BEIJING (CNS) — Some foreign Catholics attending the Beijing Olympics said they were surprised to discover that the Catholic Church operates in mainland China and the liturgy is the same as back home.

Philippine-American Rob Walsh — the father of Olympic swimmer James Walsh, who swam for the Philippines — was one of many visitors, including state leaders, who attended Mass Aug. 10 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, reported the Asian church news agency UCA News.

Rob Walsh said his experience of Mass in Beijing is similar to what he is used to in the United States.

He was staying in Beijing for three weeks with family members and had attended two other Sunday Masses at the cathedral. Before that, he told UCA News, he had thought the Catholic Church was not allowed to function in China.

The historical cathedral, a 30-minute walk from Tiananmen Square, offers five Masses every Sunday — one in Latin, two in Chinese and two in English. Its facade recently has featured this message: "One hundred years of Olympics, dream comes true in China. Pray wholeheartedly, peace will prevail forever."

Li Aoda, an 18-year-old Catholic volunteer at the cathedral, told UCA News she answered Walsh’s questions about the presence of the Catholic Church in China and explained that the country has no Catholic schools. Most visitors ask about Mass times, but few inquire about the local church situation, Li added.

Walsh acknowledged feeling that the Masses might be monitored to see if anyone says anything subversive.

“Most governments are afraid of things that could threaten them. We (in the United States) also have ‘big brothers’ watching,” he said.

Matthew Valletta and Sarah Leary, young American Catholics in Beijing to study Chinese, told UCA News they found out about the cathedral through friends in Beijing.

“I am really surprised to see so many people” at Mass, Valletta said. “I thought religions are deemed superstitious” and thus “not encouraged in China.”

His Mass experience, he said, “was really beautiful because we were surrounded by people from around the world.”

Leary, in her 20s, said she was surprised that the Chinese celebrant prayed for the pope at Mass since China has no diplomatic ties with the Vatican.

Cobei Ruiter, a tourist from the Netherlands who is not Catholic, had a different sense of the situation.

“The church looks normal and I don’t see any military here,” she said. “Every country has its way of looking at religion.”

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI urged the international community to establish humanitarian corridors in Georgia so that the dead can be buried, the wounded can receive medical help and refugees can return home.

The pope, speaking at a noon blessing Aug. 17, said he was continuing to follow “with attention and worry” the events in Georgia, where a cease-fire agreement was reached the day before.

A Georgian attack on the breakaway province of South Ossetia Aug. 7 followed by a Russian invasion of Georgia left an unknown number of dead, including civilians, and prompted an estimated 60,000 people to flee their homes.

The pope said the situation of the refugees, in particular women and children who lack basic necessities, requires a generous response by the international community.

“I ask for the opening, without further delay, of humanitarian corridors between the region of South Ossetia and the rest of Georgia, so that the dead who have been abandoned may receive a dignified burial, the wounded may be adequately treated, and people
Young drawn to apostolic life with strong emphasis on prayer

There are a few words from Father Galic and another priest, and I am always asked to speak at the end. At Holy Family Parish as the meeting closed, we all returned to the church for night prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Father Galic told me later that night he had asked for an appointment with him. That doesn’t mean that all eight will enter the seminary. Perhaps one or two will. But the seeds have been planted, and it is a beginning.

We will have a similar event this week in Fort Wayne. We never know how many will come, but the blessing is that many of our priests are seeking them out and accompanying them to this event. We are giving the good Lord a chance, and the Holy Spirit will do the rest. We are trying to build what Pope John Paul called “a culture of vocations.”

Indeed, the most impressive part is the reflection of the seminarians. They talk about their life before entering the seminary. How they had a very good friendship with a young woman, and how they had thought about the priesthood for many years, and sometimes had set it aside. Often it was a suggestion from a priest that caused them to think about it again.

There are signs, modest to be sure, but real nonetheless, that young people, despite all the assaults in the culture on the life of faith, are beginning to think about a vocation in the priesthood and the consecrated life. And why should we be surprised?

Here are some examples:

The Andrew Dinner. This is something we do twice a year in each of our major cities under the guidance and direction of Father Galic, our director of the Office of Vocation. It is based on the place in the Gospel of John where we read that Andrew brought his brother, Peter, to meet the Lord. So priests from our various parishes bring young men of high school age or older to a dinner. We go to every one of these dinners because it is thought, correctly, that the role of a bishop is important in the ministry of vocations. In fact, here is what one church document says about this:

- “The first responsibility of the pastoral work of promoting priestly vocations lies with the bishop, who is called to be the first to exercise this responsibility even though he can and must call upon many others to cooperate with him. As the father and friend of his presbyterate, it falls primarily to the bishop to be concerned about ‘giving continuity’ to the priestly diarchy and ministry, bringing new forces by the laying on of hands. He will be actively concerned to ensure that the vocational dimension is always present in the whole range of ordinary pastoral work, and that it is fully integrated and practically identified with it. He is his duty to foster and coordinate various initiatives on behalf of vocations.”

- “John Paul II, ‘I Will Give You Shepherds,'” Page 41

Several priests not only send in names, but actually bring the young men with them. We had such a meeting last week at Holy Family Parish, South Bend. There were 14 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar- nians were also present, as they have been 13 present, several from Saint Joseph’s High School and Marian High School. There was a short presentation. Sometimes an exceptionally fine film, entitled “Fishers of Men,” is shown. A seminar-
CHICAGO (CNS) — The Archdiocese of Chicago has agreed to pay 16 victims of clergy sex abuse more than $12.6 million in a settlement announced Aug. 12.

In addition to financial payments, the archdiocese also agreed to make public additional information and files related to the cases, including the deposition of Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago.

The settlement followed two years of mediation between the archdiocese and attorneys for the victims.

At a separate news conference Aug. 12, Anderson was flanked by two of the victims who are part of the settlement. Bob Brancato told reporters he was raped over the course of two years by Donald Rynecki, then principal of St. Joseph the Worker School in Wheeling, and then-Father James Steel, the pastor, who resigned in 1996.

“Now I am able to look in the mirror and realize that I have helped protect kids who have yet to be born, kids who are born and other victims who are gathering the strength to report their abuse,” Brancato told reporters.

Theresa Albrecht told of reporting to the archdiocese in 2004 that she had been raped by Father Joseph Bennett when she was a child at St. John de la Salle Parish on Chicago’s far South Side, then waiting more than two years to see Father Bennett, then assigned to Holy Ghost Parish in South Holland, removed from ministry.

“They delayed and delayed and delayed and they left him in that church,” Albrecht said. “All I asked them to do was believe me.”

According to Cardinal George’s deposition, Father Bennett was not removed from ministry because the archdiocese said it had not heard of the complaint even though the victim had met and apologized to victims for the abuse.

The two Vatican officials noted that “the name of God in the sacred liturgy” is met with both in the Bible and in the Lectionary as well as in liturgical translations, stating that “the name of almighty God expressed by the Hebrew Tetragrammaton and rendered in Latin by the word ‘Dominus,’ is to be rendered into any of the languages into which the Bible was translated.

The two Vatican officials noted that “Liturgiam Authenticam,” the congregation’s 2001 document on liturgical translations, stated that “the name of almighty God expressed by the Hebrew Tetragrammaton and rendered in Latin by the word ‘Dominus,’ is to be rendered into any of the languages into which the Bible was translated.

No ‘Yahweh’ in songs, prayers at Catholic Masses, Vatican rules

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In the not-too-distant future, songs such as “You Are Near,” “I Will Bless Yahweh” and “Rise, O Yahweh” will no longer be part of the Catholic worship experience in the United States.

As of this year, the songs will be edited to remove the word “Yahweh” — a name of God that the Vatican has said must not “be used or pronounced” in songs and prayers during Catholic Masses.

Bishops Arthur J. Serratelli of Paterson, N.J., chairman of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Divine Worship, announced the new policy, saying the practice was not in line with the “free and unimpeded use of the ‘name of God’ in the sacred liturgy” in an Aug. 8 letter to his fellow bishops.

The directives would not “force any changes to official liturgical texts” or to the bishops’ current missal translation project but would likely have “some impact on the use of particular pieces of liturgical music in our country as well as in the composition of variable texts such as the general intercessions for the celebration of the Mass and the other sacraments.”

John Limb, publisher of OCP in Portland, Ore., which publishes the popular hymn in the OCP repertoire that would be affected was Dan Schulte’s “You Are Near,” which begins, “Yahweh, I know you are near.”

He estimated that only “a handful of other OCP hymns use the word ‘Yahweh,’” although a search of the OCP Web site turned up about a dozen songs and hymns that included the word.

OCP is a nonprofit publisher of liturgical music and worship resources.

The archdiocese released the names of all 11 priests involved in the settlement. The others were Fathers Robert Becker, Thomas Kelly, and Kenneth Ruge, all deceased; Joseph Bennett, who was removed from ministry in 2006; Robert Crag, who resigned in 1993; Hagan, who resigned in 1997; Norbert Maday, who was removed from ministry in 1993 and is in prison; Robert Mayer, who resigned in 1994; and Joseph Owens, who resigned in 1970.

Contributing to this story were Michelle Martin in Chicago and Dennis Sadowski in Washington.
Democrats’ platform wording on abortion wins both praise, criticism

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A draft of the Democratic Party platform section on abortion that adds language supporting alternatives such as adoption and reducing the number of unintended pregnancies was hailed as an important improvement by some and derided by others as “adding a good thing to an evil position.”

In an Aug. 12 teleconference hosted by the evangelical organization Sojourners, Catholic and Protestant religious leaders called the changes to the platform “a real step forward” and “an excellent example of the possible” that moves the party toward a position they said abortion opponents can support.

They also said they still object to the party’s unequivocal endorsement for legal abortion and the platform section’s suggestion that anyone would ever “need” an abortion.

But the platform committee’s consultation with abortion opponents and the effort to represent at least some of their views was described as “a historic and courageous step,” by the Rev. Joel Hunter, senior pastor of Northland Church in Orlando, Fla., and former president of the Christian Coalition.

Others who did not participate in the teleconference or the drafting process, however, disagreed.

They said while they appreciate the additions dealing with support for pregnant women and parents, the wording actually made the section worse, because it eliminated phrasing from the 2004 version of the platform that said abortion should be “rare.”

The section was changed after consultation by the platform committee with religious leaders who oppose abortion, said participants in the teleconference.

The draft wording for 2008 reads:

“The Democratic Party strongly and unequivocally supports Roe v. Wade and a woman’s right to choose a safe and legal abortion, regardless of ability to pay, and we oppose any and all efforts to weaken or undermine that right.

“The Democratic Party also strongly supports access to affordable family planning services and comprehensive age-appropriate sex education which empower people to make informed choices and live healthy lives. We also recognize that such health care and education help reduce the number of unintended pregnancies and thereby also reduce the number of abortions.

“The Democratic Party also strongly supports a woman’s decision to have a child by ensuring access to and availability of programs for prenatal and postnatal health care, parenting skills, income support, and caring adoption programs.”

The abortion-related section of the 2004 platform read as follows:

“Because we believe in the privacy and equality of women, we stand proudly for a woman’s right to choose, consistent with Roe v. Wade, and regardless of her ability to pay. We stand firmly against Republican efforts to undermine that right. At the same time, we strongly support family planning and adoption incentives. Abortion should be safe, legal and rare.”

The Republican Party expects to release information about this year’s platform after its platform committee meets Aug. 26.

One of the participants in the teleconference about the Democratic platform was Pepperdine University law professor Douglas Kmiec, a longtime Republican and former Reagan administration attorney who once wrote the government’s legal briefs seeking the reversal of Roe v. Wade.

Kmiec, a Catholic and former dean of the law school at The Catholic University of America in Washington, wrote in an online column in March that he was backing Sen. Barack Obama for president despite the Illinois Democrat’s support for legal abortion.

He wrote that he believes Obama is open to accommodating opposing views and “that he wants to move the nation beyond its religious and racial divisions” and that he wants to return the United States to that company of nations committed to human rights.

In the teleconference, Kmiec said abortion opponents like himself have “been trying to find the elusive fifth vote on the Supreme Court (to overturn Roe) for over 30 years.”

“We have not found it and even if we did, overturning Roe will not save a single life but instead merely return the question to the states,” he said.

He said that while the platform “still falls short of the Catholic ideal … we live in this world and we pursue the best we possibly can.”

Kmiec said the draft of the platform reflects that there are more ways to discourage abortion than focusing solely on making it illegal.

But Deirdre McQuade, assistant director of policy and communications for the U.S. bishops’ pro-life activities office, said adding good language about supporting alternatives to abortion and aiding families doesn’t make up for the first part of the draft plank on abortion.

“Adding a good thing to an evil position doesn’t make it less evil,” she told Catholic News Service Aug. 14.

“If the Democratic Party really wants to work with pro-life voters, it needs to speak unequivocally on behalf of life, both born and unborn,” said McQuade.

A change “away from the party’s persistent, unapologetic support for the evil of abortion” would in fact be in line with “the Democratic Party’s noblest principles,” she said.

She echoed Kmiec, saying that the word “need” in the draft’s phrase “reduce the need for abortions” is important to recognize that there is no “need” for abortion.

“The pope said it was important for any Catholic leader to ‘register the underprivileged, the oppressed should therefore seek to help them avoid feeling abortion is an appropriate choice. But she said addressing issues beyond beyond to that company of nations committed to human rights,” she said.

Meanwhile, the Vatican’s diplomatic representative to Georgia, Archbishop Claudio Gugerotti, told Vatican Radio Aug. 17 that humanitarian aid was not getting through to the needy.

He expressed the hope that the cease-fire, brokered with help from the United Nations, would last, and he called for new efforts to encourage “a permanent solution, through dialogue and mutual good will.”

The pope made his comments at his summer villa in Castel Gandolfo, south of Rome, where he was following a reduced summer schedule. Hundreds of people filled the courtyard at the papal palace to hear the pontiff and receive a blessing.

Meanwhile, the Vatican’s diplomatic representative to Georgia, Archbishop Claudio Gugerotti, told Vatican Radio Aug. 17 that humanitarian aid was not getting through to the needy.

He expressed the hope that the cease-fire, brokered with help from the United Nations, would last, and he called for new efforts to encourage “a permanent solution, through dialogue and mutual good will.”

The pope made his comments at his summer villa in Castel Gandolfo, south of Rome, where he was following a reduced summer schedule. Hundreds of people filled the courtyard at the papal palace to hear the pontiff and receive a blessing.

Meanwhile, the Vatican’s diplomatic representative to Georgia, Archbishop Claudio Gugerotti, told Vatican Radio Aug. 17 that humanitarian aid was not getting through to the needy.

He expressed the hope that the cease-fire, brokered with help from the United Nations, would last, and he called for new efforts to encourage “a permanent solution, through dialogue and mutual good will.”

The pope made his comments at his summer villa in Castel Gandolfo, south of Rome, where he was following a reduced summer schedule. Hundreds of people filled the courtyard at the papal palace to hear the pontiff and receive a blessing.

Meanwhile, the Vatican’s diplomatic representative to Georgia, Archbishop Claudio Gugerotti, told Vatican Radio Aug. 17 that humanitarian aid was not getting through to the needy.

He expressed the hope that the cease-fire, brokered with help from the United Nations, would last, and he called for new efforts to encourage “a permanent solution, through dialogue and mutual good will.”

The pope made his comments at his summer villa in Castel Gandolfo, south of Rome, where he was following a reduced summer schedule. Hundreds of people filled the courtyard at the papal palace to hear the pontiff and receive a blessing.
‘40 Days for Life’ campaign uses prayer, outreach to end abortion

BY GEOFFREY A. BROOK JR

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In the Bible the number 40 is especially significant. Noah was on the ark while it rained for 40 days. Moses was on Mount Sinai for 40 days. Jesus fasted in the desert for 40 days.

For a contemporary pro-life effort, that number also has significance: A nationwide ecumenical campaign called “40 Days for Life” aims to end abortion through prayer, fasting, outreach and vigils.

From Sept. 24 to Nov. 4, there will be 173 campaigns at abortion clinics in 45 states, two Canadian provinces and Puerto Rico. During Lent this year similar campaigns were held in 59 locations across the country.

The first local campaign took place in 2004 in College Station, Texas. In 2007 the effort went nationwide, with campaigns in 89 cities in 32 states.

Several parishes and pro-life committees in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are participating in the upcoming campaign. Fred Everett, co-director of the Office of Family Life, reported, “While it is the first time that it is being conducted here, this has been previously conducted in different cities throughout the U.S.

From most reports, these campaigns have had the effect of raising consciousness in the community, of changing some hearts and of saving the lives of some unborn children.”

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend is not an official sponsor of the campaign. It is up to each parish to decide to what degree they wish to participate. Contacts for the local campaigns are Karla DiFilippo in Fort Wayne at (260) 493-3748, e-mail flip51@verizon.net; or Mary Akre in South Bend at (574) 247-1293 or tmakre@aol.com.

“We are the last hope for the baby and the first offer of forgiveness for the mother,” said Shawn Carney, board treasurer of the campaign.

Carney, one of the organizers of the original “40 Days for Life” in Texas, said that prayer is a component because ultimately “any injustices due to prayer.”

“Abortion will end due to the conversion of hearts and minds,” he added.

Several of the 23 members of the 40 Days of Prayer and Fasting for Life campaign gather at an Aug. 10 committee meeting. The goal of this concentrated period of prayer is to end abortion through Divine intervention of mercy and grace. The national effort will be kicked off in South Bend by 40 Days President David Bereit on the evening of Sept. 23. The campaign of prayer and fasting runs from Sept. 24 through Nov. 2.

In the photo from left are Dr. Tom Ake, and daughter Elena, David Bartholomew, and committee chairman, Pam Wohlburn, Tony Stein, Vince Feck and Dick Dombros. For more information see www.40daysforlife.com.

During a “40 Days for Life” campaign, members of the community pray 24 hours a day, seven days a week outside a local abortion clinic for a total of 40 days. Participants rotate in shifts, and no one is ever alone, even at 3 a.m. Rallies also are held at the beginning and midway point of each campaign.

National organizers provide participants with a daily devotional, which includes a Scripture reading, reflection and prayer. While there is organized spoken prayer, Carney noted that 90 percent of the prayer outside the clinics is silent.

“A lot of Catholics bring their rosaries and pray the Divine Mercy chaplet,” noted Carney, who is executive director of the Coalition for Life, a group that the national organizers have created a 39-minute video to promote and explain “40 Days for Life.”

Catholics also pray the Liturgy of the Hours and read from psalms and Scripture. Other local groups have also been known to hold praise and worship sessions during the campaign.

The national organizers have created a 39-minute video to promote and explain “40 Days for Life.”

In 2007 campaign held in Fargo, N.D. North Dakota has only one abortion clinic.

Last year Bishop Samuel J. Aquila of Fargo not only attended the kickoff rally but also stopped by the abortion center periodically, as his schedule permitted, to pray.

After witnessing the campaign firsthand, Bishop Aquila said he was “amazed” and “deeply moved.” “It caught on fire,” he said, recalling that he met people who had traveled three to four hours to pray for an hour or two.

“Prayer can raise consciousness, recognizing a radical dependence on God. God bestows human children because ultimately they are inherently bestowed by God,” Bishop Aquila said in a telephone interview with Catholic News Service.

“It brings about awareness; prayer brings about a desire for God, a deeper union with God,” he added.

This year for the “40 Days” campaign, Bishop Aquila will lead a eucharistic procession from the Cathedral of St. Mary through the streets of downtown Fargo to the abortion clinic.

Having the campaign in his diocese used as the example for the video is humbling, he said. Last year the bishop vocally supported the campaign when it was announced, asking all priests of the diocese to schedule an hour of prayer in front of Fargo’s abortion clinic, but in terms of organizing the effort he let “the faithful come forward and trusted it to the Lord and the Blessed Mother.”

The campaign’s community outreach component involves raising awareness within the local communities. Volunteers travel door to door to inform local citizens of the fact that there is an abortion clinic in their town and provide them with information on how to get help if they become pregnant.

Carney and David Bereit, national campaign director for “40 Days for Life,” have begun to train local campaign leaders, not only about how to coordinate the prayer vigil and outreach but also on how to deal with the media.

Carney said he felt that most local media respect the campaign because “they show up expecting radicals but find a mom holding a rosary.”

At the same time Carney acknowledged it receives criticism from those who disagree with its purpose. He cited one incident where eggs were thrown at those in prayer.

“While we have all the momentums and incidents like that, ‘are we still a flash in the bucket, never consistent’ and die ‘off quickly,’” Carney said.

As an illustration of the campaign’s success, organizers point to women who stated they had decided against having an abortion after seeing those praying during a clinic vigil.

In Fargo, three women publicly announced they changed their minds directly as a result of the campaign.
Mission Sunday, during a Mass in Vatican City, Pope Benedict XVI has approved the beatification of St. Mary Magdalene of Pazzi, who will be beatified Oct. 19.

**VATICAN CITY (CNS) —** Pope Benedict XVI has approved the beatification of St. Mary Magdalene of Pazzi, who will be beatified Oct. 19.

The Vatican announced Aug. 19 that the pope has approved the cause for beatification of Mary Magdalene of Pazzi, a 16th-century Italian mystic who lived in Castel Gandolfo.

Beatification, which is the final step before canonization, will be celebrated Oct. 19 in Vatican City in a Mass at St. Peter’s Basilica.

**Pope approves beatification of St. Therese’s parents in Lisieux**

**VATICAN CITY (CNS) —** Pope Benedict XVI has approved the beatification of Louis and Marie Zelie Guerin Martin, the parents of St. Therese of Lisieux. The couple will be beatified Oct. 19, World Mission Sunday, during a Mass in the Basilica of St. Therese in Lisieux, France, the Vatican announced Aug. 19. St. Therese and St. Francis Xavier are the patron saints of the missions.

The Vatican did not say who would preside at the Martins’ beatification Mass. With beatification, the diocese where the candidate lived or the religious order to which the candidate belonged is authorized to hold public commemorations on the person’s feast day. With the declaration of saintthood, public liturgical celebrations are allowed around the world. The Martins were declared venerable, one of the first steps in the sainthood process, in 1994. But despite the active encouragement of Pope John Paul II to move the cause forward, the miracle needed for their beatification was not approved by the Vatican until early July.

Louis lived 1823-1894 and his wife lived 1831-1877. They had nine children, five of whom joined religious orders.

**Pope invites Lutheran theologians to discussion about Jesus**

**ROME (CNS) —** As Pope Benedict XVI continues work on the second volume of his book about Jesus of Nazareth, he has asked two Lutheran theologians and some of his former students to discuss with him issues he will be writing about. Martin Hengel and Peter Stuhlmacher, both retired professors of New Testament studies from the Protestant theology faculty at the University of Tubingen, Germany, said they have been invited to lecture Aug. 30 at the meeting at the pope’s summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, south of Rome. The Aug. 29-31 meeting is the annual gathering of the pope’s former doctoral students, known as a “schulerkreis” (student circle). Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict, began the annual meetings with his former students in 1978. Hengel told Catholic News Service in Rome Aug. 12 that although he was having health problems he hoped to attend the meeting in Castel Gandolfo. He already has sent participants an outline of his talk, which he titled “Questions About the Historical Jesus of Nazareth: Considerations After Writing a Book on Jesus.”

**Pope urges church to help overcome racism in modern society**

**VATICAN CITY (CNS) —** Pope Benedict XVI warned that racism is alive in modern society, and he urged the church to help overcome all forms of racial intolerance. He said racism today is often tied to economic and social problems. Although such problems may be real, they cannot justify racial discrimination, he said Aug. 17. While the pontiff did not mention specific countries, his words had an immediate echo in Italy, where a series of government actions against illegal immigrants have prompted strong debate inside and outside the church. The pope, addressing pilgrims at his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo outside Rome, began his remarks by quoting the prophet Isaiah about the “foreigners” who will be included in the Lord’s universal house of prayer. Likewise, the pope said, the church today is made up of every people and race, and part of its mission is to help forge bonds of communion between races.

**Italian animal rights group urges pope to stop wearing animal fur**

**ROME (CNS) —** Although Pope Benedict XVI does not wear fur-trimmed accessories in the summer, an Italian animal rights group launched a summertime petition drive asking the pope to stop wearing animal fur for year-round.

Lorenzo Vann and was given a copy of the petition to each senator, starting with queries to each senator, starting with...
The Light Weigh is a Catholic, faith based diet program featured in the August 2008 issue of Prevention magazine currently on newsstands. Prevention chose The Light Weigh because it met their criteria for a safe and healthy diet program.

This year is the 10th anniversary of The Light Weigh. Light Weigh has been featured on CNN Headline News, CBS Early Show, Anderson Cooper 360, affiliates of ABC, EWTN, and over 40 secular and diocesan newspapers throughout the United States, Canada, Ireland, England, Germany and Australia. The Light Weigh is recommended by physicians and pediatricians and has helped many diabetics stabilize their blood sugars. The Light Weigh has helped many people to lose any amount of weight, from 125 pounds to ten pounds. The Light Weigh program has been used by people to avoid gastric bypass surgery and also by those who have had gastric bypass surgery to lose more weight or keep their lost weight off.

The Light Weigh is based on the teachings of the Catholic faith and has been done by Catholics and Protestants alike. The Light Weigh is a 12-week DVD Bible study series, which for many, causes a transformation from within. The interior transformation from within, experienced by many, results in detachment from food and “peace with food.” Learning to turn to God in times of temptation, portion control and healthy eating become easier with the help of the Bible study meetings with no weigh-ins, are some of the components of The Light Weigh diet program. The Light Weigh diet program is designed for small group use.

Suzanne Fowler is the author of The Light Weigh and has used The Light Weigh program successfully to overcome her lifetime struggle with food and lose 47 pounds, going from a size 18 to a size 6. Suzanne has kept her weight off for 10 years and is the mother of seven children.

For more information on The Light Weigh contact Suzanne Fowler at (877) 589-3444 or at thelightweight@aol.com

Little Flower to offer Bible study on Gospel of Matthew

SOUTH BEND — Little Flower Parish in South Bend will offer a Bible study on the Gospel of Matthew. The study will concentrate on the Gospel that celebrates Matthew. The study will concentrate on the Gospel that celebrates Matthew.

Sessions will by conducted by Jay Freeland on Monday evenings from 6:45-8:10 p.m. on Tuesday mornings from 9:10-10:45 a.m. The first session will begin Sept. 8-9; and the last session will be Nov. 24-25.

Childcare is available for either session, but must be prearranged. Contact Landry for arrangements at lfcoutreach@sbcglobal.net or at (574) 273-9722.

Participants should bring a Bible. For the Sept. 8-9 session, study participants should read Matthew chapters 1 and 2.

Families, couples, individuals and teenagers are welcome at all sessions.

Bishop D’Arcy to bless new St. Pius X Parish Education Center Aug. 24

GRANGER — On Sunday, Aug. 24, Bishop John M. D’Arcy will celebrate Mass at 11:30 a.m. at St. Pius X Parish Church. D’Arcy will be preceded by Bishop Bill Schoeller, pastor of St. Pius X Parish.

“The feast of St. Pius X (1835-1914) is observed by the Catholic Church on Aug. 21. Pope Pius X perhaps is best remembered for his encouragement of the frequent reception of Communion, especially by children.

“Our concept in the construction of the education center stresses Catholic instruction as an important mission,” said Father Bill Schoeller, pastor of St. Pius X Parish. “We want to have an educational program in place that can provide for our parishioners’ spiritual needs from cradle to grave and to do that, we desperately required space,”

Established in 1951, St. Pius X facilities originally were designed for a parish consisting of about 1,500 families. The parish now comprises nearly 3,000 families. The new education center is expected to house 1,000 religious education students, more than 420 Catholic school students (pre-school through grade 7), youth ministries for middle- and high-school students, young adult education, sacramental preparation classes, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults program for those preparing to join the Catholic Church, adult education classes for parishioners, weekend retreats, a music room and meeting space for the Knights of Columbus.

Elaine Holmes has been named principal of the new school, and Linda Jensen will serve as the director of religious education for the parish. The school is scheduled to open on Wednesday, Aug. 27.

“I think that the project has brought the parish together with a common goal, and it continues to strengthen the bond as the building started taking shape,” Father Schoeller said.

The astounding support from parish families, both young and old, that believe Catholic education is essential from birth through the twilight years has been fantastic,” said Betsy Quinn, director of stewardship and evangelization.

Without the generosity of sponsors we would not have been able to see the project to its fulfillment,” she added. In addition to the cost of the education center, $1 million was spent for the land and $800,000 was required for sewer and water facilities.
Margaret Johnson forges a path for racial equality

By Lauren Caggiato

Fort Wayne — There’s no arguing that the name Margaret Johnson is synonymous with Black Catholic history in Fort Wayne.

Johnson, 80, was a founding member of the Black community at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Fort Wayne. She has seen a great deal of change in her time, including three new churches.

A self-described “cradle Catholic,” Johnson said that she has been Catholic since the day she was born. Johnson recalls many moments in her Catholic upbringing, including walking to her one-room schoolhouse and kneeling to pray the rosary.

It was in 1953 in the midst of the Civil Rights Movement when she came to Fort Wayne from Lexington, Ky., with her husband, Felix. A non-Catholic at the time, Felix later converted in 1960 and became active in the parish with his wife.

The Johnsons broke many barriers in the post-Vatican II church. “Fort Wayne was a very, very different place,” she recalled.

Margaret also played an instrumental role in resurrecting the St. Mary’s Catholic School. “I went to the then two (Black) eucharistic ministers and that was during the reign of Father Ralph Larson and Father Ed Kertz,” she recalled.

Throughout her career and child-rearing years, Margaret remained active in the church. St. Mary’s emerged as a “Sister Act”-like church in a time of struggle for racial equality, she said. St. Mary’s was the spiritual and social center of the neighborhood. The first guitar Mass was celebrated there as well as the introduction of spirituals and folk songs, she noted.

It’s not every day that someone remains active in a parish for six decades, and this is a cause for celebration. Family and friends gathered March 29 for a dinner dance in celebration of her 80th birthday at the LaSalle Bed & Breakfast on Washington Boulevard.

Still active in the parish, Margaret most recently attended the National Catholic Congress in Buffalo, N.Y., last summer. In her free time, she enjoys cooking, spending time with her grandchildren and making brandy wine.

Dioscians employees hit the lottery and win a class in the Holy Land

By Kay Cozad

Fort Wayne — Three fortunate diocesan employees have won the lottery for the educational lottery, that is, Ginny Kohrman, Office of Spiritual Development/Evangelization; Provena Health, a Catholic health system, builds communities of healing and hope by compassionately responding to human need in the spirit of Jesus Christ.

Visit us at www.provena.org/sacredheart

Margaret Johnson

FORT WAYNE — There’s no arguing that the name Margaret Johnson is synonymous with Black Catholic history in Fort Wayne.

Johnson, 80, was a founding member of the Black community at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Fort Wayne. She has seen a great deal of change in her time, including three new churches.

A self-described “cradle Catholic,” Johnson said that she has been Catholic since the day she was born. Johnson recalls many moments in her Catholic upbringing, including walking to her one-room schoolhouse and kneeling to pray the rosary.

It was in 1953 in the midst of the Civil Rights Movement when she came to Fort Wayne from Lexington, Ky., with her husband, Felix. A non-Catholic at the time, Felix later converted in 1960 and became active in the parish with his wife.

The Johnsons broke many barriers in the post-Vatican II church. “Fort Wayne was a very, very different place,” she recalled.

Margaret also played an instrumental role in resurrecting the St. Mary’s Catholic School. “I went to the then two (Black) eucharistic ministers and that was during the reign of Father Ralph Larson and Father Ed Kertz,” she recalled.

Margaret and her family lived in Fort Wayne and she and fellow parishioners went door-to-door soliciting donations on behalf of the school’s fund. “It was one of the places that was more than 300 lower income families with many needy children,” she said.

“We told them if the kids (in the neighborhood) didn’t have shoes, Father Larson would reach in his pocket and give them money,” she said.

Eventually, the parish received funding from Bishop Leo A. Pakesky, and the school was reopened in 1964, serving the Catholic and non-Catholic children of the downtown community. Margaret was also well-known in the secular community of Fort Wayne in the 1960s. Working in the insurance and nursing fields in various positions, she earned an honest reputation for her assertive and thrifty approach to doing business.

“She was known all over the city,” her daughter Judy recalled. “She walked so much that she said she was going to buy insurance on her feet. Everyone knew her as the ‘insurance lady.’ She was so good that she was offered a district manager position.

Throughout her career and child-rearing years, Margaret remained active in the church. St. Mary’s emerged as a “Sister Act”-like church in a time of struggle for racial equality, she said. St. Mary’s was the spiritual and social center of the neighborhood. The first guitar Mass was celebrated there as well as the introduction of spirituals and folk songs, she noted.

“It’s not every day that someone remains active in a parish for six decades, and this is a cause for celebration. Family and friends gathered March 29 for a dinner dance in celebration of her 80th birthday at the LaSalle Bed & Breakfast on Washington Boulevard.

Still active in the parish, Margaret most recently attended the National Catholic Congress in Buffalo, N.Y., last summer. In her free time, she enjoys cooking, spending time with her grandchildren and making brandy wine.

Dioscians employees hit the lottery and win a class in the Holy Land

By Kay Cozad

Fort Wayne — Three fortunate diocesan employees have won the lottery for the educational lottery, that is, Ginny Kohrman, Office of Spiritual Development/Evangelization; Provena Health, a Catholic health system, builds communities of healing and hope by compassionately responding to human need in the spirit of Jesus Christ.

Visit us at www.provena.org/sacredheart

Ginny Kohrman, director of the Office of Spiritual Development/Evangelization prays in the Upper Room, the location believed to be the site of the Last Supper in Jerusalem. Kohrman, Cindy Black and Joe Garcia were selected from the lottery of students of the master’s in theology or divinity programs through the University of Notre Dame to participate in an unusual summer course.

“Todays Catholic” August 24, 2008

Provided by Marty Roes

No.

PROVENA Sacred Heart Home

Our experienced and professional staff is dedicated to providing the highest quality of nursing care.

• Daily Mass
• Medicare Certified
• Secured Neighborhoods for Alzheimer Care
• Physical, Occupational, & Speech Therapies
• One and Two Bedroom Assisted Living Apartments
• Independent Living Patio Homes

For Information, Call: (260) 897-2841
515 N. Main Street, Avilla, Indiana 46710

Provena Health, a Catholic health system, builds communities of healing and hope by compassionately responding to human need in the spirit of Jesus Christ.

Visit us at www.provena.org/sacredheart
Spiritual Family of Catherine gather together for first time

DONALDSON — During the weekend of July 18-20, many members of the Spiritual Family of Catherine met at the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ (PHJC) Ministry Center. These family members included PHJC sisters, associate community members and the Fiat Spiritus community members. Approximately 150 people gathered to celebrate what felt like “a big family reunion.”

Many people have followed the charism of Catherine Kasper, who lived from May 26, 1820, until Feb. 2, 1898, in Dernbach, Germany. After founding the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ Congregation on Aug. 15, 1851, along with four other women, she continued to minister to the people in her home, caring for the sick and the children.

The goal of the dedicated women and the region was “to grow through example, instruction and prayer,” as the First Way of Life describes.

By 1868, Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ had come to the United States. This year is the 140th anniversary of the PHJC serving in the United States. At this time, there are 130 members of the American Province.

Following in Catherine Kasper’s footsteps are three expressions of the Spiritual Family of Catherine: bonded by baptismal commitment, faith in Jesus and a call to a ministry of love among all people — associate community members, Fiat Spiritus community members and PHJC sisters.

On July 19, all members of the Fiat Spiritus community and PHJC sisters spent a weekend together, celebrating the 140th anniversary of the PHJC sisters, the 25th anniversary of the associate community, and the fifth anniversary of the Fiat Spiritus community.

On May 25, 1893, the feast of the Annunciation, a group of 10 people joined the associate community. Their numbers have now grown to 159. These bap-
tized men and women follow the mission of Jesus and the charism of Catherine Kasper in a ministry of love and service of others in their daily lives.

By June 20, 2003, two men and three women founded the Fiat Spiritus community by professing vows of poverty, chastity and obedience as members of the Fiat Spiritus community.

During the gathering on July 18, two new members, Loretta Peters and Rosalie Durante, pro-
fessed vows as members of the Fiat Spiritus community.

Fiat Spiritus member Rosalie Durante stated, “The Spiritual Family of Catherine weekend was a welcoming event for me as Loretta Peters and I made our vows with the Fiat Spiritus community.”

On July 19, all members of the Spiritual Family of Catherine had faith sharing on charism and mission statements and attended a Mass, which honored the 25th anniversary of the associate community and recognition of associate anniversaries. A festive dinner followed the liturgy.

Associate candidates Jim and Marge Backett expressed their thoughts. “This weekend was truly an awesome experience for both of us. It was an emotional experience that touched our hearts and left us with inner peace and joy.”

On Sunday, July 20, the Mass in Convent Ancilla Domini Chapel celebrated the 140th anniversary of the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ and the anniversaries of religious for 75, 70, 60, 50 and 25 years. A dinner followed the liturgy.

Returning to their homes in many different geographic areas, the family members continue to spread the charism of Catherine Kasper and live the Gospel values, bonded by friendship, prayer and support.

Archaeology lessons for elementary schoolteachers

BY CAROL L. BRADLEY

NOTRE DAME — “What would your garbage tell us about you?” asks Indiana State Museum education program coordinator Gail Brown.

Five elementary schoolteachers from across the state sort through piles of trash — fast food wrappers, empty yogurt cartons, dog food cans — in a classroom in the University of Notre Dame Department of Anthropology’s Reynolds Laboratory.

Do dogs eat — can we infer a pet owner?

It’s all part of Project Archaeology, a workshop cocon-
spored by the anthropology depart-
ment and the museum.

Earlier this summer, the teach-
ers spent three days campus learning the fundamentals of archaeology. They participated in an archaeological dig on a property in the “Sorinsville” neighbor-
hood south of campus, led by Deb Rotman, assistant professional spe-
cialist in anthropology. They then returned to the lab to process and analyze their finds.

The teachers also had time to try a few other activities, like throwing spears with an atlatl, an ancient tool that increases the range and velocity of a throw.

The goal of the program is to teach elementary educators how to use archaeology in the classroom.

But the larger goal is to teach the public to respect, protect and conserve archaeological sites.

The way archaeology is done in real life isn’t “like Indiana Jones,” Brown said. “It’s not just collect-
ing things; it’s collecting data.”

Why a lesson on garbage?

Archaeologists often study garbage heaps, or middens, he points out. “It’s a way for kids to understand what garbage — or tools, or artifacts — can tell us about a culture.

In the process of learning archaeological methods, students also will be developing other skills — gridding a site requires math and measuring skills, tree-ring dat-
ing and pollen analysis offer hands-on science lessons and dis-
cussion about climate change.

“It’s been a good experience,” says Cindy Young, a teacher at Prairie Vista Elementary School in Granger. “I liked the field excava-
tion with Deb, going out and actu-
ally doing what we were talking about. And I thought it was neat how much math, science and reading connections there were with archaeology.”

Observation and inference apply to many subjects, she notes. “I’ve gotten a lot of stuff I can take back to the classroom,” she says. “Lessons and real-life experi-

Holy Cross family comes together for retreat

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

NOTRE DAME — The first week in July brought over 140 religious and associates from all branches of the Holy Cross family to Saint Mary’s College for a retreat based on the theme: “Moreau’s Vision: Going Beyond Our Brokenness to Bring Unity and Hope.” The days were filled with prayerful and joy-
ous reflections on Moreau’s vision for the members of his congrega-
tions. Participants came from across the world: Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Chile, France, Ghana, Haiti, Mexico and the United States. There were also Vietnamese sisters who came from Canada.

Each day a different Holy Cross religious gave the reflection. The fact that this was Holy Cross religious speaking to members of Holy Cross swelled the communi-
ty pride felt by all. Marianne Sister Ann Lacour from New Orleans set the tone when she spoke on the importance of family, interdependence, community and unity in the spirituality of Father Moreau. She noted: “It was his vision that his members would display these virtues to the world.”

Holy Cross Sister Patricia Closey, who serves in Mexico, shared her vocation story, which illustrated her joy on the virtue of hospitality both in and out of the community. It is the family-like quality that welcomes all people throughout the world. He wanted Holy Cross’ outreach to be international and the number of countries represented at the retreat gave witness to the fulfill-
ment of his desire.

The meaning of the cross and compassion in the lives of the members was made a reality as Holy Cross Brother Joel Giallanza from Austin, Texas, presented his beautiful meditation on the seven sorrows of Mary. Moreau wanted his communities to share his relationship with Mary to be more than devotion; she was to be a model for living

the paschal mystery. For Father Basil Moreau, she was the prime example of apostolic life, of faith and compassion.

Holy Cross Father Thomas Looney from Massachusetts addressed Moreau’s qualities of zeal, passion and fidelity. These virtues flow out of gratitude, want-
ing to do much for God because of what God has done for us. Zeal permeated everything in Father Moreau’s life — his relationship with God, his apostolic work and his leadership as founder.

The final day’s input was on hope and the providence of God. Speaking in French with simulta-
neous translation into English, Sister Kestra Occidental, the leader of the Sisters of Holy Cross (Canadians) bravely gave a dynam-
ic presentation in which she stressed Moreau’s belief in Divine Providence, which fueled his hope. Sister stressed that Holy Cross religious and all Christians are called to be people of hope.

Participants left the retreat renewed in the spirituality of their founder and with a greater sense of what it means to be part of the international family of Holy Cross.

HOMETOWN OPENHOUSE guie.com

Why wait for the weekend?

Look for an Open House 24/7 from the convenience of your home or office

Employee Benefit/Retirement Plans

OLD NATIONAL INSURANCE

Nick Gray
(260) 625-7213/Nick.gray@oldnationalins.com
Throughout its 75-year history, Christ the King is...
Upcoming events at Christ the King Parish, South Bend:

- Evenings of Prayer – Sept. 14, Oct. 12 and Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. in the church.
- 75th anniversary parish picnic — Aug. 24 after the 12:15 Mass. This is also the Parish Appreciation Dinner.
- 75th anniversary dinner — Oct. 17 at 6 p.m. at The Woodward. Dinner will be catered by the LaSalle Grill.
- 75th Anniversary Closing Mass — Nov. 23, the feast of Christ the King, at 10:30 a.m. Holy Cross Father David T. Tyson, provincial, will preside. There will be a reception immediately following the Mass. No 12:15 p.m. Mass on that day.
Preparing the church of the future

Christ the King School takes the role to make God known, loved and served

Despite the many structural improvements over the years, currently principal Steven Hoffman insists the biggest asset at Christ the King School is the children who attend. “We are an academic school with emphasis on spirituality,” said Hoffman. “But it’s the kids who make the place.”

Office secretary Laura Peterson wholeheartedly agreed. “The kids who graduate still come back, still smiling. These kids are loving and caring, and that stems from a great faculty,” Father Steve, Father Neil and Hoffman are at the front doors to greet the kids every morning. And Hoffman has always had an open door policy. He just always has time for the kids.

Teachers echo those sentiments about the children and their parents. Christine Nemeth is beginning her 20th year of teaching third grade at Christ the King, and she appreciates the many moms and dads who make time to volunteer in her classroom.

“They are the kids... they are absolutely the best,” exclaimed Nemeth. “It’s a very Christian and caring environment. Supportive parents and hardworking kids, along with the support of our other teachers... that’s what keeps me here!”

Father Ron thinks the future of Christ the King is beginning its 20th year of teaching third grade at the school. He admires the many moms and dads who make time to volunteer in their classroom.

“The parents... the kids... they are absolutely the best,” Ron exclaimed. Nemeth. “It’s a very Christian and caring environment. Supportive parents and hardworking kids, along with the support of our other teachers... that’s what keeps me here!”

Father Ron thinks the future of Christ the King is beginning its 20th year of teaching third grade at the school. He admires the many moms and dads who make time to volunteer in their classroom.

“This is the church, and it’s what keeps us there,” said Tonya. “It’s a big parish and very supportive. Even though it’s big, the priests still know the families.”

Christ the King, nominated for the Blue Ribbon Award this year, expects an enrollment of about 480 students for the 2008-2009 school term. Most students come from the north side of South Bend and the Granger area. According to Father Steve, being a "CSC-run school" helps make Christ the King special. He believes the educational philosophy is best expressed by Holy Cross founder, Blessed Basil Moreau, who said, “The mind was to be cultivated and to be taught to know and love God.”

“We believe in working closely with our school families because we all share the responsibility for making sure our children have the strong minds and hearts that they will need to face the many challenges they’ll encounter.”

This year, in addition to celebrating the 75th anniversary, Christ the King also celebrated the beatification of its founder, Blessed Basil Moreau. The theme for the last school year came from Father Moreau’s definition of zeal, the “desire to make God known, loved and served.”

“We’ve tried to incorporate this theme into every aspect of the life of our school,” explained Father Steve, “so it can live up to our founder’s vision of what a Catholic education should be. Our staff and students really took this theme, and it’s been great to have the entire school community join us in celebrating Father Moreau’s beatification.”

Congratulations to Christ the King Parish on its 75th Anniversary!

ANDERSON, AGOSTINO & KELLER, P.C.

Attorneys at Law

Edward W. Hardig
Michael J. Anderson
Peter J. Agostino*
Scott M. Keller
Bernard E. Edwards, Jr.

William L. Wilson
Julianne R. Parish
Loris P. Zappia
Maggie M. Chipman
Seán M. Surrisi
Mark F. James

Of Counsel
Gaylen W. Allsop

Parishioner
131 South Taylor Street
South Bend, Indiana 46601
574-288-1510
aaklaw.com

PROVIDED BY CHRIST THE KING SCHOOL

This photo from 1955 shows first grade students at Christ the King School in the annex building.

*Parishioner
Counting our summer blessings

BY GINNY KOBMANN

Opening prayer and Scripture
O Lord, help us be mindful of you as we cherish the warmth of your presence and play in the beauty of your creation! Amen

Reading for reflection: On 2:20-23

Summer blessings
The praises and chants of the locust and crickets proclaim the news that summer is soon to arrive. With the flowers losing their glory and the opportunities to see so many of Siriot in the warm, I am a bit saddened to think of the end days of summer. But the new smells of burning wood and the morning mornings and evenings, allow me to reflect on the amazing days of summer that may dwell on their summer blessings and the grace and surprises of God, I would have never thought that in the summer of 2008, I would ever end up in the Holy Land. Through the love and generosity of Sister Jane Carew, and the southern hospitality of our dear friend, Msgr. Owen Campion. Monsignor, a kind gift from God, but no. God has given me to experience his love through the faces and hearts of many faithful people. Without pause, it is easy to forget and move on without cherishing these days, but in the quiet of this morning, in prayer, I take time to thank God for this amazing summer. Perhaps as I recall a few of the highlights of my days, others may dwell on their summer blessings and thank God for them.

The holiest of lands
Who would have ever thought that at the end of July 2008, I would ever end up in the Holy Land! Through the love and generosity of friend Marty and I decided to take our summer vacation in Israel with a group of Notre Dame graduate students. A bit apprehensive about taking this wonderful trip without my husband, I quickly packed my bags and passport and headed for Chicago O’Hare to begin the long flight to Tel Aviv. Tired from the long flight that is, and my tired body adjusted to the heat of Jerusalem, I was ready to see and soak in every bit of this beautiful land.

Armed with bottled water, a healthy breakfast of fruits, pita and cheese, we boarded the bus for a daily tour of places like, the Old City of Jerusalem, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, Bethlehem, Church of the Nativity, Nazareth, Sea of Galilee and more.

All at once, the Scriptures that I had heard and read for so many years came alive, as I was able to smell, touch, hear, and see the ground and places where Jesus experienced life on earth, preached and loved, walked, prayed and worshipped. My imagination began to run wild, as I envisioned the humanity of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, all the friends and disciples who too encountered this climate, terrain, agriculture, and cultural mix. On one of the hottest days, with temperatures around 100 degrees, my roommate Rita, our friend Marty and I decided to walk the Kidron Valley or the Valley of Jehoshaphat, from the Mount of Olives to the City of David, back to the Old City of Jerusalem to the Western Wall. We explored the caves and tombs along the way, passing both Jewish and Muslim cemeteries, climbing up to the Golden Gate of Jerusalem, walking into the city of David to find the pool of Sholem.

My heart was filled with the history of the land, knowing that the=dfour hosts of other biblical people may have spent their afternoons on this sacred land. Once we made it up the steep climb to the Dung Gate leading into the Old City of Jerusalem and the Western Wall, I was impressed at the number of men and women who were there, praying to their God, in the language of their individual hearts. I felt humbled and inspired by their holiness as I quietly offered my prayer of thanksgiving and petition at the Western Wall. The many pictures taken during the trip, continually remind me of the moment in Jesus took on flesh for me and I once again fell in love with him, his teachings and his native holy land.

Nashville and the Dominican Sisters
You might think that the Holy Land trip was enough of a summer vacation, but no. God continued to bless me through the kindness of our dear friend, Msgr. Owen Campion. Monsignor, a native of the Diocese of Nashville, invited my husband and me to attend the perpetual vows of the Dominican sisters.

The priority version of the text, they continue, “might be understood to imply that one of the former covenants imparts salvation without the mediation of Christ, whom Christians believe to be the universal savior of all people.”

Father James massa, executive director of the USCCB Secretariat of Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, told Catholic News Service Aug. 11 that he did not “anticipate any tensions in the relationship” between Catholics and Jews as long as the proposed change is properly understood as arising from a need to “remove ambiguity” in the catechism. “The catechism is not the place where you work out difficult theological problems,” he said. “That’s what scholars are charged to do.”

Father massa added that the current wording in the catechism was not flat-out wrong but was ambiguous and needed to be qualified. “But because the catechism is an educational tool and not a theological textbook, the bishops decided not to expand that section to provide a fuller consideration of the issue,” he said.

He also stressed the Catholic teaching that it is “never permissible to impose our faith on others.”

Although some Jews as individuals may choose to become Christians, “it is also the church’s understanding that the full incorporation of Israel into the saving covenant of Christ may be the fruit of the end times, may not happen until the end of history,” Father massa said.

In his letter to bishops, Msgr. Malloy said that if the Congregation for Clergy grants “recognitio,” or approval, to the revised passage it will be incorporated into the next printing of the U.S. Catholic Catechism for Adults.

“‘The next printing will not occur until the remaining volumes from the latest printing are exhausted,’” he added.

Adopted by the U.S. bishops in November 2004 and later approved by the Vatican, the 664-page adult catechism is the first official catechism produced by the nation’s bishops since the creation of the Baltimore Catechism, first published in 1885 and revised in 1941. In the first two weeks after its July 31, 2006, publication, it sold more than 25,000 copies, according to USCCB Publishing.

Theresa Brown, associate director for marketing, sales and service at USCCB Publishing, said about 100,000 copies of the adult catechism had been sold to date. Another printing of 50,000 copies took place in May and those copies are expected to run out around the middle of next year, she said.
Building our Catholic faith at home, school

The church teaches that it is the primary right and responsibility of parents to educate their children, not only in human education such as math, science, and such, but also in religious education. So it is the primary place where children should learn the Catholic faith: through family prayer time, through time that parents might spend with their children reading Bible stories, through explaining the faith and teaching children our beliefs, and certainly the most importantly, through weekly participation at Sunday Mass. So, again, it is the primary responsibility of parents to make sure that the faith is passed on to their children.

Through the centuries the church has provided parents with help for this task of educating their children in the Catholic faith. Catholic schools have always held pride of place as a way in which parents accomplish this mission. Without taking away from those who work so diligently in public schools or who homeschool, we do have to mention some of the advantages of Catholic schools such as: the Catholic atmosphere of the school, the Catholic moral teachings which are continually expressed to the students, the hours of religious instruction that are provided to the students (in our Catholic schools, all students have religion class every day), and especially the availability of the sacraments to all our Catholic schoolchildren. This is just to name a few of the benefits of Catholic schools.

Nonetheless, praise should be given to those Catholics who teach in public schools and Catholic students in public schools who courageously bring their Catholic faith with them. This is a great opportunity for the Catholic students to bring with them their Catholic values, which should have a transformative effect in the public arena.

At the same time, it should be noted that the law of the church instructs that whenever possible, parents should strive to send their children to Catholic schools. Our diocese is blessed with excellent parish schools and excellent diocesan high schools. Even though there may be legitimate reasons why parents are unable to send their children to Catholic schools, all Catholic parents should prayerfully consider this possibility for their children.

A bold move in southern Indiana

In Vanderburgh County, Indiana, a new ordinance was passed requiring doctors who perform abortions to maintain admitting privileges with a local hospital, the first such measure in the state. This is to assure that patients who experience complications after abortion will not be able to receive emergency medical care. Abortion lobbyists will see this as an attempt to restrict a woman’s access to abortion, but abortionists have operated with unrestricted license causing the mutilation and even deaths of many women.

Dr. Geoff Cly, an obstetrician in Fort Wayne, testified before an Indiana state Senate Committee that he has treated two women who seek admission to the diocese’s Education For Ministry Program, a two-year, once-a-week study group that examines various facets of the Catholic faith from Scriptures, prayer, sacraments, church history, liturgy, ethics, and more under the direction of diocesan scholars and teachers. Cly recently appeared in Vanderburgh County in support of this measure stating that if abortion providers have hospital admitting privileges, then they are subject to peer reviews that look closely at post-procedure complications and remove privileges if necessary.

If abortion supporters protest this measure, then they show their true colors, not a true concern for the health and welfare of the woman but simply a desire to perpetuate the abortion industry at all costs.

Telling our faith stories

One form of evangelization is sharing our faith journey with others. We are inviting readers to send in their “witness” or faith journey stories to run in our Sept. 28 issue. This issue will be sent to every registered Catholic household in the diocese. In 50 words or less, please answer one of the following questions:

• “I believe the Catholic faith because...

• I was drawn to the Catholic faith through...

• I came back to the Catholic faith because...

Please include your name, parish, city of town, an optional photo and your telephone number to editor@fw.dioceseweb.org, or mail to Today’s Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN 46856 before Sept. 15.

Spiritual reading groups offer many benefits

Read a good (spiritual) book lately? Even more than that, did you take the opportunity to discuss that reading with a small group of friends? The popular philosopher Mortimer Adler wrote that “Reading a book without discussing it is like drinking in a bar by yourself.”

Please follow me as I relate how I got involved in a spiritual reading group several years ago with a small group of friends. During 2003–2004, I decided to secure admission to the diocese’s Education For Ministry Program, a two-year, once-a-week study group that examines various facets of the Catholic faith from Scriptures, prayer, sacraments, church history, liturgy, ethics, and more under the direction of diocesan scholars and teachers. The weekly sessions at that time were held at Fort Wayne’s Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception lower level meeting room. While there was open seating at the round tables in the room, most of us followed our instincts and sat at the same table each week after a few weeks. I developed a warm friendship with the other four “guiders” at the table, each from parishes different from my own: Dave and Marta Guthier (Guthier Catholic School), Susie Quinn (Precious Blood), and Jerry Kohrman (St. Therese).

Eventually we learned about each other’s lives and we became friends with the education of our faith as the basis of that friendship. After graduation from the EdMin program, we all went on separate ways, each one to his/her own parish searching out ways to accompany students during the program. After a while I began to miss those friends and found that sharing our common life together was not enough to keep us together and also felt that we needed to continue learning about our faith.

After discussing the idea of a continual learning and faith-building experience with the group we decided to get together again and share some spiritual readings that would continue the education we had begun only a few short years earlier. Susie’s spouse, Mel; Jerry’s fiancee, Sherry; and I, Joan, also were welcomed into the group. Virginia Hannum, another retired schoolteacher, eventually joined us a few months later giving us a total of nine members, a number we felt was about right as how we would continue our studies.

Jerry came up with the name for the group: “The Jerusalem Society” (“JP II” for short). We decided to meet every-other-month and to rotate the place of the meeting so everyone would have a turn as host and facilitator of the meeting. The facilitator would also select the reading for the coming meeting they were to host.

We have been meeting for several years now and when I put together a list of the books we have read for this article, I was surprised to discover all we have digested.

The books include: O’Connor, “The Edge of Sadness”; Pope Paul VI, “Humanum Vitae” (Encyclical); Hahn, “Holy Queen” (monograph); The Didache, “Doctrine of the Twelve Apostles”; Augustine of Hippo, “The Confessions”; Pope Benedict XVI, “Jesus of Nazareth” (monograph); Dante, “Divine Comedy — Inferno” (Encyclical); Connolly, “Mr. Blue.” Some of the readings were short and fun, others were deep and had to be taken in small bites. Each of them challenged the group to read and think and then to listen and discuss what we had encountered in our visitations with the authors.

While we did not always agree with the author or with each other about the reading, the discussions helped us to a deeper understanding of our faith.

Tom Carstens
Fort Wayne

Every step of the way

Most people have heard the Chinese proverb about how a journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step. You might wonder why that old saying or how it applies to our faith.

We have been on this faith journey for many years now, but the idea of continually learning and growing in our faith is the same. After our faith journey group finished our studies, we decided to continue learning about our faith. So what do we do? That’s the question so many people in the audience asked during the Q&A period following the presentation. Donations — yes, sharing information — yes, even going personally as a lay missionary, but these are options not available to everyone. However, there’s one universal option — prayer. Through prayer, we walk every step of the way with our refugee brothers and sisters. And they know. Somehow, they know.

Father Peter Cipolla, MCCJ, is missionary to the American Province of the Comboni Missionaries, a worldwide religious institute founded by St. Daniel Comboni. Cipolla carries the Gospel to “the world’s poorest and most abandoned people.”

COMONI MISSIONS

Father Peter Cipolla
God speaks through his representatives

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Mt. 16:3-20

The first section of the Book of Acts outlines this weekend with its first reading.

In this reading, God speaks through Isaiah. With God’s authority, a new master of the court is to be named. The master functioned as the king’s chief representative and exercised the authority of the crown. The symbol of the key is the key.

Naming the master of the palace, along with subordinate figures, were processes to enable the king to better control his kingdom. In the mind of Isaiah, and of all the prophets while the monarchy existed, the absolute duty of the king was to draw the people to God. The nation’s faithfulness to God was its first priority; hence the key was the key.

As part of the apparatus of government, the master shared in this divine duty. Not only was this a solemn obligation. Accordingly, the appointment of the master was a very serious step; the church or the master had to be acknowledged and his directions followed.

This reading is hardly the only occasion when God speaks, through human instruments, to people. Such occasions fill the Scriptures. It is a situation reminding us of our own needs and of God’s willingness to supply lovingly for our needs.

St. Paul’s Epistle to the Romans provides the church’s second reading today. The Christian Romans lived in what then was the imposing city on earth, or the earth as it was known. Much of Rome’s splendor lay in the great temples within the city dedicated to the various gods and goddesses. Even Paul was a client of major shrines in the rail cultures at the pinnacle of the Christian nation in Rome remarkably intact after all the years.

Paul constantly had to draw Christians away from the lure of the gaudy Roman culture and to the God of Jesus. Here, the apostle tests the morality of his God. In addition, Paul calls God the “counselor” of the faithful. It implies that God communicates with people, that people communicate with God, and that in the process, God guides them through life.

For its third reading this weekend, the church offers us a selection from St. Matthew’s Gospel.

The setting is Caesarea Philippi, a place of great sanctity. Much of the history centers around the place name in the New Testament. The River Jordan forms here from springs and small streams. Even today, Israelis go there to relax. Jesus and Peter enter a dramatic exchange. Our Lord asks Peter, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” (Jesus identifies with the “Son of Man,” of the Old Testament, who was God’s special agent and who unfailingly was true to God.)

Peter replies that the people are confused. Some see Jesus as a prophet, as John the Baptist or as Elijah. But, for himself, Peter declares that Jesus is the “Son of the living God.”

Reflection

Placing these Scriptures before us, the master of God’s church asks two points. The first is that, come what may in our lives, we are not alone. God speaks to us. Such is the long history of salvation.

But it is important to hear God in this process, not simply to hear an echo of our own instincts, wishes, fears and misconceptions.

So, throughout the many years of the Church’s existence, it has spoken through representatives, such as Isaiah or Paul.

For the church, the greatest representative was Peter, the bearer of the keys. The Lord commissioned him. Peter’s strong statement at Caesarea Philippi, underscored the choice. Peter was the “master of the king’s house,” to use Isaiah’s imagery. The role continued through the Christian era in the role of Peter’s successors, the Bishops of Rome. Such continuance itself is a sign of God’s love. He hardly would have provided for those in Peter’s generation and then denied this care to their descendents, such as ourselves.

READINGS


CATEQUIZ’EM

By Dominic Campbell

In August the church remembers St. (Santa) Monica. As a saint and a mother she might have had no pews but here in California she is a pier, or at least had one named for her. In this quiz we peer into the Catholic trappings of these wooden and concrete promontories.

1. In what city is Santa Monica Pier?
   a. Santa Monica, of course
   b. Los Angeles (part of the port district)
   c. San Pedro (Harbor jurisdiction)

2. This hyphenated northern California pier has a plaque which commemorates a visit by the Spanish explorer Don Juan. Part of its name however reminds us of the diocese of Peter, before he became Bishop of Rome
   a. D’Anza-Bodega Cove Pier
   b. Antioch-Oakley Regional Shoreline Pier
   c. Alexandria-Dublin Pier

3. This far northern California pier’s name reminds us not of the Catholic Crusaders’ emblem, but that of their Muslim foes:
   a. Crescent City Pier
   b. Swastika Pier
   c. YinYang Pier of China Town

4. Despite Cabrillo’s association with San Diego, the Cabrillo Pier actually is situated in this harbor, named for the first pope:
   a. Papa Bay
   b. Roma Ponto Bay
   c. San Pedro Harbor

5. Although the Avila Beach Pier is often missed by tourists zooming by on Highway 101, it is well known locally and sits near this town and bay named for a bishop
   a. San Luis Obispo
   b. Juan Bischoff De Avila
   c. Bishop Berkeley

6. Goleta, which reportedly means small boat, is a pier in an area bordering this national forest, appropriately named for an area which was settled in part by the “father of the Franciscan missions”
   a. Los Monokes
   b. Los Catolicos National Forest
   c. Los Padres National Forest

7. Berkeley Pier has a connection to a bishop, but not a Spanish one. Bishop Berkeley was actually a Bishop in
   a. The Church of Ireland (Protestant)
   b. Rome
   c. The Orthodox Church in America

8. Redondo Beach marks a spot formerly occupied by Tonga Indians. They were renamed Gabrielino because they were converted to Catholicism (and organized in a Mission) by the Padres of
   a. The Army of Archangel Gabriel
   b. Gabriel Marcos De Francia
   c. Mission San Gabriel

9. The Ocean side Pier, like the Redondo Beach Pier, is in an area directly affected by the arrival of the Franciscan Padres. In this case they were based in this mission, which still serves the community:
   a. San Luis Obispo
   b. San Luis Rey (de Francia)
   c. San Luis del Surfo

10. San Clemente Pier, the city of San Clemente, and the San Clemente islands are all in southern California. Why this common name?
   a. It was a rule that The Spanish adopted for Clementy for the Indians
   b. Spanish explorer Sebastian Vizcaino landed on St Clemente on Nov. 23, and St. Clemente’s feast was Nov. 23
   c. It was derived from the Spanish version of “My Darling Clementine”

11. The California pier reputed to be the longest at 4,135 feet was named for an area named for this writer of the first Gospel listed in the New Testament:
   a. San Mateo
   b. San Marcos
   c. San Lucas

12. Splendidly named Elephant Rock Pier is located on the scarily named Point Tiburon (Shark). Across the strait from this island — which should conjure up more relaxing pictures of Seraphim and Cherubim:
   a. Isla de los Diablos
   b. The Heavenly Host Hacienda
   c. Angel Island

13. This pier is in the California version of the city which was a jumping off point for Crusaders and boasts St. Mark’s Square and St. Mark’s Basilica (Basilica San Marco)
   a. San Marcos Pier
   b. Venice Pier
   c. Doge Pier

14. This pier is in a city simply named after the Holy Cross
   a. Arbelo de Cristo
   b. Vera Cruz
   c. Santa Cruz

15. It is not hard to figure out which pier was in an area named by Spanish explorer Bodega on Trinity Sunday (June 9) 1775.
   a. Bodega Bay Pier
   b. Trinidad Pier
   c. Junio Domingo Pier

ANSWERS:

1. a, 2. a, 3. a, 4. a, 5. b, 6. a, 7. b, 8. a, 9. b, 10. a, 11. a, 12. b, 13. b, 14. c, 15. b
Be an ‘example family’

I have been blessed over the years to observe some fantastic families in action — families who are close, loving and holy. I’m sure you’ve seen some too.

These are the families who genuinely seem to enjoy being with one another. The older kids help take care of the younger ones. The younger kids talk and laugh comfortably with their parents and other adults as well as their own peer group. The older kids have an air of quiet confidence and peace about them. They don’t seem to be affected by every new fad that blows through the community. The younger kids are polite and respectful, too. They are active (they are kids after all) but they seem grounded and understand the respect their parents more than other children do.

How do they do it?

I’m no psychologist, but in talking and picking the brains of the parents of happy, successful, what I call “example families,” certain things have become evident:

Here’s what I’ve observed:

“Example families” teach obedience at an early age. These parents know that if you want to have a respectful 18-year-old, you must learn simple directives such as to come when called, pick up one’s toys when asked and wait one’s turn in speech.

Parents don’t bark orders but, rather, teach obedience in love. They explain to their children that everyone has to follow certain rules — the Ten Commandments, the precepts of the church, laws and rules of the state and country. By explaining that they too are subject to obedience, they obey the necessity of it in their children.

However, they are not afraid to just say “no” whenever necessary. “Example families” know that teaching obedience in childhood lays the groundwork for a law-abiding adulthood. They know that training obedience provides a strong foundation for other virtues to grow.

“Example families” teach the children to respect one another in speech and in action. They don’t allow sarcasm, degrading comments or under-the-breath murmurs in the home. If the younger children are playing in a room and the older ones want to do something in there too, those families don’t allow the older ones to kick the younger ones out, or tease, or disrespect their toys.

In the same way, little ones learn to respect the older one’s and their possessions. Young children are not allowed to go through their older brother’s and sister’s rooms, closets or purses.

All learn not to interrupt one another, unless there is an emergency.

Parents in “example families” give their full attention when talking to their offspring. They look into their child’s eyes when they are speaking or listening.

“Example families” place importance on creating loving boundaries and really listening to their children foster respect and appreciation.

“Example families” eat at least one meal together daily. Dinner makes the most sense for most families, but it doesn’t have to be that meal that is shared. They eat with the television off and at approximately the same time each night. The meal is not rushed and, ideally, it is home cooked.

Conversations flow and the meal becomes a bonding experience. “Example families” are positive and encouraging. They give confidence to one another with uplifting remarks. “Way to go!” “Nice job!” “I’m proud of you” are sentences frequently heard in “example families.”

Parents encourage their children in spiritual, academic, social and athletic endeavors and promote good sportsmanship, hard work and dedication. “Example families” are supportive during losses and challenges. They separate a failure from the person and build one another up again and again.

“Example families” pray together and pray daily together, whether it be a rosary before bedtime or a Morning Offering in the morning before each departs his own way. Parents in “example families” set monthly confession dates, discuss spiritual thoughts and issues regularly, and provide good catechesis for their offspring. They realize they are the primary educators of their children and take seriously the responsibilities that entails.

“Example families” work together for the good of the family and reserve time for just their families. They all have chores, which benefit the running of the household.

They set aside Sunday as a day of rest and worship. Often, they do service projects together, whether it be working on a Habitat for Humanity house or serving the poor. Children in those families learn quickly that it is truly better to give than to receive and to become enthusiastic servants of Christ for life.

Each family possesses unique spiritual and corporal gifts based on the individuals within. However, every family has the ability and the call — to be an “example family.”
Sports

THE VIEW FROM BEIJING

COUGARS NO. 4 IN NAIA FOOTBALL PRESEASON TOP 25 For the fifth time in the last five years, the University of Saint Francis will open the season in the top 5 of the NAIA Preseason Football Top 5 with a No. 4 berth heading into the Cougars’ 11th season. This is the 104th consecutive NAIA rating that USF has been in the Top 25. NAIA compiles the voting from regional coaches to determine its Top 25 teams. USF opens its 11th football season on Sept. 6 against Trinity International University at noon at Bishop D’Arcy Stadium.

USAIN BOLT OF JAMAICA WINS 100-METER FINAL AT OLYMPICS Usain Bolt of Jamaica, right, runs past Richard Thompson of Trinidad and Tobago to win the men’s 100-meter final of the track competition at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing Aug. 16. Bolt set a world record of 9.69 seconds in the race.

LOPEZ LOMONG AND OTHER RUNNERS COMPETE AT OLYMPICS Lopez Lomong, left, of the U.S., Abdalaati Iguider of Morocco, Juan van Deventer of South Africa and Arturo Casado of Spain run during a heat of the men’s 1,500-meter competition at the Olympics in Beijing Aug. 15. Lomong, a Catholic and former Sudanese refugee, was resettled in the U.S. in 2001 with the aid of the Catholic Church.

Gator Gallop winners announced

YODER — Winners of the St. Aloysius Summerfest Gator Gallop 5k run held Saturday, Aug. 9, have been announced. The winners include the following:
• Overall female open: Linda Keuneke, Kayla Sweet and Kelsey Worril;
• Overall female masters: Teri Hoffman;
• Female 14 and under: Kaitlyn Best, Maggie Rost, Valerie Stein, Sara Muncey and Anya Martell;
• Female 15-19: Adriene Troxel, Morgan Carroll and Alexi Searles;
• Female 30-39: Kelly Kelly, Elissa McGuayle, Heather Drebenstedt and Sarah Stein;
• Female 40-49: Ursula Storbek, Jean Blankenship, Molly Oblrian-Adams, Libya Nowak, Heather Hoffman, Stephanie Hepperd, Babs Sullivan, Betty Greider, Karin-Maureen Martell and Michelle Caudill;
• Female 50-59: Pamela Wolfe, Barb Goes, Sharon Eichman, Barb Meadows and Colleen Muncey;
• Female 60 and over: Julie Ware;
• Overall male open: Ron Sharp, Ricky Masters and John Schnieders;
• Overall male masters: Jerry Williams, Jr.;
• Men 14 and under: Joshua Ware, Adam Bernhard, Justin Fuelling, Tyler Johnson, Christopher Meyer, Chris Caudill, Hugo Rost, Gabriel Stein, Timothy Stein, Nathaniel Rost, Jonathan Martell, Daniel Martell and Charles Stein;
• Men 15 to 19: Cameron Miser, Galen Harden, Matt Schall, James Wyss, Jacob Ware, Joe Baxter, Daniel Eckert and David Rodenbeck;
• Men 30 to 39: Jason House, Tom Hare, Greg Glasper, Chad Lindsey, John Drebenstedt, Mark Ashley and Timothy Stein;
• Men 40 to 49: Gary Williams, Steve Chandler, Jim Christie, John Adams, Kevin Huffman, Brent Wadkins, Rick Knuth, John McGuayle and Darrell Caudill;
• Men 50 to 59: Ed Reinhard, Chuck Brown, Mike Stein, Steven Greider, Gary L Bird, Tom Goes, Frederick Rost and Tim Sullivan

Everyday at 3:00 pm, join thousands of faithful Catholics to pray The Chaplet of The Divine Mercy

Catholic Radio AM 1450
Catholic news, talk and information www.redeemerradio.com
To contact us or to provide financial support: Info@redeemerradio.com
Redeemer Radio, 4705 Illinois Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46804
260-436-1450
Book weaves readers through the Fatima story

Reviewed by York Young

There are several Catholic topics that get plenty of attention in Catholic circles yet can be confusing when the facts are not clearly explained or understood. Some of these include points of liturgy, how annulments are obtained and how to interpret the Bible. But it is unlikely that any single topic has been discussed, debated and deconstructed more over the last 50 years than what the apparition of Our Lady of Fátima meant. And with Pope John Paul II’s belief that Our Lady of Fátima directly interceded for him during his most trying hour on earth, the debate has raged even more hotly over the last 25 years.

First, a little background: The Blessed Mother allegedly appeared to three poor children in Portugal in 1917. The Catholic Church has approved the apparitions as authentically occurring, but it is not a matter of faith, according to the church. If you, as an individual, don’t believe in an apparition, that is OK. Therefore, that leads to one major round of debates between devotees of an apparition and non-devotees.

Now, throw in the three secrets that Mary is said to have imparted to the three young seers at Fátima — Jacinta, Francisco and Lucia — and the debate intensifies. The first secret was a vision of hell, which Sister Lucia, who, when she grew up, became a religious — Jacinta and Francisco, siblings, died within a few years of the apparitions — wrote about in 1914. During that vision, Our Lady talked about the importance of the consecration of Russia to her Immaculate Heart, which became a matter of debate as well later.

The second part of the secret referred to the war. Lucia wrote of Mary’s words: “The war is going to end.” This refers to the 1914-1918 war. "But if people do not cease offending God, a worse one will break out during the pontificate of Pius XI.”

The third part of the secret is where it gets tricky, but much explanation is available in “The Last Secret of Fátima” (Doubleday, $21.95), an extended interview with Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, who is now Secretary of State for the Holy See. Cardinal Bertone met with Sister Lucia three times in the last years of her life — she lived to be 95 — and here reveals much of how the church views the apparitions and the secrets attending the messages the seers received so many years ago.

But back to the third secret: Sister Lucia wrote in 1944 about a bishop dressed in white: “We had the impressions that it was the Holy Father ... the Holy Father passed through a big city half in ruins and half trembling with pain and sorrow, he prayed for the souls of the corpses he met on his way; having reached the top of the mountain, on his knees at the foot of the big cross he was killed by a group of soldiers who fired bullets and arrows at him.”

On May 13, 1981, the anniversary of Mary’s first appearance at Fátima, Pope John Paul was shot by Ali Agca in St. Peter’s Square. Many now forget how serious were his wounds. He was in the hospital for months. The Polish pope looked at his recovery and survival as a gift from Our Lady of Fátima, claiming that it was her hand stayed the bullet from striking the death blow.

Today, many want to continue to debate whether the third secret has really been revealed — others, sometimes the same people, claim that Russia was never consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Pope Benedict XVI is convinced the consecration adequately took place.

If apparitions interest you, Cardinal Bertone, who displays great faith in Jesus Christ and his church, and believes Sister Lucia to have been a most holy person, can help you weave your way through the many twists and turns of this story.
Support group offered for widows
FORT WAYNE — Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home will offer a new support group for women who have lost their spouses this fall. This group will support widows in stages of grief and will meet the first and third Thursdays of each month, beginning on Sept. 4. The meetings will be from 7-8:30 p.m. in the large conference room at Hospice Home, located at 9510 Homestead Rd. Kay Coxz, certified grief specialist, will facilitate the group. For more information call (260) 435-3222.

Day of Reflection
Mishawaka — A Day of Reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) on Wednesday, Sept. 10, from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is “Meeting Mystery.” Please bring your Bible. The cost is $15 and includes lunch. Register by Friday, Sept. 5, to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

John Michael Talbot in concert
South Bend — Christian musician John Michael Talbot will be in concert on Tuesday, Sept. 9, at St. Anthony de Padua Church. Admission to the concert is $17.50. Contact Frank Held at (574) 447-5121 ext. 124 to drop off your items or if your items are too big, we will pick them up.

September clergy and friends planned fall festival
Fort Wayne — St. Theresa will have a fall festival Saturday, Sept. 6. Children’s games will be offered by Troop 300 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish; class dates will be the second and fourth Sundays from 2-4 p.m. in the Scout room at the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Education Building, beginning Sept. 12. All Boy Scouts are welcome. Cost is $5.99 for the required book. Please call Theresa Dirig at (260) 436-3191 to register.

St. Joseph mission planned fall family festival
Fort Wayne — Bishop Dwenger Saints Alive! office will have a Texas Hold ‘em tournament Saturday, Sept. 13, at 2:30 p.m. at the school. Entrance fee $80 and includes ND football on a large screen TV and food and drinks. Call (260) 496-4801 or visit bishopdwenger.com to register.

Bishop Luers alumni and friends planned fall family festival
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers will have a fall family festival Saturday, Sept. 6. cinnamon, one adult, $3 for children and all proceeds will go to local charities.

Fall festival planned
Fort Wayne — St. Theresa will have a fall festival Saturday, Sept. 6. Children’s games will be offered by Troop 300 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish; class dates will be the second and fourth Sundays from 2-4 p.m. in the Scout room at the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Education Building, beginning Sept. 12. All Boy Scouts are welcome. Cost is $5.99 for the required book. Please call Theresa Dirig at (260) 436-3191 to register.

St. Joseph mission planned fall family festival
Fort Wayne — Bishop Dwenger Saints Alive! office will have a Texas Hold ‘em tournament Saturday, Sept. 13, at 2:30 p.m. at the school. Entrance fee $80 and includes ND football on a large screen TV and food and drinks. Call (260) 496-4801 or visit bishopdwenger.com to register.

Bishop Luers alumni and friends planned fall festival
Fort Wayne — St. Theresa will have a fall festival Saturday, Sept. 6. Children’s games will be offered by Troop 300 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish; class dates will be the second and fourth Sundays from 2-4 p.m. in the Scout room at the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Education Building, beginning Sept. 12. All Boy Scouts are welcome. Cost is $5.99 for the required book. Please call Theresa Dirig at (260) 436-3191 to register.

St. Joseph mission planned fall festival
Fort Wayne — Bishop Dwenger Saints Alive! office will have a Texas Hold ‘em tournament Saturday, Sept. 13, at 2:30 p.m. at the school. Entrance fee $80 and includes ND football on a large screen TV and food and drinks. Call (260) 496-4801 or visit bishopdwenger.com to register.

Bishop Luers alumni and friends planned fall festival
Fort Wayne — Bishop Dwenger Saints Alive! office will have a Texas Hold ‘em tournament Saturday, Sept. 13, at 2:30 p.m. at the school. Entrance fee $80 and includes ND football on a large screen TV and food and drinks. Call (260) 496-4801 or visit bishopdwenger.com to register.

Support group offered for widows
FORT WAYNE — Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home will offer a new support group for women who have lost their spouses this fall. This group will support widows in stages of grief and will meet the first and third Thursdays of each month, beginning on Sept. 4. The meetings will be from 7-8:30 p.m. in the large conference room at Hospice Home, located at 9510 Homestead Rd. Kay Coxz, certified grief specialist, will facilitate the group. For more information call (260) 435-3222.

Day of Reflection
Mishawaka — A Day of Reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) on Wednesday, Sept. 10, from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is “Meeting Mystery.” Please bring your Bible. The cost is $15 and includes lunch. Register by Friday, Sept. 5, to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

John Michael Talbot in concert
South Bend — Christian musician John Michael Talbot will be in concert on Tuesday, Sept. 9, at St. Anthony de Padua Church. Admission to the concert is $17.50. Contact Frank Held at (574) 447-5121 ext. 124 to drop off your items or if your items are too big, we will pick them up.

September clergy and friends planned fall festival
Fort Wayne — St. Theresa will have a fall festival Saturday, Sept. 6. Children’s games will be offered by Troop 300 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish; class dates will be the second and fourth Sundays from 2-4 p.m. in the Scout room at the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Education Building, beginning Sept. 12. All Boy Scouts are welcome. Cost is $5.99 for the required book. Please call Theresa Dirig at (260) 436-3191 to register.

St. Joseph mission planned fall family festival
Fort Wayne — Bishop Dwenger Saints Alive! office will have a Texas Hold ‘em tournament Saturday, Sept. 13, at 2:30 p.m. at the school. Entrance fee $80 and includes ND football on a large screen TV and food and drinks. Call (260) 496-4801 or visit bishopdwenger.com to register.

Bishop Luers alumni and friends planned fall festival
Fort Wayne — Bishop Dwenger Saints Alive! office will have a Texas Hold ‘em tournament Saturday, Sept. 13, at 2:30 p.m. at the school. Entrance fee $80 and includes ND football on a large screen TV and food and drinks. Call (260) 496-4801 or visit bishopdwenger.com to register.

Support group offered for widows
FORT WAYNE — Visiting Nurse and Hospice Home will offer a new support group for women who have lost their spouses this fall. This group will support widows in stages of grief and will meet the first and third Thursdays of each month, beginning on Sept. 4. The meetings will be from 7-8:30 p.m. in the large conference room at Hospice Home, located at 9510 Homestead Rd. Kay Coxz, certified grief specialist, will facilitate the group. For more information call (260) 435-3222.

Day of Reflection
Mishawaka — A Day of Reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) on Wednesday, Sept. 10, from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is “Meeting Mystery.” Please bring your Bible. The cost is $15 and includes lunch. Register by Friday, Sept. 5, to Sister Barbara Anne Hallman at (574) 259-5427.

John Michael Talbot in concert
South Bend — Christian musician John Michael Talbot will be in concert on Tuesday, Sept. 9, at St. Anthony de Padua Church. Admission to the concert is $17.50. Contact Frank Held at (574) 386-6412 for tickets, information or to volunteer.

Boy Scout classes offered
Fort Wayne — Ad Altare Dei religious emblem classes for Boy Scouts in grades 4 or higher will be offered by Troop 300 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish. Class dates will be the second and fourth Sundays from 2-4 p.m. in the Scout room at the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Education Building, beginning Sept. 12. All Boy Scouts are welcome. Cost is $5.99 for the required book. Please call Theresa Dirig at (260) 436-3191 to register.

St. Joseph mission planned fall family festival
Fort Wayne — Bishop Dwenger Saints Alive! office will have a Texas Hold ‘em tournament Saturday, Sept. 13, at 2:30 p.m. at the school. Entrance fee $80 and includes ND football on a large screen TV and food and drinks. Call (260) 496-4801 or visit bishopdwenger.com to register.

Bishop Luers alumni and friends planned fall family festival
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers will have a golf outing Saturday, Sept. 20, at Brookwood Golf Course with a 2 p.m. shotgun start. For information contact Bishop Luers at (260) 456-2824 to purchase space. For additional listings of that event, please call our advertising sales staff at (260) 456-2824 to purchase space.
Seattle man nearing death opposes state’s assisted suicide initiative

SEATTLE (CNS) — John Peyton didn’t have long left. Earlier this summer, his doctor gave him three to six months.

The 64-year-old retired computer programmer has an unusually aggressive form of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS, commonly known as Lou Gehrig’s disease. In the months since last November when he first had trouble lifting a hammer over his head, he has gone from healthy and active to completely paralyzed, struggling to breathe with a ventilator.

The disease has made him totally dependent on his wife of 40 years, Patricia. She dresses him, feeds him, even shifts his body in the living room recliner where he now spends his days.

Peyton’s once-strong voice is fading fast; soon it will go altogether. But while he still has it, he’s using it to proclaim the intrinsic value and sanctity of life.

“This Initiative 1000 is just the first step in putting into law the idea that there is such a thing as a life not worth living,” he said, explaining how he fears where the provision will lead his home state if voters approve it.

Peyton is a veteran of the pro-life cause, tracing his involvement to the early 1970s when Washington state legalized abortion before Roe v. Wade made it to the U.S. Supreme Court. The issue spurred the Peytons, then living in Seattle in 1977, Peyton joined the speakers bureau of Human Life of Washington and began giving talks on pro-life issues at schools, churches and club meetings.

He also served as the state pro-life chairman for the Knights of Columbus, and in 1991, Washington’s first-assisted-suicide ballot measure was defeated.

“Being what some would consider a perfect candidate for physician-assisted suicide hasn’t changed Peyton’s stand on the issue. If anything, it has strengthened it.”

Peyton acknowledged that he is “exceedingly fortunate” to have the loving support of his wife, his six grown daughters and their families, his friends and neighbors and his home parish, St. Paul in Seattle. But about what those suffering with terminal illnesses are not so fortunate? Rather than tempting them to commit suicide, Peyton would rather see society extend true compassion to the dying.

“So much can be done to help people who are helpless,” he told The Catholic Northwest Progress, Seattle’s archdiocesan newspaper.

“We could, as a society, be far more compassionate. We’ve become so acclimated to luxury. “We’ve become so materialistic in some respects. We’ve become so selfish.... You can’t legislate compassion care, but that’s what’s going to be needed,” he said.

Though Initiative 1000 is presented in terms such as “compas- sion” and “dignity,” the Peytons find such wording deceptive. “I feel that I’m helping my husband have death with dignity by keeping his dignity and helping him in any way I can,” Patricia Peyton said.

The Peytons have been able to deal with John’s impending death largely because of their Catholic faith, which he called “the fundamental and essential part of our lives.” But it does not mean they have not had their share of tears in recent months.

“Well, I’m disappointed, there’s no denying that,” said Peyton, who had hoped to have many years to enjoy retirement with his wife. “But I don’t feel any anger or bitterness. I don’t feel cheated of anything.”

“I’ve told people that if this is what God demands of me to improve my chances of living with him in the hereafter, mine is a pretty poor negotiating position,” he said.

So, after more than 30 years of speaking about life issues, Peyton’s voice is giving out. He is prepared to leave this life with trust in God’s mercy, though he will leave behind much unfinished work.

“I’ve just about said the last pro-life thing that I’m going to be able to say,” he gasped at the end of a long interview. A single tear ran down his cheek, but his eyes burned with urgency and intensity. “It’s up to you guys now. Take it up. May God go with you.”

The Catholic Northwest Progress