Mark Myers named superintendent of Catholic schools

FORT WAYNE — The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has named a new superintendent of Catholic schools. Mark Myers assumed the post of superintendent, vacated by Holy Cross Father Steve Kemfinger, on Aug. 24 and joined the staff of the Catholic Schools Office in the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center. He brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the job.

A native of Illinois, Myers earned a bachelor’s degree in education from Eastern Illinois University in 1975, followed by a master’s degree in education from the University of Illinois in 1979. By 1991 he had earned a doctorate in educational administration from Indiana State University.

His extensive experience includes teaching elementary school for three years in Arcola, Ill., and four years in Japan, where he taught students from 40 different countries. He held the director’s position of a technological program in Illinois that acquired and placed computers in 22 schools and trained teachers and administrators on their use.

Myers also worked as principal for Burris Laboratory School in Muncie, a Ball State University school serving students kindergarten through grade 12. Following his three years there he traveled to Pakistan and Taiwan, spending a year in each country establishing new schools, where he functioned as principal.

Upon his return to the U.S., he held the position of assistant professor at Stephen Austin State University before being appointed superintendent of Catholic schools for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Mark Myers has been appointed superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Queen of Peace, diocese join efforts in Year for Priests

MISHAWAKA — It started with a proclamation from Pope Benedict XVI in June to name this year the Year for Priests. A small group of women from Queen of Peace Parish heard this call and wondered what they could do to have an impact at their church. First through prayer, and then brainstorming, the group is working with the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend to recognize priests through spiritual bouquets and activities that highlight the importance of the gift of the priesthood from God to his people.

Rebecca Fitzmaurice, Marianne Rodtsbrooks and Laura McGuire are a part of the Year for Priests committee at Queen of Peace. Fitzmaurice recalls how excited she was to learn about Pope Benedict’s calling for the Year for Priests. “My parents instilled in my family a great respect and love for the priesthood. This year is meant for the sanctification of priests, but also for an intense appreciation of the priesthood by the laity,” she says.

Rodtsbrooks talked to Fitzmaurice and McGuire about doing something in the parish to highlight this endeavor. “There has been a little group that attends daily Mass at Queen of Peace and we were all feeling pulled together and felt doing something for the Year of the Priest was a natural thing,” she stresses. “We have a priest
‘We live in hope’: Hispanic Catholics, apostolic nuncio, growth of religious life, church

BISHOP JOHN M. D’ARCY

The ministry to Hispanic Catholics and the church universal

It is a great joy to be with our Hispanic Catholics. I learned only recently, that while most of those who have joined us are from Mexico, we actually have Hispanic Catholics with their great spiritual heritage from 19 countries plus, of course, Puerto Rico, which is part of the United States. We are blessed to have a number of priests, some of them from our diocese, who are fluent in Spanish. So it was a joy on the great solemnity of the Assumption to go to our still new Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish and Shrine in Warsaw to help the Catholics in that area, including many from St. John’s, Goshen, close a beautiful festive day in honor of Our Lady. I ate three tacos and marched in a procession in the evening heat; and we concluded with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

A week later, I joined well over 1,000 Hispanic Catholics, a large number of them from St. Patrick Parish, Fort Wayne, along with Father Tom Ascheman, SVD, and Deacon Fernando Jimenez, soon, thanks be to God, scheduled to be ordained a priest for the conclusion of a weekend of prayer and renewal held at Bishop Luers High School. Many came from Columbus, Ohio, and Indianapolis; but most were from our diocese. There were presentations and prayer and the sacrament of penance. I concluded by celebrating Mass in Spanish, the language which I hope eventually to learn.

He told us how people who are mentally ill, but can do fine with medication, are often left out in the woods tied to a tree. He focuses on the very development of individuals who had worked hard to take care of them to see that they take their medications, and how many of them have been brought into the mainstream of society. He told us how some young children are called witches, because of the physical manner of their birth or something that happened in early childhood; and how he had worked with the bishop to rescue them, and see that they were taken care of.

He joined a club at Our Lady of Hungary School years ago, entitled simply “A Club for Seminarians.” Then a missionary priest arrived at his door; and now, his vocation first grasped, very dimly, at Our Lady of Hungary Parish in South Bend, is being lived out in missionary countries with poor roads and primitive practices in a far away place. Please keep him in your prayers.

The growth of religious life

Something to very much prayed for, and hoped for, is that the charity and gift of religious women once again flourish in our church. It is not possible to fully grasp what consecrated women have meant in our diocese over the years. So it was a joy to preside and receive the final vows of Sister Margaret Mary, OSF, on the Feast of St. Clare at the Franciscan Sisters in Mishawaka. A large number of priests and seminarians were present. So many young people. This congregation has 16 young women in formation. Most of our seminarians were there. The young Franciscan novices, who have their novitiate on the grounds of Marian High School, down the hill, were present. It would remind one of the words of Pope John Paul II, who, in an act of faith, looked forward to “a new springtime” for the church.

Such a phrase does not mean the church will be without struggle. There will always be struggle. There will always be attacks from the power of evil against the life of faith. But grace is stronger than sin; and goodness will overcome evil; and evil will never have the last word. We live in hope, and there is much hope in the beautiful chapel on the hill where there is prayer and adoration of the holy Eucharist around the clock every day.

For the 23rd time

It is hard to believe; but I have just attended for the 23rd time, the initial events marking the beginning of another Annual Bishop’s Appeal. For well I remember the winter morning when I arrived in Warsaw to greet the committee of priests and laity that had proposed this event. It has made it possible to do so much. Improving salaries for teachers. Grants for young people so they can attend our schools. The education of priests. The strengthening of the parishes from the fiscal and pastoral point of view. Assisting the poor. We watched our new video and together began our annual journey. It will be especially important to try to equal what we did last year — “the second highest ever,” because of the economy and the needs, which are growing.

Advancement for our deacons

The 11 men who are in formation for the permanent diaconate received the order of reader or lector at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on a recent Sunday morning. This is the first such class in my years as bishop. They have completed 2-1/2 years of intense study, and have a significant time yet to go. Each one has a spiritual director. The process of discernment continues as they determine whether or not they believe God is calling them to this vocation; and the church reflects through prayer and evaluation as to whether or not the vocation is truly present. Please keep all of them in your prayers.

The church of St. Peter, the Apostle

Throughout the country, great urban parishes are closing or being merged. We have an extraordinary exception in the beloved St. Peter, Fort Wayne. I celebrated Mass to observe the completion of this work with the replacement of the tower on top of the church under the expert guidance first of Father John Delaney, and more recently, of Father Phil Widmann. This church has been completely restored. A new hall called the Pavilion has been built. This renewal has been accompanied by the restoration of the neighborhood with new homes, and a new library, and a clearing away of old houses. Parking has been improved. Street lighting has been introduced, and the whole neighborhood has revived. St. Peter Parish was founded in 1872 with the church dedicated 20 years later.

The church was nearly full for a Saturday afternoon Mass. What was formerly the school is now a residence. I thank these two priests for what they have done; and it was a joy to celebrate this Mass, and think of all the great history of St. Peter’s. A novena to the Sacred Heart began in 1941 when the boys went off to war and was held every night for over 20 years. You will find elsewhere in this edition a copy of an article, which I wrote for the national Catholic magazine, America, a journal to which I have subscribed since my first assignment at St. Mary Parish, Beverly. It is reprinted here with approval, and I hope you find it instructive. I will see you in two weeks. I will surely be glad when we renew our every-week editions. Two weeks is too long.

A visitor from Benin and Togo

Archbishop Michael Blume, SVD, is the apostolic nuncio to these two tiny African countries. He is a missionary with the Society of the Divine Word, and how fitting that we have been blessed with two outstanding priests of this splendid missionary congregation who take care of historic St. Patrick Parish, Fort Wayne. Archbishop Blume was ordained by our own beloved Bishop Crowley many years ago in his parish church of Our Lady of Hungary, South Bend. The archbishop recently came to my home in Fort Wayne for Mass and lunch, and later joined some of our staff for cake and ice cream celebrating my birthday. He told us how people who are mentally ill, but can do fine with medication, are often left out in the woods tied to a tree. He focuses on the very development of individuals who had worked hard to take care of them to see that they take their medications, and how many of them have been brought into the mainstream of society. He told us how some young children are called witches, because of the physical manner of their birth or something that happened in early childhood; and how he had worked with the bishop to rescue them, and see that they were taken care of.

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A PASTORAL REFLECTION ON THE CONTROVERSY AT NOTRE DAME

The church and the university

BY BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

As summer plays itself out on the beautiful campus by the lake where the young Holy Cross priest, Edward Sorin, CSC, pitched his camp 177 years ago and began his great adventure, we must clarify the situation that so sundered the church last spring: What it is all about and what it is not about.

It is not about President Obama. He will do some good things as president and other things with which, as Catholics, we will strongly disagree.

It is ever so among presidents and most political leaders.

It is not about Democrats versus Republicans, nor was it a replay of the recent general election.

It is not about whether it is appropriate for the president of the United States to speak at Notre Dame or any great Catholic university on the pressing issues of the day. This is what universities do. No bishop should try to prevent that.

The response, so intense and widespread, is not about what this journal called “sectarian Catholicism.” Rather, the response of the faithful derives directly from the Gospel. In Matthew’s words, “Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good works, and glorify your heavenly Father” (5:13).

**Public witness**

Does a Catholic university have the responsibility to give witness to the Catholic faith and to the consequences of that faith by its actions and decisions — especially by a decision to confer its highest honor? If not, what is the meaning of a life of faith? And how can a Catholic institution expect its students to live by faith in the difficult decisions that will confront them in a culture often opposed to the Gospel?

Pope Benedict XVI, himself a former university professor, made his position clear when he spoke to Catholic educators in Washington, D.C., on April 17, 2008:

> Teachers and administrators, whether in universities or schools, have the duty and privilege to ensure that students receive instruction in Catholic doctrine and practice. This requires that public witness to the way of Christ, as found in the Gospel and upheld by the church's magisterium, shapes all aspects of an institution's life, both inside and outside the classroom.

In its decision to give its highest honor to a president who has repeatedly opposed even the smallest legal protection of the child in the womb, did Notre Dame surrender the responsibility that Pope Benedict believes Catholic universities have to give public witness to the truths revealed by God and taught by the church?

Another serious question of witness and moral responsibility before the Notre Dame administration concerns its sponsorship over several years of a sad and immoral play, offensive to the dignity of women, which many call pornographic, and which an increasing number of Catholic universities have cancelled, “The Vagina Monologues,” by Eve Ensler.

Although he spoke eloquently about the importance of dialogue with the president of the United States, the president of Notre Dame chose not to dialogue with his bishop on these two matters, both pastoral and both with serious ramifications for the care of souls, which is the core responsibility of the local bishop. Both decisions were shared with me after they were made and, in the case of the honorary degree, after President Obama had accepted. For the past 24 years, it has been my privilege to serve as the bishop of Notre Dame. It is not impolite to mention it at all. There is no Catholic identity apart from the church, and the university to the local bishop? No relationship? Someone who occasionally offers Mass on campus? Someone who sits on the platform at graduation? Or is the bishop the teacher in the diocese, responsible for souls, including the souls of students — in this case, the students at Notre Dame? Does the responsibility of the bishop to teach, to govern and to sanctify end at the gate of the university? In the spirit of “Ex Corde Ecclesiae,” which places the primary responsibility on the institution, I am proposing these questions for the university.

Professor John Cavadini has addressed the questions about the relationship of the Catholic university to the local bishop? No relationship? Someone who occasionally offers Mass on campus? Someone who sits on the platform at graduation? Or is the bishop the teacher in the diocese, responsible for souls, including the souls of students — in this case, the students at Notre Dame? Does the responsibility of the bishop to teach, to govern and to sanctify end at the gate of the university? In the spirit of “Ex Corde Ecclesiae,” which places the primary responsibility on the institution, I am proposing these questions for the university.

Professor John Cavadini has addressed the questions about the relationship of the university and the bishop in an especially insightful manner. He is chair of the theology department and an expert on the early church, with a special interest in St. Augustine. His remarks were a response to Father Jenkins’s rationale for presenting the play mentioned above.

The statement of our President (father Jenkins) barely mentions the church. It is as though the mere mention of a relationship with the church has become so alien to our ways of thinking and so offensive to our quest for a disembodied “excellence” that it has become impolite to mention it at all. There is no Catholic identity apart from the affiliation with the church. And again, I do not mean an imaginary church we sometimes might wish existed, but the concrete, visible communion of “hierarchic and charismatic gifts,” “at one holy and always in need of purification,” in which “each bishop represents his own church and all of (the bishops) together with the pope represent the whole church...” — Lumen Gentium, Nos. 4, 8, 23.

The ancient Gnostic heresy developed an elitist intellectual tradition which excused connection to the “fleshly” church of the bishop and devalued or spiritualized the sacraments. See we in danger of developing a gnosticized version of the “Catholic intellectual tradition,” one which floats free of any norming connection and so free of any concrete dam to Catholic identity?


It has been a great privilege and a source of joy to be associated with Notre Dame in the past 24 years as bishop. In so many ways, it is a splendid place. Part of this is because of the exemplary young men and women who come there from throughout the country. It is also because of its great spiritual traditions. The lines of young people preparing to receive the sacrament of reconciliation at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, the Masses in the residence halls, the prayerful liturgy at the basilica and the service of so many
Developments on campus

Yet the questions about the relationship of the university as a whole to the church still stand, and what happened on campus leading up to and during the graduation is significant for the present debate about Catholic higher education. I released a statement on Good Friday, asking the Catholic people and others of good will not to attend demonstrations by those who had come avowedly to “create a circus.” I referred to appropriate and acceptable responses within the Notre Dame community led by students. Titled “ND Response,” and drawing a significant number of professors, these responses were marked by prayer and church teaching, and they were orderly.

This journal and others in the media, Catholic and secular, reporting from afar, failed to make a distinction between the extremists on the one hand, and students and those who joined them in the last 48 hours before graduation. This latter group responded with prayer and substantive disagreement. They cooperated with university authorities.

In this time of crisis at the university, these students and professors, with the instinct of faith, turned to the bishop for guidance, encouragement and prayer. This had nothing to do with John Michael D’Arcy. It was related to their understanding of the episcopal office — a place you should be able to count on for the truth, as Francis contended in the second century when he encountered the Gnostics.

I attended the baccalaureate Mass the day before graduation, for the 25th time, speaking after holy Communion, as I always do. Then I led an evening rosary at the grotto with students, adults and a number of professors. We then went to a chapel on campus. It was packed for a whole night of prayer and eucharistic adoration.

It was my intention not to be on campus during graduation day. I had so informed Father Jenkins and the student leadership, with whom I was in touch nearly every day. This is the kind of deference and respect I have shown to the Notre Dame administration, to three Notre Dame presidents, over the years. I found it an increasingly sad time, and I was convinced that there were no winners, but I was wrong.

As graduation drew near, I knew I should be with the students. It was only right that the bishop be with them, for they were on the side of truth, and their demonstration was disciplined, rooted in prayer and substantive. I told the pro-life rally, several thousand people on a lovely May day, that they were the true heroes. Despite the personal costs to themselves and their families, they chose to give public witness to the Catholic faith contrary to the example of a powerful, international university, against which they were respectfully but firmly in disagreement. Among those in attendance were many who work daily at crisis pregnancy centers on behalf of life.

The silent board

In the midst of the crisis at Notre Dame, the board of trustees came to campus in April for their long-scheduled spring meeting. They said nothing. When the meeting was completed, they made no statement and gave no advice. In an age when transparency is urged as a way of life on and off campus, they chose not to enter the conversation going on all around them and shaking the university to its roots. We learned nothing about their discussions.

I firmly believe that the board of trustees must take up its responsibility afresh, with appropriate study and prayer. They also must understand the seriousness of the present moment. This requires spiritual and intellectual formation on the part of the men and women of industry, business and technology who make up the majority of the board. Financial generosity is no longer sufficient for membership on the boards of great universities, and it speaks with a language defensive, absolutist and narrow. It never mentions Christ and always subject to truth.

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Critical Questions

As bishops, we must be teachers and pastors. In that spirit, I would respectfully put these questions to the Catholic universities in the diocese I serve and to other Catholic universities.

Do you consider it a responsibility in your public statements, in your life as a university and in your actions, including your public awards, to give witness to the Catholic faith in all its fullness?

What is your relationship to the church and, specifically, to the local bishop and his pastoral authority as defined by the Second Vatican Council?

Finally, a more fundamental question: Where will the great Catholic universities search for a guiding light in the years ahead? Will it be the Land O’Lakes Statement or “Ex Corde Ecclesiae”? The first comes from a frantic time, with finances as the driving force. Its understanding of freedom is defensive, absolutist and narrow. It never mentions Christ and always subject to truth. It speaks of freedom in the broader, Catholic philosophical and theological tradition, as linked to the common good, to the rights of others and always subject to truth.

Unlike Land O’Lakes, it is communal, reflective of the developments since Vatican II, and it speaks with a language enlightened by the Holy Spirit.

On these three questions, I respectfully submit, rests the future of Catholic higher education in this country and so much else.
TODAY'S CATHOLIC

YEAR of our PRIESTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the happiness that could be found in being a part of the lives of families in the good times and bad, bringing Christ’s love to them.”

Since his ordination to the priesthood in 2006, Father Freiburger has been assigned to St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, where he finds that “offering the Eucharistic liturgy as the most wonderful gift that the Lord gave us.” He also enjoys the many ways a priest is able to teach, through homilies, in classrooms catechizing youth and meeting with couples before baptism or marriage.

Young Jason Freiburger grew up in a home where the religious life was discussed a beautiful calling, and it is his opinion that the family is the heart of the church and whatever occurs at home will be the fruit that comes forth.

Regarding seminary training, Father Freiburger was asked if there is a need for classes not in the present curriculum. His response was, “the classes that seminaries already provide are all valuable so additional ones would be difficult, but a class on basic finances and management would be helpful to many without that in the educational background.”

Father Freiburger is in agreement with other priests who, when asked about the source for more vocations to the religious life say that so many search for happiness in the wrong places. In his words, “the freedom to choose what makes us happy is one of God’s greatest gifts ... true freedom is when one is able to choose the truth, because truth is good and God is the ultimate good. Hence, one is happy when they choose God. There is no greater source for truth than that found within the Catholic Church. If people can discover the joy that is found when one truly lives the mysteries of the Catholic faith, then the world would be filled with holy and just people working to provide others the means to this happiness; not found in material wealth but in spiritual treasures.”

PERMANENT DIACONATE CANDIDATES INSTALLED AS READERS

Eleven men from around the diocese, who have been in formation for the past two and a half years to become permanent deacons of the church gathered with family and friends at a special Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne on Sunday, Aug. 23. During the Mass, Bishop John M. D’Arcy conferred on the men the Institution of Reader, the second step toward ordination as deacon. Each candidate received a special Bible from the bishop. In front from left are Ginny and Jerry Kohrman of St. Therese in Fort Wayne, Stan and Karen Le Mieux of St. Patrick in Ligonier, Annie and Mel Tardy of St. Augustine in South Bend, Bishop John M. D’Arcy, Pat and Jim Tighe of St. Jude in Fort Wayne, and Karen and Jim Fitzpatrick of St. Vincent of Fort Wayne. In back from left are John and Mary Hilger of St. Patrick, Arcola, Jim and Emily Kitchens of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Fort Wayne, Mary Szymczak, associate director of the Vocations Office, Bill Gallagher of Sacred Heart, Notre Dame, Bob and Jaci Byrne of St. Anthony de Padua in South Bend, Donna and Dave Elchart of St. John in Goshen, and Kathy and Jim Fuchs of St. Pius X in Granger.

Pittsburgh Priest to Host Hawaii

15 Day – 4 Island Tour
Departs January 21, 2010

Join other Roman Catholics on the most affordable two-week, four-island Hawaiian vacation you will ever find. Your YMT Catholic chaplain is Father Joseph Codori, Parochial Vicar of St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church in Pittsburgh, PA. “Father Joe” has traveled extensively over the years; this will be his third trip as a YMT chaplain. Second on this Hawaiian vacation. Mass will be celebrated some days while on tour, for those in the group who wish to participate. Your group will fly to Honolulu for five nights in Waikiki, three nights in Kona, one night in Hilo, two nights on Maui, and three nights on Kauai. Sightseeing on every island includes: a Honolulu city tour with Punchbowl Crater and Pearl Harbor cruise to the Arizona Memorial, the Wailua riverboat cruise, Iao Valley excursion & the old whaling capital of Lahaina, a Hilo orchid garden and Rainbow Falls, Black Sand Beaches, Volcanoes National Park and more! Your price, from only $1728 (per person, double occupancy) includes all taxes, baggage handling, hotels, inter-island airfare, and escorted sightseeing on every island. Roundtrip airfare is extra. Call for prices from your closest major airport. *Your Man Tours specializes in Hawaii and has had its own office in Honolulu since 1967. Prices are the lowest because travelers buy wholesale, directly from the actual Hawaiian tour operator. Friends and family are welcome!

For a brochure, information, reservations, and letter from Father Joe Codori call 7 days a week.

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Former ‘skii bum,’ engineer makes perpetual profession of vows

Sister Margaret Mary Mitchel knows ‘This is it!’

BY DIANE FREEBY

MISHAWAKA — It might be more challenging to hear God’s voice in today’s noisy world, but that didn’t stop a self-proclaimed ski bum who had slipped away from the church.

Sister Margaret Mary, OSF, heard that call and recently made her perpetual profession of vows, becoming a fully-professed Sister of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration.

Sister Margaret Mary completed eight years of preparation and consecrated her life to God during a Mass celebrated by Bishop John M. D’Arcy and 24 consecrating priests, family and friends gathered at the St. Francis Convent chapel in Mishawaka on Aug. 11 to share in the eucharistic celebration.

Sister Margaret Mary’s journey began years ago. As a member of Our Lady of Carmel Parish in the Lafayette area, she says her family provided her a “very solid Catholic upbringing.” The daughter of Tom and Marie Michel, Sister Margaret Mary says she and her sisters Sara and Theresa and her brother Aaron had the “normal amount of involvement in church,” attending Mass on Sundays and holy days. She also praises her parish’s dedication to the rosary and eucharistic adoration during a time when many parishes gave up those traditions.

After graduating from Carmel High School in 1985, Sister Margaret Mary pursued an engineering career at Purdue University. Earning a bachelor’s of science and industrial engineering in 1989, she headed off to New Hampshire to work for a year.

It was during this time away from home that she began to drift away from the church. “I thought, here I am adoring him and I’m never going to be the same. And this isn’t Colorado here, it’s not. I saw a sister having a family visit, and I thought, ‘I’m trying to pull myself away from Colorado and be open to this call. And this isn’t Colorado here, it’s never going to be the same.’ And I thought, here I am adoring him in his chapel and he shows me this and says ‘You’re mine now!’ I just wanted to dance up and down the aisle! This is it... I know!”

Sister Margaret Mary made a home visit before returning for her fourth year as a teacher at St. Matthew’s in South Bend. Sister Margaret Mary also maintains the convent Web site and can frequently be seen out and about with her digital camera capturing various convent events.

For more information on vocations and what’s happening with the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, visit www.ssfpa.org.
that is on fire with the Holy Spirit. The parish is experiencing a new springtime, everyone is involved, and people are saying that they are being fed and want more,” Rodtsbrooks adds.

The committee consulted with Queen of Peace pastor, Father Dan Scheidt, and chose a “spiritual bouquet” for all priests in the diocese as their first initiative. Because prayers are like flowers, a spiritual bouquet consists of a collection of spiritual offerings for a specific intention.

For this spiritual bouquet, offerings such as a Mass, rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, day of fasting, holy hour, will be offered and collected throughout the year.

The names of the priests serving the diocese have been arranged on a calendar according to their ordination dates. The calendar and spiritual bouquet can be found on the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Web site at www.diocesefwsb.org/yop/.

Each priest may be selected on the Web site either by last name or by date of ordination. After clicking on a priest’s name, a form will appear to select the prayer or offering that will be made. By submitting the form, the offering will be recorded, and a tally of the year for Priests, the number of prayers and offerings will be tallied and sent to that priest as a spiritual bouquet certificate by the Year for Priests committee from Queen of Peace.

“The ordination day is special because that is the day when the priest was gifted to us by God and we are drawn to give thanksgiving to the Lord and Our Lady,” McGuire emphasizes. But people are also encouraged to offer spiritual bouquets to any priest in the diocese at anytime during the year. “When you start to think about it, you might want to pray for the priest that has
tized you, the priests that have heard your confessions, the priest that married you, or the numerous ways a priest has moved your life forward,” Fitzmaurice adds.

In an effort to help other parishes jump start a Year for Priests program, the committee has developed a “Roll up your Sleeves for Our Priests” sheet (see sidebar), which provides resources and ideas to help others respond to the Vatican’s call to honor priests.

Ideas for the Year for Priests from parishes across the country can be found at http://usccb.org/yearforpriests/resources.shtml. All information on the Web site is for parish use, McGuire says. “People are posting their initiatives from around the country to give ideas for the Year for Priests. That way they can replicate an idea they like or change it, in whatever way suits their needs.” She adds, “They can look to see what somebody else did. It really shows how connected our church is.”

One of the ideas that has come from the Queen of Peace committee is “We Love Our Priest” buttons. It is another opportunity to show all priests that their efforts are supported throughout the year. The committee emphasizes that the buttons show support for the priesthood, not individual priests. Administrative assistants in parishes throughout the diocese will be receiving e-mails that have information on the “We Love Our Priest” button and an order form for the buttons.

The committee stresses that parishes begin first with prayer as they form ideas for a Year for Priests plan. “Our Lady calls us together and the group is motivated by the call to support the priests. The Year for Priests is about really understanding the gift of the priesthood,” Rodtsbrooks concludes.

For more information on the Year for Priests contact the Queen of Peace committee at (574) 255-9674.

### Roll up Your Sleeves for Our Priests!

**Web Sites with Information on the Year for Priests:**

- [www.usccb.org/yearforpriests/](http://www.usccb.org/yearforpriests/)
- [www.diocesefwsb.org/vocations.htm](http://www.diocesefwsb.org/vocations.htm)

**A sampling of laity activities at Queen of Peace:**

- Plan an end of the Year for Priests celebration.
- Plan a book group using a book about the priesthood or a priest-saint.
- Plan a “faith and film festival” with films celebrating the ministry of priests.
- Plan a book group using a book about the priesthood or a priest-saint.
- Plan a speaker or retreat, to foster spiritual growth.
- Plan a bonfire and cookout at Our Lady’s Garden (Queen of Peace flower or vegetable garden) and invite Queen of Peace neighbors as an evangelization effort.
- Celebrate Priesthood Sunday on Oct. 25 by making available “We Love Our Priests” buttons for parishioners.

Rebecca Fitzmaurice pins on a “We Love Our Priests” button to the shirt of Mike Portolese at Queen of Peace’s PeaceFest 2009. The button is in recognition of Pope Benedict XVI’s proclamation of the Year for Priests this year.

__NOTRE DAME priests attend Diaz’ swearing-in as Vatican ambassador__

**NOTRE DAME — University of Notre Dame alumnus Miguel H. Diaz was sworn in Aug. 21 as the United States ambassador to the Holy See in a ceremony at the U.S. State Department. Unable to attend the ceremony because of a previous commitment, Notre Dame’s president, Holy Cross Father John I. Jenkins asked two fellow Holy Cross priests, both friends of Diaz, to represent him there.

Father James K. Foster, assistant dean of Notre Dame’s College of Science, and Father Edwin H. Obermiller, director of the office of vocations for the Indiana Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross, attended both the State Department swearing-in ceremony and a subsequent luncheon hosted by St. John’s College, where Diaz teaches theology.

Diaz, who earned master’s and doctoral degrees from Notre Dame in 1992 and 2000, respectively, is one of three alumni of the Notre Dame Graduate School now serving in the ambassadorial corps.

Notre Dame alumna Martha Larzarella Campbell was also sworn in Friday as the U.S. ambassador to the Marshall Islands. Campbell, who has worked in the State Department’s foreign service for 29 years, earned a master’s degree in political science from Notre Dame in 1971.

Former U.S. Rep. Timothy Roemer, who earned master’s and doctoral degrees in political science from Notre Dame in 1981 and 1985, was sworn in as U.S. ambassador to India last month.

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Abortion has no place in health care bill, bishops' spokeswoman says

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The president of Planned Parenthood confuses authentic health care with access to abortion and all forms of artificial contraception, said Deirdre A. McQuade, assistant director for policy and communications in the U.S. bishops’ Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities. Responding to a column by Cecile Richards, president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, that appeared Aug. 18 on the Huffington Post Web site, McQuade said health care reform pending in Congress should provide people with access to basic health care, not services that harm human life. “Fundamentally, abortion is not health care,” McQuade told Catholic News Service. “It should not be considered fundamental in any way to any health care reform at the federal or state level. “She’s shifting the language around to say universal health care means coverage of every single legal medical procedure. Nobody’s proposing that,” McQuade said.

The bishops have called for any health care legislative measure to remain “abortion neutral,” that is, that existing laws and policies governing abortion and abortion funding be preserved. U.S. law does not allow the use of government funds for most abortions.

US bishops press for further easing of restrictions on Cuba

HAVANA (CNS) — A delegation of U.S. Catholic bishops visiting Cuba urged U.S. President Barack Obama and Cuban leaders to take advantage of the change in the U.S. administration to end the trade embargo Washington has imposed on the island nation since 1962. “I believe that the church (both in Cuba and the U.S.) wants to be the protagonist of a better approach,” Bishop Thomas G. Wenski of Orlando, Fla., a member of the U.S. bishops’ international policy committee, told reporters at a press conference in Havana Aug. 18. After a meeting earlier in the day with the staff at the U.S. Interests Section, which represents the government in the absence of formal diplomatic ties between the two countries, Bishop Wenski said he believes the Obama administration’s revision of policies toward Cuba is serious and proceeding step by step. The U.S. church supports easing travel to Cuba and eliminating the embargo that prohibits most trade between the two countries. Bishop Wenski, Boston Cardinal Sean P. O’Malley and San Antonio Auxiliary Bishop Oscar Cantu were visiting Cuba the week of Aug. 17, in part to see the island’s progress in recovering from three hurricanes and two tropical storms that hit late last summer and fall.

Nuns, priests urged to reach out to promote vocations

NEW ORLEANS (CNS) — U.S. communities of women and men religious need to reach out to young Catholics to let them know about religious life and those communities also should have a full-time vocations director, said a Mercy sister involved in a new major study of vocations. “What’s happening now, particularly with those who are younger is that a lot of them haven’t had direct experience with men and women religious through the school or parish” where they grew up, said Sister Mary Bendyna. The nun is executive director of the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate and principal author of the “Study of Recent Vocations to Religious Life,” released Aug. 11. It was conducted by CARA, a research center based at Georgetown University in Washington, on behalf of the National Religious Vocation Conference, a professional association of religious vocation directors based in Chicago. The study surveyed 4,000 men and women who are in formation or newly vowed members.

Shriver remembered for her ‘ardent faith and generous public service

BARNSTABLE, Mass. (CNS) — Special Olympics founder Eunice Kennedy Shriver, who died Aug. 11, was “a woman of ardent faith and generous public service” in her work with the developmentalistically and physically disabled, said Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States. In a letter to Shriver’s family released to the press and posted on the Special Olympics Web site, the archbishop conveyed the condolences of Pope Benedict XVI. He said the pope “unites himself spiritually with each of you at this difficult time, holding close to his heart Eunice as she is called home to eternal life and trusting in the words of sacred Scripture: ‘What will separate us from the love of Christ?’” News reports said the 88-year-old Shriver, sister of the late President John F. Kennedy, died in a hospital in Barnstable, on Cape Cod. At her side were her husband, R. Sargent Shriver, the couple’s five children and their spouses, and the Shriver’s 19 grandchildren. She had been in failing health after suffering a couple of strokes in recent years and was hospitalized several days before her death. The Boston Globe reported that a public wake for Shriver was to be held Aug. 13 at Our Lady of Victory Church in Hyannis.

Doctors remove pope’s cast, say wrist is healing well

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Doctors have removed the cast and wires from Pope Benedict XVI’s right wrist and said the healing process went perfectly. “A follow-up X-ray was performed, which demonstrated the consolidation of the fracture,” Dr. Patrizio Polisca, the pope’s personal physician, said in a statement released by the Vatican Aug. 21. “The recovery of its functionality, begun immediately, will be completed with an adequate program of rehabilitation,” the statement said. The X-ray and the removal of the cast were performed in the small clinic at the papal villa in Castel Gandolfo, south of Rome. According to Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, papal spokesman, Pope Benedict broke his wrist in a fall after tripping in the dark looking for a light switch. The accident July 17 took place in the chalet in Les Combes where the pope was vacationing in the northern Italian Alps.

Columnist-commentator Robert Novak dies

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Robert Novak, a longtime syndicated columnist and political commentator who joined the Catholic Church in 1998, died at his home in Washington early Aug. 18 after battling brain cancer for more than a year. A funeral Mass was to be celebrated for him Aug. 21 at St. Patrick Church in Washington, followed by a private interment.

Pope makes new appointments

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has chosen a 42-year-old Italian priest with several years of diplomatic experience as the No. 2 official in the Vatican’s foreign affairs office. The pope named Msgr. Ettore Balestrero to be undersecretary for relations with states Aug. 17. He replaces Msgr. Pietro Parolin, 54, who was named an archbishop and nuncio to Venezuela the same day.

Tennessee bishop hospitalized

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (CNS) — Bishop Richard F. Stika of Knoxville is recuperating from a diabetic episode suffered Aug. 15 in Florida that required hospitalization. Bishop Stika had been scheduled for open heart attack as part of what Deacon Sean Smith, Knoxville diocesan chancellor, termed a “diabetic crisis.”

Catholic students awarded fellowships for religious studies

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pursuing a master of divinity degree "certainly isn’t the path to riches in this world, but it’s something I really like to do," said Joe Kolar, a graduate student at the University of Notre Dame. “I know I would like to make a career out of ministry in some way, shape or form," he said. Kolar is one of 15 Catholic students to receive a fellowship this year from the Fund for Theological Education.

On the Web ...

• New bullying-prevention Web site: www.TeensAgainstBullying.org
• U.S. bishops views on health reforms: www.usccb.org/healthcare
• U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops launch Web site to educate Catholics about the forthcoming English translation of the new Roman Missal, the book of prayers used for Mass: www.usccb.org/romanmissal

News Briefs

ARCHBISHOP AYMOND AFTER HIS INSTALLATION MASS

(CNS PHOTO/PIER HOMA, JR., CLARION HERALD)

U.S. Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond of New Orleans applauds the brass band playing on his way to the reception following his installation Mass at the St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans Aug. 20. Archbishop Aymond, 59, became the first New Orleans native to be installed as archbishop in the 216-year history of the local church since the formal establishment of the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas in 1793.
AROUND THE DIOCESE

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS AT BISHOP’S APPEAL DINNER

Bishop John M. D’Arcy was congratulated at the kickoff dinner of the Annual Bishop’s Appeal on Aug. 18, the day he also celebrated his 77th birthday. Appeal chairs Julie and John Kenny presented a cake to Bishop D’Arcy. The kickoff dinner in South Bend was Aug. 26.

Radiologic Technology Program at USF receives maximum accreditation

FORT WAYNE — Donna Lyke, chair of the Department of Radiologic Technology at the University of Saint Francis, has announced that USF’s Radiologic Technology Program has received the maximum award of accreditation from the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. The maximum eight-year accreditation is granted to a limited number of programs.

St. Charles CardinalFest to include 5K Run/Walk

FORT WAYNE — St. Charles Girl Scout Troop 363, in conjunction with CardinalFest 2009, is sponsoring the first annual 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, Sept. 19, at St. Charles. The race begins at 9 a.m., starting at St. Charles (corner of Reed and Trier roads) and winding its way through New Glenwood subdivision and ending at St. Charles.

Bishop Dwenger offers SAT prep course

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Dwenger High School is offering an SAT prep course on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Classes will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 15, and on Thursday, Oct. 29. The 14 sessions will include the diagnostic testing, six verbal and six math sessions.

Preparing a Catholic funeral: A pre-planning workshop

FORT WAYNE — St. Charles Borromeo Parish will present a pre-planning workshop for a Catholic funeral Monday, Sept. 14, at 7 p.m. in the Hession Parish Center.

Steinacker, pastoral associate for St. Charles, and Karen Hope, music director for St. Charles are speakers.

To register, call the parish office at (260) 482-2186. Registration is not required, but encouraged in order to provide hand-outs for all.

Huntington native among 23 lay missionaries commissioned

STONY POINT, N.Y. — After four weeks of orientation at three sites, 18 women and five men were commissioned as Salesian Lay Missionaries (SLMs) on Saturday, Aug. 8.

One of the new missionaries is Stephen Widelski of Huntington.

Salesian Father Thomas Dunne, provincial superior, presided over the ceremony. Widelski is a native of Fort Wayne, Indiana. He attended the Don Bosco Retreat Center in Haverrstraw-Stony Point, N.Y. The Mass also marked the closing of the annual retreat for about 30 Salesians.

During the Mass the missionaries were presented with just-blessed medals, a reflection of their commitment to personal conversion and to the mission of carrying the love of Jesus Christ joyfully to their various ministry assignments.

At 34, Steve Widelski is one of the oldest of this year’s SLMs. Widelski has already served four years in three Salesian programs in Bolivia, Venezuela and Sierra Leone, as well as two-and-a-half years in the Dominican Republic with the Province of Orlando and six months in the state of Paraña, Brazil, as part of team from the parish of St. Louis de Montfort in Haverstraw-Stony Point, N.Y.

Widelski, a graduate of Huntington’s Bishop Dwenger High School, had a successful missionary experience he has found, as almost all the young missionaries do, that one receives as much from the people whom they serve as one contributes to them.
‘Party at Mom’s House’ celebrates the queenship of Mary

BY KAREN CLIFFORD

MISHAWAKA — It started as a Queen of Peace Parish picnic in 2008 and evolved to a three-day event called PeaceFest 2009 that included activities for all family members. Father Dan Scheidt, pastor of Queen of Peace Parish asked his parishioners to “Volunteer, Invite and Participate” — in essence to become VIP’s for PeaceFest.

“An event such as this requires all three to be successful,” noted PeaceFest Chair Mike Portolese. “We asked our parishioners to offer two hours of their time to help at some point in the weekend, invite friends and family, and to attend and support the events offered.”

PeaceFest 2009, affectionately called by Father Scheidt as “Party at Mom’s House,” was conceived to coincide with the parish’s patronal feast of the Queenship of Mary. Friday evening’s kick-off included teen worship and praise in the big tent, and a casino night for adults in the parish hall.

Casino night chair John Hite noted that tip boards were running hot and heavy all night long. “Tons of fabulous gifts were won for between a $1 and $3 chance. We even ran a tip board for two tickets to a Notre Dame football game,” said Hite. “The highlight of the night had to be our special guest dealers, Father Dan Scheidt’s brothers Dominic and Damon graciously traveled all the way from Michigan City to help out the parish,” he added.

Virginia Leinen, co-chair of teen worship and praise, was delighted that local musician Josh Comeau performed, and Mary Bielski, a national speaker for the Steubenville conferences and Life Teen, was able to address the youth in attendance.

“Josh is a wonderful Catholic singer-songwriter as well as youth minister for Holy Family Parish, and Mary is a dynamic young woman on fire for our Lord,” she explained.

Miriam Copenhaber, who will be a freshman at Indiana University-South Bend this fall, says the teen praise and worship is crucial for today’s youth. “It’s important for the youth to come together and express their faith especially with our materialistic society,” she emphasized.

Saturday morning’s festivities included “The Mother of All Rummages Sales.” According to rummage sale chair Susan Johnson, the items donated for the sale filled the parish’s maintenance equipment shed.

“Our donations ranged from clothes, toys, books, TVs, garden equipment-tools, collectibles, crafts, and other household items,” she says. Things remaining after the sale were picked up by the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

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SOUTH BEND — Just as the needs of pregnant women in St. Joseph County continue to grow, so does the ability of the Women’s Care Center to continue serving them.

With 14 pregnancy help centers operating throughout northern Indiana, lower Michigan and in Ohio, the office located just down the street from where the very first Care Center opened 25 years ago has expanded with Bishop John M. D’Arcy’s blessing.

He was on hand recently for the dedication ceremony. A supporter since the beginning, Bishop D’Arcy prayed especially for the Women’s Care Center and all who come there.

“This will be a place where you will give counseling and advice to women in need, to save the unborn,” said Bishop D’Arcy to a room full of care center supporters and staff — “a place, which respects the dignity of the human person. By this great work, for the most defenseless among us, you will help all of us continue in the journey where Jesus Christ will become closer to his people.”

Located at the corner of LaSalle and Notre Dame Avenue, this Women’s Care Center office will do more than house the corporate offices and provide central storage for all the donated baby items. It will allow counselors to continue serving those in need by offering pregnancy tests and helping women choose life for their babies. Women’s Care Center President Ann Manion says they also hope to make a positive impact on the problem women have accessing prenatal medical care in St. Joseph County.

“That has reached a 16-year low in our community,” explained Manion, “and so we were becoming concerned our clients were not receiving medical prenatal care.”

Manion said the Women’s Care Center joined with Saint Joseph’s Regional Medical Center to find a way to work together in solving that problem.

“We started seeing all kinds of other benefits because as the women are coming back for their prenatal care, we can walk the path of life with them, and help them with parenting classes and goal counseling. Crib Club and all the things we already do. So they’re not only getting medical care, they’re keeping in touch with us.”

Manion said care center clients, many of whom come in to have a pregnancy test and are facing an unplanned pregnancy, receive nine months of prenatal care with the midwives. She said ultimately they may be joined by family practice residents, and those details are being considered.

The new addition adds about another 3,000 square feet of space to the already 3,000 square feet that was utilized for counseling rooms, storage and the Crib Club.

Parenting classes will now have a dedicated room and no longer need to be held in the reception area. The new basement will serve as the hub for collecting and distributing donated items, such as baby clothes, formula and cribs. The counselors themselves will have more elbow room to provide services to their clients, and the nurse who provides nearly 40 hours a week of ultrasounds will be able to continue that vital service.

“Over 90-percent of abortion-minded women choose life after looking at an ultrasound picture,” said Manion. “And that’s abortion-minded, not just everybody. It’s such a powerful, powerful bonding tool.”

Over 90-percent of abortion-minded women choose life after looking at an ultrasound picture, said Bishop D’Arcy at a dedication ceremony earlier in August.

Bishop D’Arcy blessed the Women’s Care Center at a dedication ceremony earlier in August. This exterior shot of the Women’s Care Center shows the work that was just completed. Bishop John M. D’Arcy blessed the Women’s Care Center at a dedication ceremony earlier in August.
of over 100 prizes by parishioners. “People buy a ticket and put it in the container in front of the prize they want to win,” remarked raffle chair Linda O’Neil.

The entertainment line-up for Saturday afternoon included Polynesian dancers, a magic show, a Vacation Bible School song and dance, and dancers from St. Adalbert Parish in South Bend.

Saturday night required those in attendance for Trivia Night to put on their thinking caps to answer questions. To keep children from becoming bored while the trivia event was being held, babysitting for a nominal fee was offered that included art, cooking, games, a movie and a campfire sing-a-long. On Sunday morning an outdoor Mass under the big tent was celebrated by Father Scheidt. Music for the Mass was led by a brass ensemble and a choir drawn from local area Catholic churches.

The event ended on Sunday afternoon with a picnic. “The proceeds of PeaceFest will be used to further the ministries of Queen of Peace Parish including our school, St. Vincent de Paul Society, continued parish facility updates, expand our music program, and other programs to benefit our parish community,” Portolese concluded.

Debbie Anthony, far left, and Cathy Shamo, Queen of Peace parishioners, talk to walking stick vendor Dennis Drake about his antique lathe wood lathe used to make the sticks during PeaceFest 2009.
Mishawaka Marian team ‘plays like a champion’

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWAKA — Play Like a Champion is the topic of discussion this fall between the Marian administration and the Marian coaching staff.

“The words are not only the popular mantra of the Notre Dame faithful, but they represent the in-depth program geared to place the proper emphasis on youth development and sports,” remarked Reggie Glon.

“We have been rebuilding they are developing a team to compete,” remarked Coach Tim McCauley. “Though our team is relatively young, I see that we will have strong individual performances throughout the rest of the season.

“I think that we have a pretty deep squad, we have three solid sophomores and two strong seniors putting scores together to compete,” McCauley said.

“Bridget Liedel is a senior that is now our number one and Ellen Macris is a sophomore that is our number two and the other are staying right with them in match-es.”

“I’m pretty proud of the fact that we are known as a team that is well respected in the golf community as good sports and full of character when competing,” stated McCauley.

“Bridget Liedel is a senior that is well respected in the golf community as good sports and full of character when competing,” stated McCauley.

“We have been practicing the three Ts — teamwork, training and mental toughness,” explained Goodchild. “I see good things on the horizon for both the girls’ and boys’ teams.”

Girls’ golf

Marian’s golf team isn’t rebuilding they are developing while competing.

“This season our boys will be senior dominated with Greg McMillon, Nick Moskolis, Joseph Molnar and Peter Hayes leading the way,” remarked Goodchild.

“Tony Spulding is a sophomore that will add to our competitiveness.

“We return seven senior starters with our three captains being Emily Griffith, Shauna Barry and Jordan Lundwing,” commented Flynn. “Andrea Wade is our big offensive threat and along with Megan Cummins in midfield we have defenders Mariah Douglas and Dani Meyers.

“The energy level is the highest that I have seen from our girls,” exclaimed Flynn. “We expect to be fast and fun to watch with a different kind of excitement on the field.”

Boys’ cross country

There is a new coach at the helm of the cross-country program at Marian, and the Knights are excited.

“Coach Rod “The Trailblazer” Goodchild, brings with him a wealth of experience and more importantly a sense of Marian pride and tradition.”

“T” have been around Marian since I attended the school in the 1960s,” quipped Goodchild. “I am so pleased to be associated with the young people that make up the cross country team.

“The MGM are made up of freshmen runners Maggie Pendergast, Gabi Skwarczynski and Melissa Suth,” commented Goodchild.

“All of our girls continue to work hard and epitomize our program.

“We have been working the three Ts — teamwork, training and mental toughness,” explained Goodchild. “I see good things on the horizon for both the girls’ and boys’ teams.”

Boys’ tennis

The Knights Boys Tennis team will again be in the hunt for the NIC crown as they take to the hard courts and make some adjustments and fill some holes vacated by graduation.

“We have had some good numbers of boys trying out for the team and they have worked hard,” explained Coach Sarah Stanchin.

“We have a good group of kids and they are improving.

“We are a different team than the opposite of the boys’ team and they have their sights set on some ambitious goals.

“We are a different team than the boys when you look at experience,” explained Goodchild.

“We are anchored by what we refer to as the MGM.

“The MGM are made up of freshman runners Maggie Pendergast, Gabi Skwarczynski and Melissa Suth,” commented Goodchild.

“All of our girls continue to work hard and epitomize our program.

“We have been working the three Ts — teamwork, training and mental toughness,” explained Goodchild. “I see good things on the horizon for both the girls’ and boys’ teams.”
Bishop Dwenger has big plans for fall

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — With the August heat at their backs and book bags in hand, athletes across the diocese are back to school, geared up and ready for another fall sports season.

Football

Back on the sidelines for the Bishop Dwenger Saints this season, Coach Chris Svarczkopf (77-17) enters his eighth season as head coach. His assistants this season will be John Tone, Grant Veith, David Watercutter, Colin Williams, Mike Obergfell, Brian Hartzog, John Eppard, Mike Wilkins, Mike Obergfell, Brian Veith, David Watercutter, Colin Williams.

The Saints had a stellar season in 2008, finishing 14-1 overall and undefeated in conference play. Despite the loss of a loaded athletic senior class a year ago, the Saints return an impressive offensive team of Scott Bierbaum, Shib Neddeff, Andy Hartzog, John Eppard, Mike Wilkins, Mike Obergfell, Brian Veith, David Watercutter, Colin Williams.

Boys' cross country

With a goal of redeeming themselves after missing a trip to the state meet by just one point in 2008, the Bishop Dwenger boys' cross-country team is ready and running full speed ahead towards the 2009 season. Six teams advance from the semi-state and Coach Eric Ade is hopeful his boys are ready to be one of them.

In his sixth season at Bishop Dwenger, Ade and assistant coach Nathan Arata have 34 young men out for the sport. "One key to our team is consistent training over the summer months. The boys do a great job of motivating each other," explained Ade.

Seven runners score in a meet and this year’s most likely are Luke Monper, Andy Brennan, Andrew Eckrich, Sam Gray, Phil Schroeder, Nick Brand and Doug Bennett.

Freshman Luke Miller and sophomore James Myers could also find themselves vying for a varsity spot.

Boys’ soccer

With six conference championship ships under his belt, Coach Mike Khorshid is shooting for a seventh title.

"We have plenty of returning players and should be strong offensively this season," explained Khorshid, who begins his 12th year with the Bishop Dwenger Saints boys’ soccer team.

"We hope to repeat a conference championship and advance in post-season play. Of course, it will be important we avoid any injuries," added Khorshid. The Saints will be led by letter winners Sean Black, Jon O’Shaughnessy, James Till, Andy McQuire and Billy Khorshid (all-district, all-conference, News-Sentinel all-area). The assistant coaches for the Saints are Carlos Cruz, Carl Dorrisant and Kraig Keys.

Girls’ soccer

Coach Jason Wisniewski and his Lady Saints team are ready for another season on the field. Wisniewski predicted, "I believe we have the right core of players to have a successful season and should we stay healthy and develop throughout the season, we should be in a good position to go far in the post-season state tournament. We also play one of the toughest schedules in the state and will know what we need to work on early with games versus Snider, Evansville Memorial, Bishop Luers, Cathedral and Carmel in the first two weeks."

Key players returning for the Saints include Jordan Moss, Sarah Killion, Emily Chura, Gia Casaburo and Emma Satterwhite.

Becca Beier, Lissy DeHaven, Kathleen Brown, Hadley Rahrig, Melanie Ernst, Mary Beier, Aubrey Schrader and Katie Stout are also expected to contribute significantly this season along with two or three freshmen that could find themselves in the starting lineup. Michelle Pray will again serve as assistant coach.

Girls’ cross country

Captains for the 2009 Bishop Dwenger girls’ cross-country team are seniors Staci Roberts, Julia Obegfel and Meghan McTague. The Saints have 12 runners returning and welcome four newcomers, including junior Julie Lee, a top distance runner which began in June. Hayes was encouraged by a well-rounded squad, which included seniors Sean Black, Jon O’Shaughnessy, James Till, Andy McQuire and Billy Khorshid (all-district, all-conference, News-Sentinel all-area). The assistant coaches for the Saints are Carlos Cruz, Carl Dorrisant and Kraig Keys.

Girls’ soccer

Coach Jason Wisniewski and his Lady Saints team are ready for another season on the field. Wisniewski predicted, “I believe we have the right core of players to have a successful season and should we stay healthy and develop throughout the season, we should be in a good position to go far in the post-season state tournament. We also play one of the toughest schedules in the state and will know what we need to work on early with games versus Snider, Evansville Memorial, Bishop Luers, Cathedral and Carmel in the first two weeks.”

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Bishop Luers plans to rally for a win

**Football**

“As always, we want to be as good a playoff team as we can be when it comes time,” explained Bishop Luers Coach Matt Lindsay of his 2009 football team. Lindsay, who begins his 24th season with the Knights, went on to add, “This year will be a significant rebuilding project after the loss of 27 seniors last season.”

The Knights will look to their nucleus of returnees, Joe Goodwin (linebacker), Tyler Burns (offensive tackle), Ken Mullen (defensive back/receiver), Courtney Mitchell (defensive line), D’Angelo Fincher (defensive back), Quyuan Mattox (receiver/defensive back), Daniel Olivarrez (running back) and Tim Kawiecki (center), to compete in a very tough conference.

As of the preview interview, Lindsay had not yet determined who would start at the quarterback position, but expected Eric Sorg, James Knapke and Devon Wys to vie for the spot and contribute considerably in other roles.

Relying on their talent and speed in the skill positions, the 2007 2-A state champions have high hopes of averting an overtime loss to Jimtown at the sectional final a year ago. Lindsay, who doubles as the Knights athletic director, is assisted by Lew Goodwin, Mike Egts, Brent Egts, Kyle Lindsay, Clancy Shank, Matt Millhouse, Chris Charais, Fred Moore, Steve Keefker, Lee Rodenbeck, Phil Talarico and Mike Goodwin.

**Girls’ golf**

Ending on a positive note in 2008 with a runner-up conference meet finish, the Bishop Luers Lady linksters finished 42 strokes ahead of their previous low score with three golfers scoring a personal best.

“We met our team goal and are very excited about the future of the Bishop Luers golf team,” explained Coach Tom O’Brien. O’Brien is in his third season and added, “I am very pleased most of our girls kept a club in their hands over the summer months and gained valuable tournament experience through the junior parks and rec. program.”

In addition, the seven freshman coming aboard played at the Lifetime Sports Academy giving them a huge jump-start to the season and to understanding the sport. All-conference selection Kyren O’Shaughnessy, a senior, returns along with five other varsity members: Alex Eagleson, Amanda Vankoski, Lexie Hamel, Alexis Baker and Olympia Olsson.

Steve Gillie and John Materia are serving as assistant coaches this season.

**Boys’ soccer**

John Myers will be the head coach for the Bishop Luers boys’ soccer team for the 2009 season. Slated first on the schedule for the Knights will be Canterbury, Columbia City, Belmont and Bishop Dwenger.

**Girls’ soccer**

In his rookie season, Coach Kevin Lewis feels his Lady Knights are looking “very strong” for the 2009 soccer season. With 15 players on his roster, Lewis will count on seniors Abbie Christian, Emily Braun and Melissa Oberley for leadership.

Lewis is also excited at the level of talent he sees in his freshman class. He predicted, “Our forward, Mason Whitman, is capable of leading the league in goals.”

With a first simple year goal of winning their sectional, Lewis concluded, “We have a very solid midfield and an even stronger defense.”

Jason Glogowski and Vlade Joveski will be the assistant coaches for Bishop Luers.

**Boys’ tennis**

The boys’ tennis team at Bishop Luers will list 16 players on their 2009 roster, which includes five seniors. Brady McArdle enters his fifth season in the head position with the Knights and his assistant coach is Joel Pyle.

McArdle hopes to improve on last years’ record and said, “We will be trying to get better as a team on a daily basis and enjoy the season.”

Evan Kierner returns as the number one singles player while Ethan Gregerson will transition from the number one doubles player a year ago to number two singles this year.

**Girls’ volleyball**

Head Coach Scott Shipman and his assistant, Kay Armstrong, have 12 varsity ladies listed on this year’s Bishop Luers volleyball roster which includes three seniors.

The Knights hope to improve on a fourth-place conference finish in 2008 relying on returning all-conference players Kristy Gerardot, Abby Bireley and Taylor Gillie.

Armstrong reported that the team blocks very well and claimed, “We should be pretty good all around and go pretty far if they can stay together as a team.”

**Boys’ and girls’ cross country**

With 15 members each, the Bishop Luers boys’ and girls’ cross country teams are “relatively young, but have a good base of juniors for both groups,” explained Coach Linda Keuneke.

In her eighth season with the Knights, Keuneke will be assisted by Jacob Doctor and Mendy Webb for the 2009 season.

Billy McManus, David Lill and Josh Ware return for the boys team, while Morgan Carroll and Alyssa Knuth carry experience for the girls.

At the preview interview, Keuneke added, “I am excited for our only home meet, the Bishop Luers Invitational at Foster Park, as are the kids.”

Eagles soar in CYO opener

**BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN**

**FOOTBALL**

FORT WAYNE — After a dismal 0-7 finish in 2008, the St. Jude Eagles kicked off the 2009 Catholic Youth League Organization (CYO) in grand style with a huge double-overtime win against St. Charles. The season opener took place at Zollner Stadium on Sunday, Aug. 23.

“It was a long time coming,” said an elated Eagle coach Pat Henline. Eighth grader and honorary captain for the Eagles, David Leeuw, was able to take his wheelchair to midfield for the overtime coin toss adding to the emotions of the memorable start for St. Jude.

Leeuw is currently undergoing chemotherapy as he battles cancer and the Eagles have dedicated their victories, their losses and their prayers to their special teammate this season.

In a hard-fought defensive battle, there were zeroes on the scoreboard at the end of regulation. Stopping the Cardinals with their swarming defense led by linebackers Luke Palmer and Conner Werling, the Eagles gained momentum and a mental advantage by keeping the Cardinals scoreless on their first possessions in overtime only to have Cardinal Trevor Tippmann pick off their pass in an attempt to win the game. In the third down of the second overtime, St. Jude’s signal caller, Gus Schrader, put the ball right where it needed to be — in the hands of Ryan Christman, for an 8-yard touchdown pass making the score 6-0. Robert Dobello executed a beautiful point after his attempt to add two more points for the Eagles, Answering back, the Cardinal workhorse, Andrew Gabet, put six points on the scoreboard. With one play left to decide the game’s outcome, a huge snap prevented the extra points for St. Charles.

St. Jude won 8-6. According to Redeemer Radio statisticians, Gabet had 10 carries for 52 yards in the loss, while quarterback George Talarico was 4-7 in the air for the Cardinals.

**"The will to win is important, but the will to prepare is vital."**

Joe Paterno

St. Joseph’s High School wishes the best of luck to all of our student athletes and teams as they prepare for a new season of competition.
Saint Joseph’s teams look forward to fall sports

BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND — No news is good news is an old saying, but for the coaching staff a Saint Joseph’s High School it may be the best of news.

“Our head coaches throughout our whole program have stayed intact this year with the exception of the boys’ tennis coach,” explained Athletic Director Eric Gohlke.

“I believe all that all of our teams had a successful summer with camps and conditioning,” Gohlke said. “Our coaches and staff also partnered with Notre Dame and Marian in the Play Like a Champion Program.

Football

“We have lost a couple of key contributors to graduation but we have a healthy mix of good young football players,” explained Coach Kevin Downey. “Our D-line may be our most talented right now and the hardest workers.

“We are also looking good on our special teams. We have a good kicker, good punter and good return men,” exclaimed Downey. “We have taken players from our Indian Elite (players who excel in attendance and perseverance in the weight room) and from our Indian Speed (run under five in the 40) and placed them on our special teams.

“The core of our team is the returning seniors that include Cole Kruggel, DB and RB, Trace Dowling, DB and holder, Mike Kendzierski, WR and punter, Collin Kubsch, OLB, Chris Herzog, Special Teams, Tom Bagiakas, DL,” remarked Downey. “Of course the White Dove (offensive linemen) who work in the trenches; Garrett Mulligan, Josh Cobbin, Tyler Wolfran and Robert Hammer.

Boys’ soccer

Last season saw the Indians plagued by nagging injuries but a resilient team fought and worked its way into a contender by year end. This campaign should start with a different focus.

“Our personnel is a little bit stronger this year,” commented veteran Coach Alberto Verteramo. “We have nine of our 11 starters back and their bodies have had another year to develop and mature.

“Through strength will definitely be our depth, we have 13 to 14 players with experience and we will add some young kids to the mix,” explained Verteramo. “At midfield and our forwards are balanced by seniors Tim Bishop, Tommy Benedix, Cesar Ontiveros and Austin Veldman.

“Our defense is a little younger but have experience and is secured by juniors Frank Busch and Ian Lewis and an extremely athletic keeper in Kyle Wieschhaus,” continued Verteramo. “If we hold true to form last year, we should be a very good team come sectionals.

Girls’ soccer

A 2008 sectional championship banner now graces the Saint Joseph’s soccer field thanks to a solid group of athletes and it looks like the building blocks for another title run are in place.

“We have a very strong J.V. squad last year, and I’m very confident that the players moving up can contribute right away,” said Coach Johan Kuitse. “We are balanced and have strengths in every area and more important we have leadership spread in the different disciplines.

“We have Taylor Turner up front attacking, Karen Lidell and Mariah Kuitse at midfield and defensively Courtney Ponsler is the leader,” commented Kuitse.

“The strength of our experience and leadership is right down the middle of the field and hopefully they will act as directors to our younger players and create a team atmosphere.”

Volleyball

After a rare disappointing season, the Indians are fired up and ready to compete backed by strength in team chemistry, maturity and leadership.

“The girls bring a new look, one that is exciting and progressive this season,” remarked Mary Kay O’Connell. “We return an experienced team that has grown together and brings with it a nice balance.

“We have some versatility with junior Meredith Merits, senior Gretchen Albez, junior Abby Kostiehney and Sam Stone our senior libero,” stated O’Connell. “We are surrounded by a very talented and athletic junior setter Melissa Macellari.

Boys’ cross country

A young, but very talented, squad represent the Indians on the rolling trails of Saint Joseph’s County this fall.

“In my 22 years at Saint Joe, this is my most talented team,” boasted Coach Jerry Hoffman.

“We have started the season off by winning the Diocese Invitational and as far as I am concerned, the sky is the limit.

“We are led by the three Musketeers (sophomores Joe Zielinski, Conner Method and Josh O’Brien) and D’Artagnan, our senior Mike Bradley,” quipped Hoffman. “If senior Mark Greci can stay injury free, we definitely will be competitive in the post season.”

Girls’ cross country

While the boys’ team is getting out of the gate quickly the girls of Saint Joe have their work cut out for them.

“The girls have potential to be good, but we are playing catch up from an average summer of conditioning,” commented Hoffman.

“Right now we are concentrating on the strength we need before we can work on our competitive speed.

“Sophomore Darby Mountford made it to the state meet last season and is back strong and our number two runner junior Maria Murphy must be injury free for us to make a run,” Hoffman said.

“We can be a solid team if we can work and work some more.”

Girls’ golf

A nice mix of young and mature, talented and hard workers balances out the Saint Joseph’s golf team this year.

“We started slow and made it to the regionals last year and this group reminds me of the same type of team,” exclaimed Coach John Troeger. “We are young in some spots and have some learning to do.

“We start at the number one and two golfers, freshmen Anna Wilcoxson and Grace Guibent and then we follow them up with seniors Morgan DeMatias and Caitlin Warrick,” continued Troeger. “Two of our juniors, Michele Fredlake and Ashley Spaulding add to our experience.

Boys’ tennis

When asked how the Indian boys’ tennis team would fair, the new skipper, Robert Long, simply replied, “Ask the question at the end of the season.”

“We look young and we have some work to do,” Long replied.

“There is always unfinished business and we will have to improve throughout the year.

“We divided our state-qualifying doubles team and the boys are now playing the number one and number two singles,” continued Long. “Former doubles partners and current captains, juniors Will Corrigan and Anthony Lupresto are expected to lead and have our younger players model themselves after them.”

The Tradition Continues...
Final year for LeighAnn Palmer Golf Outing

BY MICHELLE CASTILEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Just before her fourth birthday, on May 28, 1995, little blue-eyed, blond-haired LeighAnn Marie Palmer drowned at Avalon Pool, while her family was nearby painting bleachers.

During her short life on this earth, LeighAnn’s sweet smile brought constant joy to all who knew her. She was the third child of Mike and Lisa Palmer and loved pretending she was a cheerleader.

The Palmers, both Bishop Luers alums and members of St. Therese Parish, Fort Wayne, had two older sons at the time, Ryan and Zach, and went on to have two more, Matt and Mick.

In an effort to keep LeighAnn’s memory alive the Palmer’s have established two different scholarship funds.

“Our biggest fear was that people would forget our little angel because she was so young,” said mom, Lisa Palmer.

Palmer is comforted knowing that each time someone receives a scholarship or puts on a golf outing T-shirt they remember LeighAnn.

“The death of a child is not something you ever get over. The golf event has been a tremendous help for us living with our loss,” said Palmer.

One of the scholarships is awarded each year to an eighth-grade girl at St. Therese, where the Palmer children have all attended, to assist with tuition their first year at Bishop Luers High School. The second recipient is a Bishop Luers senior cheerleader to aid with freshman-year college education expenses.

Averaging around 300 golfers, nearly 50-hole sponsors and over 100 door prizes, the golf outing has grown in size year after year. The outing has raised over $120,000 the past 14 years. In 1995, the Palmer’s had a lofty intention of holding the outing for 15 years — or until LeighAnn would have graduated from Bishop Luers High School.

This year’s outing marks the final event as LeighAnn would have been a senior.

“We could never have continued on this many years with so much success without our countless volunteers — our family and friends, the Bishop Luers cheerleaders, the St. Therese eighth-grade girls and of course, the golfers. Organizations like SCAN and Phoenix Institute, a foster child organization, work one of the holes at the golf outing. We have been blessed in so many ways,” said Palmer.

At the urging of the various sponsors and golfers, the LeighAnn Palmer Foundation, Inc. was also launched due to the continued success of the golf outings. In addition to the scholarships, the foundation now contributes to various local charities and causes that benefit children each year. The board has decided that the 2009 proceeds from the betting holes at the outing will be donated to Children’s Autism Center, Inc. and Phoenix Institute, while additional donations will be made to Erin’s House for Grieving Children, SCAN, YMCA Camp Potawotami and Hoosier Burn Camp.

The 15th annual event will be held at the Grey Goose Golf Course in Decatur on Sunday, Sept. 13. The outing will be a double shotgun Florida scramble start.

To support this effort by golfing, donating a door prize or by sponsoring a hole, contact Mike Gigli at (260) 672-2473, Mike Palmer at (260) 747-6918 or visit the Web site at www.lmpfoundation.com.

WINNERS OF GATOR GALLOP ANNOUNCED

The Ninth Annual St. Aloysius Gator Gallop 5K Run/Walk was held Saturday, Aug. 1, in Yoder. The “Gator” winners were the following: overall male — Landry Williams; overall female — Erika Williams; male masters — Jerry Williams; female masters — Linda Keuneke.

BY MICHELLE CASTILEMAN

WINNERS OF GATOR GALLOP ANNOUNCED

Best Wishes for a Great 2009 Season to “The Fighting Irish” and Saint Joseph’s High School

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Beautitudes for college students ...

THE CUTTING EDGE

SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

W

here did the summer go? With colleges and universities beginning to gear up to begin a new academic year, it is time to review some beatitudes for college students:

Blessed are the students who stay in touch with God during their academic life, parents’ basement, beneath their bed, or on their cell phones. They will always have a friend by their side. So many times students see college as a great way to escape from church. It is important and very fruitful to pray daily and to be involved in one’s parish or campus ministry. Don’t wait until you have a test. It is amazing how thoughts of God come at exam time. When I was a campus minister I could always tell it was exam time when daily Mass was overflowing with students!

Blessed are the students who study and go to all their classes, they will become educated. Unlike high school teachers, very few college professors watch what students do. Most students are free to go to class or not. College calls for greater responsibility. Those who waste their education regret it later. They are often left with big loans and little knowledge to show for them.

Blessed are the students who get involved in extracurricular activities, they usually develop into well-balanced people. Study alone does not make for an educated person. It is very enriching to become part of campus ministry and other student organizations. It helps a student become a well-rounded individual.

Blessed are the students who volunteer to help others, they will deepen their capacity to love. Service to others is a major part of being Christian. There are many opportunities at most schools to reach out to others. Working for Habitat for Humanity, homeless shelters, tutoring, are to name a few. In addition to God’s call to love, reaching out helps a person feel good about himself or herself.

Blessed are the students who keep away from drugs, alcohol and other dangerous activities, they are least likely to get into trouble. Using chemical substances may seem fun but this behavior often ends in tragic accidents, pregnancies, poor grades and so on. Furthermore abusing one’s body is sinful.

Blessed are the students who pray about and think through important decisions, they will probably do God’s will. Oftentimes people make major decisions without enough thought or prayer. It is important to learn the art of discernment and reflection to make good choices for one’s life.

Blessed are the students who keep in touch with family and friends, they will have a good support system. In some ways college is a form of separation. Even so, it is important to stay connected to one’s family and the values learned there.

Blessed are the students who take time to discover their gifts and use them to better the world, they will develop into mature Christians. All of our talents and abilities are gifts from God to be used to build God’s kingdom. When we keep those gifts hidden under a bushel basket the world and the church suffer.

May this new academic year be a time of growth and self-discovery for all students everywhere. May each student stay close to the Lord and get to know God more deeply, knowing that God is with him or her in all the ups and downs of life. Good luck, especially, to first-year students.

Sister Margie Lavonis, CSC, a former campus minister and vocation director, works for the Sisters of the Holy Cross communications department. mlavonis@cscsisters.org.

Travel light: storing up treasures in heaven

“Wife have too many shoes?”

The billboard on Interstate 94 caught my eye. The solution it advertised, off the next exit, was not a Goodwill or a therapist, but a storage unit. Why get rid of the stilettoes when you can pay $50 a month to stash them somewhere else?

Millions of Americans have purchased storage, locking up the Hummel dolls, tax returns and soccer trophies they don’t need but can’t quite part with. At the end of 2008, self-storage facilities occupied 2.35 billion square feet, making it physically possible for every American to stand under the total canopy of storage facilities. People are tempted to lock away objects that they have not yet assimilated into their lives.

The billboard on Interstate 94 caught my eye. The solution it advertised, off the next exit, was not a Goodwill or a therapist, but a storage unit. Why get rid of the stilettoes when you can pay $50 a month to stash them somewhere else?

As disciples of Christ, we abhorred the sight of our stuffed storage units, thinking about what to keep and what to give. So we shove it in attics, garages and hard drives, protected with passwords and passwords. We don’t have to deal with it, except for the monthly bill to remind us it’s there.

This hoarder impulse is a cultural and spiritual malady: overconsumption with no accountability. Our baggage is heavy and dusty and we cannot manage it. We do not even try. As disciples of Christ, we must travel light so our hands and hearts are free to build his kingdom. When we are attached to our stuff and our homes and our petty evidence of success, we cannot respond to our Christian mission and its many demands: to help our neighbors, to serve the poor and to catch each spiritual lesson in our path. We are distracted, occupied.

St. Matthew would’ve abhorred the sight of our stuffed storage units. “Do not store up earthly treasures on earth, where moth and decay destroy, and thieves break in and steal,” he admonished. “But store up treasures in heaven. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.” He was calling for a bigger picture, an attachment and investment in the divine, unmarred by cobwebs and sin. “If you wish to be perfect,” Jesus told the young man who heeded the 10 commandments, “go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

That billboard motivated me. I’m downsizing my shoe collection. The stilettoes were slowing me down.

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Christina Capecci is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. E-mail her at christiacapecchi@gmail.com.

Saint Mary’s College among the nation’s Top 100 liberal arts colleges

NOTRE DAME — For the third year in a row, U.S. News and World Report ranks Saint Mary’s College as one of the nation’s “best liberal arts colleges.” Saint Mary’s comes in at 97 out of the 249 schools listed in the magazine’s “2010 America’s Best Colleges” guidebook, which was released Aug. 25. Highlights of the college rankings will be published in the September issue of U.S. News and World Report, available at newsstands on Aug. 24. The rankings are currently posted on the magazine’s Web site.

Saint Mary’s College President Carol Ann Mooney set a goal early in her presidency, which began in June 2004, to move Saint Mary’s into the “Best Regional College” category. The college has held the “-best in the Midwest” designation every year since the Princeton Review began the “Best Regional College” categorizations seven years ago.

College-bound students and their parents look to rankings and other indicators of quality when making their decisions about college. U.S. News and World Report and the Princeton Review, along with other resources such as the University and College Accountability Network (UCAN) and the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) — sections of which are also posted on the U.S. News & World Report Web site, enable them to garner information about Saint Mary’s and other institutions.

Saint Mary’s College is a four-year, Catholic women’s institution offering five bachelor’s degrees and more than 30 major areas of study. Founded in 1844, Saint Mary’s is a pioneer in the education of women, and is sponsored by the Sisters of the Holy Cross.
Education has always been at the heart of the church’s mission

At the heart of Catholic sensibilities is an abiding respect for education. As students, teachers and catechists return to their studies, it’s an opportune moment to reflect on the place of education in the Catholic tradition.

As early as the third century, Origen, around A.D. 254, was employing the language of education as the principal metaphor for understanding the Christian life. But this “education” was rightly understood to be more than the mere memorization of data or the rote recitation of facts. Instead, this “education” in Christ was understood broadly and deeply: more than informative, it was transformative or, in the words of Pope Benedict, “performative,” because it involved learning a whole new way of thinking, feeling and acting.

This does not mean it lacked or de-emphasized cognitive reflection or content, but rather emphasized that this content was not understood until it was in fact lived.

Just as Christ is the Word-made-flesh, so too those who bear his name must find in their own lives a way of embodying or incarnating the content, as it were, of their faith.

We need to remember until we really believe that we actually embrace the faith as an organic whole and as a lived reality, its cognitive or doctrinal content will always remain just that: abstract ideas or concepts seemingly unrelated to the nit and grit of our daily life.

If, however, one begins to live the mystery, discovering (always under the aspect of himself or herself) the drama of salvation being wrought by God in Christ, then the organic nature of the various teachings and practices of Catholic life begin to come more sharply into focus, and we discover the true beauty of Catholicism as a way of life.

In the long history of the church, education has taken various forms: from the catechetical “schools” of Alexandria in the third century, the fourth-century catechumenate in Jerusalem, the monastic communities dotting the Italian peninsula in the sixth and seventh centuries, from the cathedral schools in Gaul to the burgeoning universities in medieval Bologna, Paris, Cambridge, Salamanca and Padua, education has always been at the heart of the church’s mission.

In this country, one of the greatest contributions to American life was the establishment of the parochial school system in the late 19th and throughout the 20th centuries, serving not only the growing immigrant Catholic communities, but often reaching out to the poor and disenfranchised, as well (one thinks of the lifework of St. Katharine Drexel, for example).

Catholic parochial and diocesan schools, religious education programs, catechetical and missionary endeavors, from Catechumane to the Good Shepherd to the Little Rock Scripture Study, the RCIA and the RCIC, are all testimony to the Catholic Church’s commitment to education. The unspoken conviction is that Christ redeems us entirely: body, soul, and spirit, and this of course includes our intellect as well as our will, so a profound respect for the life of the mind is a central concern in the Catholic tradition.

There has always been a danger of reducing faith to merely a moral code, as though the will alone is the focus of Christ’s redemptive work; rather, a more richly Catholic understanding of what it means to be human reverences both the intellectual and moral dimensions of our life “in Christ.”

So as we start packing lunches, shipping children off to college, or brushing up on our own studies (whether formally or independently), let us not simply be an unmitigated evil to be avoided at all costs.

Yet when dealing with painful or unpleasant situations, we can also respond deliberately and in ways that radically differentiate us from the rest of the animal kingdom.

We can choose, for example, to confront and endure our pain for higher reasons. We know that a needle will hurt, but we decide to hold our arm still when getting an injection because our powers of reason tell us it will improve our health. We know the pain of talking to our difficult neighbor, but we figure that we should rise to the challenge and do it anyway, attempting to build peace in the neighborhood.

We can also approach our pain and suffering with the same attitude that we approach our business or our leisure activities. We can view our pain as a way to spread God’s gifts!

Making Sense of Bioethics

FATHER TAD PALCHOLZYK

Parents often teach their children to avoid pain and suffering. When a sharp object pokes us, we instinctively pull away. When the unpleasant neighbor comes up on caller ID, we recrouch hoping never to answer the phone. Our initial response is to avoid noxious stimuli and pain, similar to most animals.

Yet when dealing with painful or unpleasant situations, we can also respond deliberately and in ways that radically differentiate us from the rest of the animal kingdom.

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Today’s Catholic welcomes letters from readers. All letters must be signed and include a phone number and address for verification.

Today’s Catholic reserves the right to edit for clarity and length. Address letters to: Today’s Catholic • P.O. Box 11169 • Fort Wayne, IN • 46856-1169 or e-mail to: editor@todayscatholicnews.org
Jesus is God’s greatest gift

“The Sunday Gospel

Msgr. Owen F. Campion

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

In this weekend’s first reading, Moses presents to the people the revelation of God’s law. This information did not originate with Moses. It is neither the law of Moses nor the word of Moses. Rather, it is revelation from God. Since the law proceeded from God, no one, not even Moses himself, was free to amend the law, change it or veto it. Humans are limited, lacking insight, knowledge and views into the future to make all decisions regarding themselves wisely or to their genuine benefit. Thus, they need guidance.

Also fundamental is that in the face of human limitations God constantly and lavishly provided. This “Law” here is not an edict. It is not relative or arbitrary. It is not necessarily a test. Instead, it is like the “law of gravity.” It is reality. To violate God’s law introduces confusion, or worse, into life. Therefore, when humans behave in ways counter to God’s law, they upset things.

God's law, or revelation, leads them away from this destructive activity.

In the second reading several men in the New Testament bear the name of James. Any of these men, or another, could have been the author of this book, but scholars today tend to think that the author was James, the brother of Jesus.

What then about the most ancient Christian belief is that Mary always was a virgin, and that Jesus was her only child? Who were James and the other “brothers and sisters” of the Lord mentioned in the New Testament? The oldest beliefs among Christians, recorded in the centuries immediately after Christ, and not at all contradicted by the Scripture, were that they were Joseph’s children from an earlier marriage, under Jewish custom of the time, any half-siblings of Jesus would have legally been regarded as his brothers and sisters. Maybe less likely, drawing upon other ancient sources, they were the cousins of Jesus. The older tradition influenced classical religious art, which depicted Joseph as an old man, but Mary was young. Here again, the implication in this art is that she was his second wife. This reading insists that every good thing comes from above. Every good thing is from God.

In this Gospel story, some bystanders notice that a few of the Lord’s disciples at least are careless in observing the law of Moses. It should be remembered that this law provided for virtually every circumstance a human would encounter, great or small. Jesus replied that some gave God mere lip service or went through the motions of obedience. Instead, the Lord called for a true conversion of the heart, founded upon love for God and others, and manifesting itself in actual deeds and words.

Reflection

These readings repeat a theme. It is often said among theologians that the most devastating effect of original sin was the assumption by humans that they were much more self-sustaining than they are. Every generation had thought that it had achieved extraordinary knowledge and powers over the circumstances of life. New generations come, and indeed they improve on the past. One day many things that we take as state-of-the-art, including our assumptions and popular attitudes, will be as old fashioned as the steam engine.

Humans have accomplished much. But, in other areas, they have blundered much. They have brought into human history extraordinary destruction and hatred, such as in the Holocaust. Into individual lives, they have brought untold instances of heartbreak and worse. God does not leave us to our doom. He generously provides. His greatest gift was, and is, Jesus. Jesus is the “way, the truth and the life.”

READINGS


CATEQUIZEM

By Dominic Camplisson

In August, the church remembers John Vianney. The world also recalls V-J Day. This quiz takes a very versatile vision.

1. John Vianney is also known by this title, which refers to his parish assignment:
   a. Val JeanVal
   b. The Cure D’Ars
   c. Victor Hugo’s chaplain

2. Vatican refers to Communion administered only
   a. at a wedding
   b. when someone is dying
   c. on a non-Sunday

3. This is one of the smallest states in the world as well as being a church center
   a. The Virgin Birth
   b. The Visible Son
   c. The Virtual Family

4. This doctrine about Christ’s genetic makeup is accepted, even by most Protestants:
   a. The Virgin Birth
   b. The Visible Son
   c. The Virtual Family

5. The Vulgate refers to a version of this
   a. the liturgy of the Mass
   b. the Bible
   c. the Catholic Encyclopedia

6. Division of texts by this was added, as was chapter, later in the history of the Bible
   a. vision
   b. volume
   c. verse

7. Many ancient church documents were written on vellum. What was it?
   a. treated animal skins
   b. processed dried milk
   c. beaten and dried dung

8. When a new pope is needed, only cardinals (and not all of them) get to do this:
   a. Validate the Bishops’ choice
   b. Vote
   c. Vie for the job by combat with pies

9. The Vatican II document “Dei Verbum” refers, as its name implies, to
   a. the Action of The Deity
   b. things said daily
   c. the Word of God

10. Voodoo, Santeria and similar religions are often found in Catholic environments. Why?
    a. Because they are secretly fostered by the Catholic New World Order
    b. They tend to be found mostly in slave communities in Latin and/or French former colonies
    c. They are the only reaction of Muslims forced to convert to Catholicism

11. Vespers refer to
    a. prayers, or liturgy, usually said or sung in the evening
    b. nuns who have not chosen to modernize their habits
    c. the Word of God

12. These Arians opposed Roman and Christian communities for centuries, finally being converted by them, ultimately being conquered by the Muslims in Spain
    a. Val JeanVal
    b. The Cure D’Ars
    c. Victor Hugo’s chaplain

13. These pangan Nordic people raided churches and villages throughout northern Europe
    a. the Vikings
    b. the Vikings
    c. the Vikings

14. This Walachia ruler vied for survival amongst the Muslim, Catholic and Orthodox
    a. Vladimir King of the Poles
    b. Vlad the Tickle
    c. Vlad the Impaler

15. These Arians, opposed Roman and Christian communities for centuries, finally being converted by them, ultimately being conquered by the Muslims in Spain
    a. Val JeanVal
    b. The Cure D’Ars
    c. Victor Hugo’s chaplain

ANSWERS:

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

AUGUST 30, 2009

George Weigel (continued from page 20)

FENKER

Continued from Page 20

Ask yourself the title question. How did you answer it? Nickeness or disability doesn’t make one “old.” Attitude does. Our choice to love — God, self, others and world — tells our real age. Our spirit, which was young as when God first created it, never ages but grows in wisdom and grace before God and humankind forever. Our spirit chooses optimal health of mind, body and spirit. It controls our attitude. We can say, “I can do all things in Christ who strengthens me.” — Phil 4:13.

Definitely, there are bodily changes but these always occur. Physical changes happen around certain stages of development, as other faculties sharpen at insightful levels where real maturing is honed and a new sense of life’s meaning emerges. Our actual age is dictated by the calendar; physical age tells how well we’ve cared for God’s gift of our body. Our mental age reflects care of our tremendous mind-power. However, anything less than continuous spiritual maturing contributes to a demise-attitude, which makes us “old,” no matter what age the calendar shows. This can happen at any age. Some people are old at 30, others are never old at all and beyond.

Because of the longevity factor, ours is the first society to study the maturing process throughout the entire human life-cycle: mind, body and spirit. However, on this wonderful gift, society also imposes restrictions.

A forward-thinking pioneer of Swedish social gerontology, Lars Torstam, also believes that culture confines. He explains that society twists people to fit its criteria; when they don’t fit, they’re labeled abnormal, instead of seeing them as creatively different. He coined geroltranscendence, which objects to this labeling. This means that empirical data (showing how people really do mature) contradicts and transcends the stereotypes of society’s classification of people by calendar age.

Society, medicine, science, education and, yes, even church must reevaluate beliefs. These institutions mostly underscore society’s view to focus on the frail and sick, while leaving the non-frail and reasonably well adults floundering. This affects how you and I respond to the initial question, and its impact on our total spiritual maturing. Our future starts now. Let’s build it according to our own spiritual attitudes.

Reflect

1. What age do you feel? Why?
2. St. Paul expressed: “I have been grasped by Christ.” — Phil 3:12. What meaning does this hold for you?
100th anniversary of rosary priest’s birth continues with special emphasis

**Rosary prayers urged for world peace, for all priests, Father Peyton’s beatification**

EASTON, Mass. — During this Year for Priests, Holy Cross Family Ministries, furthering the vision of the famous “Rosary priest,” Catholic media pioneer and sainthood candidate Servant of God Holy Cross Father Patrick Peyton continues worldwide its year-long celebration of the 100th anniversary of his birth but now also is calling for prayers for all priests.

“As we observe this Year for Priests and Father Peyton’s 100th anniversary, let us heed the Holy Father’s message to ‘Entrust all for our world,’” said Holy Cross Father John Phalen, president of Holy Cross Family Ministries. “Let us bring to life the words of our founder, Father Peyton, a Holy Cross priest, that ‘a world at prayer is a world at peace.’

Father Peyton knew that through rosary prayer we can all be living signs of Christ’s presence and infinite mercy,” Father Phalen added.

The 100th anniversary observance began Jan. 1 when Holy Cross Family Ministries urged families, globally via e-mail blasts, its Web sites and the news media, to join its offices in 17 countries to pray a rosary novena Jan. 1 to 9 (the date of Father Peyton’s birth), or anytime during the year, in their homes. Families and individuals can still sign up on Holy Cross Family Ministries’ Web site — www.hcfm.org — to pray this novena for the beatification of Father Peyton, for world peace and for priests. On the site, they can also list their intentions and see other intentions that have been posted by individuals and thus join people around the world in prayer for those needs.

Holy Cross Family Ministries’ international offices are conducting many public activities throughout 2009 including holy hours, rosary rallies, Masses and gala celebrations with music, food and dance.

In Ireland, a statue of Father Peyton was erected in April. In the Philippines, a telethon will be conducted where people will phone in their commitments to pray the family rosary. Other activities are planned in Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Uruguay. Most of the international offices will conduct Holy Cross Family Ministries’ annual “Try Prayer! It Works!” contest on Father Peyton’s famous message “The Family That Prays Together Stays Together.”

Kindergarten through 12th graders submit artwork, poetry and essays to reflect the theme.

Young adult celebrities reflect on the power of rosary in new DVD, “Rosary Stars: Praying the Gospel”

**HOLLYWOOD, Calif. —** “Rosary Stars: Praying the Gospel” is a new DVD from Family Theater Productions, Hollywood, featuring 21 young adult celebrities praying the rosary and reflecting on the importance and power of their Catholic faith, prayer and the rosary in their daily lives. It features chaplain athletes, actors, film directors, TV hosts, recording stars, authors and lecturers who emphasize the power of daily prayer of the rosary to promote a better understanding and appreciation of the rosary as a prayer form, especially among teenagers, young adults and families.

Produced by the media production ministry founded in 1947 by the “Rosary Priest” and Catholic media pioneer Holy Cross Father Patrick Peyton, this uplifting DVD features such stars as 2006 World Series pitcher Jeff Suppan; five-time Major League All-Star selection Mike Sweeney; actor Matthew Marsden ("Rambo" and the “Transformer” sequel) “Revenge of the Fallen”; TV host Matt Gullan (Animal Planet’s “The Planet’s Funniest Animals”); humanitarian, author and Rwandan genocide survivor Immaculée Ilfagizzi; and Ali Landry, an actor and former Miss America.

The DVD includes personal reflections by all 21 celebrities, interactive teaching tools and historical timeline of the rosary. In addition, the celebrities pray a decade of the rosary. All the features of the DVD are designed to promote a better understanding and appreciation of the rosary and the mysteries, especially among teenagers, young adults and families.

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**The New York Times**

**MOVIE CAPSULES**

**NEW YORK (CNS) –** Following is a capsule review issued by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Office for Film and Broadcasting.

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**“Post Grad” (Fox Atomic)**

After failing to secure her dream job, a recent college graduate (Alessa Bledel) is forced to return home to her eccentric parents (Jane Lynch and Michael Keaton) and feisty grandmother (Carol Burnett) whose antics distract her from her employment search and from her efforts to choose between her longtime boyfriend (Zach Gilford) and a Brazilian-born ladies’ man (Rodrigo Santoro). A talented cast is becalmed, in veteran animation director Vicky Jenson’s live-action debut, by a listless script which, though it boosts family solidarity, also features a passionate encounter between characters who have barely met and repeatedly refers to the importance of condom use. Brief nongraphic, nonmarital sexual activity, occasional sexual references, a half-dozen uses of profanity, one use of the F-word, and crude and crass language. The USCCB Office for Film & Broadcasting classification is A-13 — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG-13 — parents strongly cautioned.

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What’s Happening?

Garage Sales

Fort Wayne — St. Peter Parish
Fort Wayne — St. Peter Catholic Church, 500 E. DeWalt St., will have a garage sale on Sept. 3 and 4, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 5 is bag day from 8 a.m. to noon. There will be clothing, lamps, books, furniture and much more.

Junior high youth plan garage sale

Bristol — St. Mary of the Annunciation’s junior high youth group, The Friends of St. Katherine Drexel, will have a Labor Day clothing sale Friday, Sept. 4, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 5, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Monday, Sept. 7, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. All clothing is priced at $1 or less. Back to school items and fall and winter items available. St. Mary’s is located at 414 W. Vistula St.

Devotions

First Saturday devotions of reparation
First Saturday devotions will be Sept. 5, in Fort Wayne at St. Joseph at 7:15 a.m.; St. Charles at 8 a.m.; Sacred Heart at 7:30 a.m.; in Arcola, St. Patrick, 7:15 a.m.; in New Haven, St. John, 6:55 a.m.; St. Louis Besancon, 8:10 a.m.; in Garrett, 9 a.m., in Warsaw, Sacred Heart, 8 a.m. Call (260) 749-9396 to have your listing added.

Fatima Apostolate to meet
New Haven — On Sept. 5, the Fatima Apostolate will meet for devotions and a general meeting at St. John the Baptist, 943 Powers St., beginning at 6:35 a.m. with a meditation, 7:15 a.m. Mass, the rosary and opportunity for confession. A light breakfast, planning meeting and discussion will follow in the school hall. For information contact Betty (260) 749-9396 or eanomper@kconline.com.

Little Flower Holy Hour
Fort Wayne — Father Tom Shoemaker will celebrate the Little Flower Holy Hour at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Tuesday, Sept. 1 at 7:15 p.m. to pray for vocations. Father Tom is the pastor of St. Jude Parish in Fort Wayne.

Parish mission at St. Anthony de Padua
South Bend — St. Anthony de Padua Parish will have a parish mission Sept. 13-16 at 7 p.m. Father Christopher Crotty, CPM, will conduct the mission with the theme “The Healing Presence of the Spirit.” The mission will introduce the wonders of the faith, as expressed through the healing power of the sacraments, the potency of the preached word, and the mystery of the sacramental. A healing Mass will take place at 7 p.m. Sept. 16.

Misc. Happenings

Highland games announced
South Bend — A Celtic Fest and patrocinium Bryan Veltker Invitational Highland Games will be Saturday, Aug. 29, at St. Joseph County Fairground from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit www.michianachelticsoociety.org.

Corn and sausage roast
South Bend — St. Casimir Parish will have a corn and sausage roast Sunday, Aug. 30, from noon to 5 p.m. Kid’s games, raffles and music from 1-5 p.m. by the Tim Deka Trio. Tickets are $1 each and enters you in the cash raffle and entitles participants to one free sweet corn.

Knights plan fish fry
Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, Sept. 4, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults $7.50, children (5-12) $3. Chicken strips for $7.50 and shrimp for $8.50 will be available.

Saint Anne Society plans card party
South Bend — The Saint Anne Society plans card party Sunday, Sept. 6, at the American Legion Post 137, 17212 Pennsylvania Ave. Doors open at noon. Donation of $5 at door. Bring your own cards.

Smoker brings Vegas to town

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

REST IN PEACE

Albion
Robert T. Walt, 78, Blessed Sacrament

Bremen
Henry L. Verhaeghe, 90, St. Dominic

Columbia City
David A. Rouch, 65, St. Paul of the Cross

Decatur
Matthew J. Miller, 18, St. Mary/Assumption

Elkart
Antonie F. Jolgren, 89, St. Thomas the Apostle
Edward J. Raholin, 95, St. Vincent de Paul

Fort Wayne
Harry W. Smoke, 98, St. Joseph
Jerry J. Connett, 61, St. Joseph
Mary K. Gilleff Ellison, 93, St. Therese
Don J. Richarck, 74, St. Thomas Ann Seton

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Saint Anne Society plans card party
South Bend — The Saint Anne Society will have a luncheon card party Sunday, Sept. 6, in the Our Lady of Hungary School auditorium, 735 W. Calvert St. Doors open at noon. Donation of $5 at door. Bring your own cards.

Smoker brings Vegas to town
South Bend — Our Lady of Hungary School Gym, 735 W. Calvert St., will have a Vegas Baby! smoker Saturday Sept. 5, from 7 p.m. to midnight. Entrance fee of $2. Gambling, food, drinks, music and two raffles: reverse drawing raffle, $20 per ticket ($1,000 top prize, only 400 tickets sold) or smoker raffle tickets, $1 each ($100 top prize). Either ticket entitles entry to the smoker.
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3:00PM - Chaplet of Divine Mercy
5:00PM - Rosary
Liturgy of the Hours: Evening Prayer
5:45PM - Benediction

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“If I saw an angel and a priest, I would bend my knee first to the priest and then to the angel.”

St. Francis of Assisi