habemus Papam!" These words were uttered three years ago on April 15, 2005, when our own Pope Benedict XVI was elected pope. There have only been nine visits to the United States by a pope. This was also Pope Benedict XVI's first visit to the United States during his papacy. Excitement pulsed through the entire country in anticipation of this most important visit of the Holy Father to our own nation.

As a teenager, I wanted to know more about our current pope and what his message was for the young people of our country. I am sure that his talks and homilies were all broadcasted and posted on the Internet, but I wanted that personal experience of hearing the pope's words live and coming directly from him.

So when an opportunity to win tickets through an essay contest was presented to me, I jumped at the chance. A few weeks after, I was contacted by Cindy Black that my essay had been selected. It was a great joy to know that I would be seeing the Holy Father in person and hearing his message.

At the youth rally on April 19, there were so many people there to show their love and support for our Holy Father. There were many popular bands that played throughout the day, but you could feel the anxiousness of each person to see the pope. When he entered St. Joseph's Seminary, you could just feel the "electricity" as some called it in the air. When Pope Benedict

finally stepped onstage, the shouts and cheers from the crowd were far from over. It was so amazing to just have him in sight that you couldn't help but clap and cheer as loud as you could.

Pope Benedict started his address to the young people and seminarians with a Bible verse, "Proclaim the Lord Christ... and always have your answer ready for people who ask the reason for the hope that is within you." — 1 Pt 3:15. That lone verse struck me hard because it challenged all of us present there to always be ready to proclaim Christ to others who want to know where you find your hope in your life.

The pope also spoke of four essential pieces of our faith: personal prayer; liturgical prayer; charity in action; and vocations.

In our world so full of noise, it is often hard to hear God's voice because we are afraid of or don't know how to be still and listen. He also spoke of liturgical prayer as "the whole church at prayer." The sacraments are the "work of Jesus" in the church and our lives.

This liturgical prayer, personal prayer and charitable works bring us closer to Christ and our vocation. It was so powerful when our Holy Father spoke of vocations because so many seminarians were present who were in fact discerning their vocations.

The next day was equally if not more special than the youth rally because I would be in the presence of the pope and Jesus in the Eucharist. Once again, when Pope Benedict arrived, the whole of Yankee Stadium was charged with

excitement and shouts of "Viva Benedicto!"

The Mass was the most beautiful celebration of the Eucharist I have ever been to. Just being in union with the church in such a huge way was an inspiring experience. During his homily, Pope Benedict spoke of freedom and Jesus being "the way that leads to the Father" and as "the way the truth and the life." He also spoke of the only way to find ourselves is to love ourselves.

Both of these messages struck me in a particular way. It really challenged me to let go of everything in my life that was not glorifying God.

The pope's whole message of hope and happiness for our nation was a refreshing message. He did not come to tell us how dark and troubled our country was or to chastise us for the numerous things that happen in our country that go against the Catholic Church.

Pope Benedict came to give us hope for the future and to challenge us to deepen our faith in order to lead our nation into a bright and happy future. We young people have a great responsibility to ensure that hopeful and happy future. I feel that Pope Benedict challenged us the most to be examples to our country and the rest of the world in living out our faith.

Lindsay Harris is a junior at Bishop Dwenger High School and one of the teens who represented the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend in New York for the papal activities.

Pacing the pope: Pope's seclusion is prudence, not disappearing act

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Every pontificate has its rhythm, and sometimes Pope Benedict XVI's seems to have more than one.

In recent weeks, journalists have seen the 81-year-old pontiff go from seven-hour days on the public stage to virtual seclusion behind the Vatican walls.

Predictably, that led to one alarming report — promptly denied by the Vatican — about the pope's supposedly "fragile heart."

In fact, what may appear from the outside as warning signs probably reflect a more subtle process: pacing the pope.

In the week leading up to Pope Benedict's six-day visit to the United States, his activities were reduced to a minimum. He gave no speeches, met with no groups and only a few individuals, and limited his public appearances to a weekly general audience and a Sunday blessing.

In Washington and New York, the pope sailed through a busy schedule — 16 major events —

with no evident problems, a fact that pleased his aides immensely. But once he got back to Rome, he took another rest and held no public audiences for a week.

Some might call it a disappearing act. Vatican officials would simply call it prudence.

"They're being careful, but I don't think it's because of any particular health concern," said one Vatican official who has known the pope for years.

If the pope's doctors had serious worries about his health, they simply wouldn't let him travel or would at least prohibit long intercontinental voyages, he said.

In early May, the Vatican confirmed that the pope would fly to Australia for a World Youth Day celebration in July. That seemed to suggest a clean bill of papal health.

But the announcement fueled speculation when it was disclosed that after landing in Australia the pope would spend three days doing absolutely nothing in order to get over jet lag.

THE VATICAN LETTER

JOHN THAVIS

Once again, pacing took precedence over public image: Pope Benedict didn't have to hit the ground running.

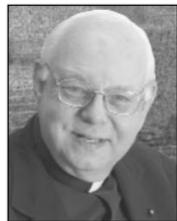
"There's no mystery. It's just logical for the pope to rest after such a long flight," said the Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi.

One papal aide emphasized that the pope's careful pacing applies not only to foreign trips but also to his schedule all year long.

"If you look closely at the pope's agenda, you'll see that

LETTER, PAGE 16

Trinity helps us realize that love is of God



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

Feast of the Holy Trinity Gospel: Jn 3:16-18

This weekend the church celebrates the feast of the Most Holy Trinity. This is the scholarly, theological term to describe the most intimate detail of the reality of God.

In the first reading, from the Book of Exodus, the church begins its lesson for us today by reminding us about God, and also about ourselves.

Exodus, in general, recalls the path of the Hebrews, escaping slavery in Egypt, across the forbidding Sinai Peninsula to the land of prosperity, peace and security promised them by God. It was a difficult trip, to say the least.

Without God's mercy, the Hebrews would not have completed the journey. He guided them. He loved them.

The first reading reports communication between God and Moses. Divine love allows, and deepens, this communication. God reaches out to us. God listens to us.

For the second reading, the church presents Paul's Second Epistle to the Corinthians.

The Christians of Corinth confronted Paul with many challenges. They quarreled and plotted among themselves. They sinned. Considering their surroundings, it

is not difficult to realize why they so often were wayward.

Corinth was known throughout the Mediterranean world of the first century AD as a virtual cesspool of vice and licentiousness. A rich commercial center, on the route between East and West, it also was the site of greed and exceeding competition.

The great apostle urged the Christian Corinthians to rely on Jesus, and the strength given through and in Jesus of the Holy Spirit.

Finally, the church presents, from St. John's Gospel, the story of the Lord's instructing Nicodemus, an important figure in Jewish life in Jerusalem.

Jesus explains that the messiah's words are not just the opinions of a mere mortal. The messiah is from God. The Son is one with the Father. To hear the Son is to hear the Father.

Jesus tells Nicodemus that the Father sent the Son into the world of space and time, to be with humanity and to redeem humanity.

Eternal life awaits the faithful. God is merciful and forgiving. God loves humankind. Despite all their sins and weaknesses, God loves humans and wills that they live forever.

Jesus is the perfect bearer of communication between God and humanity. He came as the very personification of God's love.

Reflection

Using the phrase "Holy Trinity" does not customarily bring Catholics to an emotional response in their religious experience. Quite frankly, it should evoke considerable emotion among any who count themselves as disciples of Christ.

First, the term tells us of the immense love God has for us. The Holy Trinity, while not unreason-

able in the philosophical sense, never would have come to human knowledge as the result of human deduction. It had to be revealed. It seeks to explain in human terms the most intimate aspect of the life of the divinity. In God's great love for us, so that we might know God, the Lord revealed the Trinity to us.

Secondly, so much of Catholic teaching rests on the belief that God has created every human, and all humans, in the divine image and likeness. This is more than the matter of nice words. We are in God's image and likeness.

As such, we are out of kilter if we fail to love God. We are not in accord with our nature, our ultimate DNA, if we set ourselves apart from the human community and certainly if we do not love others.

This is why that all three readings for this feast bear in common the message that God loves us.

Long ago, the great theologians saw love as the essence of divine life. It is the kernel of the life of the Trinity. This feast calls us to realize that love is of God.

READINGS

Sunday: Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9 (Ps) Dn 3:52-55 2 Cor 13:11-13 Jn 3:16-18

Monday: Jas 3:13-18 Ps 19:8-10, 15 Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10 Ps 55:7-11, 23 Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday: Jas 4:13-17 Ps 49:2-3, 6-11 Mk 9:38-40

Thursday: Jas 5:1-6 Ps 49:14-20 Mk 9:41-50

Friday: Jas 5:9-12 Ps 103:1-4, 8-9, 11-12 Mk 10:1-12

Saturday: Jas 5:13-20 Ps 141:1-3, 8 Mk 10:13-16

CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

In May, the church commemorates Nereus and Achilles. These two martyrs were unusual in that they were members of the elite Praetorian Guard; they were reputedly baptized by St. Peter himself and eventually beheaded. This quiz takes a guarded look at these elite troops and the church.

1. What divine personage were the Praetorian guards sworn to protect?

- a. The pope
b. The Roman Emperor
c. The high priest at the Temple in Jerusalem

2. When God expelled Adam and Eve from Eden, he set one of these to guard the entrance:

- a. a cherubim with a fiery sword
b. a swarm of demons called legion
c. demons living in a herd of swine

3. In Exodus 23, the Lord sends one of these to guard the Israelites on the way across the desert:

- a. a prophet
b. an angel
c. a Prince of Egypt

4. Millennia before Boone or Rather, this tribe acted as rear guard for all the camps, led by Ahiezer, son of Ammishaddai, over their host:

- a. Benjaminites
b. Celebrities
c. Danites

5. In Deuteronomy 12, the people were warned to be on their guard, not only against foreign gods but even

- a. dancing
b. wondering how pagans worshipped their gods (in case they did likewise)
c. the Chaldeans

6. Why did Joshua use troops to guard a cave at Makkedah?

- a. There were enemy kings were hiding in it.
b. It was reputedly the birthplace of Abraham.
c. It was the last known location of the Ark of the Covenant.

7. King Saul sent troops to guard David's residence. However this did not make David's wife Michal feel secure. Why?

- a. She was a pacifist and was nervous about soldiers being so near.
b. She was jealous of any favor shown her husband.
c. She believed the guards were there to kill David in the morning.

8. The Babylonian Nebuzaradan, captain of the guard, led the last of the Jerusalemites into this:

- a. the temple where they sacrificed a pig on the altar
b. the valley of Kidron where they were all killed
c. exile in Babylon

9. In Psalm 18, the writer is on guard against this:

- a. sin
b. money
c. commerce with the Romans

10. Psalm 127 notes that it is pointless to guard a city unless it is also guarded by

- a. animals — dogs or at least geese
b. the armies of the Amish
c. the Lord

11. In the New Testament Matthew recounts how Pilate gave the Jewish leaders authority to guard this:

- a. The cell where Barabbas was held captive
b. The trumpet used in the temple to trump up charges
c. The tomb of Jesus

12. In Acts 4:1 it is recounted how the apostles were arrested by a temple guard in Jerusalem. This guard was an elite group made up of

- a. Levites
b. gentiles
c. Romans

13. The ironic origin of the fearsome Muslim Ottoman Turkish elite guard the Janissaries was that they

- a. were mostly seminarian students known as Taliban
b. were mostly Christian children, given to the Turks in tribute and converted
c. were from ethnic groups who had always lost in battles against the Armenians

14. This oldest British guard regiment, the Coldstream Guards was not associated with the church but was founded by a man with this splendid name:

- a. bishop
b. monk
c. Kirk

15. The most famous church guard is indisputably the

- a. Palatine Guard
b. Liebstandarde Julius Streicher
c. Swiss Guards

ANSWERS

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

Genuflect as sign of respect and adoration

Why do we genuflect, reverence the altar and the tabernacle the way we do? M.B. Ohio

A genuflection is a sign of deep respect and even adoration. This calls to mind Philippians 2:9-11 which says, "Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

So, because Jesus is truly present in the tabernacle in the holy Eucharist, we genuflect as a sign of our worship and adoration.

Concerning the altar, under certain circumstances a bow to the altar is the appropriate gesture of respect. The altar is a profound symbol of Jesus because on it, the one sacrifice of Jesus on the cross is made present to us every day in the holy Mass. So we bow to the altar as a sign of respect for what happens there.

So what are the circumstances under which a bow to the altar is appropriate? When the tabernacle is present in the church directly behind the altar, then the Lord's true presence in the tabernacle supersedes in terms of gestures, if you will, the symbol of the altar.

In this case, a genuflection to the tabernacle is the appropriate gesture for the priest at the beginning and end of Mass and for the people when entering or exiting the church. When the tabernacle is in the church, but somewhere other than directly behind the altar, then at the beginning and end of Mass, the appropriate gesture for the priest is a bow to the altar (although a genuflection by the priest to the tabernacle where ever it is would not be out of line), but the people still genuflect to the tabernacle when entering and exiting the church. If the tabernacle is not in the main body of the church at all but in a separate chapel, then all bow to the altar when entering and exiting the church including the priest at the beginning and end of Mass.

Why do we pray to saints when we can pray directly to the Lord? M.B. Fort Wayne

We certainly always can pray directly to the Lord. However, God has created us all to be in a community of love. By our baptism, we are all bound together in the body of Christ. As such, there is a great sharing of spiritual gifts among all the members of the body of Christ, the church,

THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION

including those members of the church who are already in heaven. When we ask the saints to pray for us, this is, in a sense, no different from asking someone on earth to pray for us.

God has made it so that our care and concern for each other should also be expressed by our prayers for each other. In addition, the prayers of the saints are most powerful in obtaining grace and favor from the Lord because they see God face to face.

As the Letter of James tells us, "The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects" (5:16). There are none more righteous than the saints who are in heaven seeing God face to face, and so their prayers "have great power in (their) effects."

So, the short answer to your question is that we pray to the saints because God wants it this way because he has bound us all

by baptism in a great community of love. We also pray to the saints because the prayers of the saints, who stand before the face of God, are most powerful.

My hairdresser asked me why Good Friday was called good. I told her what I thought, but I really wasn't 100 percent sure. B.K. Fort Wayne

It is called Good Friday simply because this is the day that our Lord died for our salvation.

Certainly, the worse thing that humans could have possibly done happened on this day, that is, we nailed God to a tree, but from this God brought the greatest good possible, that is, our salvation. For this reason it is called "Good Friday."

Father Mark Gurtner, pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope answered this week's questions.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

By Patricia Kasten

Gospel for May 18, 2008

Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9

Following is a word search based on the First Reading for Trinity Sunday, Cycle A: the appearance of the Lord God to Moses. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

EARLY	MORNING	WENT UP
MOUNT SINAI	THE LORD	COMMANDED
STONE	TABLETS	CLOUD
PROCLAIMED	NAME	BEFORE HIM
MERCIFUL	GRACIOUS	SLOW
ANGER	MOSES	BOWED
STIFF-NECKED	PEOPLE	PARDON

THE LORD

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

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An education received from Lou Holtz

I've been incredibly blessed throughout my life to come in contact with people who have played a significant role in directing me, motivating me and helping me develop a Christian attitude toward living life.

Obviously, we all could be stronger Christians, and I certainly am no exception to the rule. But beginning with my parents, through the priests and nuns who instructed me during my Catholic education, and right on through today, I have contact with people of high moral character and great passion for their role as teachers.

I had the good fortune to be coached by some great men who inspired me to pursue my goals and passions. My profession as a sports journalist also brought me in contact with a wisp of a man who inspired hundreds of young men that played football at the University of Notre Dame.

He inspired me too.

Between the ages of 25 and 36, I wrote about the Notre Dame football program coached by Lou Holtz, who recently was selected by the National Football Foundation for its latest Hall of Fame class.

I can't imagine a more deserving selection.

I learned more about coaching and directing young people from Holtz than any person I've ever been around. Being "unreasonable" at times is simply part of the job. In fact, it is the head coach's responsibility and right to be unreasonable, depending upon the situation.

Motivation comes in many forms, and Holtz tapped into all of them. Sometimes he would show his love and compassion for them. Other times he would set his

expectations at unreasonable proportions. Then his players would play to that level, and suddenly, being unreasonable seemed, well, reasonable, and the sensible approach to coaching.

Sometimes a teacher has to set seemingly unreasonable expectations to get the most out of students.

Holtz didn't have much patience for failure. His players often didn't like him. Yet most came away from the Notre Dame/Holtz football experience with a much clearer understanding of what it took to compete and succeed at the highest level while still representing the university with honor and dignity.

Holtz's 1988 national championship team was the most fun-loving, confident, productive group of players I've ever been around, due in part to their personalities/abilities, but also due to Holtz's ability to bring a team to a fever pitch in the most critical situations.

My favorite memories of Holtz, however, are the one-on-one conversations we would have in his office. Those interviews were like personal tutoring sessions. Holtz's off-the-field demeanor was much different than it was on the field. I would often have to strain when transcribing the tape to hear exactly what Holtz had said. He would speak in a soft, almost grandfatherly tone. But it was during these times that Holtz's words of wisdom were like found gold to me.

I don't know if he ever actually put it this way, but the gist of his approach was that in coaching, it is a constant building up and tearing down process with an athlete.

When you feed the ego of a young athlete, it is human nature for him to grow comfortable, and Holtz wasn't about to allow his players



FROM THE SIDELINES

BY TIM PRISTER

to be comfortable or secure in their place in the pecking order.

Holtz forced his players to be accountable at all times, and he had an incredible knack for making players want to please him. Sometimes their motivation was a starting spot or additional playing time. Sometimes their motivation was to prove the little cuss wrong. At all times, the motivation was to maximize the individual's abilities so as to better the team.

Under Holtz, the team came first ... second ... and third. Then came the individual's needs. That can be a difficult message to convey.

After Holtz left Notre Dame, my appreciation for him grew because a) his successors never could recapture the magic and b) his love for Notre Dame was and still is genuine.

The education I received from Lou Holtz was the most valuable experience and most incredible blessing of my journalistic/coaching career. Maybe I haven't been around a lot of coaching geniuses. But it doesn't take a genius to recognize one.

Lou Holtz in the Hall of Fame? He belongs at the head of the class.

Tim Prister is a 1978 graduate of Marian High School and a 1982 graduate from the University of Notre Dame.

LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

there's a systematic effort to avoid periods of excessively intense activity," he said.

"As soon as he was elected, he made it clear that his activity would not be frenetic like that of (Pope) John Paul II. He sets priorities," he said.

Last March, the pope cut back his schedule ahead of heavy Easter activities later in the month. The lull coincided with a visit by the Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, to Armenia and Azerbaijan, and the cardinal's myriad speeches and sermons were distributed by the Vatican press office. There is no "vice pope," but for several days Cardinal Bertone sure seemed like one.

Although Pope Benedict predicted that his would not be a long pontificate, he has shown no lack of stamina during his first three years. Many visitors to the

Vatican, including those who come for his weekly general audience, remark on how good he looks and sounds.

He chooses his moments, however. In early May, for example, instead of celebrating Mass for 150,000 Italian members of Catholic Action in St. Peter's Square, he came down afterward for a ride-through and a speech.

As he settled back into his work rhythm two weeks after his return from the United States, he had plenty on his plate: meetings with the Anglican primate and the Armenian Apostolic patriarch, speeches to the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences and several other organizations, a crosstown visit to pray the rosary in a Rome basilica, hosting a concert by a Chinese orchestra, ordaining new priests, celebrating a Pentecost liturgy, meeting with Hungarian bishops and preparing for a two-day pastoral visit to northern Italy.

Once again, the pace was picking up.

Sports

U.S. ARMY ALL-AMERICAN BOWL NOMINATION NAMES The U.S. Army All-American Bowl recognizes TyQuan Hammock of Bishop Luers High School as one of the nation's top 400 high school football players. During the 2008 fall football season, 90 of the 400 nominees will be selected and invited to the 2009 U.S. Army All-American Bowl. The 2009 U.S. Army All-American Bowl will be played in the Alamodome, San Antonio, Texas, on Saturday, Jan. 3, 2009.

Two weeks left in ICCL baseball

BY ELMER J. DANCH

SOUTH BEND — With only two more weeks to go in the Inter-City Catholic League's baseball campaign, only three teams remain undefeated and the trio are expected to play a major part to settle division champs.

Christ the King is unbeaten in the John Bosco Division, with the Kings also having the overall record of 5-1.

In the Martin De Porres Division, the St. Thomas Spartans of Elkhart are unblemished at 4-0 and currently have a

one-game edge over St. Joseph, Mishawaka. Overall, the Elkhart team has a 6-0 record.

And in the Father Mike Division, Holy Family Blue has a 4-0 division and 6-1 overall record.

All teams will participate in a post season tournament.

Current standings:

John Bosco Division	wins-losses
Christ the King	4-0
Holy Family	3-1
St. Joseph, SB	2-2
Corpus Christi	1-3
Holy Cross	0-4

Martin De Porres Division

St. Thomas	4-0
St. Joseph, Mish.	3-1
St. Anthony	2-2
St. Jude	1-3
St. Matthew	0-4

Father Mike Division

Holy Family Blue	4-0
St. Joseph (SB) Gold	2-2
Queen of Peace	2-2
St. Monica-St. Bavo	1-3
St. Thomas Maroon	1-3

St. Charles takes CYO soccer titles

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) softball tournament action was rained out and will be played this week at Havenhurst. The championship game will feature the Lady Cardinals from St. Charles pitted against the St. John New Haven Raiders.

The CYO City Track Meet was run on Saturday, May 10. St. John New Haven and St. Charles were also the top two competitors in this spring sport. The Lady Raiders ran away with the girls title and St. Charles took the boys on a gloriously sunny, record-breaking day at Bishop Luers. Individual results will be highlighted in an upcoming issue.

On the soccer field, another season has ended and in a third spring sport, the Cardinals from St. Charles came out on top. They won both the girls and boys tournaments for 2008.

"It was so neat for the eighth graders to have their classmates on the same field, the same night," beamed winning boy's coach Pat Welch of the double victory on a rainy, dreary night.

The red and blue boy's team finished with an unblemished 10-0 for the year beating St. John New



PROVIDED BY ST. CHARLES SCHOOL

St. Charles Borromeo boy's soccer team won the Catholic Youth Organization soccer title. The boy's team is shown above. The girls from St. Charles also took the soccer tournament.

Haven in the championship game 4-0. Welch and assistant coach Mike Lewis have coached this same group the past four years.

As sixth graders, the team went undefeated during the regular season and came in runner-up in the tournament. As seventh graders, they finished third place in an eighth grade league. This year they pushed each other especially hard and really focused on grades and were all eligible the entire season.

The group includes: Chris Boger, Zach Fortier, Alex Gonzalez, AJ Houk, Casey Jackson, Bobby Jauch, Tyler Landers, Brett Lochbiler, Chris McGraw, Johnny McKenna, Luke Offerle, Matt Olry, Tom Roach,

Cam Schenkel, Dalton Shutt, Michael Sordelet and Ethan Welch.

The team came in full force to optional practices during spring break and every "kick around" offered. Welch called the practices "tough" and the games "fun."

"We executed what we practiced very well," he explained. Another team strength was their depth. "When the bench subbed in, we never missed a beat," said Welch.

But it was the team's defense that really shined allowing an unbelievable four goals the entire season and zero in the post season. "Our defense dominated and is what really made us go," Welch concluded.

USF Athletics announces \$200,000 renovation project for Hutzell Athletics Center

FORT WAYNE — University of Saint Francis Athletics announced May 6 that the USF Board of Trustees has approved a \$200,000 renovation plan for the Hutzell Athletics Center. In addition, the USF Leadership Council has approved a proposal from Hawk Construction, Inc. to complete all renovations this summer.

USF Director of Athletics Mark A. Pope stated that the major components of the project will include expanded locker rooms for both men's and women's teams, a larger training room for all student-athletes, and a new office complex.

"Our facility has served us well for the past 20 years," said Pope. "However, Hutzell was built at a time when we had far fewer student-athletes than we have today. We need to expand the size and

quality of our locker rooms and training room, to provide for our growth."

In addition, USF Athletics will build all new offices for all coaches and staff who are currently housed at Hutzell.

"Our partners, Design Collaborative Architects and Hawk Construction, have come up with an innovative and cost-effective design to allow our coaches and staff to have larger offices," said Pope. "The design will include an open concept that is utilized by most corporate offices today. I believe that it will be a more collegial place to work than the current office structure."

Hawk Construction has already commenced work on the project and will complete all work before the start of the fall semester.



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Angelus Film Festival shows future of filmmaking in good hands

BY DIANE FREEBY

NOTRE DAME — If the short films showcased earlier this month at the University of Notre Dame are any indication, the future of filmmaking is in good hands. Young filmmakers were honored by the Angelus Student Film Festival, a creation of Family Theater Productions.

"The Angelus Student Film Festival showcases films of high artistic caliber that also embody values such as equality, dignity, spirituality, tolerance and respect

for diversity, peacemaking and hope," noted Monika Moreno, director of the Angelus Student Film Festival, adding that it is important to honor emerging filmmakers for their artistry as well as their integrity as they embark on their careers.

Shyam Balse from the University of Southern California was among four young filmmakers introduced at Notre Dame, with his short film, "Monsoon." The story focuses on a young doctor forced to return to India when his estranged father falls ill, but he isn't prepared

for the journey his father takes them on to reconcile their broken relationship.

"I'm interested in themes involving collision of cultures," said Balse, who shot the film on location with a HD-CAM and a \$40,000 budget.

After graduating, he started a production company with producer/director Joseph Itaya called Tempered Entertainment. Balse wrote and directed "Monsoon" as his thesis project. It has screened in over 35 film festivals worldwide and has won 16 awards.

Other Angelus Award winners included Lowell Frank and Destin Cretton of San Diego State University with "Deacon's Mondays," Sean Overbeeke of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with "Christmas Wish List," and Nicholas Ozeki of Chapman University with "Mamitas."

"Wish List" introduces a fast talking New York lawyer who finds himself alone on Christmas Eve in a small college town. After he refuses to help a homeless man, a young resident doctor decides to

show him the true meaning of the Christmas spirit.

"Mamitas" tells the story of teen "Casanova" Jordan Juarez who thinks he excels in the art of picking up hot "Mamitas" until a chance meeting challenges his way of life. A feature script for "Mamitas" is currently in the works.

The 2008 Angelus Student Film Festival will be held Saturday, Sept. 13, at the Directors Guild of America in Hollywood. Family Theater Productions, Hollywood, created and continues to conduct the Angelus Student Film Festival.

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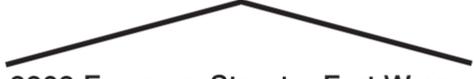


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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

Fine arts fair and open house planned
 South Bend — Holy Cross School, 1020 N. Wilber St., will have a fine arts fair and open house Wednesday, May 21, from 7-8:30 p.m. Enjoy the students' artwork and musical talent. Holy Cross School offers a faith-based education for all-day four-year-old pre-school, pre-kindergarten, and kindergarten through eighth grade. For information call (574) 234-3422 or visit www.holy-crosscrusaders.org.

Twelfth Night to be performed
 South Bend — Saint Joseph's High School will present the Shakespearean play "Twelfth Night" on May 15 and 16 at 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, May 17, at 2 p.m. All performances will be at Driscoll Auditorium at Holy Cross College.

Precious Blood announces Funfest 2008
 Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood Parish will have Funfest on Friday and Saturday, May 30 and 31. Friday offers food from 5-8 p.m. and music by Paul and Susan from 7-10 p.m. On Saturday kids games, Texas Hold 'em and Blackjack, hog roast, family fun, beer tent and a raffle. Loose Change will perform from 8-11 p.m. Free admission.

Luers Loot Garage Sale
 Fort Wayne — The Luers Loot Garage Sale will be Saturday, May 31, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. A bag sale will begin at 1 p.m. Items may be dropped off any Saturday in May from 9-11 a.m. Large items may be donated by calling Meg Hanlon at (260) 456-1261 Ext. 3256.

Musical announced
 Mishawaka — Marian High School will perform a Musical Spectacular on Friday and Saturday, May 16-17, at 7 p.m. This year's music will be taken from "The Wizard of Oz" and "Wicked."

DEVOTION

Little Flower holy hour
 Fort Wayne — Father Tony Steinacker will celebrate the holy hour at MacDougal Chapel on Tuesday, May 20, at 7:15 p.m.

Father Tony is associate pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Parish. Join in praying for priests and vocations.

May crowning
 South Bend — Holy Cross/St. Stanislaus will have a May crowning Friday, May 16, beginning at 9 a.m. The students, parents, and Holy Cross/St. Stanislaus communities will process from Holy Cross at 1050 Wilber St. to St. Stanislaus Parish, 415 N. Brookfield.

German Mass celebrated
 Fort Wayne — St. Peter Church, 500 E. DeWald St., will celebrate a German Mass at 11 a.m. on June 1. Father Charles Herman will be the celebrant, and the Fort Wayne Mennerchor and Dammenchor will provide music. A German dinner may be purchased after Mass in the Pavilion. Both the church and Pavilion are handicapped accessible, as is the large parking lot.

Day of reflection
 Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held Wednesday, May 28, at St. Francis Convent, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is "Ecclesiastes." Please bring your Bible. The cost of the day is \$15 and includes lunch. Register by Friday, May 23, by calling Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

Sister Olivia Marie Hutcheson, former Holy Cross superior and healthcare leader, dies

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross Sister Olivia Marie Hutcheson, 90, former superior general of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, died at 9:25 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6, at Saint Mary's after an illness. Sister served with distinction in the congregation's general administration from 1967 to 1984, first as a member of the leadership team of her congregation and then as its president.

"There are many wonderful things that could be said about Sister Olivia Marie in her long years of leadership and service to the congregation, but it was her deep spirituality that permeated all that she did and radiated from her person," said Holy Cross Sister Joy O'Grady, president of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross. "She loved people in her kind and gentle way and people responded to her in love."

The Mass of Resurrection was celebrated on Monday, May 12, in the Church of Our Lady of Loretto at Saint Mary's, Notre Dame.

REST IN PEACE

Bremen Clementine Slos, 94, St. Dominic	Goshen Geraldine A. Juday, 87, St. John the Evangelist	George J. Grochowski, 73, Little Flower
Elkhart Robert H. Harvey Sr., 90, St. Thomas the Apostle	Granger Joseph Maurice Cocquyt, 65, St. Pius X	Dorothy G. Laskowski, 84, St. John the Baptist
Fort Wayne Margaret N. Johnson, 92, St. Patrick	Francis R. Scharpf, 69, St. Pius X	Sister Olivia Marie Hutcheson, CSC, 90, Our Lady of Loretto
John F. Spoltman, 88, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton	Huntington Sister Antoinette Golabowski, OLVM, 94, Victory Noll	Mildred C. Brink, 91, Holy Cross
Marcella S. O'Malley, 85, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception	Mishawaka Larry Blume, 67, Queen of Peace	Herman E. Beutel, 81, St. Jude
Catherine M. Carney, 68, St. Vincent de Paul	Notre Dame Eugene Kocent, 70, Sacred Heart Basilica	Mary D. Bonnell, 86, St. Anthony de Padua
Paul B. Ehinger, St. Jude	Julieta Neyra, 35, Sacred Heart Basilica	Bradley G. Pianstki, 28, Holy Family
Bernice J. Lichtsinn, 98, St. Vincent de Paul	South Bend Bernard Taylor, 66, St. Anthony de Padua	Sister Rosemary Eggermann, Church of the Immaculate Conception, St. Mary-of-the-Woods, Ind.
Diane McAllister, 73, St. Vincent de Paul	Joseph A. DeCola, 89, St. Matthew Cathedral	Sister served at Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne



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Bluffton wood sculpture of Christ reminds travelers to take up the cross

BY TIM JOHNSON

BLUFFTON — One cannot help but notice the large, 14-foot wooden statue of Christ holding a cross in front of St. Joseph Church on North Main Street in Bluffton. Luke's Gospel, 9:23, offers the inspiration for the statue: "If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."

On site just since May 6 when it was erected by the sculptor and his dad, many are taking notice to the newest Bluffton wood carving, and that's just what pastor Father Dale Bauman hopes will happen.

North Main is a busy street, and perhaps a child would see the statue and say, "Look mommy, there's Jesus." Father Bauman says, "that might be the only religion they get that whole day. But it will stop and make them think."

The wood carving came about last year when the electric company contacted property owners along North Main that trees taller than the electric lines would be cut down — that included the 160-year-old ash tree on the church property near the road.

"The electric company was very concerned about the power lines, because the tree was taller than that top lines," Father Bauman says. "And every winter

we'd get the high winds and branches would come down in bits and pieces on those power lines and set fire."

Father Bauman met with the electric company, explained he understood why the tree needed to be removed, and added, "I would like all the wood." He gave all the wood that they cut to a family that heats their home with wood to help them with their heat supply. The family came in and hauled the wood to their home and cleaned up the yard. But he also had another request.

"We wanted a statue of Jesus because we're Catholic Christians. We don't worship statues, as it is said not to do in Exodus 20:4 and Deuteronomy 5:8. All statues are like photographs in your wallet. They are reminders of those who've taken the faith journey before us."

FATHER DALE BAUMAN, PASTOR ST. JOSEPH, BLUFFTON

"I asked them to leave me 20 foot of that trunk," Father Bauman says.

The Bluffton community has several carvings by the river front, and Father Bauman thought, "That would be kind of neat to save that tree, since it grew there, and to carve it and enhance the property."

The trunk sat all winter while Father Bauman took ideas from parishioners of what to carve.

"I asked a couple of different people to draw a picture," he says. "They had Jesus holding the

Sacred Heart."

Father Bauman says he prayed and thought about the Sacred Heart, but in a community that has a small Catholic population, "I thought the Sacred Heart isn't going to mean anything to these people in town, so we took the heart out and put a cross in."

The parish didn't have to look far to find a craftsman carver. Daniel Mayer, who was a member of St. Joseph Parish most of his life, and an altar boy there in his youth, but now resides in Bardstown, Ky., where he owns a woodworking business, was commissioned to carve the statue. Mayer was assisted by his father, Gregory, who has belonged to the parish for over 40 years and who handled the engineering aspects.

This project turned into a family operation. On April 30, a 20-foot section was loaded on a hay wagon with a propane tank loading truck, Daniel said, and taken to the farm of his brother, Patrick, west of Bluffton.

It was there, "I started carving with a chainsaw," Mayer says. And using grinders and chisels, the tools of his trade since he was 7 years old, he produced the statue in just six and a half days.

On May 6, the Mayers took the statue, weighing 7,000 pounds, back to the St. Joseph Parish grounds where it is now erected where the old tree was located.



TIM JOHNSON

Daniel and Gregory Mayer are shown putting the final touches on a wood carving of Christ holding the cross that stands in front of St. Joseph Parish in Bluffton. Daniel Mayer, a former St. Joseph parishioner who operates Wood'N'Works in Bardstown, Ky., www.kywoodnworks.com, carved the statue from a 20-foot trunk section of a 160-year-old ash tree, which stood at the North Main Street grounds of St. Joseph's and was cut down by the electric company.

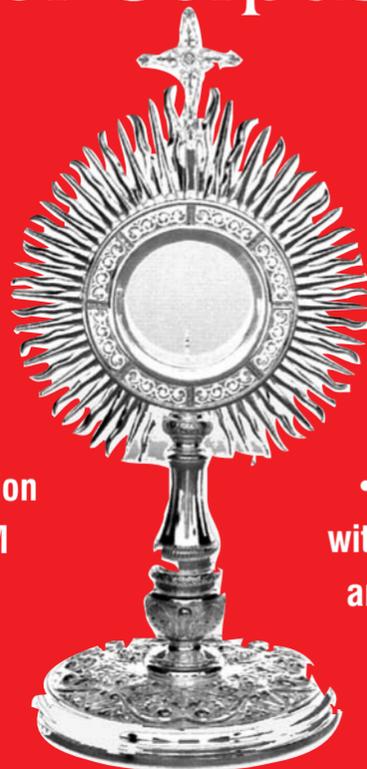
RESCUERS TAKE CARE OF INJURED AFTER EARTHQUAKE IN CHINA



CNS PHOTO/REUTERS

Rescuers take care of injured people in the debris of a collapsed building at Juyuan Middle School after an earthquake in Dujiangyan, in China's Sichuan province, May 12. The magnitude 7.9 earthquake killed at least 9,000 in Sichuan province alone, and the count was expected to rise significantly.

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