Today’s Catholic, diocesan media campaign receive awards

BY VINCE LABARBERA

TORONTO — Today’s Catholic and the diocesan Office of Communications received national recognition with accolades at the Catholic Media Convention in Toronto, Canada, and the American Advertising Federation competition, also known as the “Addy” Awards.

Today’s Catholic received two awards at the May 28-30 Catholic Media Convention. It won second place in general excellence for newspapers with subscriptions up to 17,000. Judges based their decision on three consecutive issues of the paper submitted from 2007.

Today’s Catholic Assistant Editor Don Clemmer received an honorable mention for “best personality profile” for an article from his Real Lent series.

A diocesan mixed-media campaign inviting inactive or under-active Catholics to “come home” to the Catholic Church won two Silver “Addy” Awards at the recent Sixth District American Advertising Federation competition for the Flint (Michigan) area.

The two awards — one for an individual ad and the other for the complete campaign — automatically will be entered into national “Addy” competition.

The television ads were submitted by Crossroads Marketing & Consulting, Inc., Davison, Mich., who in conjunction with NewGroup Media, South Bend, produced the four 30-second TV spots for the diocesan Catholic Communications Office. The ads aired last February and March as part of the jubilee year in observance of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

In the reconciliation ads, Bishop John D’Arcy invites people “to restart a relationship with God, draw strength from Jesus Christ and come home to a more joyful...”
It is not enough to pray for vocations; young people need to develop a habit of prayer

Parishes permitted to mark feast of conversion of St. Paul

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — As part of the 2008-2009 celebration of the special year devoted to St. Paul, Catholic parishes may mark the Jan. 25 feast of the Conversion of St. Paul even if it falls on a Sunday in 2009.

The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments issued a decree saying Pope Benedict XVI, “in an extraordinary manner,” has given permission for parishes and church- es to use the prayers and readings for the feast day instead of those for the third Sunday of ordinary time.

The decree was released May 30 at the Vatican.

Generally, the Mass texts for feasts such as the Conversion of St. Paul are not used when the feast falls on a Sunday.

For that reason, “only for the year 2009,” Pope Benedict has decided that parishes may use the prayers and readings for the feast day Jan. 25.

Because the feast day Mass does not include a second reading, the second reading from the third Sunday of ordinary time should be used and the Creed, often not recited at Mass during the week, should be recited, the decree said.

The decree was signed by Cardinal Francis Arinze, prefect of the congregation, and by Archbishop Albert Malcolm Ranjith Patabendige Don, congregation secretary.
AWARDS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

life,” he encourages people to return to the celebration of the Mass “to ease the pressures of daily living” and “to rediscover the power of prayer.”

The “You Can Always Come Home” poster is available at an illustration used on billboards and other promotional materials were filmed by NewGroup Media in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, since it serves as the “house” of the bishop in his pastoral ministry and is regarded as the center of the liturgical life of the diocese. The cathedral ceiling illustration was photographed by Francie Hogan, communications associate of Today’s Catholic page designer and dioce- san web site coordinator. Funding for the media campaign was made possible by a grant from Our Sunday Visitor, Inc.

Pope calls for prayers for disaster victims in China, Myanmar

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI called for prayers for all those who have been hit by natural disasters in China and Myanmar.

Before praying his noonday Angelus June 1, he asked for the “maternal intercession” of Mary to help those suffering in the aftermath of China’s earthquake and Cyclone Nargis that struck Myanmar.

He called on Mary to help those “who suffer by natural calamities and for those dealing with the many situations of suffering, illness, and material and spiritual misery that mark humanity’s journey.”

The Chinese government said June 1 that about 10,000 of those who had been killed by the May 12 quake had risen to more than 69,000; it also said more than 360,000 people were injured and some 19,000 people were still missing. More than 15 million had been evacuated from areas affected by the quake, gov- ernment officials said.

The May 13 cyclone that devas- tated parts of Myanmar left 78,000 de- ad and another 56,000 people missing, according to aid agencies. According to the United Nations, at least 2.4 million people are in need of food, clean water, shelter and clothing.

Myanmar’s military government has come under fire by the international community for not adequately responding to the emergency and limiting foreign workers’ access to the hardest hit areas.

The pope told visiting bishops from Myanmar May 30 he hoped access would be granted “to the places where it is needed most” and that cyclone victims would receive urgently needed humani- tarian relief.

Cardinal George expresses regret at priest’s ‘partisan’ remarks

CHICAGO (CNS) — Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago expressed deep regret at Father Michael Pfleger’s “partisan” remarks about Democratic presi- dential candidate Sen. Hillary Clinton and that the priest had assured him he would “not enter into campaigning” or “publicly make any endorse- ment.”

“Words can be differently interpreted, but Father Pfleger’s remarks about Sen. Clinton are both partisan and amount to a personal attack,” the cardinal said in a May 30 statement.

Speaking May 28 at Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, the church to which Democratic presidential candi- date Sen. Barack Obama belonged for nearly 20 years, Father Pfleger said Clinton saw Obama as “a black man stealing my show” when he entered the race for the Democratic nomin- ation.

“She wasn’t the only one crying,” the priest added. “There was a whole lot of white people crying.”

Trinity United Church of Christ formerly was headed by the Rev. Jeremiah Wright, whose racially divisive views have been denounced by Obama.

Father Pfleger, who is white, is pastor of St. Sabina Catholic Church in a predominantly African-American section of Chicago.

Cardinal George said that

“while a priest must speak to political issues that are also moral, he may not endorse candi- dates or engage in partisan cam- paigning.

“To avoid months of turmoil in the church, Father Pfleger has promised me that he will not enter into campaigning, will not publicly mention any candidate by name and will abide by the discipline common to all Catholic priests,” the statement added.

Cardinal George expressed regret at Father Michael Pfleger’s remarks.


Putting the focus on God, family and love

Second annual Indiana Holy Family Catholic Conference hosted in Kokomo

BY CAROLINE B. MOONEY

KOKOMO — More than 650 peo- ple from 30 parishes and five states attended the second annual Indiana Holy Family Catholic Conference, held May 17-18 at Kokomo High School.

They came from Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Minnesota and Kentucky. The theme was “Building the Domestic Church: Through God, Family, & Love.”

The weekend featured speakers for children and teens, Mass, reconciliation, eucharistic adoration, rosary, benediction and entertain- ment. Bishop William L. Higi was principal celebrant of the closing Mass.

“We were really excited,” said Jan Marrah, director of parish life at St. Joan of Arc, Kokomo, and conference co-coordinator.

“The weekend went very well. All the parishioners of St. Joan of Arc Church and St. Patrick Church were invited for Sunday morning Mass with Bishop Higi. It was great to see the families pouring in. I hope that those who came just for the Mass had their interest piqued to come next year.”

“It was a well-balanced lineup from all different angles,” said Ann Moore, St. Patrick parishioner. She and her husband, Tyler, served as conference emcees and three of their five children attended. “I thought the most incredible part was seeing families come together in front of the Blessed Sacrament.”

The Moores’ children said their favorite part was listening to Father Antoine Thomas play the guitar, singing with friends, and making fun of The speakers were phenomenal,” Moore said. “They were teaching good things and their inspiration and passion and love for the Lord were just phenomenal. With society today, morals can be confusing and mis- leading. Parents need to be firm in their faith to bring kids up as Christians. I just pray the confer- ence continues and grows.”

Father Thomas, a regular guest on EWTN who has formed a chil- dren’s eucharistic adoration pro- gram, was homilist during the opening Mass.

“Looking at society today, there is no hope,” he said. “We are sure to despair. ... Where is the treasure we need to hunt for — the secret of our Father?” Jesus is the hid- den secret of the Father. Mary was the first person to discover the secret when it was disclosed at the Annunciation. We have to prepare our hearts for the secret that God wants us to give to...”

“Who has family never been tired?” Father Thomas asked.

“Every single family on earth suf-

“Every single family on earth suf-
Shroud of Turin displayed to public in 2010

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Shroud of Turin, revered by many as the burial cloth of Jesus, will be displayed to the public for the first time in a decade in 2010.

Pope Benedict XVI announced during a June 2 audience with pilgrims from Turin that he had approved the shroud’s removal from its protective casket for display to the public in the spring of 2010.

He told the 7,000 pilgrims gathered in the Vatican’s Paul VI hall, “If the Lord grants me life and health, I, too, hope to come” see the shroud displayed.

According to tradition, the 14-foot by 4-foot linen cloth is the burial shroud of Jesus. The shroud has a full-length photonegative image of a man, front and back, bearing signs of wounds that correspond to the Gospel accounts of the torture and back, bearing signs of burial shroud of Jesus. The foot by 4-foot linen cloth is the see the shroud displayed.

At the audience, the pope that the Shroud of Turin, revered by many as the burial cloth of Christ, will be displayed to the public for the first time in a decade in 2010.

Cardinal Severino Poletto of Turin, papal custodian of the shroud’s custodian, Msgr. Giuseppe Ghiberti, presented the pope with a life-size reproduction of the shroud.

The pope said he was happy to grant the archbishop’s wish. Pope Benedict said it would be “a propitious occasion” for the faithful “to contemplate that mysterious face that silently speaks to the heart of humankind, inviting them to recognize the face of God.”

At the end of the Vatican audience, which can be based only on practice, which can be based only on the equal rights and interests of another.

Respecting dignity, he said, “amounts to treating people in the way that they wish to be treated.”

In that case, he said, the determined to the public for the first time in a decade in 2010.

The general idea of the essays, he said, “is that even if a new technology would improve life and health and decrease suffering and waste, it might have to be rejected, or even outlawed, if it affected human dignity. Whatever the case, Pinker said the president’s council is packed with “conservative scholars” and “advocates of Catholic understanding to obstruct scientific progress and impose conservative Christian values on the nation.”

The newspaper’s May 28 article, “In Defense of Human Dignity,” was a response to an article dated May 28 in The New Republic, a U.S. journal, arguing that members of President George W. Bush’s Council on Bioethics were using the concept of dignity, particularly in its Catholic understanding, to obstruct scientific progress and impose conservative Christian values on the nation.

The journal’s article, “The Stupidity of Dignity, Conservative Bioethics’ Latest, Most Dangerous Ploy,” was written by Steven Pinker, a professor of psychology at Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass.

Pinker said the bioethics council’s March report, “Human Dignity and Bioethics” — a collection of essays by council members and invited contributors “should alarm anyone concerned with American biomedicine and its promise to improve human welfare.”

The general idea of the essays, he said, “is that even if a new technology would improve life and health and decrease suffering and waste, it might have to be rejected, or even outlawed, if it affected human dignity. Whatever the case, Pinker said the president’s council is packed with “conservative scholars” and “advocates of religious (particularly Catholic) principles in the public sphere,” and that many of the articles in the report appeal directly to the Bible or Catholic teaching to support their defense of dignity as the ultimate ethical measure.

At the same time, he said, “almost every essayist concedes that the concept remains slippery and ambiguous.”

Pinker said that because “dignity is a phenomenon of human perception,” a reaction of appreciation, care or concern “that causes one person to respect the rights and interests of another.”

Respecting dignity, he said, “amounts to treating people in the way that they wish to be treated.”

In that case, he said, the determined to the public for the first time in a decade in 2010.

The newspaper said it is true that placing the protection of human dignity as a primary value in the field of medical research could limit some freedom of research, but as in most spheres of life some limits must be placed on an individual’s freedom in order to protect the freedom of others, particularly the weakest members of society.

The principle of dignity, it said, “does not halt progress, but orients it in the direction of justice.”

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Attempted ordination of women incurs excommunication

Vatican doctrinal office makes formal pronouncement

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican’s doctrinal congregation has decreed formally that a woman who attempts to be ordained a Catholic priest and the person attempting to ordain her are automatically excommunicated. “The problem is not that all of a sudden there was a tsunami of attempted ordinations of women,” Father Di Noia said, but that the Code of Canon Law and the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches “never anticipated that such a thing would happen.” The decree, which then and later existed of the attempted ordination of a woman, was needed “for the good of the church and to ensure bishops have a common way of responding” when such ceremonies are held in their dioceses, he said. Father Di Noia said the decree makes clear the fact that the people directly involved in an attempted ordination of a woman excommunicate themselves automatically: it is not a penalty imposed by the local bishop or the universal church. Since the excommunication is not imposed, there is no possibility of appeal, he said. “The only recourse is repentance.”

“The church has said it is authorized to ordain only baptized men and in that way is following the example of Christ,” he said. In a 1994 apostolic letter, “On Reserving Priestly Ordination to Men Alone,” Pope John Paul II said the church’s ban on women priests is definitive and not open to debate among Catholics. The all-male priesthood does not represent discrimination against women, but fidelity to Christ’s example and his plan for the church, the pope said. “I declare that the church has no authority whatsoever to confer priestly ordination on women and that this judgment is to be definitively held by all the church’s faithful,” he wrote. A few months later, during one of his weekly general audiences, Pope John Paul said, “one cannot contest the permanent and normative value” of the church’s practice of ordaining only men by arguing that Jesus simply acted in accord with “the prevailing mentality of his age and the prejudices which then and later existed to the detriment of women.” “In reality,” the pope had said, “Jesus never conformed to a mentality unfavorable to women and, in fact, he reacted against inequalities.”

Cardinal William J. Levada, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, attends a Mass in Rome May 25. Cardinal Levada signed a decree stating formally that a woman who attempts to be ordained a Catholic priest and the person attempting to ordain her are automatically excommunicated.

Ordination, like the other sacraments, must be conferred in obedience to the will of Christ, the pope said at the audience. “Jesus entrusted the task of ministerial priesthood only to persons of the male sex.” Less than a year later, the doctrinal congregation — headed by Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the future Pope Benedict XVI — issued a declaration saying the church teaching that women cannot be ordained priests belongs “to the deposit of faith” and has been taught “infallibly.”

Basilica repairs and renovations underway

NOTRE DAME — Work has begun on the University of Notre Dame campus to renovate the exterior of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart and to repair damage caused to the church when high, straight-line winds hit the South Bend area last year. During the May 2007 storm, one of the basilica’s four large spires came crashing to the ground and two stained-glass windows at the back of the structure were broken when a four-story pine tree snapped near the top and crashed into the side of the building. As part of the repair work, crews will replace all four pieces and fix slate that also was knocked loose from the roof in the storm. The repair work happens at a time when the basilica already was scheduled for renovations, including regilding the cross atop the main steeple, repainting the tower and tuckpointing bricks on the building. A scaffolding will remain until the completion of the $1.8 million project, which is expected to be completed in October.

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Vatican upholds excommunications; priest, parish board to appeal

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Vatican’s doctrinal congregation has backed St. Louis Archbishop Raymond L. Burke’s excommunication of members of a parish board of directors and the priest they hired, but the excommunicated Catholics vowed June 2 to appeal that decision. The congregation said it would ask Pope Benedict XVI to laicize Father Marek B. Bozek unless he is reconciled with the bishop of his home diocese, Springfield-Cape Girardeau, Mo., within 30 days. The congregation made the statements in letters sent to Archbishop Burke May 15. The letters deny the parish board’s appeal of the excommunications. U.S. Cardinal William J. Levada, the congregation’s prefect, and Archbishop Angelo Amato, its secretary, signed both letters. St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish was suppressed by the archdiocese over the governing board’s refusal to bring parish finances into conformity with canon law. The corporation that runs it is considered to be functioning outside the communion of the church.

Everyone has right to food, unborn have right to life, says pope

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Everyone, especially the youngest and poorest of the world, has a right to food, and the unborn have a right to life, Pope Benedict XVI said. The protection of human life is the “rock solid and inviolable” foundation upon which all other human rights are based, the pope said in a May 31 audience with Catholic and Orthodox. “It is with confidence that we look forward to the future, to promote authentic Christian values, and to witness to Our Lord in every circumstance,” said the pope.

Second column clarifies archbishop’s stand on Communion for governor

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, Mo., has reiterated his request that Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius not receive Communion until she publicly repents for her support for abortion, but said he will not ask eucharistic ministers to refuse to give her Communion. The archbishop answered questions about his stand in the May 23 issue of The Leaven, archdiocesan newspaper, saying he had received “a number of pro and con communications” about his column in the newspaper two weeks earlier. “In my request to Gov. Sebelius, I have made clear that it is her responsibility not to present herself for reception of holy Communion,” he wrote. “I am hopeful that she will comply with this request.” But Archbishop Naumann also said, it is certainly preferable not to burden ministers of the Eucharist with this task. “I have, at this moment, not asked the ministers of the Eucharist not to give holy Communion to the governor,” he added. He said he made his initial request to the governor because she vetoed the Comprehensive Abortion Reform Act, which would have placed new requirements on abortion providers. An attempt to override the veto failed by two votes in the Kansas Senate.

Vatican completes restoration of mausoleum under St. Peter’s

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Vatican has completed the restoration of the largest and most luxuriously adorned mausoleum in the vast necropolis under St. Peter’s Basilica. The Mausoleum of the Valerii displays some of the most ornate decoration among the 22 family mausoleums in the ancient underground cemetery. “We had wanted to restore it for a long time, but we didn’t have the money. Now we’re extremely happy” the funding came through, said Maria Cristina Stella, an official at the Fabbrica di San Pietro, the office responsible for the basilica’s upkeep. The $300,000 project was funded by the Rome-based Foundation for Music and Sacred Art, the Italian branch of the American foundation. The mausoleum’s restoration began in 1999 and was completed, said Maria Cristina Stella, an official at the Fabbrica di San Pietro, the office responsible for the basilica’s upkeep. The $300,000 project was funded by the Rome-based Foundation for Music and Sacred Art, the Italian branch of the American foundation.

Applause echoed throughout the hall as the crowd cheered the successor of Bishop Joseph L. Charron, who retired in 2007 for health reasons. In Des Moines for the event were more than 30 bishops, including Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States, who read an official letter from Rome appointing Bishop Pates to the diocese. Bishop Pates, 65, had been an auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis since 2000. The bishop said he envisioned his installation ceremony as a celebration of the diocesan church as one body of Christ. “I believe most profoundly our identity as ‘one body’ animated by God’s love, it was my heart’s desire to join with as many as possible from this wonderful community of southwest Iowa from Day One,” he said.

Pope praises Russian patriarch for commitment to dialogue

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI praised the patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church for his commitment to dialogue and fostering relations between Catholics and Orthodox. “It is with joy that I reflect on the experience of growing closeness between us, accompanied by the shared desire to promote authentic Christian values and to witness to Our Lord in every deeper communion,” he told Patriarch Alexy II of Moscow. The pope’s comments came in a letter delivered to the patriarch May 29 by Cardinal Walter Kasper, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. The cardinal was in Russia May 21-30 at the invitation of Metropolitan Kirill of Smolensk and Kaliningrad, president of the Russian Orthodox Church’s office for ecumenical relations. A copy of the pope’s letter, dated May 19, was released by the Vatican May 30.

Miracle beneficiary says she always called on Blessed Damen for help

HONOLULU (CNS) — In 1936, when Father Damien de Veuster’s remains were put on a ship in Honolulu to be sent back to his homeland in Belgium, 8-year-old Audrey Horner lined up with fellow Catholic school students along the walkway to the wharf to bid aloha to the holy man. Seventy-two years later, on April 29, Audrey Horner Toguchi received news that her healing in 1999 from cancer was officially attributed to the intercession of Blessed Damien. Homolua Bishop Larry Silva released Toguchi’s name for the first time when he announced that the theological consultants of the Vatican Congregation for Saints’ Causes had determined Blessed Damien was responsible for the unexplained healing. The 19th-century Belgian missionary, a member of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, spent the final 16 years of his life caring for patients with Hansen’s disease, or leprosy, on the Hawaiian island of Molokai. He was beatified in 1995 in Belgium by Pope John Paul II. The action by the theological consultants is a major step toward his canonization.

Australian prisoners venerate World Youth Day cross, icon

PERTH, Australia (CNS) — Australian prisoners got the chance to venerate the World Youth Day cross and icon at Hakea Prison in Canning Vale, Western Australia. Oblate Father David Shelton, a Perth prison chaplain, concelebrated a Mass for the feast of the Blood and Body of Christ May 25 inside the prison’s gymnasium with Perth Archbishop Barry Hickey. One of the 40 prisoners who attended the Mass said he asked for forgiveness as he approached the cross. The young man in his early 20s, who cannot be named for security reasons, said he returned to his Catholic faith when he entered the prison months ago. Father Shelton, a prison chaplain for 11 years, said the World Youth Day cross and icon had previously only been allowed to go as far as a prison’s perimeter. But Ian Clark, the prison’s superintendent, said he could “see no reason why the cross should not enter a prison.” “It could provide an avenue for rehabilitation,” said Clark, who also told The Record, the prison newspaper of the Archdiocese of Perth, that 42 percent of the prison’s inmates are Aborigines.


News Briefs

Mass Celebrated in Toronto for Catholic Media Convention
Beginning Experience to hold international convention

PHOENIX — Members of over 100 Beginning Experience peer grief ministry teams serving the widowed, divorced and separated, and children of these losses will gather in Phoenix, Ariz., July 25-27 for their ministry’s biennial international convention.

The convention will be preceded by two midweek events open to the public. A Beginning Experience for Teens and Young Adults July 22-24 will help young people sort out and begin working through feelings of loss and pain resulting from the death of a parent or of changed family relationships due to separation and divorce. To be held at Mt. Claret Retreat Center, Phoenix, the cost of the residential youth experience is $95 before July 5; $125 July 6 and later.

A second pre-convention event, Beyond Beginning Experience, is for adults who have reached some level of closure on the loss of their marriage. The July 22-24 program focuses on issues related to life as a single aging person and choices for the future. The cost of this program is $300 before June 15; $325 June 16 and later.

To register for either program, call (866) 610-8877 or go to www.beginningexperience.org.

The Beginning Experience Convention, open to team members past and present, as well as the ministry’s program participants, begins Friday, July 25, with an all-day session devoted to ministry training and development.

Tom Blee receives advertising award

FORT WAYNE — Tom Blee recently received the 2008 Silver Medal Award from the Advertising Federation of Fort Wayne. The award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to advertising and who have been active in furthering the industry’s standards, creative excellence and responsibility in areas of social concern.

Blee is a longtime member and secretary of the Catholic Ad Club of South Bend and also is executive director of the Our Sunday Visitor Institute. He also is a member of the Today’s Catholic advisory board.

After beginning his advertising career with the Indiana Daily Student in Bloomington, Blee served as president of Bonsib Advertising during the late 1960s and early 1970s. He later left advertising to earn a law degree at Indiana University but continues to serve others in the advertising profession. Blee was a founding partner of the Fort Wayne law firm Blee, Blee, Ditch, Njar & Bloom, where he is now of counsel, and is a longtime member of St. Vincent Parish in Fort Wayne.

Alexander speaks to Serrans about conversion to Catholicism

SOUTH BEND — Just sitting in the church pew and watching her daughter Elizabeth making her first holy Communion was the inspiration that led Rick Alexander to become a convert to the Catholic Church.

Serving as a volunteer church greeter and going to church with his daughter one Sunday, Alexander says that his conversion story started there.

By the time his daughter made her first Communion, Alexander had read Saint Thomas Aquinas’ Summa Theologiae. He says that he was already interested in Catholicism, but the inspiration from his daughter became the motivation to seek conversion to the Catholic Church.

His experiences of conversion are an example of many who come to Catholicism after attending the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.

Lydia Baumgartner of South Bend, left, is shown next to her mother, Shelley; her sister, Rachel; her father, Kevin; and Mary Filbert; after Lydia’s return from the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in France, where she attended as a handicapped selectee of the Santa Maria Council 553 of the Knights of Columbus in South Bend. Lydia was the 65th person selected in a program instituted by the council more than 50 years ago. The program’s co-chairpersons this year were Stephen and Mary Filbert. The Lourdes Charity Dance is held every year by the council as part of its Catholic action program.

SANTA MARIA COUNCIL SPONSORS LOURDES PILGRIM
Sisters of Providence celebrate anniversaries

SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS

Several Sisters of Providence with ties to the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will be celebrating anniversaries in 2008. They include the following:

50th anniversary

Nine Sisters of Providence will celebrate their 50th anniversary this year. They are Sisters Brigid Ann Bonner, Donna Butler, William Eyke, Patricia Fillenwarth, Linda Kaliker, Katherine Manley, F. Gloria Memering, Rosemary Schmalz and Rosemary Ward.

Sister Donna Butler is a native of Fort Wayne. She currently ministers as an administrative assistant in the Office of Liturgy at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

Sister Donna, the former Sister Marie Theodore, entered the congregation Jan. 6, 1958, from St. Patrick Parish in Fort Wayne. She professed perpetual vows Aug. 15, 1965. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in education. She received a master’s degree in elementary education from Indiana University.

In Fort Wayne, Sister Linda was a residential supervisor at Riverview Care Center from 1987-1989, and a consultant for Sears Teledatalog Services from 1989-1993.

60th anniversaries


Sister Mary Jane Newman is a native of Fort Wayne. She currently ministers as a volunteer in Health Care Services at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

Sister Linda, the former Sister Mary Theodore, entered the congregation Jan. 6, 1958, from St. Patrick Parish in Fort Wayne. She professed perpetual vows Jan. 23, 1956. She graduated from Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College with a bachelor’s degree in education. She received a master’s degree in education from Ball State University.


70th anniversary

Three sisters will celebrate their 70th anniversary at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods this year. They are Sisters Rita Lerner, Conrad Monrad and Alexsa Suelzer.

Sister Eileen Deeds ministered in clinical pastoral education at St. Joseph Hospital, South Bend, from 1978-1979.

Sister Carla Spahr was a teacher at Central Catholic High School, Fort Wayne, 1960-1962.

Sister Therese Marie Havlik was a teacher at St. John the Baptist School, Fort Wayne, 1959-1965.

Sister Mary Jane Newman is a native of Fort Wayne. She currently ministers as a volunteer in Health Care Services at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods.

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‘Undecided’ becomes popular choice for major

BY TRISHA LINNER

SOUTH BEND — Every new freshman at college will be asked this question: what is your major? For many high school seniors, it is the toughest decision they will face. For others, picking a major comes naturally based on the career path they are seeking.

Around the country, though, the time-honored question is increasingly drawing the answer: undecided. A growing trend for many freshmen students is not declaring a major until after their freshman year.

“Many students know which colleges they want to apply to, but many don’t know what they want to do when they get there, or they change majors later on,” College admission counselors tell us that up to 80 percent of students change their majors at least once,” said Marian High School guidance counselor Roman Bonczek.

Students are often unsure what career path they want to pursue, yet certain schools have well known programs that interest students. Purdue is a popular choice for many Marian High School students who are interested in medicine and engineering, and like Marian High School, students are pursuing the professional training.

Traditionally 95 percent of Marian seniors opt to attend a four-year college, so the guidance department is busy helping seniors choose the best school for their interests and the most appropriate major.

“Students are all over the place this year,” according to Bonczek. “I can’t say that we are seeing any trends to a certain major at all.”

At Saint Joseph’s High School in South Bend, it’s not the case. According to guidance counselor Kathy Utz, students pursuing art as a major is a new trend that she is seeing this year. Anther fairly new major that Saint Joseph’s students are pursuing is pharmacology, and, like Marian High School, business education and engineering are always popular choices.

Saint Joseph’s has a has a career day every other year where over 100 community professionals come and talk in the classrooms. This is organized to help students learn more about the careers they are considering.

“We also have a WOW day (world of work) where they can spend a full day based on the community person in an area they may be interested in. Also, we encourage them to look at their skills and/or take a career assessment inventory to match what they enjoy to a specific field,” Utz said.

Both events are designed to help students choose their majors wisely.

Nationwide, the most popular majors are ranked in the yearly Princeton Review’s “Top 10 Most Popular Majors” list. The survey asked colleges across the country to list the majors they offer and report which three had the highest undergraduate enrollment. Based on that cumulative response, the 10 most popular majors are:

1. Business administration and management
2. Psychology
3. Elementary education
4. Biology
5. Nursing
6. Education
7. English
8. Communications
9. Computer Science
10. Political Science

Nursing and marketing are the top choices for today’s undergraduates. What major students should continue to increase in value, at least for the next four years, according to a forecast survey conducted by FastCompany.com, which compiled its findings in a Top 25 Jobs for 2009-09.

The survey found that engineering and health/medical degrees also are good choices for today’s undergraduates. Whatever major students choose, Utz encourages them to pick based on their interests, not the potential salaries that will come later. “We always tell them to pursue a major that they are passionate about and not worry about how much money they may make,” said Utz.

St. Anthony seventh-grader Kailyn Wood was a state runner up in the competition for her individual performance about Chicago gangster Al Capone and the police officer, Eliot Ness, who relentlessly hunted him.

Kailyn told their story through the eyes of a real-life speakeasy girl, Virginia Hill, and mobster Eddie O’Hare.

And since she’s been told she’s good at acting, she said she thought performing the roles to tell the story of Capone and Ness would be her best bet, not to mention fun.

Despite that, Kailyn agreed with Colleen that those who don’t know their history are doomed to repeat it.

“History always repeats itself,” Kailyn said. “If we learn more about history, maybe we’ll learn from mistakes from the past and not do them again.”

Indeed, fifth-grader Nicholas Miller, another state finalist, chose to perform the part of his grandfather, Ervin Derda, who said his grandfather gave him an edge to complete by fifth-graders Elijah Barits, Laura Dillon; and a project about the Korean War, which was completed by fifth-graders Elijah Barits, Laura Dillon; and a project about the Korean War.

Colleen Denunzio, a fifth grader at St. Anthony de Padua Catholic School in South Bend, is convinced that if people don’t learn about the past, they’re destined to repeat their mistakes.

Perhaps that’s one of the reasons she and several of her classmates were state finalists recently at the Indiana History Day State Competition in Indianapolis, which is part of the National History Day Competition.

Denunzio spent the school year researching Rosie the Riveters of World War II and put together an exhibit that won her a state medal for her efforts.

Students created projects and researched topics based on the theme Conflict and Compromise in History, said St. Anthony fifth grade social studies teacher Jeanette McKew.

Fifth and seventh graders at the school are required to participate in the project.

“Students work all year researching a topic, and based on their research, they develop a project,” McKew said.

Projects can include individual and group exhibits, documents, performances or historical, 1,500 to 2,500-word research papers. All the students participated in a regional competition at Saint Mary’s College and then advanced on to the state competition earlier this month after winning regionals.

White seventh grade finalists have the opportunity to progress on to the National History Day Competition earlier this month in Indianapolis.

For Information, Call: (260) 897-2841
A CELEBRATION OF 150 YEAR

St. Patrick, South Bend, celebrates its sesquicentennial

BY JUDY BRADFORD

SOUTH BEND — Think of St. Patrick’s as “the mother ship.” If its walls could talk, they would speak many languages — German, Polish, Hungarian and Belgian as well as the language of its Irish patron saint. Each ethnic group started worshipping there as it settled in neighborhoods of South Bend and Mishawaka — but eventually built their own churches.

And the mother ship is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year.

St. Patrick’s first congregation began worshipping together in 1858. The Rev. Thomas Carroll, a Holy Cross priest, was sent out to provide spiritual leadership to 50 Irish families plus a small group of Germans, who had settled on the west side of the St. Joseph River.

A year later, the parish’s first church building was completed on the southwest corner of Western and Scott. From the start, it was known as a mission church, since the only other Catholic churches in the area were at Notre Dame (Sacro Cuore) and on the east side of the St. Joseph River (now St. Joseph’s Church).

“Very, very Irish and Germans in this area,” says John O’Connell, who with his wife Mary Ann is a member of the church’s 150th anniversary committee. “But primarily the Irish immigrants who came here to work on the railroads."

Historical records say that Holy Cross Father Edward Sorin of Notre Dame had earlier encouraged Irish immigrants working on the railroads in the Plymouth area to relocate in South Bend where their spiritual needs could be better met.

The story about how St. Patrick’s got its name could be headlined “Executive decision made last night.” Church records say that when the original structure was finished, it still lacked a name.

But one morning, those walking by the church noticed “St. Patrick’s Church” chiseled in the sandstone above the arch.

“No one will admit just as to why it was named St. Patrick’s,” says John O’Connell. “But since its first pastor was Irish, it is implied that he just ended the discussion and put it up.”

The area developed, and soon it was the Polish Catholics who came to worship. They formed their own parish and built St. Hedwig’s, in 1877, just one block away.

Not long after, the Hungarians arrived. Many settled in Mishawaka, but those who came to South Bend worshipped at St. Paulinus Odorzo from Nigeria and on the faculty at the University of Notre Dame; the Holy Cross Father Richard Larrick, Catholic Chaplain at Memorial Hospital; and Franciscan Father Lauren Wegner.


Associates and others who assisted, from 1980, include Holy Cross Fathers Donald J. Brelby (in residence); Richard Conyers (in residence); Donald W. Dilg, associate pastor; William Dorwart, associate pastor; Deacon William Thomas Hamilton (permanent deacon assigned to St. Patrick, deceased); Father Michael Hutson (from Scotland) in residence; Holy Cross Father Philip D. Krill, associate pastor; Father Richard A. Larrick (in residence many years until 2001 and still assisting); Father Raymond Lukupa (from Malawi) in residence; Holy Cross Father José Martelli, associate pastor; Holy Cross Father Walter Michalik, (deceased) associate pastor; Holy Cross Father Bernard Mullaby (deceased); Holy Cross Brother Dennis Meyers; Holy Cross Father Louis Piotr (in residence, deceased); Holy Cross Father Frank Quinlivan, in residence; Pallottine Father Jaroslav Pobidik, (from Poland) in residence; Holy Cross Father Thomas Biede, associate pastor; Holy Cross Father Vincent Thulman, (deceased) associate pastor; and Holy Cross Father Henry Zych, (in residence).
SOUTH BEND — The current-day ministries and programs at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church serve people of all ages and reflect a variety of interests and needs. A lot of that can be attributed to the diocese of the parish itself.

“Just because we are in the middle of a city, we have a variety of people coming from outside the parish now, some even driving from far away. That means we are better able to host ministries that reach out to the neighborhood and surrounding area — ministries like Teamwork for Tomorrow, for example, which is funded by someone else, or the Christ Child Society. But the other side of that is we have ministries that take care of our own, such as the ministry to the homebound.”

Father Chrobot also emphasizes that the parish seems to be “increasingly committed” to making the consolidation with St. Hedwig work. The 2001 consolidation of the two parishes was a result of diocesan meetings to consolidate some parishes due to lack of priests.

“I think the people here are increasingly committed to maintaining that consolidation and expanding the combined parish,” says Father Chrobot.

Youth Group

St. Patrick’s Youth Group is rather small, averaging six students. But they are big on volunteering. They’ve worked on Habitat for Humanity houses, have made hats and scarves for people in need as well as fleece blankets for hospitalized children.

Youths have also volunteered individually for Reims of Life, the Botanical Gardens in Niles and ecology groups at their schools. “One of the things we try to do, once they’ve started receiving the sacraments, is to take ownership of their faith,” says Babette Zielinski, youth group leader. “They’re trying to learn what it means to be in the world but not of it — to take a look at things with a Christian eye and listen with a Christian ear.”

Celtic Heritage Society

Every Sunday night, from 7-8:30 p.m., a core group of about eight people gather in the parish center to do Irish and Scottish folk dancing.

“Sometimes we call it country or Ceili (pronounced Ki-lee) or party dancing,” says Helen Cawley, who has been a teacher of Irish stepdancing at the center. About eight years ago, the group formed simply to pursue interests in Celtic music and dance “with ambitions to do other things,” says Cawley. “Terry and Carol Meehan, owners of Fiddler’s Hearth, the Irish restaurant and pub in downtown South Bend, helped get it started. The big day is St. Patrick’s Day, of course, when everyone gathers at the parish center after the big parade downtown, and the float winners of the parade are announced.”

On the second Sunday of the month, a Celtic music group called Lorica plays at the 5:30 p.m. Mass. The band plays traditional Irish music in the hymnal and uses lyrics written to the Irish meter.

A gracious host to other groups

St. Patrick’s Church is host to many other groups who simply meet there — and would find it difficult to find another inexpens-ive place as their base of operation. The newest of these is the Christ Child Society, which is now using the parish center for storage and distribution activities. This Catholic inter-parish organization furnishes poor families with clothing and other household items. The church is also home to the South Bend Lakers, a basketball group for elementary and high school ages, and other school sports groups who need gymnasium space.

Outreach groups for other churches who serve the needs of inner-city residents also use St. Patrick’s facilities. Parking space is also provided to the South Bend Silver Hawks (overflow) as well as Granger Community Church, a Methodists church with a mission project in the downtown area.

Teamwork for Tomorrow, a tutoring program for children under the umbrella of the South Bend Housing Authority, uses church space during the school year; tutors are students at the University of Notre Dame.
Food for the body fuels food for the soul

By Kay Cozad

“I do not want that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God and that you are not your own. For you have been purchased at a price. Therefore, glorify God in your body.” 1 Cor. 6:19

In an American culture today, with its obesity epidemic and serious health issues, Rhonda Walton, registered dietitian consultant with Nutrition Services, Inc., asks this scriptural question often. Walton, a lifelong member of St. Jude Parish, works with individuals and groups in private, group and nursing homes, and hospitals addressing health risk issues ranging from diabetes and high cholesterol to weight control and eating disorders.

“The body as a temple,” says Walton, “requires healthy food and drink, healthy levels of physical activity and behavior modification. That’s the hardest for most people.” Behavior modification is simply changing old habits, she adds.

Many choose to skip meals to save on calorie intake. That, says Walton, may put the body at risk.

“A body can’t run on empty. It affects the mind and interaction with others,” Walton says. She recommends eating three to five meals spread throughout the day, with three to five hours between meals. This balanced fueling assists with focus and can ward off constant thoughts of food.

“Starving yourself brings down your metabolism. Then you choose the wrong foods and eat too much,” says Walton. Skipping meals followed by overeating may have a negative effect on the digestive process as well causing other health issues, including acid reflux, stomach problems and irritable bowel syndrome.

The current American lifestyle with its fast-paced, packed schedule leaves little room for conscious eating habits.

“We’re always on the go,” says Walton. “We feel our food needs to be on the go too.”

Fast food was an infrequent treat just 50 years ago. Now it has become the meal of choice. Rather than eating out every night, Walton recommends cooking at home as frequently as possible.

“Not only do you know what’s in your food, you increase the vitamin and mineral content by buying fresh foods,” she says.

Many clients she works with say cooking at home is too old fashioned, but she says, perhaps that is the answer to America’s weight issues.

Walton’s faith is intimately intertwined with her work in nutrition as well. She believes that the act of sitting down for a homemade meal and saying grace to thank God for his bounty, sets the stage for healthy eating.

“Prayer really does set our minds and souls to receive the food,” she says.

For her portion, Walton assists her clients with meal planning and weight control. Each plan is unique to meet the needs of the individual. A simple meal plan will include one to two grams or starches, one fruit, one vegetable, a three to four ounce serving of meat or vegetable protein and one dairy product.

And her recommendations for healthy eating begin with fresh food.

“We have convenience foods for when we need them. But 90 percent or greater of the time we should choose fresh food,” says Walton, who reports that she eats three meals a day and frequents the grocery store once each week to fill her dietary needs.

“I realize the affect nutrition and eating healthy has on my health. If I don’t eat regularly, I’m not as productive or kind. I need fuel to do the work throughout the day to serve God,” says this faithful dietitian.

Other recommendations include substituting plenty of water for soft drinks and other caffeinated beverages, and giving up buffets, as reducing portion size plays an important role in healthy eating. Reducing sugar and fat intake is essential as well.

“We live in a land of milk and honey. Food is everywhere. We have to make better choices,” Walton says passionately.

Healthy activity levels are important as well, says Walton, who recommends finding something enjoyable to do in moderation.

“Gardening is physically demanding,” she says. “Take a walk. Your dog will love it!”

For those who have not exercised or are overweight, she encourages a slow start with gentle activities such as yoga or pilates.

Changing habits can be challenging for even the strongest of heart, but the benefits far outweigh the hardship.

“Once you establish the foundation, your body becomes healthy, and then your mind and spirit become healthy,” she says, adding that as balanced food is her body’s fuel, the Eucharist is her spiritual nutrition. “I always feel when I include one to two grams or starches, one fruit, one vegetable, a three to four ounce serving of meat or vegetable protein and one dairy product. And her recommendations for healthy eating begin with fresh food.

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“We live in a land of milk and

Tips for better health

- Eat three to five meals balanced over each day, beginning with breakfast.
- A human stomach holds amounts the size of a fist. Eat moderate amounts at each meal.
- Cook fresh foods when possible and include three to four different foods with each meal.
- Drink water throughout the day. Limit sugary or caffeinated drinks.
- Limit fat intake. Use low fat milk and creamers, and lean meats.
- Choose healthy levels of enjoyable exercise.
- Pray before meals to heighten awareness of food and its value.

For more information on healthy eating visit the USDA Web site at www.mypyramid.gov.
JUNE 8, 2008

HEALTH AND FITNESS

Fort Wayne, South Bend trails offer exercise, reflective time

BY MICHELLE DONAGHEY

FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND — Being spiritually healthy is good. Being both spiritually and physically healthy is better.

This time of year when we are dragging out our shorts and bathing suits, we often realize that we should at least try to work on the one aspect we may have been neglectful of all winter. While we may not realize it, spiritual health as well as physical health goes hand-in-hand. After all, we are temples of the Holy Spirit.

“Dear friend, I pray that you are doing well in every way and that you are healthy, just as your soul is healthy,” notes John’s Gospel.

To be spiritually healthy, we work on being right with God, obeying him in every way we can and confessing our sins, finding peace with God. For our physical health, we must take the necessary first step, which is to be active and choose when necessary from professionals such as physicians and of course, pray.

One of the least daunting ways to become physically fit can be to walk. It doesn’t take special equipment except a good pair of walking shoes. It doesn’t take special places for relaxation and reflection. It only requires a commitment and a personal decision on exercising.

“Spirituality and fitness are so much tied together. Being at one section is closed (between the 6-mile marker and the 7-mile marker) this year due to a flood control project.

• Swinney Park to Foster Park

The trail does go through two residential areas, but there are sections of this stretch along the river that offer a quiet and intimate setting.

• St. Joe Pathway is very scenic as it goes along the flood control levee and has great views of the St. Joseph River. It also passes through a small wooded area as the path goes into Johnny Appleseed Park.

Fort Wayne locations to walk for fitness

“One of the hardest things sometimes is keeping up our motivation. At the Rivergreenway Trail, you forget where you are. It’s an awesome experience where you get to exercise, experience nature and experience the greenway,” said Dawn Richie, Greenways manager.

In Fort Wayne, the Rivergreenway Trail is a 20-mile long linear parkway, which travels along the banks of the St. Mary’s, St. Joseph and the Maumee rivers. While it is linked close to everything, the park offers recreation and fitness opportunities for those who wish to not only walk, but bike, jog, hike or rollerblade.

“It’s a great way to reconnect with nature and other neighbors. It’s an awesome way how often people just greet each other walking,” added Richie.

Walkers will find several spots along the walkway to reconnect with the Lord and to pray and rest.

In Fort Wayne, parking is available at Johnny Appleseed Park, Lawton Park, Bloomingdale Park, Swinney Park, Foster Park, Tillman Park, Moser Park and Kreager Park.

South Bend locations to walk for fitness

For those who live in the South Bend area, one of the most beautiful walks along the St. Joseph River can be found along the Riverwalk/Riverside Trail that provides nearly nine miles of walking along the river, offering natural wonders from intimate quiet stretches to dramatic white-water. Endpoints on the trail are:

• North/West — Angela Boulevard and on the South/East — Indiana University South Bend campus. Parking is available at Saint Joseph’s High School and at Howard Park.

No matter what location is chosen, keeping yourself motivated and not bored with a fitness program is something that has to be worked on and prayed about everyday.

“Spirituality and fitness are so much tied together. Being at one place with one’s self matters. Finding balance matters,” said Matt Bellina, fitness supervisor with the South Bend Department of Parks and Recreation.

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BISHOP LUERS HOSTS 5K RUN/WALK

Bishop Luers High School hosted Run with the Knights, a 5K run/walk, on May 10 at Foster Park. The money from registration went to the needs-based tuition assistance fund.

Life Athletes Club hosts events in South Bend, New York

SOUTH BEND — The Life Athletes Club of Saint Joseph’s High School hosted its second Little Bookstore Basketball Tournament May 24. Students from Marian, Adams and Clay High as well as eighth graders from Corpus Christi, St. Anthony, Christ the King and St. Joseph’s-South Bend grade schools also joined in the fun. St. Joseph chaplain Father Cam Tirabassi opened the evening with a Mass for the participants.

“Life Athletes try to give the best of ourselves, especially in our relationships,” says Chris Godfrey, who is the founder and president of Life Athletes, an organization that has grown to include over 300 professional and Olympic athletes trying to live lives of virtue, abstinence and respect for life. “Our three-on-three basketball tournament provides an opportunity to put our principles into practice and, more importantly, to have some good clean fun after a long, hard school year.”

Ryan Richter, Brian Powers, Neil Story and Nick Simeri, under the name We Won Last Year, defended their title by defeating Brooks Demarais in a hard fought contest. Winning the award for Best Uniform was the team of Jordan Taylor, Elise Jordan, Mike Tomchaney and Tess Godfrey, who were known as The Double-Stuffed Oreos. Earlier this month, Life Athletes honored the New York Football Giants at a dinner in

Chris Godfrey, founder of Life Athletes, is shown with New York Giants head coach Tom Coughlin who received the Wellington T. Mara Duke Award.

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Greenwich, Conn. Hosted by Frank Gifford, players from its championship teams in the 1950s and Super Bowls XXI, XXV and XLI were in attendance.

Chris Godfrey presented Head Coach Tom Coughlin with the Wellington T. Mara Duke Award for the heart the team seemed in pursuing and winning the Super Bowl this year. The late Wellington Mara was the owner of the New York Giants and a good friend of Life Athletes. He was well-respected by the NFL, and his nickname, Duke, was included for many years on all of its game balls.

...
Fitness of body, mind and spirit

Our well-being consists of optimal physical, emotional and spiritual health. No one of these is better or holier than the other; all are desirable, and no one of the three — body, mind or spirit — can live fully when either of the others is cut short of full life and expression. It is not right or noble to live only for the spirit and deny mind or body, and it is wrong to live for the intellect and deny body or spirit. In short, it’s simply a question of balance.

The body

It is not realistic, nor is it in the best interests of the body, to assume one mode of exercise is more important than another. The only factor that can stand out on its own is our desire to improve our health and fitness, and, hopefully, to learn a little more about how our body works in the process.

We need to be good to our body: it has worked hard for us for years. Consider eating correctly, staying active, looking your best, developing healthy sleep habits and initiating prevention measures to avoid illness or disease. Perhaps we need to ask ourselves if there are unresolved issues that drain our life of energy or happiness.

If you ask most Americans, many will admit they just don’t feel well. Health practitioners say more than seven out of 10 are overweight, 80 percent have back pain, 70 percent report low energy, 60 percent are plagued by stress and 30 percent of doctors visit their stress-related aches. As a nation we seem to be getting worse over time.

Most individuals, in fact, lead stressful, fast-paced lifestyles. As health researchers study the connection between stress and well-being, they’re finding more evidence that stress contributes to aging and inflammation; in order to be healthy and happy, we need to learn how to decompress after the stressful situations in our lives.

The mind

Part of our health and well-being is relaxing the mind as well as the body. But with the proliferation of modern communication technology are we really relaxing on our holidays or time away from the job? With the advent of the cell phone and other electronic devices, the boundary of office hours has become slightly blurred. The possibility of receiving a work-related telephone call doesn’t allow our ability of receiving a work-related telephone call doesn’t allow our health researchers study the connection between stress and well-being, they’re finding more evidence that stress contributes to aging and inflammation; in order to be healthy and happy, we need to learn how to decompress after the stressful situations in our lives.

The spirit

“In Sacred Scripture the term ‘soul’ often refers to human life or the entire human person. But ‘soul’ also refers to the innermost aspect of man, that which is of greatest spiritual significance to man. It’s most especially in God’s image: ‘soul’ signifies the spiritual principle in man.” — Catechism of the Catholic Church 363.

The catechism continues, “The unity of soul and body is so profound that one has to consider the soul to be the ‘form’ of the body, i.e., it is because of its spiritual soul that the body made of matter is called to be a living, human body: spirit and matter, in man, are not two natures united, but rather their union forms a single nature.” — CCC, 365.

Thus the body, mind and spirit are all intricately connected. In order to maintain good physical health we need the right mind set. To achieve the state of wellness we must transform ourselves from the inside out, including proper nutrition, good physical health and a peaceful state of mind. It’s a soul-satisfying process.

Pollsters say immigration not a top issue for voters in ‘08 election

WASHINGTON (CNS) — With a sour economy, a war in its sixth year, gas prices at record levels and the health care system increasingly unattainable, voters have other priorities ahead of worries about illegal immigration, pollsters say. A key focus this year will be how immigration to be voters’ fifth biggest concern behind those other issues, with 7 percent citing it as their top issue.

The Battleground Poll by the Tarrance Group, Lake Research and George Washington University released in late May found the economy and jobs to be the leading concern, followed by health care, war, energy and illegal immigration. Voters were asked which five issues of the 60 percent were concerned about illegal immigration to be voters’ top five.

The recent attention to illegal immigration in public debate as well as the sharply increased and often highly visible enforcement in the last few years have driven many longtime U.S. residents to become citizens. That’s important, he said, because naturalized citizens vote at a greater rate than do native-born citizens.

In seven of nine key primary states, Latino voters turned out in percentages higher than their proportion of the electorate, Vargas said. He gave the example of Florida and Nevada, where the turnout by Latino voters apparently accounted for the primary victories in those states of Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., respectively.

“We intend to define this race in November,” Vargas said. Another speaker at the conference, Frank Sharry, director of a new immigration policy organization called America’s Voice, predicted “a campaign that will be fought this year will be how candidates try to reach those new voters.

For example, Sharry said, McCain, who co-sponsored the federal comprehensive immigration bill last year, has distanced himself from that bill’s approach, apparently as a way of trying to appeal to the GOP base that favors enforcement over broader ways of dealing with immigration problems.

But in Spanish-language media, Sharry predicted McCain will play up his sponsorship of last year’s bill instead of his more recent emphasis on enforcement. The Tarrance/Lake/George Washington survey of 1,018 voters conducted in mid-May had a margin of error of plus or minus 3.1 percent.

William of York
died 1154

feast - June 8

A bitter dispute followed the 1108 election of William Fitzherbert as archbishop of York, England. Local Cistercian monks and others challenged the election, accusing William of simony and inconstancy. He was finally consecrated in 1143, but later suspended by the pope. After being restored in 1147, he led an exemplary life for six years in Winchester. Once his chief opponents died, another pope reinstated him in York in 1154, but he died within a few months, perhaps of poisoning. William was well liked by the people, and conciliatory toward his enemies.
Immigration and welfare

Perceived myth: Immigrants come here to take welfare.

Known fact: Immigrants come to work and reunite with family members. Immigrant labor force participation is consistently higher than native-born, and immigrants make up a larger share of the U.S. labor force (12.4 percent) than they do of the U.S. population (11.5 percent).

— Source: census.

Aren't immigrants taking advantage of social services and costing taxpayers?

Immigrants come to work and to reunite with their family. Most immigrants, except for children, are employed. Because most work, albeit many in lower paying jobs, the ratio between immigrant and native-born public benefits is favorable. In one estimate, immigrants pay about $90 billion in taxes and use about $5 billion in public benefits. Others estimate that immigrant taxes total $20 to $30 billion more than cost of government services. The reason for this is that undocumented immigrants are ineligible for the vast majority of state and federal benefits and are only eligible for those that are considered important to public health and safety.

The few public benefits that undocumented immigrants may receive include emergency Medicaid, nutritional assistance to women, infants and children under the WIC program and school lunches and breakfasts. Eligibility for these few programs and services is designed to provide emergency medical care, to reduce the risk that innocent children will be punished or hurt as a result of their parents’ immigration status and to serve the fiscal and long-term interests of all Americans.

Even legal permanent resident immigrants are functionally ineligible for most government programs. They are prohibited from receiving most cash assistance during their first three years in the country and subject to deportation if they become a public charge within five years of entry.

Quote: “The right of the family to a life worthy of human dignity is recognized.” — “Vademecum Novum,” Pope Leo XII, 1891.

IMMIGRATION: MYTHS AND FACTS

BY THE INDIANA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

To correspond with materials distributed at parishes in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, the Indiana Catholic Conference is offering this series of information pieces concerning perceived myths vs. known facts on immigration. For information visit the Indiana Catholic Conference Web site at www.indianaccc.org.

FORGIVE AS GOD FORGIVES

The SUNDAY GOSPEL

Msgr. Owen F. Campion

Sunday, 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mt 9:9-13

H
eosea’s prophecy provides this weekend’s first read-

goal is to be faithful to God in order to marry the

moral of the story of the Chosen People is to be faithful to

Often, little is known about the prophets. However, Hosea is different. His wife, Gomer, was unfaithful to him. He was the father of two sons and a daughter. He was a contemporary of the prophet Amos. He was active as a prophet about 750 years before Christ.

Gomer’s unfaithfulness is an important factor to consider in reading the prophecy of Hosea. Her adultery not only rejected God, but it also was a rejection of God. For Jews, infidelity in marriage was especially horrific. It upset the bond of marriage, which was a key part of the family. This confirmed the integrity, unity and purity of the one people chosen by God.

Hosea saw more than even this very solemn understanding of adultery. He saw in it a reflection of the Chosen People’s willful diversion from God. Just as Gomer was unfaithful, the people were unfaithful. Hosea did not feel that he deserved this rejection on the part of Gomer. God hardshiply desired the disobedience of the people. God, after all, repeatedly has rescued the people from peril and death, indeed despite their sins.

However, Hosea is reassuring. God does not forsake the Chosen People. He forgives. He redeems. He gives life anew. But the people must be true to God.

St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans furnishes the second reading. Paul wrote this epistle to the community of Christians in Rome. The population of this community at the time of Paul is unknown. Likely, however, it was not inconsiderable.

The most important fact that Christians were in Rome is not surprising. Rome was the absolute center of the Mediterranean world. It was by far the largest city. It was the cultural and economic center. It was the capital.

The reading has strong Hebrew overtones, not surprisingly since Paul was a very well-educated Jew. The focus is on Abraham’s faith.

God rewarded it, first, by giving Abraham a son and then by stopping Abraham from killing his son as a sacrificial victim. The message is that God gives life. St. Matthew’s Gospel provides the last reading.

Two events are in this reading. The first is the supper in which Jesus literally broke bread with tax collectors and sinners. The second event was Jesus’ call to one of these tax collectors, Matthew, to the exalted position of Apostle. Phariases scorned all but the devout. Jesus reached out to gather even sinners, but repentant sinners, into the household of salvation.

Matthew’s insistence of acceptance of the call to be an apostle demonstrate how even sinners are deemed to be needed by God and for peace of soul.

Reflection

We think of sin as an act of disobedience. This is true. But, essentially, it is idolatry and a repudiation of God. The sinner elevates self over God.

By rejecting God, sinners reject life. They condemn themselves to everlasting death. The wonderfully good news is that there can be a tomorrow. Jesus has paid the price of our sins. He offers life to us by forgiving us. But, we must turn to God, ask forgiveness and reform ourselves so that we are genuine disciples.

READINGS

Sunday: Hos 6:3-6 Ps 50:1, 8, 12-15

Monday: 1 Kgs 17:1-6 Ps 121:1b-8

Tuesday: 1 Kgs 17:7-16 Ps 42:2-5, 7b-8 Ps 51:13-16


Thursday: 1 Kgs 18:14-46 Ps 68:10-13 Mt 5:20-26

Friday: 1 Kgs 19:8a, 11-16 Ps 27:7-9c, 13-14 Mt 5:27-32

Saturday: 1 Kgs 19:19-21 Ps 16:1-2a, 5-7 Mt 5:33-37

CATEQUIZ’EM

By Dominic Camp Ellison

June 9 is the feast of St. Ephraim the Syrian. One story about him was that he feigned madness to avoid episcopal consecration. Hmm ... but anyway, we know that in Scripture, signs that we might regard as “mad” were often attributed to possession. Hence the need for exorcism.

1. Perhaps surprisingly, references to demonic possession and exorcism in the Old Testament are a. in each book, though never more than one per chapter.

b. rare

c. commonplace, as the Jews ascribed illnesses to demonic forces

2. When Saul was possessed by an evil spirit, David calmed Saul with this:

a. a balm from Gilead

b. a massage

c. music

3. Tobit 6 gives this surefire (if possibly smelly) method of getting rid of a demon:

a. burn fish liver and heart on embers to create embers

b. have the sufferer bathe in bear bile

c. line their house with dead dogs for a month

4. References to exorcism (casting out) in the New Testament are a. absent, as these all had been cured by the Resurrection.

b. found only in the Acts of the Apostles

C. much more common than in the Old Testament

5. Jesus exorcised demons many times a. once was enough

b. at least six

c. at least 12

6. In Mark, 1 an exorcism is recounted on a Sabbath in this town:

a. Nazareth

b. Capernaum

c. Antioch

7. Near the home of the Gerasenes, Jesus exorcised the evil spirit from a victim whose possession caused the man to take up this rather morbid abode:

a. He lived amongst the tombs

b. He lived in a cave with bats.

c. He lived in a pyramid left over by the retreating Egyptians.

8. Matthew 9 recounts how, in Capernaum, Jesus cured another possessed man. Here the evidence was the man regaining the ability to a. levitate

b. speak

c. see

9. Matthew 12 recounts how Jesus went even further, restoring these abilities to a possessed man:

a. to see and speak

b. to see and hear

c. to see no evil

10. At this point, the Pharisees came up with this explanation for Jesus’ powers:

a. Maybe all the possessed people are shills.

b. Jesus must be driving out evil spirits by the power of Beezlebub, the prince of demons.

c. It must be an early version of prestidigitation.

11. Acts 16 describes a most peculiar incident: a possessed slave girl with the ability to be an oracle follows Paul about, shouting. He exorcized her for this specific reason:

a. He realized the evil spirit could block her way to the truth.

b. He knew this as a chance to impress the skeptical Greeks who had ignored him.

c. She was becoming annoying.

12. Her owners were equally annoyed because a. she was now not much of a prophet (sic) center having lost her gift of being an oracle.

b. she was no longer able to perform feats of ventriloquism, using sheep as dummies.

c. she was freed to seek gainful employment as a fog horn.

13. When, according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, are exorcisms regularly said over the faithful?

a. at baptism

b. during extreme unction

c. whenever the priest notices a similarity to Linda Blair

14. But there is the casting out type too. How is this differentiated from the simple exorcism of question 13?

a. It is referred to as Exorcismus Espirit Malum.

b. It is referred to as (from the Aramaic) Shaduupa YaFaz.

C. It is referred to as Major Exorcism.

15. To do this, the priest needs certainty that he is dealing with a spirit and a good a. A sign of weakness

b. the permission of the bishop

c. a state license (in the USA) or provincial writ (in Canada)

ANSWERS:

1b, 2c, 3a, 4c, 5b, 6b, 7a, 8b, 9a, 10b, 11c, 12a, 13a, 14c, 15b
Role of laity and media important to share the NFP message

Going against the grain

“Political theology” is a controversial term these days. In “The Stillborn God,” Columbia Professor Mark Lilla argues that political theology is lethal for democracy, because democracy requires that political thought be systematically unmoored from religious reference points. Needless to say, I take exception to Professor Lilla’s argument, although I do think he has a direct, specific, divine mandate to order public life often like a missionary, and sometimes more-than-missionary. To equate political theology with fanaticism, however, is to equate religion with an altogether more mindless. “Political theology,” properly understood, honors the virtue of prudence, as it applies insights drawn from the Christian understanding of the human person and human community to the messy business of politics.

I came to political theology accidentally. During graduate studies in theology, I focused on systematic theology, and especially Christian Ethics. Then, in my first job, I was asked to teach the social ethics course at St. Thomas Seminary School of Theology in far Seattle. That surprise assignment launched an intellectual journey of more than three decades, as I’ve tried to explore the social doctrine of the Catholic Church to the most contentious issues of American and international public life.

Some of the principal intellectual markers along that journey have been the works of the Crossroad Publishing Company into a new book, “Against the Grain: Christianity and Democracy, War and Peace,” which gathers together the debate between two covers 12 essays on various questions of political theology that I’ve written over the past decade and a half. Why are these essays “against the grain”? They are against several grains, actually.

They challenge the notion, often found in our universities today, that political science is a sub-discipline of statistics. On the contrary, political theology is a discipline that continues the great intellectual adventure of political philosophy, which began with the Greeks almost three millennia ago. Political theology, in other words, helps rescue thinking about politics from the hegemony of the bean-counters and number-crunchers.

The essays in “Against the Grain” are, I hope, an instrument that Catholics can use for the new day. They are instruments that Catholics will find useful in thinking through the problems that we face, and the virtues that we need to apply the social doctrine of the Catholic Church to the most contentious issues of American and international public life.

Father Matthew Habiger, OSB, of the Kansas Benedictines, answered this week’s questions.

The Catholic Difference

by George Weigel

Once again the question of whether the just war of thinking begins with a “presumption against war,” whereas the just war begins with a presumption-for-justice: for the defense of the peace of order. My answer, not surprisingly, is that we must employ the newlyweds often appeal to a new marriage, are willing to help couples discover what they have already discovered. This will require a great investment of time and energy for their students. In effect, they are preparing their students and their communities to become witnesses to God’s plan for marriage and, thus, become counter culture.

Teachers of NFP should regard their work as a special vocation. They deal with a central dimension of a young couple’s relationship. A marriage is consummated by the spousal act, and each spousal act, in a certain way, is a renewal of the covenant made at baptism. Learning NFP is only one part of learning God’s plan for spousal love and their students. When problems arise in a new marriage, the newlyweds often appeal to their NFP teachers for help through the difficult times.

If we are to break through the 50 percent divorce rate syndrome, it will happen because many dedicated Catholic couples, who already enjoy a good marriage, are willing to help young couples discover what they have already discovered. This will require a great investment of time and energy for their students. In effect, they are preparing their students and their communities to become witnesses to God’s plan for marriage and, thus, become counter culture.

Couple who prepare engaged couples for marriage and NFP teachers must invest many hours of their time and much emotional energy for their students. In effect, they are preparing their students and their communities to become witnesses to God’s plan for marriage and, thus, become counter culture.

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老师的职责是引导学生，使学生理解政治神学的重要性，以及它在教学中的应用。对教授的挑战在于，政治神学不仅有助于解决学生在新婚姻中遇到的问题，还能帮助他们发现他们已经拥有的良好婚姻。这将需要大量的时间和精力投入，以及良好的情感投入。因此，他们正在为他们的学生和社区做准备，成为见证上帝婚姻计划和，因此成为反文化的种子。
Catholic soccer camps to debut at Franciscan University

STEUBENVILLE, Ohio (CNS) — A summer soccer camp that is described as uniquely Catholic in structure and design will debut this summer at Franciscan University of Steubenville.

Catholic soccer camps is said to be the first of its kind that combines high-level instruction with Catholic ministry.

Camps will run the weeks of July 6-11 and July 13-18 for boys and girls 8 to 17 years old.

In addition to soccer instruction the camp will include daily Mass, worship and praise, and confession.

Top professional players and coaches from Italy, Brazil and the U.S. will work with the young people from the university in teaching soccer skills, camp organizers said.

Among the leading internationa players and coaches on hand will be Massimo Carli, a coach in the Italian leagues who formerly played with Torino in Italy. Joining him will be Ricardo Perrotta, a former Brazilian national team player; Patrick Perrotta, a former Brazilian university in teaching soccer skills, camp organizers said.

Former baseball teammates to share new link as fellow bishops after following parallel courses

BY DOUG WELLMAN

SALINA, Kan. (CNS) — Playing baseball together that summer of 1968, Paul Coakley and James Conley could never have dreamed that, four decades later, they would be bishops in the Catholic Church.

That their lives have run such a parallel course since their childhood days continues to amaze Bishop Coakley, who has headed the Salina Diocese since 2004.

Bishop Conley became a Catholic during college; and after earning their degrees, the two of them entered Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md. — Bishop Coakley first, then Bishop Conley a couple of years later.

Both were ordained priests for the Diocese of Wichita, and both later studied in Rome.

When Bishop Conley was ordained as bishop of Salina in late 2004, Bishop Coakley traveled to Salina from Rome, where he was an official in the Vatican Congregation for Bishops. He returned to the Wichita Diocese in 2006 after 10 years in Rome.

“I am very happy for him,” Bishop Conley said of his friend, “although there is really going to be a deep sense of loss in his parish and the Diocese of Wichita. He is a very effective and beloved priest.”

At the same time, he said, the appointment “certainly will be a great blessing for the Archdiocese of Denver and the universal church.”

Bishop Conley is the fourth alumnus of Mount St. Mary’s Seminary to be named a bishop in the past four years. In addition to Bishop Coakley, the others are Bishops Michael O. Jackels of Wichita; Bishop Kaeppler of Kansas City; and Bishop Kaeppler of Kansas City.

Bishop Conley’s time at the institute continued as Saint Joseph’s, 9-6, won its first sectional in 10 years with a nine-run outburst that included a three-run second inning on a 3-3 pitch.

His teammates were also very consistent. Their scores included Brian Karason and Stephen Barany, each with three hits to account for three of Marian’s runs.

The Lady Knights will now play in the semi state round where they will play the winner of the DeKalb regional at Lafayette this weekend.
Faith, hope, love and the big ‘R word’

BY LINDA FURGE

Opening prayer
Oh God, through hard times and good, in seasons of confusion and peace, give me hope and awareness of your gracious steadiness. Renew my faith in you in others and in eternal peace with you forever. Amen.

Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration celebrate jubilees

MISHAWAKA — The Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration are honoring 12 of their sisters who are celebrating jubilees.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy will celebrate Mass for the jubilarians on June 21 at St. Francis Convent in Mishawaka.

85th anniversary
Sister M. Arilda Kampa was born in Chicago, Ill., and entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Francis on June 29, 1933. For 60 years, Sister Arilda served as a teacher in various educational institutions staffed by the Sisters of St. Francis. Twenty-two years were given to students at St. Francis College/University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne. Sister Arilda has resided at Our Lady of Angels Convent for 12 years.

75th anniversary
Sister M. Alfreda Bracht was born in Monterey, Neb., and entered the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Francis on Jan. 6, 1933. Sister Alfreda served many years as an administrator in hospitals run by the Sisters of St. Francis. Sister Alfreda has resided at Our Lady of Angels Convent in Mishawaka for several years.

Sharing Faith

Or the time he got disgusted with both maps I had used for years and spent an entire morning selecting ones more suitable. Or his new love affair with Swiffer and Endust. God (and I) love him more than ever has been cleaner!

It has been more difficult to adjust to the mental perceptions and stereotypes that surround retirement: from not wanting to hear comments about a “honey-do” list (when before they were simply jobs or projects) to sensing the mental associations when we say he is retired (translation: old, non-productive) to suddenly becoming much more aware of health and money management issues.

Old is new again

I guess what I realize now more than ever is that our “old” relationship is transitioning into something “new” and that there’s still more to come. I love my life. I feel a bit like we were first married, and everyone talked about what life would be like when the honey-moon was over ... and then again what “they” said would happen when I went back to work ... and then what I heard about the empty nest syndrome and how that would affect our marriage. Retirement feels much like any of these did: unsettling, adjusting and continuing on.

It seems that life, relationships, individuals, communities are always in transition. It is part of our human nature to move forward, to anticipate, to plan and hope. Even now that we are in retirement, mentally being closer to the end of life than to its beginning, we still look forward to what’s to come. Perhaps, for me, this mindset is always to look towards the future is one of the strongest arguments for the existence of God and a life after this one with God. I have complete confidence that my hubby and I will survive this latest transition just as we did all the others. We have faith in each another and in the strength of our relationship over the years. We have hope for the future and for our children and our grandchildren. We have friendship and love to get us through (or over) whatever may lay ahead.

Faith, hope, love
Faith — hope — love ... not just human virtues but also theological virtues. Our faith teaches that these attitudes or ways-of-being, which are a part of all enduring relationships, come from God, are in God and ultimately lead back to God. I have to say that it is wonderfully reassuring to realize that, in all the nitty-gritty and transitions of our relationship, our faith remains a strength of it, our hope and dreams for the future and our love for one another are rooted firmly in the Source and Summit of all creation, the Holy Trinity.

Really, who could ask for anything more? If anything, of course, Swiffer comes out with a new and improved anything!

Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

WHAT’S HAPPENING? carries announcements and upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today’s Catholic, PO. Box 11159, Fort Wayne 46856; or e-mail: ftog@fw.diocecesefwsb.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.

FUNDRAISERS

Spirit of Chicago cruise
SOUTH BEND — St. Casimir Parish is planning a bus trip to Navy Pier and a cruise on Lake Michigan with dancing and entertainment. Cost is $90 per person and includes lunch. $10 from each ticket benefits the replacement of the school roof. Reservation deadline is July 31 to Sylvia Krol at (574) 287-9471.

St. Jude Eaglemania
Fort Wayne — St. Jude Parish will offer Eaglemania on Friday, June 13, from 5 p.m. to midnight. From 5-8:30 p.m., food, kids games and a talent show will be offered. From 9 p.m. to midnight, a beer garden and junior and senior high dance extravaganza will finish the evening.

Christ Child garage sale time
Fort Wayne — The Christ Child Society will have a garage sale Friday, June 6, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday, June 7, from 8 a.m. to noon at St. John the Evangelist center, 1500 W. State Blvd.

Knights plan fish fry
Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 451, 601 Reed Rd., will have a fish fry on Friday, June 6, from 5-7:30 p.m. The cost is $7 for adults, $3 for children 12 and under. Fish, two sides and beverage are included.

Knights plan fish fry
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, June 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults $7.50, children (5-12) $3. Chicken strips for $7.50 and shrimp for $8.50 will be available.

Golf outing supports soup kitchen
Fort Wayne — Our Lady of Good Hope and the Knights of Columbus Council 12417 are sponsoring a charity golf outing to be held on Sunday, June 29, at Riverbend Golf Course. Proceeds will benefit the St. Mary’s Soup Kitchen. To learn more, register for the event or to become a sponsor, visit the Our Lady of Good Hope Web site: www.catholicweb.com/ourladyofgoodhope.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

ND football season ticket raffle
South Bend — The St. Hedwig Holy Name Society will have a raffle for two Notre Dame football season tickets. Tickets are $1 each or six for $5. Drawing will be Aug. 24. Send check to St. Hedwig Holy Name Society, 1104 B. Elliot St., South Bend, IN 46628.

DEVOTIONS

Fatima group announces breakfast
Fort Wayne — World Apostolate of Fatima will have the annual Mass and breakfast Saturday, June 14, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. The 9 a.m. Mass homily will be offered by Bishop John M. D’Arcy preceded by confession, rosary and consecration. Breakfast will follow at St. Mary Parish. Guest speaker will be Michael La Corte on the topic: Fatima, the Path to an Era of Peace. Adults $6, children 4-10, $3. Reply to Jim Monper at (260) 625-3281.

DONATIONS

Mustard Seed Furniture Bank can use your donations
Fort Wayne — The Mustard Seed Furniture Bank accepts donations of bedroom and living room furniture, tables, chairs, bed linens and towels. Items must be in working order and free of rips, tears, stains, burns and animal hair. Donations may be picked up by calling (260) 471-5802. The Mustard Seed is dedicated to providing household furnishings to those in need.

St. Vincent de Paul Store always in need of donations of bedroom and living room furniture, tables, chairs, bed linens and towels. Items must be in working order and free of rips, tears, stains, burns and animal hair. Donations may be picked up by calling (260) 456-3561 for pick up or drop off at the store, 1600 S. Calhoun St.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers needed for Hospice Home
Fort Wayne — Volunteers are needed to assist the agency in a variety of roles. Duties include patient support and clerical support. Garden volunteers are also needed to maintain the Gardens of Life perennial garden. Volunteer training is being planned. Call Ann Ault at (260) 435-3235 or visit www.vhnh.org for information.

Erie’s House seeks good listeners
Fort Wayne — Erie’s House is seeking volunteers who are good listeners with a caring and compassionate heart for children and young adults ages 3 to 25. Call (260) 423-2466 for information.

Volunteer for St. Mary Soup kitchen
Fort Wayne — St. Mary Parish is in need of regular volunteers for the soup kitchen on Wednesday and Friday mornings. Additional substitutes are needed for all days and shifts. Interested persons 16 and older should call Carolyn Ransom (260) 750-8373. Some lifting required.

Volunteer opportunities
South Bend — The Center for Hospice and Palliative Care, Inc., is in need of volunteers and invites mature individuals to register for training by calling the volunteer resource coordinator nearest to them. In the Elkhart area call Kathy at (574) 264-3321. In the Plymouth area call Angie at (574) 935-4511. In the South Bend area call Jackie at (574) 243-3100. The next training dates are: Elkhart - June 9, 12 and 13 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Plymouth - June 18, 20 and 25 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. South Bend - June 17, 19 and 24 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Volunteers will serve patients in their homes, in nursing homes or may also serve in office or clerical roles. Scheduling for volunteers is flexible.

Organist/Pianist

Vibrant suburban parish of 3000 families, known for excellence in liturgy and music, seeks a part-time Organist/Pianist. O/P must work collaboratively with Director and Assistant Director of Liturgy and Music. Responsibilities include assisting Director with Sunday Liturgies, School Liturgies, Holy Days, Funerals, and Weddings; children’s, handbell and adult choirs; office work. Requirements include piano and pipe organ skills, ability to work with other instrumentalists, and a degree in music or equivalent. Salary is commensurate with experience and degree. Please send resume with references no later than June 16, 2008 to: Director of Liturgy and Music Saint Pius X Roman Catholic Church 52553 Fir Road • Granger, IN 46530 Phone: 574 272 8462 ext 28 Email: jhoy@stpius.net

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Deacon Fred Larson

Joan Lawrence, daughter of Deacon Fred Larson of Fort Wayne, has experienced that end of her father’s ministry first hand. “He baptized my daughter,” she says, adding that he has also performed funerals for relatives.

Deacon Larson came to the diaconate in his retirement years, treating his ministry as his job, commuting from New Haven, where he attended St. John the Baptist Parish, to his assigned parishes. In recent years, Deacon Larson has moved to a house adjacent to St. Jude Parish, where the central part of his ministry has been visiting the sick.

Lawrence notes that her father’s temperament has served him well in his ministry. “He didn’t know a stranger,” she says. “Especially visiting the sick, he made a point to remember him if they were Catholic or not. If he just felt that they needed someone, Dad was there for them to talk to. And in that way, he was fearless.”

Deacon Guy Gizzi, 75, who serves from his home parish of St. Matthew Cathedral, came to the diaconate at the personal invitation of Bishop Joseph R. Crowley. His first assignment from Bishop Crowley was to be chaplain of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. He next began ministry at funerals. Deacon Gizzi, a registered nurse, notes Deacon Doehrman, whose work as deputy coroner of San Miguel County also allows him to reach out to grieving families.

The town of Telluride resides in a box canyon of 9,000 feet and is a parish director and as a deacon,” says Deacon Mike Doehrman. “But as the 1983 class observes a minute of it.”

Deacon Mike Doehrman

Deacon Mike Doehrman has served for the last 10 years as parish director of St. Patrick’s Church in Telluride, Colo. He also oversees a mission, Our Lady of Sorrows in Nucla, which is about 60 miles away.

“I was an ordination feeder call in the Catholic Church, as a minister, as a parish director and as a deacon,” notes Deacon Doehrman, whose work as deputy coroner of San Miguel County also allows him to reach out to grieving families. “The town of Telluride resides in a box canyon of 9,000 feet and is about a mile long and a half mile wide.

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“It’s a unique place to be,” Deacon Doehrman notes. But adds that married to his wife Carolyn, whom he has seven children and 14 grandchildren. "Life is good!"

Deacon Joe Messina, now in the Diocese of Erie, is active at Our Lady of Fatima Church in Farrell, Pa. He’s been there eight years, assists at four Masses every weekend, visits nursing homes and hospitals, teaches pre-Cana classes and has his own support group. His parish is the childhood parish of both himself and his wife, Barb. Deacon Messina has also participated in prison ministry. AIDS ministry and others and says the diaconate has changed his life, noting: “I gave me access to things I never would have had an access to — a shared intimacy with Christ in the open and to refreshing day by day and gives you the strength and the hope to carry on.”

Deacon Al Wesley and his wife Betty may have left Fort Wayne for Florida in 1985, but he still remembers the diocese, his priest mentors and his fellow deacons fondly.

“I can’t remember a one who didn’t have it in the back of his head to help those who needed assistance,” he says of his classmates.

St. Claire Parish in North Palm Beach for the last 14 years, Deacon Wesley helps as many people as he can. He’s taught in impoverished areas and served as an advocate on a tribunal, to name only a couple examples of what he means when he says: “Everything a deacon was allowed to do I did.”

Deacon Dick Jackson

Deacon Dick Jackson and his wife Madeline reside in Richmond, Ky., where he became the first permanent deacon ever to serve at St. Mark Parish in 1988. He has since retired from his work as a pastoral assistant but still does some hospital work and the occasional funeral or deacon conferences.

“Serving the Lord through the diaconate has been one of the most wonderful things in my life,” says Deacon Dick Jackson. “It’s what the Lord really intended me to do. So I’ve enjoyed every minute of it.”

Deacon Bob Madley found himself the first deacon in an entire diocese when he followed his job at IBM to Raleigh, N.C., the year after his ordination. Through a contact of Father Bob Schulte’s, he was able to find a position at St. Raphael Parish in Raleigh, where he has served for 24 years. While the sudden relocation was frustrating, Madley’s wife, Gerry, maintained that God must have some work for them to do there. “He did. We just didn’t know it,” Deacon Madley says. “It was missionary country.”

Also still active, Deacon Ed Hilker currently serves at St. Bartholomew’s Parish in Columbus, Ind. The 1983 permanent deaconate class has the distinction of being the most recent diaconate class ordained by the Diocese of Fort Wayne South Bend, as Bishop John M. D’Arcy wished to focus on lay education and ministry.

But as the 1983 class observes a quarter century in ordained ministry, a new class of 12 men in the diocese prepares to be accepted into candidacy on Nov. 3, 2008, with an anticipated ordination in 2011. If their predecessors are any indicator, the diocese can expect the new class of hard working ministers, eager to serve in any way they can in this diocese and beyond.

MAY CROWNING PROCESSION

Morgan Tobias was the Bishop Luers recipient of the Central Catholic High School Alumni Association scholarship. Tobias was recognized May 15 at the Bishop Luers senior awards convocation. In the photo, from left, are the following: Bishop Luers Principal Mary Keever; Mary Lou (Thieme) Morris, president of CCHS Alumni; Colleen (Gibson) Bubb, secretary; Tony Martone, treasurer; Morgan Tobias, Bishop Luers senior; Leanne (Oddo) Mensing, and Martin Tierney, CCHS board member.

Central Catholic Alumni Association grants two $500 scholarships

FORT WAYNE — “The Central Catholic Alumni Association exists not to remember our own good times, but to value, foster, and further what really made our school special and that was our Catholic education that we took away with us,” said Mary Lou Morris, the president of the Central Catholic High School (CCHS) Alumni Association, as she spoke about the first annual $500 award given to a Bishop Luers and a Bishop Dwenger student.

Since Central Catholic has no building and no new students graduating each year, we have as their main mission to pass our school special and that was our Catholic education that we took away with us,” said Mary Lou Morris, the president of the Central Catholic High School (CCHS) Alumni Association, as she spoke about the first annual $500 award given to a Bishop Luers and a Bishop Dwenger student. Interested Central Catholic alumni can join the Central Catholic High School Alumni Association by joining as an annual member for $15 or as a lifetime member for $150. For more information: please call Mary Lou (Thieme) Morris at (260) 485-6143 or Tony Martone at (260) 484-2233.

Students from Holy Cross School in South Bend process a statue of the Blessed Mother to the grotto at St. Stanislaus Church for prayer and to crown Mary.