With writing hand in a cast, pope uses recorder for ideas

LES COMBES, Italy (CNS) — With his right hand immobilized in a cast, Pope Benedict XVI is using a voice recorder to put down his thoughts and ideas, said the Vatican spokesman.

Five days after he underwent minor surgery to repair a broken wrist sustained in a fall at his vacation home in northern Italy, the pope was still doing well and was “in a good mood,” said Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi.

The right-handed pope “is still learning how to live with a wrist in a cast,” the spokesman said in a written statement July 22.

Pope Benedict normally has used his vacation period to work on his writing projects, and, before the accident, it had been expected he would spend some of his free time to continue work on the second volume of his book about Jesus.

The pope “has equipped himself with a recorder so as to be able to dictate his reflections since he is unable to use a pen easily,” Father Lombardi said in the statement.

The pope had received a portable laptop computer as a gift July 19, but Father Lombardi told reporters July 20 that the 82-year-old pope “is not used to writing with a PC; he isn’t very technological,” adding that “especially in creative work he prefers to use a pen.”

Every day after lunch and again in the late afternoon, the pope takes a brief walk, the spokesman said.

Pro-life advocates speak out, hold rally in South Bend

BY DIANE FREEBY AND ANGELA CAVE

SOUTH BEND, WASHINGTON (CNS) — Over a hundred people took to the street outside the Federal Courthouse building in South Bend, making it known they do not want abortion to be a part of the nation’s health care reform. They say they agree with individuals and groups across the country who oppose abortion: President Barack Obama’s push for health care reform could be the worst thing for the pro-life cause since Roe v. Wade, the 1973 decision legalizing abortion nationwide.

The three health care reform bills currently in Congress do not specifically mention abortion. But legal precedent proves abortions could be covered by federal tax money unless excluded in legislation, pro-life members of Congress said. Legislation also could mandate abortion coverage for most insurance plans.

“I think the Obama administration is trying to be somewhat untruthful about what the bill includes and what it doesn’t,” said St. Joseph County Right to Life President Tom Gill, whose group organized the rally on only a few days notice. “I think if people realized what it does include, they’ll contact their congressman and their senator.”

The Obama administration has not ruled out the possibility of publicly funded abortions, said Peter...
Service, prayer put students in contact with those in need

BISHOP JOHN M. D’ARCY

A joyful event

A few days after returning from an enriching vacation, I headed to South Bend with Chris Lapp as pilot and navigator. Finally, after 24 years I have a driver at times for the two-hour trip.

The goal in this quick trip to South Bend was to conclude a magnificent one-week retreat, supervised and directed by two outstanding leaders from our Office of Youth Ministry, Cindy Black and Megan Oberhausen.

A new approach

With the cooperation that one always receives from Holy Cross College and Bob Kloska, we had 50 young people on a unique retreat. In addition to catechesis and adoration in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, and the sacrament of penance and pardon, there was a striking added dimension.

Every day, this group visited some of the places in South Bend, which are given over to the service of the poor: the Center for the Homeless, Catholic Charities, the Women’s Care Center, a residence and nursing home for the elderly, the Catholic Worker House, Hannah’s House. These and other centers were visited every day by groups of high school students from the length and breadth of the diocese. This new approach in which the retreat was scheduled right in the middle of a major city, and the young people, dividing up visits to these truly holy places, give an entirely different flavor to this retreat.

Where did this idea come from?

I asked Cindy and Megan, who have run Catholic leadership groups the last several years, where they found this emphasis. Megan is a graduate of Marian College, which under the guidance of Archbishop Buechlein, OSB, has been much strengthened in its Catholic identity in the past several years.

Megan told me that the archbishop, years ago, had asked his Office of Youth Ministry to have their annual retreat for teenagers not in a beautiful, isolated, retreat house; but in the great city of Indianapolis where the young people could have daily contact with those in need. Megan recommended this to Cindy; and the rest, as they say, is history.

It was not just a case of visiting these places, but rather of sitting with the poor and learning from them. Also, those who serve in these places have been deeply touched by the call of Christ in the Scriptures to be among those in need.

While they were impressed with the workers in the various sites and with those in need, many found their visit to Catholic Worker House especially moving.

Dorothy Day

You will remember Dorothy Day. Some people claim that she is the greatest American Catholic figure of the past century. The very title of her autobiography, “The Long Loneliness,” tells clearly that her life was not easy. She knew isolation and misjudgment and poverty. After becoming a Catholic, she gave herself totally to the poor and to the pursuit of world peace.

What is sometimes missed is her intense life of prayer. She came late to the “little way” of St. Therese, the Little Flower; but embraced it fully. She had quite a traditional spirituality. Very devoted to the rosary and Our Lady, and to prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

I believe her cause for sainthood had been introduced, although she said that people should not make her a saint; and I think she kind of hoped there would be no such movement.

The young people captured her spirit when they visited the Catholic Worker House. They told me it was not just a question of serving meals, but actually sitting with these poor people who came in right off the street. Among those who live and work at Catholic Worker House is Margie Pleitgen, a professor of theology at Notre Dame, and a good friend of mine. There is holiness everywhere, if we open our eyes.

The feast of St. James, the Apostle

My part was to close the week and celebrate the Mass on the feast of St. James, the Apostle. The words in the Gospel, where the mother of James and John asks the Lord for something that he is not said in his presence to give, and then Christ adds to the apostles with those haunting words, “Can you drink the cup that I will drink?” This offered a chance to express to the young people the beauty and sacrifice and love involved in the following of Christ.

Many parents came to the concluding Mass and were moved by what they heard from their children.

I have been in many such closing events at retreats and days of prayer for young people these past many years; but there was something very special here, and it involved a link in eucharistic adoration, and prayer, and catechesis with visits to the poor. I thank Ben Mullenkamp, one of our semi-narians, for his presence throughout the retreat; and Matt Coonan, another seminarian, for his talk, which included some material about St. Therese.

Many thanks to the priests who spoke, such as Father John DeRiso, CSC, Father Michael Mathews, CSC, Father Dan Scheidt and others. We finished with a delightful cookout. The fact that so many young people came from our smaller parishes, such as Bremen, Brazil, Wabash, Albion and others, was especially encouraging to me. The percentage of Catholic teenagers in those towns is small, and it is important and encouraging for the youth to be with other young people from across the diocese. My hat is off to Cindy and Megan and to all who work with them. One of the reasons their work is successful is because they are always rooted in intercessory prayer. They make an eucharistic holy hour each week praying for the success of their efforts.

Cindy and I, working with Megan, are putting together a basic instruction that should cover high school youth ministry in every parish, and we hope to present it to our youth ministers at the end of the summer.

I was especially impressed with three college students, who are spending this summer at Catholic Worker: Sara McCroy, of Saint Mary’s College; Mike Thomas, of the Indiana University; and Brendan McAleer, of Holy Cross College.

St. John Vianney

The official launching for the Year for Priests in our diocese is Tuesday, Aug 4, 2009, and this is quite fitting for that is the feast of St. John Vianney. Pope Benedict XVI has decreed this year, as part of the observance of the 150th anniversary of this extraordinary priest, up until now the patron saint of parish priests, and now of all priests. I have invited priests, after preaching on this saint in their own parishes, to join me for a concelebrated Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception at 12:05 p.m. We will have eucharistic adoration in the afternoon. Also, I have obtained tickets for priests to the baseball game at the delightful new downtown stadium, Parkview Field in Fort Wayne.

I hope many parishioners will come. Confessions were scheduled for an hour before Mass and again after Mass. A plenary indulgence can be obtained in the usual conditions. Let us make this a year of prayer for the sanctification of our priests.

If priests are not in the world, they are nowhere. One of the results of this will be a holier diocese, and the holiness of priests will draw more young men of good quality to offer themselves with Christ for this demanding, but beautiful, life.

A delightful three weeks

Swimming three times in the Atlantic Ocean. Three games at Fenway Park. Time with my family. Little visiting of graves now than in the past: my parents and my sister, and I did find the grave of my dear friend Father Tom McDonnell. Father Tom was such a part of the vacations in the past, as was my sister, Mary, that there is a sense of loss. But that is the way of love. The only way you do not feel that pain and the hole in the heart is if you did not love.

What would we be without love and friendship? Father Tom’s sister, Sister Immaculata, SMD, told me Tom’s favorite word for Christ: Friend. He wrote a little book called, “Walking the Dark Valley.” It is for those who suffer from cancer. His dark valley is over, and he is with God. Good to be back. See you in two weeks.
**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

Orszag, White House budget director, on “Fox News Sunday” July 19.

“We would be very naive and foolish in the extreme if we didn’t notice the game that’s being played here,” said Rep. Chris Smith, R-N.J., chairman of the Congressional Pro-Life Caucus for 27 years. “It’s Orwellian.”

Obama would be misleading Americans and Pope Benedict XVI in promising to reduce the number of abortions if language excluding abortions is not added to the legislation, said Smith, a Catholic.

Thousands of abortion facilities could spring up as a result of the legislation, and funding could cause an increase in abortions because lack of money would be one less barrier in a woman’s decision, Smith told Catholic News Service July 20.

“It makes a quicker abortion that much more possible because she’s at a moment of vulnerability,” he said.

People of all ages, faiths and races lined the sidewalk in downtown South Bend. Patrick Mangan, a Notre Dame graduate and head of Citizens for Community Values of Indiana stood side by side with Bishop Sheddrick Madison of the diocesan bishops.

Both men are adamant this is the Century.

Civil Rights movement of the 21st century.

Bishop Shedrick Madison of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend will take place on the feast day of John Vianney, Tuesday, Aug. 4, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy invites the faithful of the area to attend this Mass and to spend some time praying for priests.

All priests are invited to con-celebrate the 12:05 p.m. Mass at the cathedral, and Bishop D’Arcy will speak about St. John Vianney and the importance of the sanctification of priests.

There will be special prayers for priests and for more young men of good quality to offer themselves to the work of Christ.

In the afternoon from 1-5 p.m., there will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Confessions will be heard from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. and immediately after Mass. A plenary indulgence is granted under the usual conditions for those who attend.

Bishop D’Arcy noted in a letter to priests that he hopes to offer a similar day during the year at St. Matthew Cathedral.

**Special indulgences available during the Year for Priests**

The Apostolic Penitentiary has granted the following indulgence opportunities for the Year for Priests, which began June 19, 2009 (solennity of the Sacred Heart) and ends on June 19, 2010. **For the faithful,**

Under the usual conditions (see below), the faithful may obtain a plenary indulgence by devoutly attending holy Mass and offering prayers to Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest, that he might sanctify and confer the priestly office on the church to his heart.

Likewise, any other good work done by the faithful that day should be offered for this intention. This indulgence may be obtained on these occasions during the Year for Priests:

• On the opening and closing days of the Year for Priests;

• On the 150th anniversary of the death of St. John Mary Vianney (Aug. 4, 2009);

• On the first Thursday of each month;

• Or on any other day established by the diocesan bishop for the benefit of the faithful.

• On the 27th anniversary of the death of Pope John Paul II, the elderly, sick and those unable to leave their homes may also obtain the plenary indulgence on the aforementioned days if, while detached from sin, they pray “for the sanctification of priests and confidently offer the ills of their lives to God through Mary, Queen of Apostles,” and have the intention of fulfilling the usual conditions as soon as they can.

The faithful may also receive a partial indulgence each time they devoutly recite the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be — or another duly approved prayer — five times “in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, to obtain that priests be preserved in purity and holiness of life.”

**The usual conditions for plenary indulgences**

In addition to total detachment from all sin, including venial sin, the usual conditions for obtaining a plenary indulgence are: sacramental confession, reception of the Eucharist and prayers for the pope’s intentions. These three conditions may be fulfilled several days before or after the prescribed work.
WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops announced July 17 that four liturgical texts for use in English-speaking countries have been approved by the bishops, nearly a month after their spring meeting in San Antonio.

The texts contain prefaces for the Mass for various occasions; votive Masses and Masses for the dead; solemn blessings for the end of Mass; and prayers over the people and eucharistic prayers for particular occasions, such as for evangelization or ordinations.

With only 189 of the 244 Latin-Rite U.S. bishops eligible to vote at the meeting, the items did not receive the necessary two-thirds vote for passage. The remaining 55 bishops had to be polled by mail. July 16 was the deadline for submission of ballots.

On the floor of the bishops meeting in June, some of the texts were criticized by Bishop Donald W. Trautman of Erie, Pa., who voiced frustration with grammar, sentence structure and word choices that he said are not suitable for contemporary worship.

One of the texts which he singled out for a critique of language — Masses and prayers for various needs and intentions — was approved by 163 bishops, the minimum needed for passage, after the mailed ballots were counted. Fifty-three bishops voted not to approve it and five abstained.

A new translation of the Order of Mass II was approved on a 191-25 vote, with five abstentions. A translation of rituals for votive Masses and Masses for the dead passed 181-32, with two abstentions. And the translation of the text for ritual Masses passed 186-32, with two abstentions.

The texts are the latest pieces of liturgical translations proposed to the International Commission for English in the Liturgy. The priest said the bishops will then have completed that section of the review process and would await the “recognitio” from the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments.

At the June meeting, Bishop Trautman’s objections were to phrases such as this one from the translation for votive Masses and Masses for the dead: “May the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, Lord, cleanse our hearts and make them fruitful within by the sprinkling of his dew.”

“What does that even mean?” he asked, citing frustration also with phrases such as “the sweetness of your grace.”

Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli of Paterson, N.J., chairman of the bishops’ Committee on Divine Worship, had warned that delaying approval or failing to send the Vatican guidance by the end of November would risk shutting the U.S. bishops out of the translation approval process.

“We’re at the end of the process,” Bishop Serratelli said. Of the missal text, he said it’s “a very, very good text. ... It’s not perfect, but we’re at the end of a long, healthy process.”
Students are shown at the job readiness classes at the former St. Henry School. The classes instruct the Burmese refugees on a variety of topics, such as how to apply for a job and appropriately answer the phone. Catholic Charities staff even conduct mock interviews to help them prepare.

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FOR WAYNE — A special program through Catholic Charities has more Burmese people learning to assimilate to American culture.

Professional skills are key to landing and maintaining a good job — something that refugees often lack. Since April, the job readiness classes at the former St. Henry School have catered to this large group of Burmese refugees. The six-week sessions taught in Burmese instruct these people on a variety of topics, such as how to apply for a job and appropriately answer the phone. Catholic Charities staff even conduct mock interviews to help them prepare. Books are provided to help them follow along.

Burmese-born Nyein Chan, Catholic Charities’ resettlement services director, has been instrumental in the success of the program. Chan worked with Employment Services Supervisor Kela Johnson-Guy to establish the curriculum. As Guy explained, the students are placed in one of two classes, depending on ability. This way those who need more advanced or individual attention can be helped if needed.

There are many skills, however, that cannot be learned in the classroom. Differences in language and cultural norms “may be small to us, but to them the cultural difference might be drastic,” Guy said.

The hope is that the Burmese will transition smoothly into the American workplace. But they cannot do this without the support of the community. “Welcome and community assistance in collaboration is foremost important for the refugee population when they reestablish individual and family lives in a new community,” Chan said.

There is more to the curriculum than the educational experience. The classes have an element of fun to motivate people. Everyone who completes the class receives a gift card and there are daily raffles for attendance, Guy said. The students receive personal hygiene products so they can look and feel their best in the work world as well. Students also receive a certificate of completion to take home.

As Catholic Charities concludes the second session, they reflect on past successes. Many Burmese have been placed in factory jobs that pay a living wage. And in recent years, Catholic Charities was the only State Department-sanctioned refugee resettlement agency sponsoring Burmese refugees to Fort Wayne. To date since 1991, Catholic Charities has helped more than 2,000 Burmese refugees — 200 in 2009 alone.

Chan reflected on how these services encompass his organization’s mission. “After the resettlement, they became new members of our community,” he said.

“They are strangers no longer. Individual success is community success.”

Catholic Charities calls on community members to take action to help this vulnerable population.

For more information about resettlement and employment services, contact Catholic Charities at (260) 422-5625.

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

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Effort to block US funds to Planned Parenthood fails in House

WASHINGTON (CNS) — An effort to withhold U.S. family planning funds from Planned Parenthood of America failed in the House of Representatives July 24 by a vote of 183 in favor and 247 opposed. Rep. Mike Pence, R-Ind., had proposed the amendment that labor, Health and Human Services and Education appropriations bill for fiscal year 2010. The bill passed later that day by a vote of 264-153. “The largest abortion provider in America should not also be the largest recipient of federal funding under Title X, as I believe a majority of the American people would attest,” Pence said in remarks on the House floor July 24. “The time has come to deny all federal funding to Planned Parenthood of America.” Title X of the Public Health Services Act provides federal grants to programs that provide comprehensive family planning and related preventive health care services. Pence noted that current law and regulations prohibit the use of Title X money to directly fund abortions. “But there’s no question that money that Planned Parenthood receives for its operational expenses from the federal government fuels up resources that can be used to provide and promote abortions through its abortion clinics,” he said. “Abortion on demand teaches no other idea.”

Cronkite, trusted newsmen who made public ‘feel the news’

WASHINGTON (CNS) — TV news anchor and journalism icon Walter Cronkite, who died July 17 at age 92, made the public “feel the news,” said the founding director of the Pauline Center for Media Studies in Culver City, Calif. “My first memory of Walter Cronkite was seeing him bow his head, visiably moved, when he announced the death of President John F. Kennedy,” said Sister Rose Pacatte, a member of the Daughters of St. Paul, who has experience in various media such as television and radio producing. “The timbre of his voice and his kind countenance made him welcome in every living room in America then and for years after. If Edward R. Murrow could be called the brains of the news, then Cronkite was his heart. He made us feel the news; it was personal. And the news mattered,” she said in a telephone interview with Catholic News Service. Best known for his news coverage of the CBS Evening News, Cronkite was known to many as “the most trusted man in America.” He died in his New York home, and his chief of staff, Marlene Adler, told The Associated Press the cause of his death was cerebrovascular disease. A private funeral was scheduled for July 23 at St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church in New York. A larger memorial service was expected to take place later at Lincoln Center.

Praise for doctor followed by speculation about abortion view

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Plaudits for Dr. Regina Benjamin from an archbishop and colleagues and even her receipt of a pontifical medal may not be persuasive enough evidence of her credentials as a Catholic who supports church teaching for critics questioning whether she would become an advocate for legal abortion if she is confirmed as surgeon general. President Barack Obama nominated Benjamin, 52, a physician from Alabama, to be surgeon general July 13. An active parishioner of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Mobile, Ala., Benjamin was lauded by retired Archbishop Oscar H. Lipscomb of Mobile. Others, including the head of the Catholic Health Association and the rector of the Mobile cathedral, praised her nomination and described her in terms of her strong Catholic faith. But a comment from a White House spokesman that Benjamin “supports the president’s position on reproductive health issues” and a 13-year-old article about a policy approved by the American Medical Association on medical school curriculum were seen by some abortion opponents as evidence that Benjamin is “pro-abortion.” A July 14 article by McClatchy newspapers cited the comment by White House spokesman Reid Cherlin to support what it called “her lesser-known support for abortion rights (that) puts her at odds with her church and some of the groups that have praised her work.” The balance of Cherlin’s comment, provided to CNS by the White House, was, “Like (Obama) she believes that this is an issue where it is important to try and seek common ground and come together to try and reduce the number of unintended pregnancies. As a physician, she is deeply committed to the philosophy of putting her patients’ needs first when it comes to providing care.”

Human dignity, rights always must be respected

GENEVA (CNS) — Even in emergency situations caused by war or natural disaster, the dignity of each human person must be respected, said the Vatican’s representative to the U.N. agencies in Geneva. The right to freedom, to work, to family reunion, to education and personal development are not to be simply discarded in emergencies,” Archbishop Silvano Tomasi said July 20 during a meeting of the humanitarian affairs segment of the U.N. Economic and Social Council. The international community must find ways to guarantee an effective global humanitarian response to disasters, he said. Archbishop Tomasi repeated the Vatican’s call for real action to ensure the safety of women and girls in refugee camps around the globe. “The continued sexual violence perpetrated against women and girls within and around refugee camps must be standards of international law and leads to the emotional, physical and mental devastation of these women, which cannot be justified under any circumstances,” he said.

Planned Parenthood loses to Rep. Pence’s amendment

Atlanta auxiliary

Pope Benedict XVI has named Msgr. Luis Rafael Zarama, vicar general of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, to be an auxiliary bishop of Atlanta. The appointment was announced in Washington July 27 by Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States.

Faces Senate committee

Theology professor Miguel Diaz, President Barack Obama’s nominee to be ambassador to Vatican, now faces a Senate committee for confirmation. Originally from Cuba, Diaz received an education at the University of Notre Dame. He is a professor in the theology department, California’s College of St. Benedict in St. Joseph, Minn., and at St. John’s University in Collegeville, Minn.

Collins to head NIH

President Barack Obama has nominated Dr. Francis S. Collins, the former director of the National Human Genome Research Institute at the National Institutes of Health, to head the 27 institutes and centers that make up NIH. Collins, 59, has long urged scientists not to divorce their work from their spirituality and has said that the discovery of a person’s genes “is not who he is as a person.”

Beatification

Cardinal John Henry Newman will be beatified in Birmingham, England, May 2, a Catholic Church source told Catholic News Service. The date and venue have been proposed by the Vatican Congregation for Saints’ Causes and are expected to be accepted soon by the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales, the source told CNS July 15 on condition of anonymity.

Planned Parenthood of America. ‘But there’s no question that money that Planned Parenthood receives for its operational expenses from the federal government fuels up resources that can be used to provide and promote abortions through its abortion clinics,’ he said. ‘Abortion on demand teaches no other idea.’

VATICAN MUSEUMS OPEN DOORS TO PUBLIC AT NIGHT

Antonio Paolucci, director of Vatican Museums, stands outside the museum’s main doors during an extraordinary evening opening July 24 at the Vatican. For the first time in 503 years, the Vatican Museums doors were open to the public at night.

Pope confirms visit to Shroud of Turin

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI confirmed his intention to visit the Shroud of Turin when it goes on public display in Turin’s cathedral April 10-May 23, 2010. Cardinal Severino Poletto of Turin, papal custodian of the Shroud of Turin, visited the pope July 26 in Les Combes, Italy, where the pope was spending part of his vacation. The Alpine village is about 85 miles from Turin. The cardinal gave the pope the latest news concerning preparations for the church’s public exhibition of the shroud and the pope “confirmed his intention to go to Turin for the occasion,” said the Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, in a written statement July 27. The specific date of the papal visit has yet to be determined, the priest added. The last time the Shroud of Turin was displayed to the public was in 2000 for the jubilee year. The shroud is removed from a specially designed protective case only for the jubilee year. The Vatican Secretariat of State

World’s oldest Jesuit dies

Father Raymond H. Reis, a retired priest at St. Louis University who was a theology professor and also had worked as a nurse, died July 19 at age 104 at his university residence. He was the world’s oldest Jesuit.
**AROUND THE DIOCESE**

### Preayer Table Benefits Disabled

PHOTO BY THE JHONSON

Richard Lyttle of Fort Wayne stands behind as Beverly Shumaker uses this newly constructed prayer table in the chapel at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla, where it will be in service on a trial basis. Lyttle was inspired to build the table to provide a place of prayer for the disabled or homebound after he suffered health issues and loss of his job.

The free-standing table constructed of white oak took four months to build and is 24 inches wide to accommodate wheelchair widths and 30 inches tall with a slanted top surface. Shumaker says of the table, “I love it. It gives me a place to put my prayer book and not drop it. There’s also room for my rosary and a glass of water.” Lyttle would like to construct more prayer tables for area churches, nursing homes and shut-ins. For more information contact Richard Lyttle at frogglyman@aol.com.

### AROUND THE DIOCESE

### Taize prayer service series continues at Victory Noll Center

**HUNTINGTON —** Victory Noll Center has announced the dates for its continuing Taize Prayer Service series. The service, used by the community in Taize, France, is based on an ancient style found in the church, with songs, psalms, a Gospel text, silence and prayers of intercession.

Services are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Upcoming dates are Aug. 11, Aug. 25, Sept. 8, Sept. 22, Oct. 6, 20, Oct. 27, Nov. 10 and Nov. 24. Services begin at 7 p.m. There is no cost to attend and no registration is required. Victory Noll Center is located at 1900 W. Park Dr. in Huntington.

For more information on the program or about Victory Noll Center, contact Victory Noll Center Director Sue Wilhelm at (260) 356-0628, ext. 128, or by e-mail at suewilhelm@vnvm.org.

Victory Noll Center is a ministry of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters, and is dedicated to fostering spiritual and personal growth in an ecumenical and multicultural environment.

### Saint Mary’s College hires director of Student Success

**NOTRE DAME —** Saint Mary’s College announced that Diane M. Fox has joined the college as director of student success. Fox comes to Saint Mary’s with 29 years of experience working with students on the college and high school levels. In addition to leading the Office for Student Success, Fox will teach a first-year course called “Strategies for Academic Success.”

Fox, who began at Saint Mary’s on June 1, worked at Holy Cross College in Notre Dame from 2002-2009 as an academic advisor and assistant professor of English. She served as the director of advising at Holy Cross College for five years (2003-2007) and as the director of the school’s College Success Program (2006-2007). Previously she worked at Saint Joseph’s High School in South Bend, (1980-2002) in various capacities, including teaching English and serving as the communications coordinator.

“It shouldn’t surprise me that we did a national search for our new director and we found her right next door to Saint Mary’s College,” said Dr. Patricia Fleming, senior vice president and dean of faculty. “Diane really understands the quality Holy Cross educational experience we provide and will only enhance our students’ lives with the resources and talents she offers. She will partner with our students in the discovery of how best to study to achieve the learning needed to make a difference in the world.”

The Office for Student Success is a program designed to support first year students in their attainment of academic success during the critical first semester of adjustment to collegiate life. The program, which falls under the Division of Academic Affairs, focuses on empowerment and motivation as well as the development of skills and strategies necessary for academic success. The Office for Student Success is available to assist students on an individual basis or by professor referral.

Fox emphasizes the importance of establishing a solid foundation during the ever-important first semester of college. “As important as reading, writing and math skills are, strategies for time management, studying and goal setting are more so. The old saying, ‘with freedom comes responsibility’ is the theme for the first-year student. How this newfound freedom is handled may very well determine the success of their collegiate career,” she said.

The Office for Student Success is located in the new Academic Resource Center in the renovated Madeleva Hall. The first day of classes at Saint Mary’s College is Monday, Aug. 24.

### Knights receive education assistance

**SOUTH BEND —** The Knights of Columbus, John Carroll Chapter 5570 awarded two $1,000 scholarships on July 27 to two of Knights’ families to defray the cost of Catholic education. Recipients were Scott Singer, whose children attend Holy Family School, and John Pajakowski, whose children attend Corpus Christi School.

### Courses in ‘aging’ offered at Holy Cross College

**NOTRE DAME —** Holy Cross College is offering two courses this fall in aging — Spirituality of Aging and Aging in Communities. Anyone can join and audit these courses for only $99 each. There are offered once a week from 4-6:30 p.m.

Both courses will be interactive without any limit on attendance, absences or tests required. The Spirituality of Aging course is offered on Tuesdays beginning Aug. 25. The Aging in Communities class is held on Thursdays starting Aug. 27. Each class is 15 weeks with one week off during fall break in October.

The college is also offering a certificate in gerontology for professionals. The two classes are part of the certificate. The certificate consists of six courses. Each course is $300 and includes between 3-4.5 CEUs.

Contact Pat Adams, padams@hcc-nd.edu or call (574) 233-3393 for more information on the courses or the certificate. The certificate is also listed on the Holy Cross College Web site at www.hcc-nd.edu with links to academic and gerontology.

### Ancilla College hosts new student orientation

**DONALDSON —** A standing room-only crowd was in attendance as Ancilla College hosted new student orientation on Thursday, July 9. Students and parents from throughout the local community were able to learn about student activities and athletics, register for classes and receive new student identification cards and parking passes.

“We were extremely pleased and excited about the tremendous turnout we had,” said Sarah Lawrence, assistant director of admissions.

Ancilla College will hold their next placement party — where students can take the college placement test — on Aug. 8. The next new student orientation will be held on Aug. 12. All offices will be open that day, and registration will be open to all students.
Father Daniel Leeuw retires

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Father Daniel Leeuw says the following prayer best expresses his ministry and love of the priesthood: “O Mary, my mother, to thee I consecrate the years of my priesthood; make them fruitful for the glory of God and the salvation of souls.”

One could say Father Leeuw is just “sort of” retiring from ministry as of July 21. Although he is retiring from his chaplaincy at Provena Sacred Heart Home in Avilla and at the Byron Health Center in Fort Wayne, he tells Today’s Catholic, “I am going to continue at the VA (Veterans Administration) Medical Center as Catholic chaplain where I work 25 hours per week. I work not only in the hospital, but also in a program called Home Based Primary Care (HBPC), which takes me into the homes of disabled veterans of all religious faiths, and in some cases no faith. I try to evangelize not by word, but by example.”

This evangelization has encouraged three veterans he served to join the Catholic Church. He adds, “I am also going to continue working with Father George Gabet (a priest from the Fraternal Order of St. Peter) celebrating the Latin Tridentine Mass, which I have done since 1990. I celebrate two to three of the Masses per month on a Sunday. And, I will also continue to celebrate Masses on Sunday morning television.”

Father Leeuw’s doctors encouraged retirement. “My doctors have urged me to slow down, so I have asked Bishop D’Arcy to retire me from Provena Sacred Heart Home and Byron Health Center,” Father Leeuw says.

“I always remember the beautiful thought: ‘What I am is God’s gift to me, and what I become is my gift to God,’” Father Leeuw says. “I know from the words of my ordaining Bishop Leo A. Pursley that I am a priest forever. I plan to continue my priestly work until God calls me home. My retirement is just slowing down so I can catch my breath to keep on running.”

In a letter announcing his retirement, Father Leeuw says: “Robert Frost, an American poet, in his poem ‘The Road Not Taken’ writes: ‘Two roads diverged in a woods, and I — I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference.’ He adds, ‘That road led me to the priesthood where I became an ‘Alter Christus’ serving for the past 52 years; 28 years as an associate pastor, pastor and educator teaching 18 years at Ancilla College, St. Joseph’s School of Nursing, and the University of Saint Francis.

“I have been a high school principal at Huntington Catholic, and taught at Saint Joseph’s High School in South Bend, and several Catholic grade schools,” Father Leeuw says. “For the past 24 years, I have worked as priest-chaplain and director of pastoral care at Provena Sacred Heart Home, the VA Medical Center in Fort Wayne and Byron Health Center caring for the sick, the elderly and the dying in the evening of their life. It has been an inestimable privilege and blessing.”

Father Leeuw is also the Catholic chaplain for Canterbury Nursing Home, Fort Wayne, the Knights of Columbus Council 1790, Garrett, and Mother Teresa Assembly 2581.

Father Leeuw has a great devotion to the Blessed Mother. He cherishes a statue of the Madonna that was once in the home of Archbishop John F. Noll and passed to Bishop Leo Pursley, who gave it to Father Leeuw.

Archbishop Noll was bishop when Father Leeuw began his studies for the priesthood, but Bishop Pursley ordained him May 25, 1957, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

As a teenager, Father Leeuw worked as a meat cutter and could have had a promising career in supermarket management; but, “The only thing I ever wanted to be in this life is a priest,” he says.

In his childhood, he liked to play that he was celebrating Mass. He still has the “play” altar he used. Precious Blood Father Marcellus Foltz, an assistant pastor at Most Precious Blood Parish, Fort Wayne, from 1938-1942, was a major influence on the young Daniel Leeuw.

“He was just my ideal of what a priest was like, and I really liked him,” Father Leeuw says.

As for retirement, one of the first things he looks forward to is his week-long retreat — for the 38th time — with the Trappist Monks at Gethsemeni in Kentucky.

When he was a boy, he sent for a brochure on vocations. “The only reason I never (joined) the Trappists was simply because I like to talk too much,” he quips.

“I’ve always gone there (for retreats) simply because of the life of prayer that they’ve had and the simplicity there,” Father Leeuw says. “It’s always drawn me every year.”

With no television, radio or secular newspaper, “it’s like stepping back from humanity and enjoying life,” Father Leeuw says.

“A sign notes, “God alone” and Father Leeuw says, “And that bespeaks it to me — just God alone, you and God, and God and you.”

Our Lady of Guadalupe to host festival

WARSAW — Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish and Diocesan Shrine in Warsaw will host a parish festival on Saturday, Aug. 15, beginning at 11:30 a.m. and concluding with a candlelight procession at 8 p.m.

Activities include games for adults and children and a variety of Mexican food.

The roster includes:
• 11:30 a.m. — Welcome and opening prayer in honor of the Blessed Mother
• 12:12:30 p.m. — Choir
• 12:30-1 p.m. — Popular songs
• 1:1-30 p.m. — Sacred dance
• 2 p.m. — Mass
• 1:30-3 p.m. — Break and time to visit food booths
• 3-3:30 p.m. — Choir
• 3:30-4 p.m. — Folk dance
• 4:4-30 p.m. — Popular songs
• 4:30-5 p.m. — Choir
• 5-6 p.m. — Play
• 6-6:30 — Folk dance
• 6:30-7:10 p.m. — House choir
• 7-10 p.m. — Booth closing and cleanup
• 8-9 p.m. — Procession

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish and Diocesan Shrine is located at 225 Gilliam Dr., in Warsaw. For information, call (574) 267-5324. Tickets are sold the day of the event.

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High school service trip offers inspiration

BY MONICA MURPHY

SOUTH BEND — Growing up in a city, I have been exposed to many visions, ideas, customs and bright dreams. My journey to Jonesville, Va., with the St. Joseph Parish Youth Group, Holy Cross Father Nate Wills and adult leaders would be a great challenge, an experience that would shed a brighter light on my walk with Christ.

Not accustomed to a world that experiences such poverty allowed me to look at the reasons why I was called to participate on this service trip. Traveling with approximately 50 other committed volunteers, June 6-13, I was ready to get my feet wet.

Driving 15 minutes into Jonesville, I saw the poverty with my own eyes. This poverty did not compare with what I had seen on television. It was as if I was awoken from an unbelievable dream. People living in homes that were torn apart and unlivable brought tears of frustration to my face. I thought about the children who were outside playing in their yard and how they lived in such harsh conditions.

Our group of 50 divided into seven teams for the week. My team worked on a woman’s home. Her name was Alice, a single mother with four grown children. Each week the team worked on a woman’s home. Alice allowed us into her home. Through her eyes, I could see her beautiful cry for hope.

Our team’s task was to pull up the old floor in Alice’s home and replace it with a new one. Walking through her home for the first time was like walking into a prison of despair. Quickly I thought of her safety, her well-being and her dignity as a human being.

Her bathroom did not work, and the rest of her house was in the slow process of being renovated. Thankfully, her brother lived right next door and she could use the bathroom in his house. She fell through the floor a few years ago as she was trying to work on repairing her home.

Each team completed a different task during the week. Whether it was putting new siding on a home, tearing down an old roof or pulling up a floor; we all put our best effort and strength into our work.

A different way of life rises in the mountains of Appalachia. Despite their difficulties, I found that these brothers and sisters are filled with tremendous faith. Furthermore, the residents welcomed us with a warm, inviting community and were full of fruitful ambitions. I received support and friendship from those who passed us by on the streets. What really struck me was how close this community was.

I reevaluated the blessings in my life — to be thankful for a hairbrush, fruits and vegetables, towels, soap and the basic things to survive. These are things that I tended to never thank God for in the past.

The community in Jonesville taught me true happiness. Just through interacting and having the chance to hear their stories, these families showed me greater visions. They allowed me to see the face of God working in their lives. They invited me to cherish my fellow neighbors. They provided me with greater hope for the future.

Money in one’s pocket, the house that one lives in, or the clothes on one’s back are not nearly as important as spreading the love of Christ through service. My greatest prayer for our world is to look beyond the stereotypes, the judgments or the critical elements of those who are not the same as we are.

As Americans we need to really step out of our comfort zones and live in unity. I challenge our world with this idea: Wouldn’t it be truly joyful to face God one day and tell him that we used all of our gifts and talents to serve him completely. I challenge you this summer to serve in your local community, our country and world.

As Saint Joseph High School principal and one of our adult volunteers, Susan Richter, said: “Though these families may not be rich in material things, they are rich in love.”

Monica Murphy is a 2009 graduate of Saint Joseph’s High School and an incoming freshman at Saint Mary’s College, Notre Dame.

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VICTORY NOLL CENTER TO HOST WOMEN’S AUXILIARY RETREAT AUG. 22

HUNTINGTON — Victory Noll Center, sponsored by Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters, serves the people of God through programs that foster personal and spiritual growth and enrichment. These programs reflect the commitment of the sisters to empowering women, promoting peace and justice, preserving the environment and education on immigration issues.

In another step to advance its mission, Victory Noll Center is in the process of creating a Women’s Auxiliary. The three-fold purpose of this group is to pray, participate in and promote the vision and mission of the Center. The center is inviting women who are passionate about spiritual and personal growth to consider being part of the auxiliary. Being part of this group has the benefit of becoming a partner in the ministry of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters through the center.

Meeting monthly, women gather to nourish their own spiritual life through prayer together. Then ideas are shared about ways this group might participate in and promote the center’s mission. While still in its beginning stages, women of the auxiliary are discerning how and where their personal gifts might be used in service, and how we might learn from them to be faithful to our call as women disciples.

The cost is $10, and the registration deadline is Aug. 12. Anyone interested in joining the Women’s Auxiliary or attending the retreat should contact Victory Noll Center Director Sue Wilhelm at (260) 356-0628, ext. 128.

No one is ever turned away from a program because of the inability to pay. Payment plans and other arrangements may be made by contacting Victory Noll Center.
Young teacher serves on Alaskan tundra

FORT WAYNE — Although Alaska is not necessarily considered overseas territory, to one native Hoosier it was an opportunity to travel to a community where the students could be taught about their own culture and heritage.

Molly Slocum, a 2004 Bishop Luers graduate and daughter of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parishioners Kara and Rob Slocum, boarded a plane to St. Lawrence Island, located west of mainland Alaska in the Bering Sea, after earning a bachelor’s degree in early childhood education from Xavier University in Ohio in May of 2008.

Slocum accepted a position teaching in the Bering Strait School District, which encompasses the schools along the Alaskan coast and the two villages on St. Lawrence Island. Her new home was in the village of Savoonga where she lived with other teachers in a house located close to the school.

Her school service ranged from teaching second graders to special classes for third through sixth graders with reading skills. All students there switched classes and were grouped according to their skill level rather than their chronological age or grade.

“It was easier to accommodate each student,” says the young teacher, adding that the students accepted their placement despite the age variance. Slocum taught up to 50 students each day in small classes of 12-15 students.

Though the environment and culture were alien to Slocum, she immediately immersed herself in village life.

“I wanted to experience life as they did,” she says. School activities were a central part of community life, so “everyone knew your business,” she reports.

Villagers were known to call others out to the beach when a whale was procured. Slocum has experienced the taste of raw whale, seen seals pop up between the ice flows, survived extreme temperatures and winds, and says it was like living in a National Geographic magazine.

The children came to kindergarten speaking the native Siberian Yupik and learned English at school, and each student had a native and an English name.

Her parents sent the Magnificat, a monthly magazine offering daily Mass readings and reflections, so that Slocum could keep up with Mass, as there were no Catholic churches on the island. Her faith, she says, was deepened there in the slow-paced culture, where she spent time hiking the serene tundra, which lies closer to Russia than Alaska, and reflecting on God’s direction for her life.

“I was lonely, but that gave me the time to develop my relationship with God a little more,” she says, adding that she has become more in tune with herself and more at ease with the current pace of life.

Slocum flew home after the end of the school year and is currently working at a local day camp as she seeks a teaching job in her home community.

“It was a wonderful experience, but I missed my family and my faith community. That’s a big part of why I’m back,” she says. “I do hope wherever I go I touch someone’s life. It’s about the relationships I form.”

The call to serve abroad had Ryan and Yohe proposing the idea to teach abroad to the Sisters of Holy Cross and the college. The two will be sponsored by the congregation to teach at one of the sisters’ mission sites where a new school has been built.

In their excitement the graduates took their proposal back to Saint Mary’s College with the hope that the administration would agree to develop a postgraduate program for future education majors seeking service opportunities. The two were inspired to develop a program for education majors seeking service opportunities sponsored by the collaborative efforts of the Sisters of the Holy Cross and the college.

Ryan and Yohe will launch the pilot program in Kasoa, a small village outside of Ghana’s capital city of Accra, teaching second grade at Our lady of Holy Cross School. The school has an enrollment of about 250 students from preschool through second grade, most coming from poor farming families.

The graduates will also train other teachers at the school in the use of their teaching methods. And Ryan reports that the duo will be serving the Catholic and surrounding community “in any way possible,” as well, including assisting with a youth group for middle and high school students.

“We will be called to serve the community in many ways other than teacher while we’re there, and that is what is so exciting about it all. We will never know what to expect but will always know we are serving others,” she says enthusiastically.
New principals add spark to upcoming school year

New principal welcomed at Sacred Heart, Warsaw

WARSAW — Sacred Heart Parish welcomed James L. Faroh, Sr., as principal of the newly renovated elementary school. He was introduced to the parish at all of the Masses, has met his staff and is ready to meet the students.

Faroh brings over 30 years experience in education to his new position. He taught, coached and was administrative assistant in the Michigan City area schools for 13 years and has served in dual roles as principal of Marquette High School and St. Mary’s School, Michigan City. During that time, he was an instructor at Purdue University, Westville, and was educational and multicultural speaker for Purdue University and Catholic schools at local and state conferences and conventions.

Faroh was principal at Francis Slocum Elementary School, Marion, and later principal at Lincoln Elementary School, Huntington, before accepting this position.

Educational achievements include a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from Purdue University, life certification in elementary education, teacher’s license, master’s degree in elementary education, certification in secondary school administration from Purdue University and life certification in elementary, junior high and middle school administration from Purdue University.

The numerous awards Faroh has earned include the highest possible rating on Administrative Evaluation Rubric for two consecutive years, nominated by a Frances Slocum teacher for Indiana Association of School Principals (IASP) Principal of the Year, nominated by the Catholic Schools of Northwest Indiana for National Distinguished Principal of the Year and selected by Michigan City area schools as Outstanding Teacher of the Year as well as other honors.

Faroh is enthusiastic about his return to Catholic education and working with the students, families, staff and parish community. His educational philosophy is rather simple, “Do what is best for the students.” He says he has found that things work out for the best when he keeps this philosophy paramount in his administration. The philosophy, coupled with the goal to “teach as Jesus did,” completes his view of what education should be.

Faroh plans to teach, celebrate and strengthen Catholic identity with daily, weekly and monthly ongoing activities. This mission is the “umbrella” that he says he, often speaks of with regard to Catholic education. The Catholic identity is what makes education unique at Sacred Heart. He believes the Catholic school is the church’s wonderful gift to children and their families.

Faroh’s wife, Pati, teaches kindergarten in Marion. They have a daughter, Michele, who is employed at Eli Lily and a son, Jimmy, who attends Ball State University.

New principal called to duty at Garrett

GARRETT — St. Joseph School, with its preschool through sixth grade student population, anticipates the upcoming school year with a new administrative head. Kris Call steps in as principal and has plans for the fine school.

A December graduate of Indiana University-Purdue University in Fort Wayne (IPFW) and began teaching at St. Joseph School in Decatur. During her 19 years there she says she has taught most of the grades, including first, second and third, as well as running the nursery. She came to the Catholic faith through a RCIA program.

During her tenure at St. Joseph in Decatur, Call joined the Perspective Principal Program hosted by Our Sunday Visitor for diocesan teachers and earned her master’s degree in education. Raised in a Protestant religion, Call found that as she taught in the Catholic schools, saw the community atmosphere and became involved, she began to seek answers about her own faith: “I set out to prove them wrong,” she admits. She soon saw the truth and “couldn’t fight it any more,” she says. Call joined RCIA and was received into the church in 2004.

Call has recently completed classes to acquire her administrative license and her preparation for administrative work paid off this summer when she applied for the principal’s position at St. Joseph in Garrett vacuumed by 22-year veteran Principal Linda Speer.

“It’s bittersweet,” says Call about leaving her longtime teaching position in Decatur. “But I’m excited, too,” she adds with enthusiasm.

Though her start date in Garrett is Aug. 1, this passionate educator has made numerous long-round trips from her home in Decatur to Garrett to meet with outgoing Principal Speer and staff in preparation for taking the helm. “Linda is willing to answer any questions,” says Call, adding that everyone at the school has been wonderful.

Principal Call’s hope for the future of the school, with its eight teachers and 130 student enrollment, is to “continue on the same path they have been on this year.”

She says, “St. Joseph has the highest status academically. It is an exemplary school. I can’t wait to see what the teachers are doing. It’s working for them!”

Call will remain in Decatur “for now” and continue her involvement in her home parish of St. Mary of the Assumption where she is a extraordinary minister of the Eucharist and a member of the current Christ renewes His Parish team. Her friends and family all reside in Decatur, including her mother, grandmother and two older brothers. Her son, who is a member of the Air Force, is stationed in Hawaii.

Call’s new administrator, who loves to read and collects about 20 children’s books, has a real enthusiasm for education. “I have a passion for what I do,” she says. Her dedication to the education of the children of St. Joseph School will certainly help lead the way into a bright future.

St. Anthony de Padua names Chad Barwick as new principal

SOUTH BEND — St. Anthony De Padua Catholic School welcomed Chad Barwick as the incoming principal July 1.

Barwick will be taking over for Martha Lewallen, who retired after 27 years of service as both a teacher and a principal. St. Anthony De Padua has a 60-year tradition of providing high-quality education in a Christian environment rooted in faith, academics, service, community and family.

Barwick is a cum laude graduate of Auburn University with bachelor degrees in English and journalism. He continued his education by graduating at the top of his class from Notre Dame with a master of education degree through the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) Program.

When asked about the role of Catholic education in our community and the world today, Barwick said, “I feel blessed to serve in Catholic education because of its rich history and the vibrant role it plays in our world today. The Catholic schools started by Sister Elizabeth Ann Seton have been serving the needs of American children — both Catholics and non-Catholics — better than any other type of school for more than 200 years.”

After spending three years as a newspaper reporter, Barwick started his teaching career at a Catholic high school in Louisiana through the ACE Program and taught English, journalism and Spanish. In addition to teaching, he worked as sponsor of the student newspaper and coach of the cross country and track teams.

Barwick then took on a unique opportunity as a member of the core team that opened San Juan Diego High School in Austin, Texas. There Barwick assisted in the development of the English curriculum along with teaching and organizing all extracurricular activities. In addition, he stepped in as part of an administrative team as acting principal during the first semester of the school’s opening.

He continued his career at the largest private school in middle Georgia, making significant contributions teaching English, developing curriculum and coaching track and cross country. He was named the 2007 Coach of the Year for the Georgia Independent School Association Region 2AAA.

Barwick currently is the senior associate director for ACE Fellowship.

Additionally, he develops and facilitates a series of yearly spiritual retreats for the ACE Fellowship. As part of his role as new principal, he will be continuing his relationship with ACE as he has been accepted into the prestigious Master of Science in Educational Administration Program. This program provides an intensive part-time 26-month experience, encompassing the dispositions of becoming a professional administrator, fostering school community and promoting spiritual formation.

Barwick’s hope for the future of St. Anthony’s school community is the willingness to share in community and deepen the sense of communal mission for all involved. He also wants to stress the important partnership and integration of the parish and the school.

As a transplant to South Bend, Barwick kept hearing and reading about St. Anthony and its good works. He visited and was impressed with the facilities and school atmosphere. And soon the position of principal came open.

He’s already connected with the St. Anthony Parish and School community by competing in the Run Panther Run 5K Race to benefit the efforts of St. Anthony’s Home and School Association.

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Bachman joins administrative team at St. Adalbert School

BY KAY COZAD

SOUTH BEND — St. Adalbert Catholic School will see a new face this year in the principal’s office. Mary Ann Bachman has accepted the position and is already working to make the coming school year one for the record books.

Bachman has a rich history of involvement in all things educational. This Chicago native brings both an undergraduate and graduate degree in education with over three decades of teaching experience to the administrative position. She is licensed in kindergarten through grade 12 leadership, which allows her to be a building level administrator.

Her experience includes teaching in her childhood elementary school in Chicago, St. Ignatius, before she and husband Fred moved to Cleveland and then to South Bend. The family, which includes two daughters and a son, spent time in the small midwestern towns of Mike Mattox, who taught grade school to the early grade schoolers.

Following their move to South Bend where she spent some time at home with her children, Bachman returned to the schools in a volunteer position at the library in Corpus Christi School, where her children were students. After a following year she accepted a part-time position teaching language arts and religion in second grade that stretched into the next four years.

Bachman then moved to the middle school level at Corpus Christi where she taught language arts for nine years. “I love the middle school kids. They learn something new everyday ... I get to help that along as they’re growing up,” she says. Her tenure there also included being the teaching third and fourth grades as well as holding the deanship of students-assistant principal position.

In 2007, after two years at Corpus Christi, Bachman was named the associate superintendent of curriculum at the Catholic Schools Office, where she worked with Title 1 and 4 requests and federal plan writing for the schools within the diocese as well as quality assurance and supporting the school personnel.

At the end of this past school year she knew it was time to move on and as a veteran teacher of 21 years, Bachman brings not only her professional expertise but her love of Catholic education to the administrative level.

She thinks this is an exciting time for St. Adalbert. Though she will miss her colleagues at the Catholic Schools Office, she looks forward to working with students once again. “I thrive on daily interaction with students,” she says.

This go-getter isn’t letting any grass grow beneath her feet. Long term goals for St. Adalbert — “I want this school to be a place that the teachers will want to bring their own children. I want it to be an exemplary school,” she says confidently. She reports that the small staff is made up of dedicated people “who go above and beyond,” their duty.

For now Principal Bachman’s short term goals include cleaning and arranging each classroom for efficiency. She also says, “We tackled the library and weeded out old, broken down books. Now we can see what’s in the room, ready for the new books.” The school recently had a book fair for students where the gently used library books sold for 10 cents each.

St. Adalbert principal and staff are anticipating the completion of a new computer lab as well, which will be embedded in the library.

Bachman is already working to make the coming school year one for the record books.

New principal takes the helm at St. John, Goshen

BY DENISE FEDOROW

GOSHEN — The students and staff at St. John the Evangelist School in Goshen will have a new principal at the helm this school year.

Amy Weidner has been chosen to lead St. John’s students this fall. Weidner and her family — husband Craig and sons Cameron, 7, and Caden, 6, live in Plymouth. In fact, Amy and Craig grew up in Plymouth, were high school sweethearts and each have family living there.

Weidner attended Butler University and then lived in Indianapolis. She taught for five years in Indianapolis before she became a school administrator — first as assistant principal at Chapel Glen Elementary School in Indianapolis. The couple moved back to the area to be closer to family and from 1996-2008 alternated between assistant principal and principal at Bremen Schools.

This Chicago native brings a Life Skills program with three keys to success — organization, communication and self-discipline. Weidner said, if your school is doing more this year it will have something most public schools don’t, and that’s 100 percent parent support. That makes a difference!

Mackowiak says she is grateful for her supporting cast, including the teachers she’s worked with over the years and Assistant Principal Keith Foley.

Mackowiak will spend the next two years attending classes toward her principal’s license, and Foley already has his, having spent three years as a principal in Millersburg.

As she enters her 14th year as an educator, Mackowiak says she is also looking forward to working with the new pastor at Corpus Christi, Father Dave Rybicki. Father Rybicki has experience as a principal and administrator, having served at Saint Joseph’s and Marian High School, in addition to other diocesan grade schools. Mackowiak says the diocese is also making her transition easier.

The “Catholic Schools Office is really good at helping new principals keep their head above water,” says Mackowiak. “They are always in touch, asking what you need and how they can help. They are always there to help you. I am looking forward to serving at Corpus Christi ... I feel very blessed!”
Singing the ‘blue law’ blues

There’s a movement throughout the state seeking signatures in support for Sunday sales of liquor. “We think the time is long past due to change Indiana’s antiquated laws,” says the president of the Indiana Retail Council and spokesperson for Hoosiers for Beverage Choices. The group hopes to make alcohol available on Sundays in Indiana and allow grocery and convenience stores to sell cold beer.

The “antiquated laws” referred to are the so-called “blue laws,” originally designed to enforce religious standards by the first Puritan colonists in the 17th century, in particular the observance of Sunday as a day of worship and rest.

In most states, blue laws have been repealed, declared unconstitutional or simply are not enforced, although prohibitions on the sale of alcoholic beverages, and occasionally nearly all commerce on Sundays, are enforced in many locales. Blue laws often prohibit an activity only during certain hours and usually there are exceptions to the prohibitions: establishments start selling alcohol on Sunday. In some places, blue laws may be enforced due to religious principles, but others are retained as a matter of tradition or out of convenience.

In Indiana, off-premises alcohol sales are completely prohibited on Sundays; however, restaurants and taverns generally still can serve it. The Hoosier State, along with Georgia and Connecticut, ban the sale of beer, wine and spirits, while some other states only ban liquor sales. Additionally, Indiana prohibits alcohol sales on Christmas Day and on election days until the polls close.

Why the government can tell businesses whether they can be open or closed on Sunday is a question that has baffled political experts and alcohol aficionados alike for decades. Many state lawmakers, in fact, still are stumbling over the last vestiges of Prohibition even though the 18th Amendment was repealed 75 years ago. Since 2002, 13 states have repealed blue laws restricting liquor sales on Sundays while 15 others are retaining the laws on their books today.

Unlike the European nations that continue to ban Sunday shopping, with more American households featuring two working parents, Sunday has become the second-busiest shopping day of the week, after Saturday. “People just want to buy alcohol while doing their shopping,” argues the director of Hoosiers for Beverage Choices.

Not only is Sunday the second-busiest shopping day of the week, it also is fast becoming a popular occasion to do household chores, such as laundry, cleaning and yard work. In addition, athletic contests, fairs, shows, exhibits and other events are scheduled on Sunday, often in the morning opposite religious services.

Churches have had to come to grips with the growing trend of activities other than attending religious services occupying their parishioners’ time, attention and affection. Sunday sales of alcohol provide an opportunity that may be harmful to families, increasing alcohol-related problems like drunk driving. It’s yet another lost battle between commercialization and God — an unfortunate slippage into every day being the same — with Sunday no longer set aside as a day of worship and rest. And, it’s a sign, too, of America’s growing pluralism, with consumerism in danger of becoming idolatry.

Sundays should be a time for religion, rest from labor, family gatherings, and renewal of bonds. But like Christmas and Easter, Sundays aren’t necessarily days of worship and celebration anymore, with many required to work or participate in secular activities. If retail establishments are open on Sundays, especially liquor stores, additional people necessarily will be required to work on Sunday, simply spreading six days of business over seven days, losing their only day off in the process.

Many believe the trend is clear and eventually all states will chip away at some or all Sunday alcohol prohibitions, especially during a difficult economy. “Consumers have a way of getting what they want,” a politician is quoted as saying. It can take some time, but voters and the religious component may get what they want. Regardless of the outcome, consider the outlook of The Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 2188 says:

“In respecting religious liberty and the common good of all, Christians should seek recognition of Sundays and the church’s holy days as legal holidays. They have to give everyone a public example of prayer, respect and defense of their traditions as a precious contribution to the spiritual life of society. If a country’s legislation or other reasons require work on Sunday, the day should nevertheless be lived as the day of our deliverance, which lets us share in this ‘festal gathering,’ this “assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven.”
On the value of work

Yesterday was a busy day. I took advantage of the fact my college-age son didn’t have to work, and my high-school-aged son was also available, and we tackled the cleaning of the basement. It was an invigorating experience.

Mike is a “no-nonsense-get-the-job-done” kind of guy, and he started moving boxes and digging in like I was paying him $20 an hour, which I wasn’t. (If figured providing three meals a day for as long as he is home should do the trick. It did.)

Although I had asked the younger girls for help, they dragged their feet until they saw their big brother working. I would like to think that they were motivated by his enthusiasm and good attitude, but that was not the case. They were afraid he’d throw away one of their toys.

They scrambled like ants to a piece of cake on the dance floor as soon as they saw him approach a box of their stuff, and they started pitching in too. When he earnestly asked, “Can I throw this away?” referring to a pink, semi-sparkly tattered piece of cloth, which in better days must have been a piece of dress-up clothing, I gave him the thumbs-up. Seeing this, the girls scrambled to find and retrieve anything that might belong to them before he got it. Organization never felt so good.

After a while, the girls got in the groove too, as did my high school son. The latter was put in charge of the boot, coat, hats and scarves closet, while the former tackled the toy room and game closet. I gave instructions to dump and sort and make a pile of things that didn’t fit anyone. We found old wallets and a couple sticks of lip gloss (What can I say? I have six girls), and more batteries than I could count, broken toys, mittens without a match and some loose change. We filled five large garbage bags of junk, and filled the recycling container to the brim. Then we put everything else back on the shelves.

Ah ... It’s a glorious experience to observe your offspring work together to improve the surroundings of your home. It’s better than lemonade on the porch swing or a enjoying few candy kisses from the secret stash in the kitchen. This family teamwork is supposed to happen here every Saturday, but more often than not someone is missing, at practice or rehearsal or in another activity in this business we call life. But yesterday, the children all came together with me to work for a common goal, and the synergy was amazing. If the family that prays together stays together, then the family that ______

Everyday Catholic

Theresa A. Thomas

Salvation is God’s gift

The Book of Exodus provides us with the first reading.

As the name implies, this book of the Bible traces the path of the Hebrews as they fled Egypt, under the leadership of Moses, and proceeded across the desolate Sinai peninsula en route to the land God had promised them.

A trip across Sinai today on a paved highway and in a modern vehicle is no delight. The land in general is unoccupied, arid and unappealing. When the Hebrews crossed this territory, the circumstances were even more forbidding. Of course, they were traveling on foot. They were exposed to the heat of the day and the chill of the night. The peninsula offered little by way of food or drink. They had no compass to guide them, no path to follow.

Nevertheless, Moses urged them onward. Constantly, he reminded them that God had prepared a place for them, a “land flowing with milk and honey.”

Following Moses at times seemed to the Hebrews to mean that they were wandering farther and farther away from civilization and from security. Deeper and deeper they marched into the unknown and the inhospitable.

The Sunday Gospel

Jn 6:24-35

The Lord declares.

Reflection

The church in these readings reminds us once more that we are humans. First, we are vulnerable to death. We can die physically if we are deprived of material food long enough. We also may die spiritually if we are left to ourselves and without God. Part of our human limitation is our exaggerated trust in ourselves, and our ignorance of the genuine dangers before us. These readings remind us of our plight with excitement and hope, they recall the fact that again and again God is with us and has answered our needs.

God’s greatest and most perfect answer is in Jesus. Jesus is the revelation of God. If we live as Jesus lived, we will be near God. Most importantly, Jesus is the “bread of life.” If we worthily consume this bread in the Eucharist, Jesus is part of us. He lives in us.

Readings


Monday: Nm 11:4b-15 Ps 81:12-17 Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday: Nm 12:1-3 Ps 51:1, 3-7, 12-13 Mt 14:22-26


Thursday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 Pt 1:16-19 Mk 9:2-10

Friday: Dn 4:32-40 Ps 77:12-16, 21 Mt 16:24-28

Saturday: Dn 6:13 Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51 Mt 17:14-20

Catequizem

By Dominick Campiion

1. An attempted marriage of a Catholic who is already validly married is ______
   a. inefable  b. inaudible  c. invalid

2. This referring to Scripture means without error, but does not, as is commonly thought, mean it is all literally true
   a. inefable  b. infallibility  c. inconsequentiality

3. This characteristic is associated with much church teaching, but is often mistakenly thought to only exist if the pope makes an “Ex Cathedra” proclamation
   a. insolvent  b. indifferent  c. inerrant

4. A valid, consummated marriage is basically
   a. indissoluble  b. indiffrent  c. inoperable

5. “In Petto” is a technical term often used of cardinals or bishops who are appointed but not
   a. Catholic  b. validly ordained  c. announced publicely due to possible danger

6. This is simply a canon law term for permission given to a diocese to do something ordinarily not allowed
   a. invocation  b. inscrption  c. indulct

7. Ordination makes this type of mark on a man’s soul
   a. indeftible  b. indistinct  c. infract

8. The condition of original sin is one we are born with, so is
   a. inopportune  b. insidious  c. innate

9. The Eastern Orthodox churches that are “autocephalous” are simply
   a. independent of other churches  b. in revolt against the Russian Church  c. in heretical unions with non Catholics

10. Indecoration refers to the process of assigning a person often a priest, to the jurisdiction of one of these
    a. diatrits  b. dioceses (hence bishops)  c. ecclesial courts

11. The term “incarnation” refers to the
    a. validity of the word of God as the sole rule of faith  b. Word becoming flesh in Jesus  c. ultimate fate of mankind in the end times

12. Roman Catholics use this in liturgy on special occasions, but Eastern Catholics and the orthodox use it more
    a. incandescence  b. invocation  c. incense

13. Although Martin Luther got very upset at how these were administered, they are still valid in catholic theology
    a. indulgences  b. interposed confessionalss  c. interpretations of scripture

14. “INRI” is not a word but stands for the Latin for
    a. title written on the Cross “Jesus Christ God’s Son Savior”  b. title written on the Cross “Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews”  c. title written on the Cross “Jesus Christ Son of God”

15. This was a court of inquiry which, despite stories about the persecution of Jews and Muslims, actually only had jurisdiction over Christians
    a. The Index of Books  b. The Indoctocation Congregation  c. The inquisition

Answers:

1.c, 2.c, 3.b, 4.a, 5.c, 6.c, 7.a, 8.c, 9.a, 10.b, 11.b, 12.c, 13.a, 14.b, 15.c
Benedict XVI and the truth about charity

CRACOW — Pope Benedict XVI's social encyclical, “Caritas in Veritate” (“Charity in Truth”), is a complex and occasionally obscure document, replete with possible implications for the future development of Catholic social doctrine. Sorting those implications out will take much time and even more careful reflection. Along the information superhighway, however, careful reflection may be few and far between in the early going, as sundry partisans seek to capture “Caritas in Veritate” as the vanguard of a brave new world of stunts and quick spins. The pope proposes, is essential for ecological Catholicism.

In summary, the family is better off spiritually when members cooperate and work together. Eternal life is the ultimate goal. But, of course, a clean bathroom is kind of nice too.

Pope John Paul II in his encyclical “Laborem Exercens” (“On Human Work”) writes, “Work is a fundamental dimension of human existence on earth.” In other words, we’re stuck with it. Pointing that out to a stubborn 9-year-old might help him understand.

Some consider Mount of Olives as site for the Second Coming

What does the Mount of Olives in Israel look like?

The Mount of Olives is a hill opposite Jerusalem. Between the hill on which Jerusalem is built and the Mount of Olives lies the Kidron Valley.

K. Prag says the Mount of Olives is a ridge of soft limestone over four kilometers long with three main peaks. The Mount of Olives has many olive groves, and there were even more olive trees there in the time of Jesus.

Jesus was familiar with the Mount of Olives, because he stayed at Bethany on this mount with his friends, Martha, Mary and Lazarus, while he was in Jerusalem.

Father J. Murphy-O’Connor says, at pilgrimage time, the population of Jerusalem tripled. The cost of lodging in the area became exorbitant, so the poor had to make arrangements in the surrounding villages. Thus each day Jesus walked over the hill to Jerusalem and returned at nightfall. It seems that Jesus spent a lot of time with his apostles at the Garden of Gethsemane at the base of the Mount of Olives. When Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish Sanhedrin, met Jesus secretly at night, it may have been in the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus’ agony and arrest also took place in this garden. On Palm Sunday, the pilgrims walk from Bethphage on the Mount of Olives to Jerusalem to commemorate Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The ascension of Jesus into heaven took place on the Mount of Olives. The Old Testament prophet Zechariah speaks of the Lord God resting his feet on the Mount of Olives, as he is accompanied by all his holy ones. So some Christians consider the Mount of Olives as the site for the Second Coming of Christ at the end of the world.

There are many sites on the Mount of Olives. In the Garden of Gethsemane, there is the Church of All Nations built in 1924. In front of the altar is a huge rock on which Jesus prayed during his agony. Baedeker says this rock is surrounded by a low railing resembling the crown of thorns. Near Gethsemane is the Russian Orthodox Church of St. Magdalene with seven domes. It was built in 1888 by Czar Alexander III. Its interior is filled with icons.

Further up the Mount is the Catholic Franciscan Dominus Flevit chapel built in 1955. This title is Latin for “the Lord wept.” This chapel commemorates Jesus weeping over the city of Jerusalem. Inside the church is a large see-through window above the altar. It shows the Christian view of the city of Jerusalem. Today you see the Muslim Dome of the Rock mosque with its golden dome. But in Jesus’ time, you would have seen the huge Temple of King Herod the Great.

Also on the Mount of Olives is a large area called the Tombs of the Prophets. The Old Testament prophets Haggai, Malachi and Zechariah are said to be buried here.

Then on this mount lies the Pater Noster Church, a Latin title for the “Our Father” prayer. Baedeker says this church commemorates Jesus teaching his disciples the Lord’s Prayer, which is written in 40 languages on tablets of colored tiles.

At the top of the monastery is the Ascension chapel to mark the spot where Jesus ascended into heaven. Baedeker says the Catholic Franciscan monastery here in the 12th century, but it was later converted by the Muslims into a white-domed building.

Father Richard Hire, pastor of St. Martin de Porres Parish, Syracuse answered this question.

SCROLL TO REPLACE

SCROLL TO REPLACE

SCROLL TO REPLACE
Sports

St. Anthony baseball team takes ICCL Tourney Championship

SOUTH BEND — The St. Anthony’s sixth-grade baseball team finished their spring season with a 10-0 record. For the second consecutive year, these boys have won the Inter-City Catholic League (ICCL) Tourney Championship and finished without a loss.

They beat Christ the King, 9-7, in the championship game.

The offensive attack was lead by Chris Drinkall; back row, assistant coaches Austin Drinkall, Dave Barstis, Ron Truhler, Brendan McNamara and Evan Jackson Gallagher and John Spalding; second row, Billy Miller, Justin Drinkall, Chris Lippert, Austin Truhler, Brendan McNamara and Evan Drinkall; front row, from left, Patrick Foust, Eli Barstis, Noah Waltz, Anthony’s sixth-grade baseball team, which won the Inter-City Catholic League Tourney Championship, is shown in this photo. In the photo are, front row, from left, Patrick Foust, Eli Barstis, Noah Waltz, Jackson Gallagher and John Spalding; second row, Billy Miller, Justin Drinkall, Chris Lippert, Austin Truhler, Brendan McNamara and Evan Drinkall; back row, assistant coaches Austin Drinkall, Dave Barstis, Ron Truhler, manager Steve Waltz and assistant manager Alan Foust.

Teams report results from ICCL girls track

BY CHUCK FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — Rain may have slowed the track at South Bend’s Clay High School for the recent ICCL city meet, but it certainly didn’t dampen the spirits of hundreds of competitors in the annual girls track event.

Coach Brad Kaizer’s Holy Family squad, which also included girls from St. John the Baptist, St. Adalbert and Our Lady of Hungary, entered the meet as the regular-season champions in Class A (girls 13 and older).

Maureen Vervaet’s St. Anthony team earned the regular-season crown in Class B (12-year-old girls). Those races are held in a traditional dual-meet format, but tournament scoring brought some different results in the city meet.

Alex Wong finished first in the 50 and 100 meters as well as two relays to help St. Joseph, South Bend, run away from the field in Class A. Coach Carpenter’s Eagles also received two first-place performances from Meghan Sullivan. St. Thomas finished second with Holy Family third.

Corpus Christi’s Kate Vasile dominated the distance events, taking first place in both the 800- and 1,600-meter runs.

Q. Why does everyone love Father Larry Richards?

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Lutz, Underwood receive Gold Award

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — From a young age as a Daisy Girl Scout, St. Jude parishioner Erika Lutz recognized the faith elements of Girl Scouting.

“The best part about it was … these girls would walk up to me and tell me what they learned,” she said. In addition, the teachers said they noticed the impact on the girls’ behavior and morale.

Lutz was honored with the award a few weeks ago at a ceremony, where she was among the three Gold Award recipients in the Northern Indiana-Michiana district.

“I’d say the girls are in the process of becoming girls. I’d say the leaders have the girls’ hands,” she said.

Upon choosing a project, the Snider High School student said the gratification was instant: “The best part about it was … these girls would walk up to me and tell me what they learned.”

The lesson learned in her words: “Being a Girl Scout encourages community service and gets people involved … you learn to help serve,” she said.

Underwood graduated from Bishop Dwenger in December and plans to attend nursing school at Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne (IPFW).

The following have received Girl Scout Catholic religious medals in 2009:

**Family of God**

- Queen of Angels, Troop 20443 — Addison Bailey, Adeline Joy Barry, Mary T. Carroll, Jenna Osborne and Ashley Talarico.
- St. John, New Haven, Troop 20096 — Marisa Wigent and Mallori Wigent.
- St. Charles Borromeo, Troop 20494 — Alex Bayes, Bridgette Black, Kathryn Desch, Maddie Filler, Joanna Linder and Amanda Pennucci.
- Troop 20054 — Olivia Roricke.

**Marian Medal**

- St. Vincent de Paul, Troop 20302 — Megan Campbell, Sam Faulk, Erin Fosnaugh, Katie Fredholm, Erin Jackson, Katherine Key, Karsyn Kitchen, Amber Lancia, Audrey Lukemire, Alexa Marosovich, Milena Smythe, Emily Tippmann, Jackie Turner and Natalie Yehlo.

**I Live My Faith**

- Christ The King (South Bend), Troop 30051 — Samantha Burns, Abby Deren, Alexis Goy, Julia Harrison, Katie Higgs-Coulthard, Katie Pulega, Maureen Taghon and Kassie Wavy.
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Troop 20135 — Samantha Allen, Maddie Brown, Rachel Hentz, Megan Lerman, Nicole Lynn Keesing, Alison Partee and Rachel M Seals.
- Notre Dame Campus Scouts — Sarah Cate Baker, Nicole Burns, Emily Han, Jamie Malecki, Sarah Herman, Charlie Ann Soule and Sarah Urycki.
**WHAT’S HAPPENING?**

**MISC. HAPPENINGS**

**Dedication ceremony at Albion**

Albion — The Steve Hopkins Memorial Grotto will be dedicated Sunday, Aug. 2, at 1 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Church. The grotto has been a project that was brought to life upon Steve’s passing, by the faith community of Blessed Sacrament. Father Lourindo Fernandes will conduct the blessing ceremony and light refreshments will follow.

**Craft Fair Spaces Available**

Fort Wayne — St. Charles Borromeo Parish will have a craft fair on Nov. 7, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Booth spaces are available on line at www.rootsan-drythm.org or at the 3422 N. Anthony Wooden Nickel. Call (260) 484-3635.

**Golf Outings**

Huntington Catholic plans golf outing Huntington — Huntington Catholic School will have a golf outing Saturday, Aug. 29, with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. at Norwood Golf Course. $50 per player (lunch included). Please mail your team member names and check to Tony Johnson, 4168 W 60th St, Huntington, IN 46750 by Aug. 19.

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Book of the Month Club
This month’s featured selection:
“Mother Teresa’s Secret Fire” by Joseph Langford

Reviewed by Tim Johnson

Have you ever wondered what the motivation is for a saintly life and how one could capture that fire? Father Joseph Langford, a priest of the Missionaries of Charity who worked personally with Mother Teresa, came to know Mother Teresa’s “secret fire” and writes about this motivation in “Mother Teresa’s Secret Fire,” Our Sunday Visitor — ISBN: 978-1-59276-309-2.

The book discusses an encounter Mother Teresa had with Jesus where he explained to her what he meant when he said, “I thirst.” This encounter as she rode a train on Sept. 10, 1946 transformed Mother Teresa’s life and can be transformative in all our lives.

Jesus’ words, “I thirst,” express a longing, a yearning of God to draw all of us into his embrace, exactly as we are regardless of our past failings and present weaknesses.

And Jesus’ words, “I thirst” on the cross, echo down throughout history. All of Scripture is a commentary on the divine thirst, and in turn, the divine thirst sheds light on all of Scripture, on all of Revelation, on all that is.

The book tells us that Mother Teresa was sent not only to the poor of Calcutta, and not only to pierce the darkness of material want. She was sent also to us — to a modern culture of which, for different reasons but with the same effect, Jesus could also say, “They don’t know me — so they don’t want me...” He sent Mother Teresa to proclaim his thirst to this generation so that, in an age grown cold, to a world living under the same blanket of darkness and unredeemed pain portrayed in her vision, she might remind us of God’s yearning, and so reawaken our own.

Mother Teresa’s transformation was due entirely to the grace she received. She invited her sisters and all of us to share in this grace.

Mother Teresa was 40 when she had this encounter with Jesus, proving we are never too old to embrace God’s call.

The book says “We do not need more information about our faith, as much as we need more actual faith — more conscious faith-contact in our daily prayer-encounters with God. The dimensions of our faith become the exact dimensions, large or small, through which God and his love must pass in order to reach us. God’s gifts are not a reward for our faith; they are instead the direct consequence of our faith, the result of opening wide the faith-portal between our soul and the Almighty.”

The book offers guided meditations to draw us to the Lord, to capture that thirst of Our Lord.

I found that reading the book required a highlighter pen. It is almost a lesson to learn to love the Lord as he calls us. It challenges our thinking and makes Mother Teresa’s mission applicable to our own mission.

Questions for discussion
- Jesus tells Mother Teresa, “They don’t know me, so they don’t want me.” What keeps me from knowing Jesus?
- Mother Teresa addressed the material poverty of Calcutta, but in our western world, we too encounter a poverty of sorts. What impoverishes me?
- One of the most compelling stories in “Mother Teresa’s Secret Fire” is that of St. Jerome where Jesus asks St. Jerome, “Give me your sins.” Why is this so difficult for me?

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Pope
Continued from page 1

The spokesman said medical staff from Aosta’s hospital were bringing a portable X-ray machine to the retreat house in Les Combes July 23 so that doctors could do a follow-up scan of the pope’s wrist.

The doctor who performed the surgery on his wrist, the pope’s two personal physicians and an orthopedic specialist from Rome’s Fatebenefratelli hospital were scheduled to be present for the July 25 check up and X-ray, he said.

The specialist from Rome, Dr. Vincenzo Sessa, will provide follow-up care once the pope heads to the papal summer villa in Castel Gandolfo July 29, said Father Lombardi.

The Vatican secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, visited the pope July 22 to discuss church matters. He left documents for the pope to look at, and deliver a number of get-well wishes that had been sent by world leaders, said the spokesperson.

Father Lombardi said Pope Benedict has been speaking regularly by phone with his older brother, Msgr. Georg Ratzinger, who lives in Regensburg, Germany.

The 85-year-old monsignor will spend four weeks with the pope at the papal summer villa at Castel Gandolfo, south of Rome, Father Lombardi added.

With his right arm in a cast and sling, Pope Benedict XVI takes a walk during his vacation in Les Combes, Italy, July 18. The pope had fractured his wrist in a fall just a few days into his vacation in the Italian Alps.

Lombardi said. After the pope’s stay in the Alps, he will go directly to the papal villa July 29. Popes generally stay at Castel Gandolfo until late September.

Before leaving the Alps, the pope will preside at an evening prayer service July 24 in the cathedral of Aosta, which is near the village of Les Combes, and deliver a homily.

CNS PHOTO/LOSSERVATORE ROMANO AT A FATHER JOSPEH LANGFORD