The annual chrism Mass for the Fort Wayne and South Bend areas of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will be on Monday and Tuesday, April 6 and 7, in South Bend and Fort Wayne, respectively. The Masses will be held at 7:30 p.m. in St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend, and the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne.

The oil of sacred chrism — through which all Catholics are anointed and directed toward God — and other holy oils will be blessed during the chrism Mass by Bishop D’Arcy. The oils are a sign of the strength that is needed to live a faithful Christian life.

There are three oils that will be blessed for use in parishes throughout the year: oil of catechumens — used for the sacrament of baptism; sacred chrism — used for the sacrament of confirmation; and oil of the sick — used for the sacraments of anointing and holy orders. At the Mass of chrism, priests also renew their promise of celibate love and pastoral service.

“It is fitting that the oils are blessed during Holy Week, the week Jesus Christ consecrated the world through his death and resurrection,” said Bishop D’Arcy. “This is one of the most important liturgical observances of the year.”

The bishop invites all priests, religious brothers and sisters, deacons and lay people of the diocese to attend the chrism Masses.
Mary on her feast day

Three full days in South Bend this past week. The first was my annual pastoral visit to Marian High School — the last of the visits to these four schools. Actually, I go twice to each school now, because I take part in the auction of each institution seeking funds for those who need tuition assistance. This effort, which brings forth the generosity of our people, is especially important with the economic downturn. But the pasteur visits to Marian High School, and the opportunity to have time for students and faculty, is always a blessing. Through the hard work of Mary Kay Dance and the splendid leadership of my good friend for many years, Marian Principal Carol Loesch, the outlook for the upcoming class is excellent with a freshman class larger than a year ago. This is especially encouraging given the economic situation when people do not find it easy to pay tuition to our Catholic schools.

On Wednesday, the feast of the Annunciation of Our Lady, it was a joy to lead an ecumenical service at St. Matthew Cathedral Parish with Bishop of Notre Dame John Cavadini, our ecumenical officer in the Episcopalian Church.

The talk was given by Sister Ann Astell, Ph.D. Sister Ann is a member of the theology department at the University of Notre Dame and a member of the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary. She is an expert on such medieval teachers as medieval saints — St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Catherine of Siena and St. Teresa of Avila and others. An extraordinary scholar.

She presented a beautiful reflection on Mary and the Incarnation to Episcopalians and Catholics as part of a service of evening prayer; and all this despite having recently undergone surgery for cancer. This event was arranged by Nancy Cavadini, our ecumenical officer in the South Bend area. Afterwards at the reception, Bishop Little and I spoke about the place of Our Lady in our lives.

Of course, I spoke about both of my parents and praying the rosary each night with my dear father counting out the beads on his fingers in the decade which he led.

Then there was my dear mother. I can remember bringing her in to speak to a retreat I was giving at St. John Seminary, and asking her who Our Lady was for her. She said two simple things: “She is the Mother of God,” and then she said, “Didn’t she see her own son die?” We all think about parents as having a kind of a simple faith, but it is so much more than that. Mom showed a whole theology of Our Lady, and touched on the two key points; the Divine Maternity and her share in the Redemption. I spoke about my own experience of Mary at the seminary, and the teaching of St. Louis de Montfort, and the example of Pope John Paul II in his great devotion to the Mother of God.

What a wonderful evening with our dear Episcopalian friends, including Professor Gerald McKenny of the theology department of Notre Dame.

The young adult retreat

I believe this is the 24th year that I have participated in the young adult retreat. We had 128 young people — about half of them Hispanics, and the talks were given in Spanish and in English. I always arrive late afternoon on Saturday for a question-and-answer period and then hear confessions in the evening, and celebrate Mass Sunday morning. The retreat was given by Father Tom Shoemaker, pastor of St. Jude, Fort Wayne, and Mary Pohlman, his pastoral associate. Father Kevin Bauman — so fluent in Spanish and English, from St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart — gave the talks in Spanish. All were both instructive and inspirational.

As always, we heard confessions late into the evening. It was at the Potawatomi Inn in Pokagon State Park, under the overall direction of Mary Glowaski of our Office of Young Adult Ministry. It was a joy to be part of it.

The previous Sunday night I spoke at the last of our Lenten parish missions. We had a full church in the beautiful old parish of St. Mary’s, Avilla, which is under the direction of Monsignor Bill Miller. The previous two missions were in Elkhart — given the talks by Msgr. Jerry Matsch and Father Michael McGurren. We have six of these missions each year. The first was a full church in the beautiful old parish of St. Mary’s, Avilla, which is under the direction of Father Gerald McKenny of the theology department at the University of Notre Dame in our prayers. Also, all confessions after the services.

Mary K. Dance

Pictured after the celebration of the Mass at Marian High School are Bishop John M. D’Arcy and school chaplain and pastor of Queen of Peace Parish, Father Dan Scheidt. They congratulate two students who had just been named as Seniors of the Month for March — Amanda Norell, daughter of Robert and Mary Jo Norell of Bristol and Tyrus Kozinski, son of Joe and Sabrina Kozinski of Granger.

Now the triduum

Lent, by the way, actually ends on Holy Thursday. The triduum; that is, Thursday, Friday and Saturday leading up to Easter Sunday, constitute a kind of special season. I can never quite understand why all Catholics do not attend these services. Indeed, in many of our parishes the crowds are large. It is kind of a parish retreat. I will certainly celebrate the chrisms Mass at our cathedrals; at St. Matthew Co-Cathedral, South Bend, on Monday; and the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne, on Tuesday. On Thursday, I will be at the Fort Wayne cathedral, Good Friday at St. Matthew, and then back for the vigil on Holy Saturday, the television Mass Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m., and then Easter Sunday Mass at 11:30 a.m. Then rest.

I look forward to every single one of these events, and I do hope to take some prolonged prayer time in between. I hope our priests do as well.

This is the routine I have embraced for 24 years, and I am grateful to the good Lord for giving me the strength to carry it out. Grateful also to my guardian angel who has brought me back and forth safely. At St. Matthew’s, I will help with confessions after the services.

Our two chancery offices, Fort Wayne and South Bend, have been inundated in an unprecedented way with phone calls and regular mail, about the president coming to Notre Dame. The same for our Pro-Life Office and the Office of the Immaculate Conception.

Now let us all calm down, and keep dear Notre Dame in our prayers. Also, all concerned should be sure that the graduation itself is carried out with the respect for the dignity of every graduate, especially underlines the generosity of our priests. They have a right to expect a joyful, dignified and the teaching of St. Louis de Montfort, and the example of Pope John Paul II in his great devotion to the Mother of God.

The triduum constitutes a kind of special season
April 5, 2009

TODAY’S CATHOLIC

continued from page 1

Another writer felt, “ND’s invitation for the president to speak does not ... suggest that the ‘fundamental matter of abortion can be ignored.’ It actually suggests that people of differing viewpoints can discuss together and find common ground. This moves us all forward to a more just and fair society. By staying in our corners and refusing to stop and listen further, divides our nation, our people and fractures the church.”

Dame D’Arcy’s statement last week clearly states; "The Catholic community and Catholic institutions should not honor those who act in defiance of our fundamental moral principles. They should not be given awards, honors or platforms which would suggest support for their actions.”

National attention

The announcement has garnered national and international response. Bishop D’Arcy declined invitations to speak on MSNBC and Fox News, but intends to do one or two local interviews. Talk shows on the secular and Catholic radio stations have discussed the issue.

Fox News’ Web site, The Bridge Report, YouTube included reports as well as the pro-life Web site, LifeNewsSite.com and the Rome-based news service, Zenit.

National anti-abortion activist Randall Terry held a news conference at the gates of the University of Notre Dame on March 28 to launch a vigorous daily protest of the president’s scheduled May 17 commencement address.

Terry, 49, founder of the anti-abortion group Operation Rescue, said at the news conference, “We will begin a series of protests. We will help honor student leadership on campus, and provide leadership of campus.”

He said he had met with undisclosed university officials before the news conference.

Terry may not allow any protests on campus, according to the ground rules laid in a meeting he had Saturday with Notre Dame officials. He may participate in campus protests, but may not lead them.

But the student coalition at Notre Dame from www.NDresponse.com have requested that they work with university officials. “It is appropriate that only Notre Dame community lead all such protests, and we ask outside groups to respect our responsibilities in this regard,” they wrote in a statement on www.NDresponse.com. “Over the next several weeks, in response to this scandal, our organizations will host various academic and religious events to engage the university community. We request any groups who are committed to respectful actions at our events, thereby ensuring a unified front and a more compelling public witness.”

Notre Dame graduate Ann Manion, president of the Women’s Care Center, agreed with the students.

“In my view, the best people to put forward a viewpoint contrasting President Obama’s viewpoint are the professors, alumni and students of Notre Dame as well as Bishop D’Arcy,” states Manion. “Randall Terry has no connection to Notre Dame and does not live here. I think his involvement will not be helpful if it deflects media interest from the very compelling case for life being made by the bishop and the people of Notre Dame.”

More information on this event can be found on the Web site, www.NDResponse.com
CALCUTTA, India (CNS) — The newly elected head of the Missionaries of Charity, Sister Mary Prema, said she will continue the work of Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta to show God’s compassion to “broken humanity.”

The German-born nun, elected March 24 to lead the congregation, said she felt “unworthy of the office” held by Sister Nirmala Joshi for the past 12 years and by Mother Teresa before that.

Sister Prema told the Asian church news agency UCA News March 24 that she felt humbled at taking up the leadership of her congregation’s mission of serving “the poorest of the poor.”

“With God’s strength, I will do this work and be part of this mission,” she said.

Sister Prema was elected at the end of the congregation’s general chapter, which began Feb. 1. Earlier, the nuns had elected Sister Nirmala for a third term, but she reportedly withdrew because of ill health. Her third term would have required papal approval since the congregation’s constitution allows only two six-year terms for the superior.

The chapter of 163 delegates from around the world then elected Sister Prema, who for the last six years was part of Sister Nirmala’s team of councilors.

Sister Prema told UCA News that Missionaries of Charity members are “entrusted with a grave responsibility to take to Jesus broken humanity.”

“The cry of the poor is to be satiated daily as we have to give God’s compassion to all people,” she said.

The nuns are called to work “for unity at all levels and to make the church present in our world today, through humble means and works of love,” she said.

Sister Prema said that, as a young woman, she had “a very clear call of Jesus” to work for the poor. She said Malcolm Muggeridge’s 1971 book on Mother Teresa’s work, “Something Beautiful for God,” made her aware of the Missionaries of Charity.

She met Mother Teresa for the first time in 1980 in Berlin. When they met again, the young German expressed her desire to join the congregation.

Mother Teresa founded the congregation in 1950 and began her work among the poor in Calcutta. She died in 1997.

The chapter delegates returned to the motherhouse March 25 and had a thanksgiving Mass at Mother Teresa’s tomb. Sounds of clapping, singing and congratulations could be heard outside the walls of the convent, which was closed to visitors.

A handwritten notice saying “no visitors” was posted at the entrance. A nun at the door explained that the convent had no space for more visitors because nuns had “come from all over.”

Missionaries of Charity elect German nun as new superior general
Sacred Heart, Warsaw, renovation complete

BY B. ANN THALLEMER

WARSAW — Monsignor James J. Wolf celebrated the first Masses in newly renovated Sacred Heart Church during the weekend of March 29.

The project began July 1, 2008. While the extensive additions and changes were being done, Sacred Heart parishioners attended Masses at Our Lady of Guadalupe, and in November, they returned for Masses in Sacred Heart’s gymnasium.

Over 200 seats have been added to the sanctuary, increasing the church’s seating capacity. Four new classrooms have been added to the school. They have been in use since January and include a multipurpose arts and music room as well as new classrooms for grades 4, 5 and 6. The school presently accommodates 184 students ranging from pre-kindergarten through sixth grade.

Bill Lamie of ADG architectural firm was in charge of the project.

The large crucifix that hung above the altar in Sacred Heart’s original church on Market Street now hangs in the gathering space of the new church. It has always been an important part of Sacred Heart’s history and will remain in place.

Historical proportions

Early settlement in Indiana was closely allied with the history of the Catholic Church in Indiana. Prior to 1852, Father Stephen Badin of Bardstown, Ky., and other missionary priests traveled this area and established the first Catholic Church in the area.

Prior to 1852, Father Stephen Badin of Bardstown, Ky., and other missionary priests traveled in the area and established the first Catholic Church in the area. The church was dedicated on the feast of the Sacred Heart in June of 1877. The building is now the site of St. Anne’s Episcopal Church.

Bill Lamie of ADG architectural firm was in charge of the project.

The Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church in Columbia City. In July of 1935, Father Jesse Lothamer was assigned resident pastor. Two years later, Father Leo Pursley, who was transferred to a Fort Wayne parish in 1942 and later was consecrated as the diocese’s first auxiliary bishop, succeeded him.

By 1952, Sacred Heart had over 170 families. The Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters of Huntington came to the parish on Saturdays for many years to give religious instruction.

Father Martin Horvath was assigned to the parish after Father Reddington’s death in 1966. One year later, a convent was ready and the School Sisters of Notre Dame headed the faculty.

Sacred Heart’s new church was dedicated in May 1987. ‘Twenty-two years later, Sacred Heart’s history of progress and growth continues with the completion of the renovation of the church and expansion of the school.

“shanties” or boarding places for laborers who were mostly Irish and formed the nucleus of the many large and flourishing congregations.

In 1852, Warsaw was made a permanent mission and Father Weichmann, then pastor of Wabash, became the first and only resident pastor until 1884.

He purchased two lots on west Market Street where the original church was dedicated on the feast of the Sacred Heart in June of 1877. The building is now the site of St. Anne’s Episcopal Church.

Father Weichmann served 30 families as well as Warsaw’s two mission churches: Pierceton and Wabash, became the first and only resident pastor until 1884.

Reddington’s death in 1966. One year later, a convent was ready and the School Sisters of Notre Dame headed the faculty.

Sacred Heart’s new church was dedicated in May 1987.

Twenty-two years later, Sacred Heart’s history of progress and growth continues with the completion of the renovation of the church and expansion of the school.

This photo shows Sacred Heart Church’s construction progress as of March 4 of the interior. Now completed, the parish celebrated Mass last weekend in the renovated church.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CHUCK WHITCRAFT

Msgr. James Wolf inspects the curve wall that separates the main church from the new chapel.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CHUCK WHITCRAFT

This photo shows Sacred Heart Church’s construction progress as of March 4 of the interior. Now completed, the parish celebrated Mass last weekend in the renovated church.
Pope says pastors can’t be soloists, need parishioners’ advice

ROME (CNS) — In a world that does not seem interested in hearing about God, effective communication of the faith requires a group effort, Pope Benedict XVI said. When many people seem unable or unwilling to recognize the presence of God, “it is important that a pastor not be a ‘soloist,’ but be surrounded by believers who, along with him, are bearers of the seed of the word (of God) and help it live and grow,” the pope said during a visit March 29 to a Rome parish. In addition to celebrating Mass at the Holy Face of Jesus Parish, the pope met with members of the parish council and with children preparing for their first Communion before he returned to the Vatican for the midday recitation of the Angelus prayer. The pope told parish leaders, “The council is a gift of the Holy Spirit, and the pastor — and even more a pope — needs advice, needs help in making decisions. And so these (parish) councils are also a gift of the Holy Spirit and a witness to the Spirit’s presence in the church.”

Vatican releases details of papal trip to Holy Land

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — On his first trip to the Holy Land, Pope Benedict XVI will meet with Jewish, Muslim and Christian leaders, stop at the Dome of the Rock and the Western Wall in Jerusalem, and visit a refugee camp in Bethlehem, West Bank, the Vatican said. The May 8-15 visit will take the pope to holy sites in Jordan, Israel and the Palestinian territories. The schedule, published March 26, said the pope would visit the new King Hussein Mosque in Amman, Jordan, stop at Jesus’ baptism site at the Jordan River, and make a pilgrimage to Mount Nebo, where Moses once looked out at the Promised Land. The pope’s program calls for encounters with Israeli political leaders, Christian leaders, Jerusalem’s most prominent rabbis and the city’s leading Muslim cleric, the grand mufti. Pope Benedict also will visit the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem and celebrate public Masses in Amman, Bethlehem, Jerusalem and Nazareth, Israel.

Pro-life official criticizes court ruling on Plan B for 17-year-olds

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A U.S. District Court judge’s decision giving 17-year-olds over-the-counter access to the morning-after pill will put minors’ health at greater risk,” according to a pro-life official of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Deirdre McQuade, assistant director for policy and communications in the USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, told Catholic News Service March 25 that U.S. District Judge Edward Korman’s decision the day before was “woorrisome in any number of ways,” Korman, a judge in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York, said the Food and Drug Administration had “repeatedly and unreasonably” delayed a decision on whether Plan B should be available over the counter and had been swayed by politics in ultimately deciding to make the drug available without a prescription only to those 18 or over. McQuade said the decision opens up the possibility of a 17-year-old male getting “emergency contraception” for his girlfriend — “whether she’s 17 or 12” — and subjects the young woman to taking “a very strong drug without any medical supervision.” Plan B, containing a high dose of birth control pills, usually prevents pregnancy if taken within 72 hours of unprotected sex.

Obama says he believes strong moral guidelines important in science

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Saying he believes strong moral guidelines are important in the human life sciences, President Barack Obama said he would be happy to avoid ethical and political disputes if alternatives to embryonic stem-cell research turn out to be equally promising. During his March 24 press conference, Obama was asked about his personal moral and ethical considerations about whether to allow federally funded research using embryonic stem cells. "I wrestle with these issues every day," Obama told reporters. He said he believes it’s important to have “strong moral guidelines,” ethical guidelines when it comes to stem-cell research or anything that touches on “...the human life sciences.” Obama said he thinks the guidelines in his March 9 executive order permitting federal funding of embryonic stem-cell research meet the test for strong ethical boundaries. Pope Benedict XVI and the U.S. bishops are among those who oppose embryonic stem-cell research, equating it with abortion because it destroys human embryos. The chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities, Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia, has criticized Obama’s decision to allow funding of such research, saying it “disregards the values of millions of American taxpayers who oppose research that requires taking human life.”

Bishops won’t attend pro-life banquet with GOP’s Steele as speaker

EVANSVILLE, Ind. (CNS) — Bishop Gerald A. Gettelfinger of Evansville said he will not attend an April right-to-life dinner where Michael Steele, chairman of the Republican National Committee, is scheduled to speak because he objects to comments the GOP leader made about abortion. The bishop’s decision followed a widely circulated March 27 GQ magazine interview in which Steele, a Catholic, was asked if he thinks women have the right to choose abortion. He answered, “Yeah, I mean, again, I think that’s an individual choice.” Following publication of the interview, Steele issued a statement, saying “I am pro-life, always have been, always will be.” He went on to say that the Republican Party is and will continue to be the party of life.” He said he supports the Republican platform that calls for a Human Life Amendment. After speaking with Steele on the phone March 20, and after examining the statement issued by Steele after the GQ interview, Bishop Gettelfinger wrote in a letter to the head of the organization sponsoring the dinner that his “early decision not to attend still stands.”

Three years of polls show Catholic, non-Catholic views on moral issues

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Telephone polling of Catholics and non-Catholics over three years shows the degree of difference between the two groups on issues like abortion, the death penalty and other moral issues about which the Catholic Church has spoken. According to figures released March 30 by the Gallup Organization in Princeton, N.J., only on the abortion issue did a minority of Catholics overall find it acceptable — 40 percent compared to 41 percent for non-Catholics. The only other moral issue which Catholics overall find less acceptable than non-Catholics was the death penalty, but substantial majorities — 61 percent of Catholics and 68 percent of non-Catholics still found capital punishment morally acceptable. Besides abortion and the death penalty, other moral issues included sex outside marriage, divorce, gambling, homosexual activity and having a baby outside of wedlock. The polling figures were taken from Gallup’s 2006, 2007 and 2008 Values and Beliefs surveys, in which 3,022 respondents were polled. The margin of error is plus or minus 2 percentage points.
Bishop Dwenger hosts Hall of Fame Dinner

FORT WAYNE — Reservations are now being accepted for the Bishop Dwenger 2009 Hall of Fame Dinner to be held on Friday, April 24. This year’s honorees include: Mike Shields ’67 (alumnus of the year), Vince Mastrangelo ’85 (athletics), Johnathan Martin ’87 (athletics), and Danielle (Bird) Cardinal ’96 (athletics), Dan Balan ’95 (visual and performing arts) and John V. Tippmann, Sr. (Citizens of Two Worlds Award).

The event will be held at the Diamond Room located at Centum’s Summit Park II. Tickets are $40 each and include dinner. The program begins at 6 p.m.

For reservations, contact Liz Delaney at (260) 496-4710. Send checks, made payable to Bishop Dwenger High School, to the Office of Development, 1300 E. Wasteon Center Rd., Fort Wayne, IN 46825.

Reservation deadline is April 20.

Holy Cross Brother Chester Freel elected provincial

NOTRE DAME — Holy Cross Brother Chester Freel, 59, has been elected the next provincial of the Midwest Province of the Brothers of Holy Cross, at Notre Dame. It was announced by Holy Cross Brother Robert Fillmore, provincial of the Midwest Province of the Brothers Holy Cross, and confirmed by Holy Cross Father Hugh Cleary, superior general of the Congregation of Holy Cross, Rome, Italy.

The entire membership of the Brothers of the Midwest Province engage in electing their provincial. The term for a provincial is six years and he may be elected for an additional three-year term.

Brother Freel, who will celebrate his 40th jubilee as a Brother of Holy Cross on June 20 at a jubilee Mass at Sacred Heart Basilica, Notre Dame, will take office at the conclusion of the Midwest Province Chapter, which will be held at Holy Cross Village from June 14-19.

Brother Freel has been the vocations director for the province since 2007 and directs and lives at Bessette House, an intentional Christian community located in College Hall on the University of Notre Dame campus.

Before coming to Notre Dame, Brother Freel spent 37 years at Holy Cross Children’s Services, formerly Boysville of Michigan, serving in a number of areas. From 1985 to 2007 he was regional director responsible for the operation of the Boysville campus location where his responsibilities provided daily services to over 200 youth with a staff of 175.

Brother Freel is a native of Mishawaka, where he attended St. Monica School and Saint Joseph’s High School. He is the son of Marvin and Mary Freel, who still reside in Mishawaka. He has a brother and three sisters. Brother Freel holds a bachelor’s degree from St. Edward University in Austin, Texas, and received his master’s degree in social work at Wayne State University, Detroit, Mich., in 1981.

The Midwest Province has 176 members who minister in education and social service agencies throughout the United States, Canada, Bangladesh, Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, Chile, Peru and Italy.

Bishop Dwenger to host still-life stations

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger High School will host the Stations of the Cross at 10:20 a.m. in the main gym on Holy Thursday, April 9.

Bishop Dwenger’s still-life Stations of the Cross combine traditional with modern prayers while students re-enact the 14 stations. Along with music and video to help with prayers it is a very moving time of prayer. The public is invited to the service.

This popular Lenten devotion is believed to date back to the fourth century when Byzantine pilgrims would visit Jerusalem and its holy places to follow Jesus Christ in prayer and reflection on his way to Calvary. Fourth-century writings reveal pilgrims making processions from the Garden of Gethsemani to the site of the Lord’s crucifixion and resurrection. From the 14th century on the journey came to be known as the Via Dolorosa. In the guidance of the Franciscans with locations added along the way to commemorate particular incidents in our Lord’s passion.

It was only in the 18th century that the 14 stations became fixed. This devotion was largely spread worldwide through the work of the Franciscans, St. Leonardo of Port-Maurice and St. Alphonsus Liguori. Religious communities like the Jesuits and the Passionists made the stations a part of their missions and retreats. By the 19th century, the Stations of the Cross had become a staple of Catholic prayer life throughout England, Ireland and the United States.

USF School of Creative Arts hosts student art exhibition

FORT WAYNE — The School of Creative Arts will host the opening of the 33rd Annual Student Art Exhibition on Saturday, April 4, from 9-9 p.m. in the Rolland Art Center (off Leesburg Road). Art will be on view through May 1.

The exhibition will run through May 1. The Weatherhead and Goldfish Galleries are open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. The Weatherhead and Goldfish Galleries are open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-5 p.m.

For more information, please call (260) 399-7700, ext. 8001.

James M. Keefer Scholarship offered at Bishop Luers

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School is offering the James M. Keefer Scholarship through the support of Sally (Keefer) Smith, in honor of her father. James Keefer valued Catholic education and worked so his children, Sally (1967), Mike (1965), Richard (1969) and Steve (1971) could receive a Bishop Luers High School diploma.

As a single parent, Sally worked to ensure a Catholic education for her own three children. She felt that Bishop Luers High School helped to support her and her family. “Bishop Luers High School was that extra partner, supporting and enriching the moral structure that I was trying to instill at home,” she said. The values of respect and responsibility were mirrored at school and at home.

The scholarship is for incoming sophomore students who are being raised by a single parent. Each applicant must write an essay stating what a Bishop Luers High School education means to them. The $500 scholarship will be granted to two students.

The Jesters perform ‘Roundabout’

FORT WAYNE — The Jesters, a troupe of child and young-adult actors and artists with special needs, will perform ‘Roundabout,” an original family-oriented production that uses theatre, singing, live instrument accompaniment and dance to tell the age-old story of people in conflict who are challenged to learn to live together in peace.

During the show, character groups, squares and triangles, stomp around the world seeking a treasure that is being carefully guarded by the circles. Watching their rampage, the animals eventually intervene, creating an opportunity for peaceful resolution.

Performances will be April 18, at 3 p.m. and April 19, at 6 p.m. in the auditorium of USF’s North Campus building located at 2702 Spring St. Tickets are $8 for adults and $5 for children 10 and under. Group rates of 20 tickets or more will also be made available at $5 per ticket.

Sponsored by the University of Saint Francis, the Jesters is a performance group founded in 1978 comprised of participants with special needs and physical disabilities including autism, Down syndrome and mild mental disabilities.

For more information, please call (260) 399-7700, ext. 8001.
INDIANAPOLIS — Good people with good intentions working to create good public policy can be derailed by political wrangling. This year’s wrongful death bill, SB 341, to restore Indiana’s wrongful death law for viable fetuses in civil suits hit a political snag March 23, and was withdrawn by the bill’s sponsor.

Senate Bill 341 co-authored by Sen. Brent Steele (R-Bedford), and Sen. Vaneta Becker (R-Evansville) and sponsored in the House by Rep. Peggy Welch (D-Bloomington) would allow civil suits to be restored to the pre-2002 form, to include the wrongful death or injury of an unborn child which has reached viability. Under the bill, viability is defined as a fetus that could survive outside the womb, which is about seven-month gestational age.

The bill passed the Senate, 47-2. In the House, the bill passed the Public Policy Committee, but when House Sponsor of the bill, Rep. Peggy Welch (D-Bloomington), a pro-life Democrat, realized amendments were going to be attached to the bill to make SB 341 a pro-life, political football rather than an effort to correct the immediate problem in the statute, she took the ball out of the game by withdrawing the bill.

Among those who work under the statehouse dome, a common maneuver of the political game is the practice by both caucuses to offer amendments, which may either kill legislation, or to get lawmakers to take a recorded vote on politically controversial language that can later be used against them in election years. Second reading amendments were filed in the House to amend SB 341, some of which would have a child defined as an unborn fetus at any stage of pregnancy rather than at viability, which is currently in the bill.

“The purpose of the bill is to restore legislative intent of the definition of a child for the purposes of wrongful death civil suits which was changed by a 2002 ruling by the Indiana Supreme Court in the Bolin vs. Wingert decision,” said Welch. “Basically in (the) Bolin (decision), the Indiana Supreme Court said that they didn’t believe the statute was clear regarding the definition of a child for civil wrongful death cases. They ruled that the definition of a child, for the purposes of a wrongful death civil suit, must be one who had taken a breath.”

“The proposed legislation addressing fetal death was prompted by an incident that occurred in Indianapolis in April 2008 where a bank teller who was pregnant with twins was shot during an attempted bank robbery. She survived the gunshot wound, her twins did not. The woman was five months pregnant.

“In the situation with the bank teller who was carrying twins that died, where the one twin took a breath, it would have been considered a child, the other didn’t, so it couldn’t be considered a child in a civil wrongful death suit,” said Welch. “We are trying to move back the point of pre-Bolin, which was a hundred-year tradition and precedent of recognizing a viable fetus as a child for the purpose being a party in a wrongful death suit.”

In 1987, the legislature, while revising and updating civil suit statutes, defined the child as an unmarried individual; without dependents; and who is less than 20 years of age. Prior to 1987, it was commonly understood, accepted and supported in case law that a child in wrongful death suits included a viable fetus. The legislature did not intend to exclude the viable fetus.

However, because the legislature did not explicitly include viable fetus in the definition, the court did believe it could act where the legislature had not.

In 2002, Indiana Supreme Court’s ruling in Bolin vs. Wingert interpreted the definition of a child as to one that had taken a breath. This ruling came about as a result lawsuit filed when a car accident involving Rebecca Bolin, who was eight-to-ten weeks pregnant, suffered a miscarriage. When the Bolin couple filed suit under Indiana’s wrongful death code for damages of their unborn child, the trial court found they had no claim under current statute. When the Bolin’s appealed their case to the Indiana Supreme Court, the court looked at the definition of a child and found “the fact that the legislature did not expressly include unborn children within the definition of a ‘child’ in the Children Wrongful Death Statute lends further credence to our conclusion that an eight-to-ten-week-old fetus does not meet the statute’s definition of ‘child.’” The ruling stated that the legislature clearly set upper limits for a child, but not lower limits.

According to the Bolin vs. Wingert case, the court based their decision on the fact that in other sections of the Indiana Code (IC) the legislature has enacted protections for unborn children using explicit language. For example, IC 35-42-1-6, enacted 1979, imposes criminal liability for the knowing or intentional termination of a human pregnancy and in IC 35-46-5-1, the legislature made it a crime to traffic in fetal tissue.

Rep. Welch said she is hopeful she can bring the bill back again before the April 29 session adjournment deadline. Indiana Catholic Conference has been working with Rep. Welch and is supportive of the legislation.
HUNTINGTON — With each day of Lent shortening the time to when Christ became victim and then victor over death, focus on those last three days brings to mind exactly what our Savior experienced; unease about the required fulfillment of his mission and then sublime peace.

One step into the house of those dedicated to the religious life enhances this contented feeling, and during Holy Week, when the usual subdued atmosphere of a religious community becomes increasingly hushed and muted, the silence there beckons the visitor to a peaceful composure.

At Victory Noll in Huntington, motherhouse of Our Lady of Victory Missionaries, Holy Week includes traditional worship enveloped in a retreat-like atmosphere intended to provide the maximum spiritual benefit for everyone in the house and the prayerful intentions offered.

On Tuesday, a delegation will attend the Mass of Chrism at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne. At a Wednesday Mass at Victory Noll, the oils received at the cathedral will be carried by three sisters in a procession as the congregation sings a special “Victory Noll” prayer set to music.

On Holy Thursday, the order’s leadership team will wash the feet of six sisters who represent various segments of the campus. This gesture, backed up by the singing of “The Servant Song” is seen as powerfully significant. This service is followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Good Friday is a retreat day with complete silence observed as closely as possible. The religious service for the day will be observance of the Lord’s passion at 3 p.m.

Holy Saturday is another quiet day in anticipation of celebrating the glory of the Resurrection. Easter Sunday will feature a solo violinist presenting a 15-minute prelude to the Mass followed by a postlude and then a luncheon featuring hot cross buns, lamb cakes, a little wine and a delicious entree.

The rest of Easter Sunday at Victory Noll will include a release from silence for those who wish to chat, possibly a movie in the afternoon, and continued joy and reflection on this greatest of holy days.

Quiet meditation on the mystery of Holy Week is the mood at Victory Noll Religious Community and Retreat Center in Huntington. Prayers are offered for sisters working in missions in the U.S. and South America as well as the intentions of the faithful friends of Our Lady of Victory Missionaries.

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Reconciliation with God

St. Paul tells us that we are reconciled to God through Christ’s suffering on the cross. But confusion of (of the ways we do not reflect our “new creation” status) is good for the soul, as the old saying goes. We are encouraged to live our lives as a lifestyle ministry of reconciliation. In the sacrament of reconciliation, we take a good hard look at ourselves and our relationship with God and with others.

In this effort we start with ourselves. The human condition is one of weaknesses, we make mistakes, we sin – no one is immune to them. And, as with most things, forgiveness and reconciliation begin within.

So we ask ourselves, “Have we let go of our mistakes? Can we honestly say, ‘That was the old me, the old creation; it is not the person I am now, the new creation’?” Do we realize that the old me has taught the new me many things from my mistakes? Can we forgive ourselves?

Reconciliation with another person

As ambassadors for Christ, we have a particular responsibility towards our neighbors. Pope Benedict tells us: “Justified through the gift of faith in Christ, we are called to love our neighbor as part of being forgiven by someone you have hurt? What feelings can be part of the process of forgiveness? What part might fear play in this process?”

Reconciliation in communities

The ambivalence we sometimes find in ourselves towards reconciliation and forgiveness can be found in families and other groups as well. We talk about family unity and still accept that one part of our family is alienated from the rest. Inactive Catholics are another group that needs reconciliation. How many times haven’t a past hurt kept them away, a priest who was unkind in the confessional, an argument with someone in charge of a statement or something like that to Paul, marriage, the changes in the church in the last 40 years?

Our personal sins also “give rise to social situations and institutions that are contrary to the divine goodness” (CCC, #1869), causing violence, poverty, injustice, and alienation. Individuals, families, communities, churches, political parties, races and nations are all called to reconciliation. Just as with individuals, many resist reconciliation for “good reasons.” Conflicts that consume countries or areas of the world are rooted in working against or imagining that the power to provoke unrest and violence.

There has to take the most difficult first step to overcome the barriers that keep reconciliation from happening. This applies to individuals and interpersonal relations as much as it deals with our gifts, we are to leave our gifts at the altar and go first to be reconciled. Taking that first step is often the most difficult of all, especially if we feel we have been wronged, but heroic gestures begin in simple ways. Our homes, workplaces, communities, towns, cities, all need reconciliation. We can start by acknowledging our personal contribution to obstacles of healing. We can establish new solutions. We can remember to attack problems, not individuals. Most importantly, there must be a willingness to forgive others and again make seven times 70.

What relationships in your life need to be rebuilt or strengthened? What is the particular grace of reconciliation and healing? How is God’s presence felt during times of reconciliation? In what ways might you set personal limits on the power of God’s healing grace?

Conclusion

In his pastoral letter for the Year of St. Paul, the Archbishop of Birmingham Vincent Nichols writes, “... St. Paul says that, for now, all creation groans in giving birth to the new creation, already seen in Christ established in the Risen Christ (Rom 8:22). We are to be empowered by the Holy Spirit for this work of ‘giving birth’ and for it we are nurtured by the sacrifice of Christ. It is made up of our daily acts of forgiveness and compassion, struggles for justice, patterns of prayer and fasting and a willingness to forgive and an endurance of patience in trials. Do remember that none of this daily effort, here in this world, is lost. Every bit of good we do is stored for us to enjoy, especially when united in Christ, is taken up into the fabric of the new creation and fashioned into his kingdom.”

This is the vision given to us by St. Paul. By reflecting on it we can gain so much inspiration and strengthen our daily life. We can draw from St. Paul our steadfast sense of purpose in life, and our own hope and joy.”

For the complete six-week series, visit www.diocecesw sb.org/OSD

Commentary

In his pastoral letter for the Year of St. Paul, the Archbishop of Birmingham Vincent Nichols writes, “... St. Paul says that, for now, all creation groans in giving birth to the new creation, already seen in Christ established in the Risen Christ (Rom 8:22). We are to be empowered by the Holy Spirit for this work of ‘giving birth’ and for it we are nurtured by the sacrifice of Christ. It is made up of our daily acts of forgiveness and compassion, struggles for justice, patterns of prayer and fasting and a willingness to forgive and an endurance of patience in trials. Do remember that none of this daily effort, here in this world, is lost. Every bit of good we do is stored for us to enjoy, especially when united in Christ, is taken up into the fabric of the new creation and fashioned into his kingdom.”

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Holy Week at St. Pius X

BY KAREN CLIFFORD

GRANGER — The images of palms, cleansing water, sorrow, repentance, the cross, and the joyful sounds of proclaiming Christ’s resurrection highlight one of the most sacred times in the Catholic Church — Holy Week at St. Pius X. Preparations for this week begin early and include intense efforts from priests and laity to bring the richness of these solemn events to the community at large.

The art and environment group, which decorates the church throughout the year, is especially busy during Holy Week. According to arts and environment chairman Karen King, set up for Palm Sunday begins the previous Saturday morning or Sunday evening. There are eight times during Holy Week when music is sung by either the Sunday morning or Sunday evening choir.

When music, says the preparation for the music chairman Karen King, set up for Palm Sunday Mass. On Sunday evening all palms are removed and the color reverts to purple for Monday through Wednesday.

A red cloth is placed on the altar and draped around the base of the crucifix. Palms are placed in the sanctuary and near a platform outside where the procession begins for Palm Sunday Mass. On Sunday evening all palms are removed and the color reverts to purple for Monday through Wednesday.

Jeremy Hoy, director of liturgy and music, says the preparation for the music of Holy Week begins in late February. There are eight times during Holy Week when music is sung by either the Sunday morning or Sunday evening choir.

During the triduum both choirs are combined. In addition, the handbell choir and instrumentalists use their talents to complete the musical splendor of the week.

The Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Thursday includes the parish priests washing the feet of parishioners. Eileen Connolly and Scott Null, who have taken part in the foot washing, remember the event with humility and reverence.

“It was a very humbling experience to have a priest, a holy person, kneel in front of me and wash my ugly feet. I didn’t feel worthy,” Connolly recalls.

“But at the same time, I was able to reflect that the priest, just like Jesus, accepts us just as we are and with all our imperfections.”

Null, who in 2007 was an elect in RCIA, recalls the same humility and the “Song of the Lord’s Command” played as his feet were washed. The lyrics of the song touched a spiritual chord with Null.

“My feet were turned to the ground, knees bent, head down. The water flowed from my face, and I felt like a child. It was a very humbling experience.”

“It was not about what man could do for you, but what God had already done for you. It was a very humbling experience.”

Do you know what I have done for you? Who called me your teacher and your friend, If I have washed your feet, So also do As I have done for you.

Friday, April 3, Bishop D’Arcy will celebrate the 9:30 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne.

Palm Sunday

...When the great crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they took branches and went out to meet him, and cried out, “ Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the king of Israel.” — Mt 21:9

Action: Attend Mass and place new palms in a prominent area of your home. Then read Psalm 100 with family or friends. Discuss what it means to you.

Monday

“I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.” — Jn 10:10

Action: Make a list of all of your blessings. Share the list with a family member or friend. Then display it so you can see it often.

Tuesday

“For as in one body we have many parts, and all the parts do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ and individually parts of one another.” — Rom 12:4-5

Action: Share a special talent you have discovered in yourself with someone today.

Wednesday

“Do not grow slack in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer.” — Rom 12:11-12

Action: Spend 10 minutes in prayer to renew your faith in God’s promise of everlasting life.

Thursday

“While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, and said, ‘Take it; this is my body. Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it.” — Mk 14:22-23

Action: Share a meal with family or friends. Discuss the last supper and what sharing a meal means to you.

Friday

...Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle... Jesus cried out in a loud voice, ‘Father, into your hands I commend my spirit’; and when he had said this he breathed his last.” — Lk 23:44-46

Action: Pray the rosary alone or with family or friends.

Saturday

“Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother’s sister...” — Jn 19:25

Action: Contemplate the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross at Good Friday service.

Holy Week is a time for the faithful to relive the final week of Jesus’ earthly life. His entrance into Jerusalem, his Passover meal, his arrest, suffering and death are all played out in services in our church communities. As we contemplate the mystery of this great sacrifice, we can join our lives with Christ as we prepare to celebrate the center of our faith: the resurrection. Use these Scriptures and suggested actions as the final mortar for the bricks you’ve laid on your Lenten path toward new life in Christ.

Easter Sunday

...The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the father has sent me, so I send you.” — Jn 20:20-21

Action: Praise God at Easter Mass for new life in Christ. Celebrate the resurrection mystery with family or friends.
Holy Week at St. Monica - Mishawaka
April 12, Easter Morning Masses:
7:30 am
9:30 am: Children’s Mass & Handbells
11:00 am - Adult Choir

Last Reconciliation Rites before Easter:
Friday, April 3 - 11:00 - 11:55 am, prior to 12:05 pm Mass
and
Saturday, April 4: 9:00 am

PIUS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

that were forgone during that one act have continued to grow, bringing strength and joy to our entire parish.’

During the commemoration of the Lord’s Passion on Good Friday, the cross that has been standing to the right of the altar during Lent is taken down. Two parishioners carry the cross from the narthex to in front of the stripped altar. At that time, as the cross is being held, the priests invite parishioners to remove their shoes in reverence to being on holy ground and come forward to venerate the cross in remembrance of Christ’s sacrifice.

Parishioners Ed Kintz and Tom Doyle have held the cross during veneration on Good Friday and share their thoughts on this reverent occasion.

Kintz says, “On Good Friday I always think of the motto of the Holy Cross order who served our parish for years: ‘Spes Unica, the Cross, our only Hope.’ All of us have a cross to carry, all different and all pale in comparison to the cross of Christ.”

He adds, “Our cross may be unemployment, sickness, addictions, grief or some other heartache. Once per year I can honor, show reverence and venerate the cross that led to our salvation. Daily I hope to carry my cross and pray that it will lead to my salvation.”

Doyle recalls a very moving veneration, as he held the cross.

“A parishioner that is not a native U.S. citizen knelt down, bowed his head, kissed the feet and had tears in his eyes. I wished I could have videotaped it so that everyone could see this powerful experience,” he says.

On Saturday morning of Holy Week, the arts and environment team begins the task of decorating the church for Easter. During the roughly six-hour preparation that day, Easter plants are set around the sanctuary, and in the back of church, where the arts and environment team includes a scene depicting the crown of thorns and Christ’s burial garment, as a sign that he has risen. Since St. Pius X has simultaneous 10:30 a.m. Masses on Easter, the team also sets plant arrangements in the gymnasium. White banners hung from the ceiling and white linen draped on the crucifix complete the Easter transformation.

In reflecting on all the majesty of Holy Week, Father Lengerich states that his favorite moment from last year was the proclamation of the Exsultet at the Easter Vigil.

“This was the first time I’d ever been called upon to sing these ancient words. When I got to the line, ‘Jesus Christ our King is risen,’ it really felt like we were all Jesus’ first disciples, hearing this good news for the first time.”

HOLY WEEK MASS SCHEDULE

HOLY THURSDAY: April 9 - 7:00 PM
GOOD FRIDAY: April 10 - 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM
HOLY SATURDAY: April 11 - 8:00 PM Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES: April 12
7:30 - 9:30 - 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Most Precious Blood Church

EASTER TRIDUUM
Thursday 7:00 PM Mass of the Lord’s Supper
(Adoration after Mass until 10:00 PM)
Friday - 1:30 PM Good Friday Liturgy & Communion
Saturday - 8:45 PM Easter Vigil Mass
Easter Sunday - 8:00 & 10:15 AM Masses
(REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE)

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Today’s Catholic

Celebrate with Us!
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church
10700 Aboite Center Road - Fort Wayne

RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE
Friday, April 3 - 10:00 - 11:00 AM
Saturday, April 4 - 9:30 - 10:30 AM & 3:30 - 4:30 PM
Sunday, April 5 - 3:00 - 4:00 PM & 6:00 - 7:00 PM
Tuesday, April 7 - 1:00 - 2:00 PM
Holy Thursday, April 9 - 9:30 - 10:30 AM
Good Friday, April 10 - 2:30 - 5:00 PM
and after 7:00 PM. Service until all are heard

HOLY WEEK MASS SCHEDULE

HOLY THURSDAY: April 9 - 7:00 PM
GOOD FRIDAY: April 10 - 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM
HOLY SATURDAY: April 11 - 8:00 PM Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES: April 12
7:30 - 9:30 - 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

The handbell choir practices for the upcoming Easter services.

PIUS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

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HOLY WEEK MASS SCHEDULE

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GOOD FRIDAY: April 10 - 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM
HOLY SATURDAY: April 11 - 8:00 PM Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY MASSES: April 12
7:30 - 9:30 - 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

The handbell choir practices for the upcoming Easter services.

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH
4500 Fairfield Avenue - Fort Wayne (260) 744-4393

RECONCILIATION:
Sunday, April 5:
After 5:00 PM Stations
Monday, April 6:
7:00 AM & 5:30 PM
Tuesday, April 7:
9:00 AM & 4:30 PM
Wednesday, April 8:
7:00 AM & 6:30 PM
Thursday, April 9:
9:00 AM & 3:00 PM
Friday, April 10:
After 1:00 PM Service
After 7:00 PM Stations
Saturday, April 11:
9:00 AM

HOLY WEEK LITURGIES:
Wednesday, April 8:
5:30 PM - Anointing of the Sick Mass
Holy Thursday, April 9:
8:00 AM - Rosary and Morning Prayer
7:00 PM - Mass of Lord’s Supper
Good Friday, April 10:
8:00 AM - Rosary and Morning Prayer
1:00 PM - Liturgy of Lord’s Passion
7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross
Holy Saturday, April 11:
8:00 AM - Rosary and Morning Prayer
9:00 PM - Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday, April 12:
Masses at 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
A Blessed & Happy Easter to all!
TODAY’S CATHOLIC
April 5, 2009

A ‘walk through’ the sacrament of reconciliation

The following is a guide for the sacrament of reconciliation. It begins with an examination of conscience, followed by a “walk through” of the confession and ends with a sample Act of Contrition. Other Act of Contrition prayers are available and often a card is available detailing the steps of confession in most churches, penances services, missals or in the reconciliation room.

Examination of conscience: How blessed are we?

• Blessed are the poor in spirit.

How important to you are your possessions, your titles, your prestige? How do you use your personal power — in relationships with those you love and with strangers? In God’s eyes, “less is more” — are you trying to live a simpler, more earth-conscious lifestyle? Can you trust in God to take care of your needs? Do you waste your energies and talents by daydreaming or complaining about what you don’t have?

• Blessed are those who mourn.

Do you respond with comfort and consolation to those in need? Healing was central to Jesus’ ministry — do you imitate Christ as a healer, a comforter, a consoler? Are you concerned for those saddened by hunger, homelessness, poverty, prejudice, hatred or violence?

• Blessed are the meek.

Have you committed your life to fulfilling God’s plan on earth — or do you still say, “my will be done, not thy will be done”? Do you actively seek the path of nonviolence in our violent world? Do you respect the good things of creation and the gifts of the earth? Are you humble enough to admit your sinfulness and accept God’s continuous, free and gracious forgiveness?

• Blessed are those who show mercy.

Do you try to forgive the people who offend or dislike you? Before judging others, do you make sure you know all the facts — or have you leapt to conclusions based on assumptions or stereotypes? Do you keep negative opinions to yourself — do you contribute to gossip or slander, damaging others’ reputations? Do you reach out when you see others suffering?

• Blessed are the pure of heart.

Do you keep God in mind — even sometimes? Do you pray at least a little each day, even when it’s not easy or you don’t feel like it? Are you trying to keep your eyes focused on God? Do you come to God privately in prayer and communally at Mass and through the sacraments regularly and seriously? Do you see others with a pure heart: as beloved children of God — and not as objects for your use?

• Blessed are the peacemakers.

Do you act as a peacemaker — or are you prone to choosing one side over another, increasing, rather than diffusing, the conflict? Have you destroyed the peace of another? Do you try to be thoughtful and contribute to happiness and peace in your relationships? Do you allow some time in your life to find peace with God and with your self, as well as with others?

• Blessed are those persecuted for justice sake.

Are you trying to be a better Christian? Do your life, your words and your actions testify to the fact that you are trying to imitate Christ? Are you willing publicly to defend the Gospel message and the truths of our faith?

How to go to individual reconciliation

• Before you go to reconciliation, make an examination of conscience.

• Approach the priest and sit down in front of him for face-to-face, or behind him for anonymous confession.

• The priest will greet you.

• The priest will explain the Act of Contrition.

• He will hear your sins with all your heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy. Amen

The people of St. Jude Catholic Church
Randallia Drive at East State Blvd. in Fort Wayne
invite all to join in the celebration of the Paschal Triduum

Holy Thursday, April 9 - 7:00 PM
Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper
Good Friday, April 10 - 12:30 PM
Celebration of the Lord’s Passion
Holy Saturday, April 11 - 8:30 PM
Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday, April 12
Masses - 7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 AM
Easter Egg Hunt - 4:45 PM

Holy Week Schedule for Christ the King

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 9
Morning Prayer 8:30 AM
Mass of the Lord’s Supper 7:00 PM
Eucharistic Adoration (North Chapel) 8:30-10:00 PM
Night Prayer (North Chapel) 10:00 PM
GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 10
Morning Prayer 8:30 AM
Celebration of the Lord’s Passion 1:00 PM
Soup Supper 6:00 PM
Stations of the Cross 7:00 PM
HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 11
Morning Prayer 8:30 AM
Food Blessing 1:00 PM
Easter Vigil Mass 9:00 PM
Easter Masses EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 12
7:00 AM, 8:45 AM, 10:30 AM & 12:15 PM

Holy Cross
and St. Stanislaus Parish

Come join us in celebrating the Paschal Mystery of Christ’s passion, death and resurrection.

Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord’s Supper 7:00 p.m. St. Stanislaus Church
Good Friday, the Lord’s Passion 1:00 p.m. Holy Cross Church
Taizé Prayer Service 7:00 p.m. Holy Cross Church
Holy Saturday Easter Vigil 8:30 p.m. Holy Cross Church
Easter Sunday 8:00 & 11:00 a.m. Holy Cross Church 9:30 a.m. St. Stanislaus Church

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
1100 South Calhoun Street - Fort Wayne - 424-1485

Holy Week and Easter Schedule

Holy Thursday, April 9, 2009
Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 6:00 pm*
GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2009
Celebration of the Lord’s Passion at 1:00 pm
Way of the Cross at 7:00 pm
HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2009: Easter Vigil at 9:00 pm*
Easter Sunday Masses, April 12, 2009
7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 am (No 5:00 pm Mass)
* Bishop D’Arcy presiding
SACRAMENT OF PENCE/RECONCILIATION OFFERED:
Holy Thursday 4:00 to 5:00 pm and Good Friday after services
Holy Saturday 2:30 to 4:30 pm


**EDITORIAL**

**Explaining the faith**

Recall the account of Philip in the Acts of the Apostles 8: 26-40, when he encountered an Ethiopian eunuch en route home to Gaza from Jerusalem. The eunuch, seated in his chariot, was reading from the prophet Isaiah: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.” — Is 53:7.

Sent by an angel, Philip approached the traveler, heard him reading aloud and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone instructs me?” Philip then rode with the man in his chariot “and, beginning with this Scripture passage, how he sought to bring him to Christ.” When they came to some water, the eunuch asked to be baptized, and Philip obliged.

Let’s say you are vacationing at the ocean during spring break this year. As you walk along the seashore, refreshing your feet in the water, you overhear a foreigner, seated on a beach chair, reading aloud the above passage from Isaiah. Prompted by the Holy Spirit, would you have the courage to inquire, “Do you understand what you are reading?” And if the stranger answered, “How can I, unless someone instructs me, for I am not a Christian?” Would you, like Philip, then be able to proclaim to Jesus and the Christian story of his passion, death and resurrection to him?

Beginning with Jesus’ entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, you could explain the Catholic traditions of the chrism Mass, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Would you be able to describe the Easter Vigil liturgy on Holy Saturday culminating in Jesus’ resurrection from the dead early on Easter Sunday morning? If the stranger asked, “Why did Jesus have to die?” what would be your answer?

Finally, if the foreigner pressed on and questioned you about other traditions of the Easter season, such as the paschal Lamb, paschal candle, Passover, or Pesach, could you provide an adequate explanation? Would your only knowledge of Easter and its traditions be about colored Easter eggs, the Easter Bunny and the Easter parade? And do you ponder pre-Christian symbols and traditions be connected with the celebration of Easter?

How well do you know your faith? — enough to be able to talk about it with others who are not familiar with the most important feast of the Christian year? If not, why not?

We’re not trying to suggest you need to become a religious zealot or know-it-all when it comes to your faith, but you should at least be able to understand it yourself and explain it to someone else. Your explanation of who Jesus is and some details of the Catholic faith to someone may not in a recent invitation to be baptized on their part, but it could eventually lead to the person joining an RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) class at a parish.

Following Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion, the Holy Week liturgies that follow offer several religious services in which to participate. Except for the Sunday Mass obligation, of course, there is no requirement to attend a chrism Mass on Monday or Tuesday evening in South Bend or Fort Wayne respectively; the evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday; Good Friday services or the Easter vigil on Holy Saturday. But if you do participate in one or all of these beautiful liturgies, it is a chance to provide an adequate explanation of the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus to someone who is not Christian. And you probably could begin to effectively answer the important yet admittedly often difficult question, “Why did Jesus have to die?” if not for someone else at least for your own self.

In brief, the answer to the above question is summed up in the Catechism of the Catholic Church: “As a consequence of original sin, man must suffer ‘bodily death, from which man would have been immune had he not sinned’” (1 Cor 15: 26).

“Jesus, the son of God, freely suffered death for us in complete and free submission to the will of God, his Father. By his death he has conquered death, and so opened the possibility of salvation to all men.” — CCC, 1018-1019.

And there’s something else on which to meditate during the holiest week of the year: If you were the only one walking on the beach this spring because, literally, there is no one else in the world, would Jesus have died just for you?

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

**COMMENTARY**

**Save the farm animals**

Have you ever thought about the life of a farm animal?

A dairy cow is artificially inseminated to have one calf after another in order to produce milk. Any mother can tell you that childbirth is not painless. The calves are soon torn away from their mothers. So the mother’s milk can be sold.

She grieves over losing her baby, but nobody cares. She is nothing but a milk machine. Her udders can become very heavy, infected and painful. When she is no longer a good producer, she is forced into a truck and hauled to a slaughterhouse. Imagine the terror she experiences as she sees those in front of her being killed. She knows her turn is coming, but she can’t escape.

Many calves are sold to the veal industry. They are chained or in tiny stalls. They can barely move, so their muscles atrophy. They are killed when just a few months old.

So many animals are violently killed every day. Do you think God is okay with this? Is an animal’s life less important than ours? Ask the poor defenseless animals. God bless the vegans. By adopting a vegan diet, you save about 80 animals a year.

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**Proud of Catholic high schools**

We are very pleased with Bishop Luers and Bishop Dwenger students for the awesome response to The Franciscan Center (TFC) and Redeemer Radio 2009 Lenten Food Drive.

Recently, TFC has had a client
One household of faith

We spoke last time of Paul’s missionary journeys. He traveled the shoreline of the Mediterranean Sea. In his day, this was the known world. Columbus having not yet set sail for North America.

The Greek word for “the inhabited world” is the word “oikoumenikos.” It comes from “oikos” which means house, or habitation. The word refers to the whole, then. It means the whole household.

You may not think you have ever heard this word before, but I’m sure you have heard the English word that derives from it: ecumenical. This word refers to the whole church, the whole household of faith, the church in its wholeness.

When the second Vatican Council read the sign of the times, it issued a Decree on Ecumenism. In it, the council recognized that Christ has been “rousing divided Christians to remove over their divisions and to longing for unity. This movement toward unity is called ‘ecumenical.’”

The Roman Catholic Church thus pledged herself to ecumenism at Vatican II, and this was on Pope Benedict XVI’s mind when he declared the Year of St. Paul. In 2007, the Holy Father announced his intention to declare such a year. He did so in the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls. He said, “There is one particular aspect to which special attention must be paid during the celebration of the various moments of the 2,000th Pauline anniversary. I am referring to the ecumenical dimension. The Apostle to the Gentiles, who was especially committed to taking the good news to all peoples, left no stones unturned for unity and harmony among all Christians.”

The division which afflicted the church of the first decades was a division between Jewish Christian and gentile Christian. Paul is missionary to the Gentiles. Peter is overseer of the church in Jerusalem. Their meeting and holy embrace is a symbol of the union of these parts of the church.

Follow Jesus to Calvary

Palm Sunday
Mk 14:1-15

This weekend, in a liturgy majestic in its ability to transport us to the events of the day that began the first Holy Week, the church celebrates Palm Sunday.

The liturgy will be different somewhat. A procession will precede each Mass, ideally involving the entire congregation, who will carry palms blessed by the celebrants. These palms will recall similar branches used to acclaim the arrival of Jesus in Jerusalem.

Mk 14:1-7

The division which afflicted the church of the first decades was a division between Jewish Christian and gentile Christian. Paul is missionary to the Gentiles. Peter is overseer of the church in Jerusalem. Their meeting and holy embrace is a symbol of the union of these parts of the church.

The Year of St. Paul

But this is not an option:

- Peter’s pence
- Vatican Library
- Quiz, “Are you a saint?”

10. Under the selection for “Saints and Bishops,” there is an option to select photos for saints. What is a bit unusual about these “photos”?

- They are photos of paintings, rather than photos of the saints
- They have, by Divine right, photographs of saints who lived before cameras were invented
- They have photographs that show actual miracles in progress since the mid 1800s

11. In contrast, the blessed often have caricatures offered by the “devil’s advocate” as counter to idolatry
- actual photographs
- descriptions written by contemporaries instead of pictures

12. There are many media links on the site, including these two useful ones for those who are following church matters:

- The daily diatribe of the papal press corps
- PowerPoint examples of famous confessions

13. About Orthodox materials on the site?

- There are materials and by Orthodox clerics
- There are none, because the Orthodox do not recognize the papacy as the head of the church.
- There are none, but not as a matter of policy, there is just no room.

14. To reach more of the faithful worldwide the Vatican site has added more material on Nov. 22, 1963, remember where they were when they heard that President John F. Kennedy had been assassinated.

READINGS


Tuesday: Is 49:1-6 Ps 71:1-4a, 5-6ab, 15, 17 Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-6 Ps 56:9-10, 21bcd-22, 31,33-34 Mt 26:14-25


The Catequizem

By Dominic Capililsson

In April we remember St. Isidore, who is the patron saint of the Internet (honest!). This quiz looks at one Internet site at the heart of the church.

1. What is the official internet address for the Catholic Church?

b. www.Vatican.va

c. There is none, it is too worldly for the church to get involved in.

2. Why does it have that suffix?

a. “dot rom” is used for all Roman Catholic sites
b. “va” means Veritas Adverburn, because the text is approved by curial cardinals
c. It is simply the IP suffix for the Vatican state.

3. What is the first thing one sees in this site?

a. a hologram of Adam and Eve taken from Da Vinci’s codex
b. the coat of arms of the Holy See, with a drawing of St. Peter’s below it
c. the online Holy Bible in 34 languages

4. There are eight languages available; which is not one of those offered?

a. Greek
b. Latin
c. German

5. What simple title is listed above each language?

a. the Holy See
b. the Pope of Rome
c. the Church Electronic and Triumphant

6. Selecting one of the languages brings up a screen with a picture of this prelate:

a. St. Peter (copied from the Sistine Chapel wall)
b. The pope
c. Cardinal Arachnidini, webmaster for the church

7. There are many different selections, one that seems a little contradictory is access to

a. Vatican secret archives
b. the non-Catholic liturgy database
c. the Atheist Times newsletter

8. Amongst the selections possible are

a. panorama of the papal gardens
b. PowerPoint examples of famous confessions
c. liturgical year

9. But this is not an option:

a. Peter’s pence
b. Vatican Library
c. Quiz, “Are you a saint?”

10. Under the selection for “Saints and Bishops,” there is an option to select photos for saints. What is a bit unusual about these “photos”?

a. They are photos of paintings, rather than photos of the saints
b. They have, by Divine right, photographs of saints who lived before cameras were invented

c. They have photographs that show actual miracles in progress since the mid 1800s

11. In contrast, the blessed often have caricatures offered by the “devil’s advocate” as counter to idolatry

a. actual photographs
b. descriptions written by contemporaries instead of pictures

c. descriptions written by contemporaries instead of pictures

12. There are many media links on the site, including these two useful ones for those who are following church matters:

a. The daily diatribe of the papal press corps
b. Vatican TV and radio
c. The See’s search engine GoogleVobiscum

13. About Orthodox materials on the site?

a. There are materials and by Orthodox clerics
b. There are none, because the Orthodox do not recognize the papacy as the head of the church.
c. There are none, but not as a matter of policy, there is just no room.

14. To reach more of the faithful worldwide the Vatican site has added more material in this language:

a. Irish
b. Belgian

c. Chinese

ANSWERS:

1b, 2c, 3b, 4a, 5a, 6b, 7a, 8c, 9c, 10a, 11b, 12b, 13a, 14c
God and chickens

My husband David works with a fellow who has farming in his blood, and unbeknownst to me until very recently, had been discussing chickens with him. We, of course, live in a difficult economic time amidst us, with the cost of food at an all-time high, and with a desire to get back to nature, I too had been flirting with the idea of raising a small flock of eggs and maybe meat, but I had mentioned it to no one. (Mostly because I had already asked my husband to dig out a coop for us this spring, and I didn’t want to stress him out.)

So when the family was driving from Dayton, Ohio, a couple of weeks ago and my husband mentioned casually, “I think we should get some chickens,” my jaw dropped. Partly because I had been thinking the same thing, and partly because my husband is not a farmer, not even a gardener (yet), but a corporate lawyer.

Oh, David’s gone pheasant hunting with some friends, once. He shoots at the ground hogs in the yard, sometimes, and he drives the mowers around our acreage rather frequently. I guess you could count barbecuing on the grill almost nightly in the summer as an outdoor mainly type activity too. However, I have a hard time imagining the guy who doesn’t want to take the time to remove or paint over the ugly wallpaper in the hall painstakingly building a chicken coop from scratch, even if the directions say “can be finished in one afternoon.” But he says he’s willing to do all the prep for the chickens, I’ll buy my apron and head out to the backyard with him. So beyond my amusement that my husband might be interested in this endeavor, I am finding out that preparing for chickens is a lot of work.

You have to PREPARE for the chickens. You have to buy or build a coop that will keep them safe from raccoons and hawks and coyotes and other hungry critters. You have to find a space in your yard, and buy wire and feed and water and contraptions that prevent the chicks from drowning while they drink. Only after all the preparations have been made can you get those cute little yellow chirping peeps and bring them into your life.

He provided nutritious food (delicious fruits and vegetables, fish, meat and eggs), and reproduction by which we participate with joy.

Continued from page 15

Paul

So in 2008 the pope mentioned this again when he initiated the Year of St. Paul. In a homily on St. Paul’s feast day, Pope Benedict spoke of the shared desire by Peter and Paul to unify the church of Jews and pagans. They worked together.

Paul writes in Galatians 2: “I had been entrusted with the Gospel to the uncircumcised (Jews), just as Peter to the circumcised (Jews), for the one who worked in Peter for an apostolate to the circumcised worked also in the Gentiles.” Who is this that one working in both Peter and Paul? It is Christ, of course. So it is significant that both apostles were married in Rome.
FIVE COUGARS EARN NAIA SCHOLAR-ATHLETE TEAM SELECTION  Five members of the 2008-2009 University of Saint Francis men’s basketball team have earned selection to the Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete Team. Nate Bojrab, Bishop Dwenger; Kreigh Hentrup, Paoli High School-Paoli, Ind.; Adam Cagnet, Bishop Dwenger; Blaine Sorg, Bishop Luers; and Thomas Meehan, home school-Huntington qualified for the team. Bojrab is a two-time qualifier. Bojrab and Hentrup are seniors.

Luers Knights take second state championship

FORT WAYNE — “Can I get you to say repeat?” was the question Coach James Blackmon posed to the Bishop Luers student body in an all-school pep session on March 25, held prior to the Knights’ return trip to Indianapolis for the state’s Class 2-A basketball championship.

And repeat is just what happened when the Bishop Luers Knights beat Brownstown Central, 67-49, March 25 at Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis to hold on to its Class 2-A state championship trophy.

Second-ranked Luers (23-4) led through the game with a double-double. Teammate Lawrence Barnett had 12 points and five rebounds, Ken Mullen added 10 points and four rebounds, and Evan Blackmon chipped in nine points in the streak and led all scorers with 34 points. He led the state in scoring this season with a 30.1 average and now sits in 11th place on the state’s all-time scoring list with 2,254 points.

Bishop Luers rallied behind its basketball team on March 25 before heading to Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis to win the Indiana state Class 2-A basketball championship for the second consecutive year.

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

Bishop Luers guard Deshaun Thomas, describing the physical play he faced, said, “It’s an everyday thing. ... Coach Blackmon just tells me to stay focused and keep my composure.”

The key to his second-half success in the game, Thomas said “was staying active. I wanted to keep my teammates involved and just keep playing hard. Then I was able to hit some big shots after I got on a roll.”

At the March 25 assembly, the band kicked off the assembly with the school fight song, then NBA-style announcers introduced each player in the darkened gymnasium. One by one, the managers, coaches, lone freshman, five sophomores, two juniors and five seniors, received a thunderous applause from their cheering fans. When Athletic Director Matt Lindsay called Mary Keffer to the microphone, the proud principal beamed as she gazed at the count.

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New books for Catholic reading

The following are recent releases that have been sent to Today’s Catholic. Summaries were taken from press releases and include publisher and ISBN number.

“The Last Secret of Fatima,” by Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone seeks to explain the third and final prophecy the Blessed Virgin Mary revealed to the three shepherd children in rural Portugal in 1917. Bertone explains that the purpose of the book is to demonstrate how these otherworldly visions were intended to incite a renewal of faith. Doubleday, ISBN: 978-0-385-52582-4

“Mary and Me: Catholic Women Reflect on the Mother of God,” by Ginny Kubitz Moyer is the culmination of an invitation to Catholic women of all ages to share their thoughts on Mary. Woven with commentary and Scripture references, the book offers a fresh, compelling look at the depth and breadth of Mary’s influence on women today. St. Anthony Messenger Press, ISBN: 978-0-86716-831-0

“Together But Alone: When God Means Something Different to Your Spouse,” by Donna Erickson Couch offers spiritual guidance to help couples maintain their quest for a deeper understanding and richer experience of God from threatening the peace in their marriages. This valuable resource provides practical suggestions on how to face the issues that separate spouses. St. Anthony Messenger Press, ISBN: 978-0-86716-852-5

“Song of the Sparrow: New Poems and Meditations,” by Murray Bodo, OFM, offers musings, meditations and messages of inspiration laid out in the four seasons of nature for those seeking new ways to pray. Author James Martin, SJ, says “Bodo draws upon the riches of his Franciscan heritage to help readers find God in all of creation and to call us to new seasons of growth in our lives.” St. Anthony Messenger Press, ISBN: 978-0-86716-864-8

“Holy Simplicity: The Little Way of Mother Teresa, Dorothy Day & Therese of Lisieux,” by Joel Schorr reveals how these three modern Catholic women found holiness in letting God’s love flow into the most ordinary tasks — Mother Teresa and Dorothy Day among the poor and Therese within the confines of the cloister. Their stories will inspire the reader to seek God in the challenges of ordinary life. Servant Books, ISBN: 978-0-86716-815-0


“1917: The Beginning of the Modern Catholic Revival,” by Anthony W. Loth, optimism is high for these three modern Catholic women found holiness in letting God’s love flow into the most ordinary tasks — Mother Teresa and Dorothy Day among the poor and Therese within the confines of the cloister. Their stories will inspire the reader to seek God in the challenges of ordinary life. Servant Books, ISBN: 978-0-86716-815-0


Facilities Manager

Saint Joseph Parish, South Bend seeks full-time Facilities Manager responsible for maintenance, management and improvement of parish buildings and grounds and onsite supervision of maintenance and custodial personnel and contracted services. Duties include assisting in development of capital budgets; providing vision and establishing policy related to buildings/grounds maintenance, development and improvement; supervision and ongoing evaluation of capital projects; budgetary oversight of areas pertaining to building and grounds; and the monitoring of inventory and maintaining of documentation pertaining to facility specifications, upkeep and condition.

Qualified applicants will have a high school diploma with background/experience in maintenance and supervision, good communication skills, computer skills (spreadsheets, word processing, emailing), availability outside of normal working hours to respond to issues or emergencies, as well as a collaborative spirit and desire to contribute to the mission of the parish. Salary commensurate with education/experience and in compliance with diocesan guidelines. Send letter of introduction and resume to: Facilities Manager Search Committee, Saint Joseph Parish, 226 N. Hill St., South Bend 46617.

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Tipton on their home court.”
Blackmon also thanked the crowd for their encouragement and support throughout the journey back to Indianapolis.

With just one senior lost to graduation from the 2008 state championship team, Blackmon summarized, “All the guys will be nervous, but the quality experience of having been there will be to our advantage. We don’t know how the ball is going to bounce, but we do know exactly what we have to do to put ourselves in a position to win.”

Another assembly is planned Tuesday, April 7, at Bishop Luers gymnasiu.m at 2:30 p.m. to honor the team. The assembly falls after the Bishop Luers spring break vacation March 30 through April 3.
WHAT’S HAPPENING?

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

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Our Lady of Hungary announces events
South Bend — A Chick-fil-A Spirit Night will be held at Erskine Commons, 4555 S. Michigan St. on Monday, April 27, from 5-8 p.m. Print a Spirit Night coupon at: http://ourladyofhungary.com/coupon.htm. The youth group will have an Easter bake sale Sunday, April 12, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The youth group will have a Port-A-Pit sale at Advance Auto, 130 E. Ireland Rd. Sunday, April 19, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. All proceeds will go toward the school.

Natural Family Planning classes offered
South Bend — The Natural Family Planning program of St. Joseph County will offer classes in the Ovation and Symptom-Thermal Methods starting Tuesday, April 7, from 7-8:30 p.m. in the first floor education center at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center. To register, call (574) 234-5411 or e-mail: nfpstjoseph@catholic.org for more information. Individual appointments can also be arranged.

School open for enrollment
Mishawaka — St. Monica School, 223 W. Grove St., is now enrolling students in all grade levels. An open house will be held Thursday, April 16, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Kindergarten round-up will be Thursday, April 23, at 7 p.m. Call (574) 255-0709, or stop in the office any day between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Check www.stmonicanish.org.

Rummage sale at PB
Fort Wayne — The Most Precious Blood Rosary Society, 1515 Barthold St., will have a rummage and bake sale in Mohr Hall Thursday, April 30, and Friday, May 1, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, May 2, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Luncheon card party
South Bend — The St. Anne Society of Our Lady of Hungary Parish will have a luncheon card party Sunday, April 26, at noon. Donation of $5. Bring your own cards.

The blessing of the bikes
Arcola — A blessing of bikes by Father Cyril Fernandes will be Saturday, April 18, at 1 p.m. at St. Patrick Parish. Music, food and all bikes welcome.

Bishop Luers to perform Beauty and the Beast
Fort Wayne — The Bishop Luers High School drama department will perform “Beauty and the Beast” Thursday, April 30, at 7:30 p.m., Friday, May 1, at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, May 2, at 2 p.m. following a tea party luncheon, and a last performance Saturday evening at 7:30 p.m. Tickets will go on sale April 15 for $10. Tea party and performance tickets are $15.

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

TV MASS GUIDE FOR APRIL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Feast Day</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Palm Sunday</td>
<td>Mgr. William Lester, St. Anne Home</td>
<td>Fort Wayne</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
<td>Bishop John M. O’Rear, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend</td>
<td>Father John VandenBosche, CSC</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 19</td>
<td>Second Sunday of Easter</td>
<td>Mgr. Owen Campion, Our Sunday Visitor, Huntington</td>
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<td>April 26</td>
<td>Third Sunday of Easter</td>
<td>Father John Stecher, University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne</td>
<td>Father Ed O’Connor, CSC, Corby Hall, Notre Dame</td>
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REST IN PEACE

- Herman Keith Johnson, 81, St. John the Baptist
- Edwin S. Smith, 79, St. Joseph
- Michael Douglas, 63, St. Vincent de Paul
- Nedra Langas, 93, St. Charles Borromeo
- Susan Jo Rowe, 64, St. Jude
- Pepsi Pit sale at Advance Auto, 130 E. Ireland Rd., will have a fish fry on Friday, May 1, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, May 2, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost is $7 for adults, $3 for children 12 and under. Fish, two sides and beverage are included.

When I go to pray...
My Chapel is down the hallway

As a community sponsored by the Brothers of Holy Cross, Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame offers ways in which you can strengthen your faith. Attend Mass and rosary, worship privately or join a group for Bible studies.

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Holy Cross Village at Notre Dame is a ministry of the Brothers of Holy Cross.
To walk the first PATH you must find the center. God is relentlessly pursuing each beloved creature. With engaging examples this book helps to reflect how to live out of the divine center, Christ. A young man who came to Father Barron was encouraged to develop a few simple practices of praying every day. Months later he returned and told how he experienced his life in transformation. Christ became more the center and he experienced beauty and truth. Father Barron later points out that focusing on something less than God is to place ourselves in spiritual danger and to desperately frustrate the will. How alienating not to have possession of the self. To help find the center, commit to the four practices needed to get there.

The second pensive part of the book looks at the next PATH of knowing you are a sinner. Of course, Catholics are aware of this, but how seriously are they in touch with the implications of what this means? St. Augustine’s definition describes this state as being “incurredatus in se” (“caved in on oneself”). How unfortunate to be in this black hole. Another famous theologian, Henry de Lubac, calls sinfulness “a mysterious limp.”

The reflection of the second PATH is a journey of a looking at how sins distort our lives. To become more like Christ, an invitation to three more practices is astutely presented.

The final third PATH is to realize your life is not about you. Following this journey will take you to places you never dreamt you could go. However, you will not be able to do this on your own. In the words of Father Barron, this is the most dramatic of the ways of holiness. In the thoughts of another famous theologian, there is a preference for a Theo (God)-drama over and above an ego-drama. God’s drama has one pursuit, to constantly grow into the realm of divine life. This means joining Mary in her “fiat” — “be it done unto me according to your will.” When the mind accepts this reality and the heart embraces it, one’s life “radically changes, for the whole of it now becomes charged with meaning and the possibility of adventure.” There are four practices for the third PATH.

Will you consider walking the Christian PATHS — the strangest way in comparison to our secular culture? But who wants to be lukewarm? Let go of the pitifully dull ego-drama and find delight in the Theo (God)-drama. In this will be discovered the pearl of great price. Go for it by reading this book and engaging in the practices.