NOTRE DAME — In the presence of family, friends and members of the Holy Cross family, Kevin Grove and Gerard Olinger professed their final vows in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on Saturday, Aug. 29, and were ordained deacons by Bishop John M. D’Arcy the following day in the chapel at Moreau Seminary.

Holy Cross Father David T. Tyson, provincial, testified to Bishop D’Arcy of the readiness of the two men to receive the order of deacon on their journey toward the priesthood.

When speaking of the great need for priests, Bishop D’Arcy quoted Pope Benedict who said, “We have learned that it is more important to have good priests than many priests.”

In his homily, Bishop D’Arcy spoke of his gratitude for all the congregation has contributed to the work of the diocese since its beginning.

When addressing the assembly and those to be ordained about the ministry of deacon, Bishop D’Arcy said that God wants pure hearts freely given. Those to be ordained, in fact all, no matter what their call in life, must always rely on God’s grace for hope and strength. He told the candidates to be like St. John Vianney, the patron of priests,
Bishop ordains Holy Cross deacons, blesses law school chapel

A truly holy chapel

After a bit of rest, I returned to Notre Dame for the dedication of the new chapel at the Law School. Both in the place it is situated and its design, the new chapel is a place of prayer that uplifts the heart.

Dedicated to St. Thomas More, patron of lawyers and more recently, by decree by Pope John Paul II, patron of politicians, it is a worthy place of prayer.

Remember, under the direction of the newly retired Dean Patricia O’Hara, the law school has greatly expanded, and part of that expansion is a new chapel.

The beautiful stained glass windows depict Thomas M., St. Augustine, Our Lady and a window dedicated to the Blessed Sacrament. The symbol of Holy Cross is above the entrance.

The ceremony included the consecration of the altar. The chapel, which I told seats about 70, was full to overflowing. There were about 150 people in attendance. Most of them were students of the law school, along with some faculty. Thus, for the second time in one day, I sang the Litany of the Saints, as we had done at the ordination. It was a special joy to meet Dean Nell Jessup Newton, the new dean at the law school, coming from a similar position in California. I thanked her for her gracious wish. I wish to commend the committee who designed this chapel; and when you are on campus, you should visit this chapel. Surely an excellent addition to the many sacred places on campus. The committee members are Dean Patty O’Hara; Father Peter Rocca, CSC, rector of the Sacred Heart Basilica; and Father John Coughlin, OSF; professor of canon law and ethics at the law school. Father Richard Warner, CSC, concelebrated along with Father Rocca and Father Coughlin.

Afterwards, there was a delicious cookout nearby. I especially enjoyed meeting a number of international students. These are men and women who are already lawyers in places such as Estonia, Peru or Africa. They come to Notre Dame to take a renowned course at Notre Dame on human rights. I was impressed with their backgrounds and their dedication.

A splendid evening in Warsaw

Monday evening, on my return trip to Fort Wayne, it was time to join Cindy Black and Megan Oberhausen, two extraordinary women who are in charge of our dear Diocese of Fort Wayne and our new Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and Diocesan Shrine in Warsaw. They had prepared a blessed evening for the adults who are working in the all-important ministry to youth in our various parishes. As I told Cindy later, for a bishop this was an encouraging night. With the help of a video featuring Father Mark Gurtner and two of our seminal candidates, Ben Muhlendkamp and Matt Coonan, a presentation was given concerning the essentials of youth ministry.

These essentials are prayer, catechesis, sacraments, service and evangelization. There was great emphasis on the centrality of the priest and on the formation of adult leaders. Ministry from adults — both priests and laity — rather than peer ministry, was said to be at the core at those parishes, which have a truly effective ministry to youth. The centrality of the priest giving pastoral and theological leadership was emphasized.

What I found especially important was the emphasis placed by Cindy and also Father Mark on the holiness and prayer life of those who are directing youth ministry.

“Do not expect to draw the young people closer to Christ if you are not yourself living a life close to Christ in the holy Eucharist,” said Cindy. The emphasis was placed on the Mass and also on eucharistic adoration. After such an evening, it was a joyful drive through the night from Warsaw to Fort Wayne.

Adult catechesis

It was a joy to stop at St. John, Goshen, on my way to South Bend to join Father Tom Florack, SJ, along with Enid Roman De Jesus and Lourdes Silva of our Hispanic Office for the graduation of about 45 people from a program of catechesis given in Spanish. This was followed by some excellent Mexican food.

Enid and Lourdes, along with our Office of Catechesis, especially Jim Tighe, Christina Emiliani and Sister Jane Carew have begun a second semester of adult catechesis, more directly aimed at the bishop. It has not been easy to obtain people fluent in Spanish and catechesis and theology — but they have done it.

We have a number of parishes now with a flourishing ministry to our beloved Hispanics who have come to us from 19 countries. We must train catechists and teachers, and this effort indicates we are well begun.

I am glad to be visiting you every week once again. So, see you all next week.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy speaks to youth ministers from across the Diocese of Fort Wayne— South Bend at a dinner at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church and Diocesan Shrine in Warsaw. The essentials of youth ministry are prayer, catechesis, sacraments, service and evangelization.
TIGHE
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

very grateful that with her great knowledge of the catechetical enterprise and the documents of the church, she will continue to help in the office on a part-time basis. “Her focus will be on such things as curriculum, the training of catechists, the screening of those admitted to the program and the development of diocesan ‘catechetical depart- ments,’” Bishop D’Arcy says. “She leads the training in the catechist, seeking and securing funds from OSV (Our Sunday Visitor), screening of candidates, improving and strengthening of curriculum, implementing the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and formation of courses on the masters level and the certificate level have helped good catechist to flourish in our diocese.”

Under the leadership of Sister Jane, the Education for Ministry, funded by OSV, has been very successful, providing continuing education and training for 800 catechists and people wanting to learn more about their faith. A similar education for ministry program for Hispanic diocesans in the diocese has also been launched in Fort Wayne.

Another 63 diocesan high school theology teachers and diocesan employees have master’s degrees in theology from either the University of Dayton or now the University of Notre Dame. These graduates are resource teachers — what Sister Jane calls “incredible leverage” — for programs such as the Catechetical Institute camps, coordinated by the Office of Catechesis, and Education for Ministry.

The four diocesan high schools have emerged with exemplary theology programs, and the Office of Catechesis has been active in preparing teaching talent for the high schools.

The excellent training of high school and grade school theology teachers begins in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend one of the top scoring dioceses in the nation on the ACRE exam for religious education. The Office of Catechesis has worked closely and successfully in collaboration with the Catholic Schools Office to achieve this success.

The high scores in the ACRE exams has given the diocesan catechetical office national recogni- tion for their work.

Tighe and Sister Jane both note the the changes they are witnessing in catechetics.

“We live in a wonderful time,” Sister Jane explains, “and Bishop D’Arcy has faithfully encouraged us through the catechetical reforms of Vatican II.”

Tighe, a former sales manager with Federated Media in Fort Wayne, a one-time seminarian and now training for the permanent diaconate, talks of Lady’s Catholic, “The Office of Catechesis and the diocese — the fit there between the two is very good.” I realized that everything that I had been preparing for, for the last 2-1/2 years, has been preparing for this work and is being ordained.”

After 36 Days. Bishop Tighe says many wondered why Bishop D’Arcy would ask “this radio guy” to run the Office of Catechesis, Tighe, a former secular priest, has trained in the Education for Ministry and the diocesan program. And he has been a very special ally to Tighe. As Bishop D’Arcy talked with Tighe about coming on board with the diocese, Tighe says, “I was being called to some- thing else.” The bishop “called that” had something to do with the diocesan program. But as discussions ensued with Bishop D’Arcy about the Office of Catechesis, Tighe says he knew, “This is something I felt drawn to for a long time.”

Both Sister Jane and Tighe see the Holy Spirit at work in the deci- sions and the journey that led them to the Office of Catechesis.

Tighe says, “And for me, that’s one of my gifts. It’s in so well with the call of the diocesan, which is to serve. And deacons are truly to be servants, servants of the bishop.”

Tighe says, “What I’m interest- ed in is to continue doing what we are doing and continuing — Is this good for the church? ‘Is this what we need now?’ ‘Is this where the Lord is leading us?’”

The Vatican shows great

Funds for Catholic
Charities assist areas of diocese hit hard by the economy

B Y M A R I A H O R N

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In two national Catholic publications, two U.S. archbishops and a bish- op are revisiting the controversy over the honorary degree con- ferred on President Barack Obama by the University of Notre Dame on the 2008 campaign trail.

The bishops expressed “appreciation and sup- port of legal abortion and embryonic research;” the bishops “function as partisan inter- predefined role in the American political order,” he added.

Among the false impressions conveyed by that strategy are that the bishops “function as partisan political actors in American life”; that they are “ratifying the ‘cul- ture war mentality,’ which cor- rodes debate both in American politics and in the internal life of the church;” that they are “effec- tively indifferent to all grave evils other than abortion”; and that, in the case of Obama, they are “insensitive to the heritage and the continuing existence of racism in America,” the retired archbishop said.

“The bishops don’t want to have a battle in public with each other, but I think the majority of bishops in the country didn’t join in with that, would not be in agreement with that approach,” he added.

Three US bishops revisit controversy over Obama honor at Notre Dame

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hard hit and where there are less hard hits...,” Bishop D’Arcy added.

Debbie Schmidt, executive director of Catholic Charities said, “We are happy that we can allocate the Legacy of Faith dol- lars that we received to this need.”

Schmidt added, “We are using 100 percent of the moneys received for direct financial assistance. We hope that this alleviates some of the financial needs to the families in our parishes.”

Assistance forms were sent to the 35 parishes. Help was given on a first-come, first-serve basis. When Catholic Charities did this on a smaller level last winter, many quickly applied for the requested funds.

Catholic Charities has received all their referrals from parishes and are currently meet- ing with applicant families at their parishes.

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**40 Days for Life campaign begins Sept. 23**

At least 212 cities nationwide, including South Bend, Fort Wayne and Warsaw, will participate in this fall’s 40 Days for Life campaign from Sept. 23 through Nov. 1. The campaign consists of the three components, the first of which is prayer and fasting. In Mark’s Gospel, Jesus says that some demons can only be driven out by prayer and fasting.

The most visible part of the 40 Days for Life is the prayer vigil that takes place outside local abortion or Planned Parenthood facilities. This is a prayerful witness to the entire community that evil is present. The prayer vigil brings light to this darkness and seeks to change hearts through prayer. Studies have shown that when people simply stand and pray, the number of abortions decreases. Women who have no hope see that someone cares about them, and they change their minds.

The third component is community outreach. People are given the opportunity to show their support for 40 Days for Life, and to take the pro-life message into their community through focused educational efforts.

Shawn Carney, one of the four founding members of the 40 Days for Life national team, will be speaking at both the Fort Wayne and South Bend kick-off events, on Sept. 20 and Sept. 21 respectively. For details about all the local 40 Days for Life events, visit www.40daysforlife.com.

In 2004, four people in College Station, Texas, sat around a table discussing how frustrated they were with their efforts to end abortion in their area. They prayed and asked God to show them what He wanted them to do. The answer was 40 Days for Life.

In a manner of weeks they organized the first 40 Days for Life campaign. They asked everyone in their community to pray and fast with them for an end to abortion during the 40 days. They conducted a prayer vigil outside their local abortion facility, and spent 40 days talking to people about the evils of abortion occurring nationwide and in their own city. Over 1,000 people participated in the first campaign, and their community experienced a 28 percent decrease in abortions.

News of this victory spread, and other communities used the idea to conduct 40 Days for Life campaigns in their own cities. In the fall of 2007 the first national, coordinated 40 Days for Life campaign was conducted with 80 cities participating. People who had never been involved in pro-life activities stepped forward in faith and made a difference right in their own neighborhoods. Lives were saved and hearts were changed.

In the fall of 2008, South Bend and Fort Wayne answered the call. The two major cities of the diocese both held 40 Days for Life campaigns, calling all people of faith to cry out to God to end abortion locally and nationally.

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**Continued from Page 1**

Notre Dame, where he can quiet down and do some good reading.

It was at Notre Dame, as a student in the architecture program, that John Kuzmich clearly heard the call to become a priest. In the summer of 1957, he began to attend daily Mass at the end of the summer, made the decision to enter the seminary. He completed another semester at Notre Dame, entered the seminary at midyear and was ordained a priest at St. Matthew Cathedral by Bishop Leo Parsley in 1965.

“My family,” says Father Kuzmich, “played no small part in nurturing my vocation, and my Catholic education (St. Patrick Grade School, Saint Joseph’s High School, South Bend, and Notre Dame) was very special to me.”

As he approaches 50 years of priesthood, celebrating the Mass continues to be his favorite activity as a priest, followed by preaching, confessions and teaching.

“I love to celebrate the Mass,” Father Kuzmich continues, “and I take seriously the challenge of crafting a homily that really helps the people — not too theological and definitely not too long. Confessions are very satisfying, a humbling moment for the priest as he serves to mediate God’s wonderful mercy. Teaching requires good preparation, helping the priest to expand his own knowledge of the faith.”

Father Kuzmich believes that seminary education today is better than in the past and of considerable help is the summer parish assignment program where young seminarians experiences parish life and is mentored by a pastor.

In response to the question about the source of future vocations, Father Kuzmich echoes the reply of other priests: “If we can help strengthen the Christian family life, then we will. I believe, see more vocations to the priesthood and religious life. There has to be prayer within a family, otherwise vocations will not be nurtured. Blessed is the family that prays together! Also, young people need to see happy priests and religious.”

As to challenges and hopes of the church, this priest of 44 years says, “The shortage of priests is a critical item, although I am very pleased with the active involvement of the laity in the life of the church. Strong parish life, with the Eucharistic at the center, is the key to the church’s future growth and development. The leadership of the church must not be afraid to empower the laity to be his disciples, using well their gifts of time, talent and treasure in building up the kingdom. Our hope ultimately is in God, but we can never forget that God in Christ depends on holy disciples to bring about the transformation of the world.”

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[Image 40x36 to 472x432]

[Image 46x518 to 162x615]
Church has vision for health care reform

BY FRED EVERETT

Question: What is the church’s vision for sound health care reform?

Answer: The United States bishops have for decades advocated a reform of the nation’s health care system based upon fundamental moral principles. The church holds that access to basic health care is a universal human right and not a privilege of the wealthy. Of course, what constitutes basic health care will differ from country to country depending upon its level of development. Of paramount importance in any reform effort is that it should protect and promote the dignity of every human person from conception to natural death. There would be no room for any effort to expand access to abortion or euthanasia.

In addition, a sound reform effort will also be guided by the principles of solidarity and subsidiarity. In the end, sound reform should produce a health care system that pursues the common good, preserves pluralism and a variety of options, protects freedom of conscience, and both restrains and distributes costs fairly.

Question: What are the principles of solidarity and subsidiarity and how do they relate to current federal efforts to reform health care?

Answer: Solidarity is more than a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress for those who do not have access to basic health care. It is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself and one’s country to the common good. It is based upon the conviction that we are all responsible for each other, which includes assuring the universal right to basic health care.

Subsidiarity, on the other hand, refers to the necessity of defending and promoting the freedom of individuals, families, healthcare professionals and institutions, associations and states to properly function and make health care decisions without unnecessary interference by the federal government. On the basis of this principle, communities of a higher order must help communities of a lower order to fulfill their proper roles — they must not usurp their rights or run roughshod over them simply in order to achieve their agenda. Those of the higher order must not absorb functions of the lower except in extraordinary circumstances and only for as long as absolutely necessary.

With regard to health care reform, while under the principle of solidarity we want to ensure basic health care to every person in the United States, we also want, under the principle of subsidiarity, to do so in a way that does not lead to a loss of free enterprise and initiative and to an inordinate increase of bureaucratic agencies.

Solidarity keeps us from an individualistic indifference to the plight of the poor and uninsured. Subsidiarity keeps us from a socialistic interference by the government in the health care arena.

Question: Are the bishops trying to promote an antiabortion agenda through health care reform?

Answer: The bishops have urged Congress to limit premiums and co-payments for lower income families in order to ease barriers to obtaining coverage or seeing a doctor. They have also asked that health care reform be “abortion neutral,” that is, that existing laws and policies with regard to abortion and funding be preserved, allowing health care reform to move forward and serve its legitimate goals.

Question: What is the meaning of “abortion neutral”?

Answer: Abortion advocacy groups are trying to use health care reform to advance their agenda by having the federal government establish abortion as a basic health benefit, guaranteeing “access” nationwide and requiring Americans to subsidize abortion with their tax dollars or insurance premiums. This would reverse a tradition of federal laws and policies that have severely restricted federal funding and promotion of abortion in all major health programs for over three decades (the Hyde amendment, 1976), and have respected the right of health care providers to decline involvement in abortion or abortion referrals.

No health care reform plan should compel anyone to pay for the killing of innocent human beings, whether through government funding or mandatory coverage of abortion. Any such action would be morally wrong and politically foolish.

Question: Why are the bishops insistent that healthcare reform be “abortion neutral”?

Answer: The bishops have urged Congress to limit premiums and co-payments for lower income families in order to ease barriers to obtaining coverage or seeing a doctor. The bishops have also asked that health care reform be “abortion neutral,” that is, existing laws and policies with regard to abortion and funding be preserved, allowing health care reform to move forward and serve its legitimate goals.

Question: What kind of actions do the bishops recommend to make basic health care accessible for all and genuinely affordable?

Answer: The bishops have urged "abortion neutral" legislation to funding be preserved, allowing health care reform to move forward and serve its legitimate goals.

Question: What are the church’s goals for health care reform?

Answer: The church has a vision for health care reform that is based upon the conviction that we are all responsible for each other, which includes assuring the universal right to basic health care. Church leaders have for decades advocated for sound health care reform, which includes a "abortion neutral" approach to funding, preserving existing laws and policies with regard to abortion and funding.

Church leaders have also urged Congress to limit premiums and co-payments for lower income families in order to ease barriers to obtaining coverage or seeing a doctor. They have also asked that health care reform be "abortion neutral," that is, that existing laws and policies with regard to abortion and funding be preserved, allowing health care reform to move forward and serve its legitimate goals.

The church's goals for health care reform include:

- Ensuring basic health care for all Americans
- Preserving existing laws and policies with regard to abortion and funding
- Limiting premiums and co-payments for lower income families
- Providing access to care without forcing anyone to pay for abortion services

These goals are in alignment with the church's principles of solidarity and subsidiarity, which are based upon the conviction that we are all responsible for each other and that government should not interfere in the market. The church's vision for health care reform is centered on promoting the common good, preserving pluralism, and protecting the dignity and freedom of conscience of all Americans.
Refugees from Kokang in Myanmar’s Shan State arrive with their luggage in Nansan, China, Aug. 25. Tension between Myanmar government troops and an armed ethnic group has sparked an exodus of thousands of people into China from northeastern Myanmar.

Wildfires force parishes to balance safety, serving community’s needs

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — For Father Richard Krekelberg, pastor of St. Rita Church in Sierra Madre, the Station fire that destroyed more than 50 homes, threatened 12,000 more and led to the death of two firefighters was a painful reminder. A wild conflagration in April 2008 raced across ridges and down canyons to the very last foothill before the cozy town and St. Rita. “Well, this fire has been a real close parallel for me,” he told The Times, newspaper of the Los Angeles Archdiocese. “Back then we had to cancel confirmation, although this time we didn’t have to close anything. ‘You want to be responsible, and yet you want to be a place where your parishioners and others in the community might be able to come for safe haven,’ he added. By early Sept. 2, the Station fire — the largest of a half-dozen major fires in Southern California — had burned more than 140,000 acres in the Angeles National Forest. But helped by cooler weather, containment of the fire was 22 percent, with a fire line that stretched more than 30 miles and was manned by nearly 7,000 firefighters from La Crescenta to Acton. The fire had destroyed at least 53 homes and structures.

People must become more humble, less materialistic, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — In a world full of vice and sin, people need to radically change their lives, becoming more humble and less materialistic, Pope Benedict XVI said. “May we be able to find the source of joy that comes from God’s goodness” and say “no” to the vices of the world, he said at his weekly general audience Sept. 2. The pope, resuming a series of all-day audience with influential Christian writers from the Middle Ages, focused his catechesis on St. Odo, a 10th-century Benedictine monk and abbot of Cluny, France. St. Odo urged his monks and the faithful to face “the enormity of vices widespread throughout society” by undergoing “a radical change in life based on humility, austerity and detachment from ephemeral things and participation with the eternal,” said the pope. The saint refused to become pessimistic or sink into despair even when there was so much sin and evil in the world, the pope said, because he knew “divine mercy is always available” for those who yearn for conversion.

Bishops’ annual Labor Day statement focuses on health reform debate

WASHINGTON (CNS) — It is possible to bring Catholic values to the ongoing debate over health care reform, just as it was done earlier this year in forging a four-way agreement on the potential unionization of workers at Catholic hospitals, said Bishop William F. Murphy of Rockville Centre, N.Y. “Leaders in Catholic health ministry, the labor movement and the Catholic bishops sought to apply our traditional teaching on work and workers and to offer some practical alternatives on how leaders of hospitals, unions and others might apply our principles as an aid to reaching agreements in their own situations,” said Bishop Murphy, chairman of the bishops’ Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development. The four-way document, “Respecting the Just Rights of the Workers: Options for Catholic Health Care and Unions,” achieved “a consensus among all the parties on a set of principles, processes and guidelines for a respectful and harmonious approach to let workers in Catholic health care facilities make free choices about unionization,” Bishop Murphy said. The bishop highlighted details of the agreement in this year’s Labor Day statement, issued annually by the chairman of the domestic justice committee. Dated Sept. 7, Labor Day, the statement is titled “The Value of Work: The Dignity of the Human Person” and was released Sept. 2 in Washington.

Kennedy laid to rest at Arlington cemetery after Boston funeral


Robert Schindler, fought to care for daughter Terri Schiavo, dies

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (CNS) — The widow of Cardinal Schanbacher, Roman Catholic and the father of the late Terri Schiavo, died from heart failure early Aug. 29 in St. Petersburg, Fla. He was 71. Schindler, who died in 2005, was at the center of a lengthy legal battle that resulted in a Florida court ordering her feeding tube removed. A funeral Mass for Schindler was to be celebrated Sept. 4 in Southampton, Pa., at Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church. A private service was to be held at the 50-foot-tall statue of Our Lady of Fatima at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Philadelphia. “My dad was a man of integrity, character and love who was so close and loving family,” his son, Bobby Schindler, said in a statement. “He taught all three of his children to respect and value life and to love our fellow man. Even at the height of the battle to save my sister Terri’s life, when his hope and temperance was near exhaustion, he managed to display a gentleness of spirit.” He said, “Yet it was his unfathomable strength that allowed him to shoulder up his own heartache and lead us through our darkest hour. What greater legacy could a man leave behind?”
St. Thomas rededicates renovated educational facility

ELKHART — The St. Thomas the Apostle Parish and School will hold the rededication of the parish educational facilities at 12:45 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20, following 11:15 a.m. Mass. Bishop John M. D’Arcy will preside.

This renovation includes five new classrooms, new administrative offices, a first-ever sick room, renovated space for a state-of-the-art computer lab, fine arts classroom and expanded school library to serve the 397 students in grades kindergarten through 8 enrolled for the 2009-2010 academic year. The school facilities are also used for the St. Thomas adult and youth religious education programs.

Included in the renovation project is a eucharistic adoration chapel relocated to the front of the existing church building.

This $4 million renovation was funded largely by the parish and school communities through a three-year capital campaign drive.

For more information about the St. Thomas School rededication, contact the school office at (574) 364-4855.

St. Vincent de Paul School’s parish rewards program assists many

FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent de Paul School’s parish rewards program is an innovative fundraiser designed to benefit the school, the church, school families and local businesses. Anyone can purchase items through parish rewards and select any student/family to receive half the donation. The participating companies donate a percentage of the purchase price or a flat fee back to St. Vincent. The contribution is divided with one half directed to meet school needs. The purchaser can then designate the other half to be directed to any of the following:

• Tuition credit: St. Vincent de Paul School, Bishop Dwenger High School or college tuition for the next year’s tuition bill.

• Future tuition credit build up for a future student at St. Vincent School, to be applied to the first year’s tuition.

• St. Vincent de Paul Church programs.

• St. Vincent de Paul School for purchase of classroom materials, technology and special programs, such as music, fine arts or technology.

• Religious education fees

St. Vincent de Paul School received over $27,000 in donations in the 2008/2009 school year. Participating businesses include orthodontists, insurance companies, auto dealers (new and used), mortgage companies, home improvement companies, outdoor motor sports and many others.

For a complete listing of participating businesses, visit www.saintv.org/school, click on “Links” and “Parish Rewards.”

For more information on parish rewards, call the St. Vincent de Paul School Development Office at (260) 489-3537 ext. 247.

Holy Cross Sisters install new leadership team

NOTRE DAME — The Sisters of the Holy Cross will install its newly elected congregational leadership team on Sept. 27, in the Church of Our Lady of Loretto at Saint Mary’s, Notre Dame. Elected to the leadership team in July at its 24th General Chapter were Sister Joan Marie Steadman, president; and Sisters Geraldine Hoyler, Mary Louise Full, Philomena Quaid and Sharlet Ann Wagner. Sister Mary Louise will serve as first councilor, Sister Geraldine as general treasurer, Sister Sharlet as general secretary and Sister Philomena as councilor.

Sister Joan Marie served on the leadership team from 1994 to 2004. She has been involved in both education and health care, and has served as the associate director of health care ethics at Santa Clara University in California. A San Jose, Calif., native, Sister Joan Marie entered the congregation in 1962.

Sister Mary Louise, from Washington, D.C., is serving on the current leadership team as general secretary. A high school teacher and principal, she also has been involved in retreat, pastoral and parish ministry. She entered the congregation in 1960.

A native of Evergreen Park, Ill., Sister Geraldine, who entered the congregation in 1963, also is serving on the current leadership team as general treasurer. She has ministered in various health care financial and treasury positions throughout her career.

Sister Sharlet, a native of Omaha, Neb., entered the congregation in 1988. An immigration lawyer, she has been the director of the immigration department for Holy Cross Ministries in Salt Lake City, Utah, for the past several years.

Sister Philomena is from Noakhali, Bangladesh. She entered the congregation in 1980. Sister Philomena has served as the congregation’s area coordinator for the area of Asia and has been headmistress and teacher at Holy Cross High School for Girls in Dhaka, Bangladesh, for almost 20 years.

The Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross is an international community of women religious located at Saint Mary’s in Notre Dame. Founded in 1841 in Le Mans, France, the congregation numbers approximately 500 members worldwide and ministers in Bangladesh, Brazil, Ghana, India, Mexico, Peru, Uganda and the United States. The sisters’ ministries focus on providing education and healthcare services, eradicating material poverty, ending gender discrimination, and promoting just, mutual relationships among people, countries and the entire earth community.

For more information about the Sisters of the Holy Cross, visit www.cscsisters.org. — ML

Taize prayer service Sept. 22 at Victory Noll Center

HUNTINGTON — In solidarity with the International Day of Prayer for Peace, Victory Noll Center will hold a special Taize Prayer Service Sept. 22, inviting all to join in prayer to end violence in hearts, families, communities, churches and among nations.

The special service will be held at 7 p.m. at Victory Noll Center, located at 1900 W. Park Dr. in Huntington. No registration is required and there is no cost to attend the service.

The service, used by the community in Taize, France, is based on an ancient style found in the church, with songs, Psalms, a Gospel text, silence and prayers of intercession. Cliff Kindy will offer a reflection during the service and students from Manchester College and Huntington University will assist in preparations for the service.

Regular Taize Prayer Services are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at Victory Noll Center.

Stained glass classes and kaleidoscope workshop available through USF

FORT WAYNE — The School of Creative Arts at the University of Saint Francis will offer Stained Glass classes and a Kaleidoscope workshop this fall.

The introduction to Stained Glass class will be held on Sundays from Sept. 27 through Oct. 25. Sessions will be held at the Rolland Center for Art and Visual Communication on Leesburg Road from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Content includes design principles, types and qualities of glass, basic cutting and construction techniques, and the final project, a finished 18x24 inch glass panel. Cost is $145 per participant, tools and glass will be provided.

For more information or a registration form, contact the School of Creative Arts at (260) 399-7700, ext. 8001.

Eastern Catholics in northeastern Indiana sought

FORT WAYNE — Interest has been expressed in starting an Eastern Catholic Introduction parish in Fort Wayne to serve people in that city and in surrounding northeastern Indiana and northwestern Ohio. Those interested are asked to contact Subdeacon Adam DeVille, Ph.D., Department of Philosophy and Theology at adeldeville@gmail.com, (260) 749-6871, or adeldeville@sfd.edu, (260) 399-7700 ext. 8120.
Huntington youths deepen liturgical and service life

BY KAY COZAD

HUNTINGTON — The youth at Sts. Peter and Paul Church have not been sitting idle this summer thanks to their dynamic parish youth program. In addition to the regular weekly high school small group meetings, after-school middle school ministry, youth group Sunday gatherings, service opportunities, retreats and dodge ball Sundays, under the guidance of Jerid Miller, pastoral associate for youth ministry and liturgy, 10 Huntington North High School students had the opportunity to travel on a Young Neighbors in Action (YNIA) mission trip to serve the poor.

The YNIA summer mission program, according to Miller, is three-fold. First, it “gives youth an experience of having both the parish and the elderly trying to identify those in our own parish community that are in need.”

“Another youth group theme — ‘community.’” Miller reports, “As we meet the mission becomes a corner of the parish. It starts and ends with liturgy.”

 about his summer service experience in Baltimore, sophomore Bryce Johnson wrote in “Exsultet,” the parish newsletter, “It showed me what real struggling people actually look like. And that doing anything to help, even something little, is always appreciated. Visiting Baltimore has given me the want and desire to help our community.”

The summer missions were divine venues for these faith filled teens to prepare for this year’s youth group theme — “community.” Miller reports, “As we meet the mission of the Catholic Church for high school youth and campus and youth ministers; according to the archbishop’s Web site www.saintmeinrad.edu. Two newly confirmed students, Paul Bickel and Courtney Karst accompanied Jon Stotts this year.

The program, says Stott, taught the students, who joined over 100 others from around the U.S., how to “live from a liturgical standpoint.” The days were filled with the chanting of the Liturgy of the Hours, along with contemporary services. “But it was all done with respect and reverence,” he reports.

The students participated in small group theological reflections and general sessions taught by monks on Scripture and the sacraments. They enjoyed recreational opportunities after lunch as well. Afternoons were geared toward service groups where students learned about and practiced the art of being a extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, cantor and more. The inspiring days were well balanced with theological teaching and social events.

An added bonus of the conference was adult leadership sessions for the chaperones. “It reaffirmed the ministry and encouraged us to see what we could do,” says Stott, who found meeting the adult ministers there a positive networking opportunity.

His hope for the students — “I hope this will be one of the solutions to the crisis we’re facing in youth ministry. The kids don’t know why they’re Catholic. They haven’t had the experience to enter into the life of Christ as to influence their life decisions. By giving them this experience rooted in tradition we tell the kids they can be part of it at the parish. It starts and ends with liturgy.”

Student Paul Bickel felt the retreat was worth the time. “It’s a life changing experience,” he says. Courtney Karst agrees saying, “It was inspirational seeing other teenagers who also unconditionally love God.”

Miller and Stott are encouraged by the students’ response to the summer offerings and look forward to guiding them this fall in local service ventures.
Bishop D’Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund awards tuition assistance

BY ELISA M. SMITH

FORT WAYNE — Twenty-nine Catholic elementary students in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are being awarded tuition assistance of $200 each for school year 2009-2010 from the Bishop D’Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund. Thirteen students are from Fort Wayne area elementary schools and 16 are from South Bend area schools.

The Bishop D’Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund is a restricted endowment fund within the Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana. It was established by Bishop John M. D’Arcy with gifts from the 50th anniversary of his priesthood, in memory of his late sister, Mary Caprio, and from other special donations. The purpose of the fund is to grant tuition assistance to Catholic students in Catholic elementary schools in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

The fund will make distributions each year based on an annual payout of 6 percent of the value of the fund at June 30. Recipients will be awarded financial assistance based on need by a committee appointed by Bishop D’Arcy that consists of Daniel Fitzpatrick, James Fitzpatrick, John Gaughan, Joseph Ryan and Elisa Smith.

Bishop D’Arcy celebrated 50 years as a priest on Feb. 2, 2007. He contributed gifts that he received from the golden jubilee of his priesthood to create the Bishop D’Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund. In addition, when his sister Mary Caprio, died in September of 2007, Bishop D’Arcy requested that memorials be given to this fund. Moreover, a special gift from a family foundation was contributed to the Bishop D’Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund in May 2008. The total value of the fund was approximately $97,000 as of June 30.

The committee sent letters and application forms in April to principals and pastors of all Catholic elementary schools in the diocese, inviting them to recommend one student who qualified for tuition assistance based on financial need. Also, the committee requested a written essay, not more than 100 words, from each student who applied, titled “Why Catholic Education Is Important to Me.” Each award granted a student is for one time and nonrenewable.

To donate cash, stock or a planned gift to the Bishop D’Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund, contact Elisa Smith, director of planned giving, at (260) 422-4611 or esmith@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

ABA CHECKS PRESENTED TO CHARITIES

Bishop John M. D’Arcy, top row, right, in addition to installing Father Cyril Fernandes, top row, left, pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish in Fort Wayne on Sept. 6, presented checks to recipients of funds from the Annual Bishop’s Appeal. Accepting checks, front row, from left, were Theresa Teders of Catholic Charities; Anne Koehl for the Women’s Care Center; Dr. Michael Mastrangelo for Matthew 25; Ann Helmke of Vincent Village; Sue Merz of the Fort Wayne Christ Child Society; and back row, next to Father Fernandes, Amy Woodfill of the St. Mary’s Soup Kitchen; Donna Brooke for the St. Vincent de Paul Society; and Jim Christie and Sally Ley for The Franciscan Center. A total of $44,500 was awarded. A South Bend check will be presented in October.
St. Frands De Sales:
Living a devout life in an un-devout world

BY LINDA FURGE

Most of us learned how to pray at a very early age. That is a good thing in that we have grown quite comfortable with prayer since it was incorporated into the very fabric of our lives when we were very young. But since we have been doing it for so long, we may also tend to take prayer and praying for granted sometimes.

As St. Francis de Sales tells us, we have not been created because God needs us. Rather we have been created ... “with an intellect to know him, memory to be mindful of him, will to love him, imagination to picture him, eyes to see his wonderful works, tongue to praise him, and so on...” (First Part of the Introduction, 10).

In other words, we pray because our very nature as creatures demands and needs it.

As always, Jesus is our teacher and role model with prayer and its place in a devout life. Through the Gospels and reflections of great spiritual writers, we learn how to become one with Christ — even as “The Father and I are one.” — Jn 10:30. St. Francis tells us that, just as Jesus did, we should “practice mental prayer” by incorporating it into our daily routines, setting time and distractions aside in a quiet place — wherever we might find it.

The presence of God

While we can choose various forms of prayer, such as the rosary, formal prayers like the Our Father and Hail Mary or praying with Scripture, every form of prayer always begins, St. Francis says, by placing ourselves in God’s presence. By that we mean an intentional awareness that God is present to us “... in all things and all places.” (Second Part of the Introduction, 2).

And so often, just like praying, we may take the presence of God for granted. Along with our first prayers, we learned early on that God is everywhere and “lives” in heaven. We learned that, while God is powerful enough to create the whole universe, God is also very close to us, loves and listens to us, and protects us from all harm.

It seems hard to reconcile an all-powerful Being who is in heaven (transcendent) and “has the whole world in his hands” with someone who loves you and knows you intimately (immanent) and who even provides for the lovely birds in the sky and the lilies in the fields.

While God’s nature will always be a mystery to us, perhaps one way to understand how God’s presence can be both transcendent and immanent is to make a very human analogy to the air we breathe. Air can be considered both transcendent (“out there”) and immanent (within our bodies as oxygen). We — and all God’s creatures — are solely dependent on air for existence; it is invisible but real; it surrounds and sustains each and every one of us.

St. Francis de Sales says, “Just as wherever birds fly they always encounter the air, so also wherever we go or wherever we are we find God present.” (Second Part of the Introduction, 2). In the same way that we depend on air for survival, we — and the entire universe — are solely dependent on God for our very existence; God is invisible but we know he is real through the person of Jesus Christ; and God’s love surrounds, sustains and protects each one of us every moment of every day.

Awareness of God’s presence

God’s immense and overflowing love created the universe and makes him transcendent from us. And it is that very same enveloping and sustaining love (like the air we breathe) that also allows us to trust that he is very close to us, intimately knowing our innermost being and personally caring about our smallest needs and concerns. In fact, when we consume the Eucharist at Mass, God enters into our bodies and literally becomes a part of us. When we realize and understand the very personal nature of God’s love for us, that, as written in Acts, “in him we live and move and have our being,” we feel in our hearts “... great reverence toward God who is so intimately present in it.” (Second Part of the Introduction, 2).

Yet another way to become aware of the presence of God is through the realization that we are incorporated into Christ’s body, that wherever we are, there is Christ whom we recognize as present in the persons with whom we interact each day.

And, finally, one last way to be aware of God in our lives is to remember his promise that he is with us to the ends of the earth and to the end of time.

Our awareness of the presence of God in our lives is important to prayer in a devout life. In “The Committed Life,” William Menninger concludes, “So you see, my friend, there are many ways in which you can present yourself to the presence of God as you begin your prayer. Indeed, this practice, if it appeals to you, can be your very prayer itself. Just be still and in an awareness of God’s presence. At times nothing more is necessary.”

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Safety is concern in church survey of west side neighborhoods

BY JUDY BRADFORD

SOUTH BEND — Families living near two west-side churches were most concerned about the safety of their neighborhoods, in a recent door-to-door survey.

Canvassers for St. Adalbert and St. Casimer Catholic churches spent a recent Saturday asking residents in the largely Hispanic neighborhood for their opinions on a variety of subjects. Each team of two included a Spanish-speaker.

The survey project, “Holy Ground,” sought comments on church and community.

“We’re talking about holy ground, which is sacred,” explained Jesussa Rodriguez, lay leader of the project. “We all live here and should take care of our neighbors, invite each other in and engage with one another.”

Of the 50 to 70 homes surveyed, comments about safety came to the forefront.

“They were very open about home invasions and being vandalized,” said Rodriguez. “They spoke about cars driving too fast and how police don’t come around as often as they should. They also talked about youths being out after curfew and some of the elderly said they stay inside because they’re afraid to go out. They don’t feel safe.”

Rodriguez said the canvassers were also surprised, however, at residents’ willingness to get involved. “All of them said they would step up,” she said, should the church decide to lead the way in improving safety.

In the past, St. Adalbert’s has led the way in neighborhood issues. Several years ago, townhall meetings were held at the church to air concerns about power lines proposed across Olive Street, the main north-south route on which the church is located.

Rodriguez said families, most of whom were renting their homes, were also asked about their opinions on the church.

Some said there were too many rules and too long of a preparation time for confirmation of youth into the Catholic faith, leading them to go to other Catholic churches for that rite, or to other types of churches. They said they wanted to be “welcomed and embraced” when they enter the church doors, and they would like to have more one-on-one time with the pastor.

“One lady said that when one person in the church is having a bad day, it spreads,” said Rodriguez.

Canvassers were instructed to listen, and not argue.

“If people started talking about the parish, we were to remember that this was a listening campaign, and that was it. That’s what ministry is all about. I love this work because it gets us out into the parish. People say what’s in their hearts.”

Father Chris Cox, pastor of St. Adalbert’s, said the project recognizes that all live on holy ground and must take pride in it.

Rodriguez took a leadership role but says that Father Cox set the example. “He’s walking in God’s footsteps, and that’s the example that we all see and follow.”

FIRST ANNUAL SETON MIRACLE MILES 5K RUN/WALK HELD

The Seton Miracle Miles 5K Run/Walk was introduced on Aug. 8. All proceeds went to Community Harvest Food Bank. Kristin Spoltman, race director, presented a check for $2,310 to Rebecca Aurand at Community Harvest Food Bank. Also donated were four barrels of canned food items.
Friends of L’Arche bring joyful noise unto the Lord

BY KAY COZAD

The Mass further encouraged him to create change. "Evangelization is so important for someone to learn sign language to better minister to deaf Catholics," said  Father Rozman, who is himself deaf. "Everybody needs to understand that people who are deaf are a close-knit community and ‘don’t see deafness as a handicap, they see it as a culture.’"

Because ASL is not a direct translation of English, Father Rozman said he often has to communicate better with Catholics who are deaf. He said he learned 96 percent of Catholics who are deaf have never been to Mass — a statistic that both saddened him and encouraged him to create change.

"Evangelization is so important in the church and I think it’s troubling when we hear that 96 percent of Catholics who are deaf don’t go to church," Father Rozman said. "I think that we as evangelizers need to get the word across and a way of doing that is for someone to learn sign language and help them (deaf Catholics), especially with confession." In addition, he said clergy need to understand that people who are deaf are a close-knit community and “don’t see deafness as a handicap, they see it as a culture.” Because ASL is not a direct translation of English, Father Rozman said he often has to communicate using finger spelling, the rapid movement of fingers to represent individual letters. He admits this skill has proved one of the most challenging to learn, especially because of how quickly many deaf people can form the letters.

He said he regularly uses online sources to take timed quizzes on four different speeds he humorously referred to as “slow, medium, fast and deaf.” Although he can eventually communicate his thoughts correctly, it is still often difficult to understand what others are signing, Father Rozman said.

Washington (CNS) — The silence of the hallways is only interrupted by intermittent laughter and the occasional sound of moving chairs. A man noiselessly converses with someone on a higher floor, turns away and heads toward a spiral staircase to join his companion.

At Gallaudet University in Washington, an institution specializing in undergraduate with disabilities education for deaf and hard-of-hearing students, the pervasive quiet does not suggest a lack of activity.

During one of Gallaudet’s summer sessions, many classrooms were full of hearing and deaf students learning everything from elementary sign language to how to prepare for interpretation exams.

Father Thomas Rozman, pastor of St. Patrick Catholic Parish in Harrisburg, Pa., was practicing signing with his classmates in one of the rooms, with desks in a circle to maximize visibility. He is in his second consecutive year of summer studies at Gallaudet and is taking American Sign Language II, or ASL, in an effort to help more deaf Catholics feel a part of their faith.

“They feel like they don’t have a home in the church because they can’t communicate,” Father Rozman, who is not deaf, said. “A deaf person who wants to go to confession can write, but it’s uncomfortable.”

The Harrisburg Diocese has a focus on including Catholics in worship and parish life, Father Rozman told Catholic News Service. About two years ago the diocese established an Office for Ministry with People with Disabilities. Currently, most of the interpreters are laypeople. The priest said he was not aware of other priests in his area learning sign language.

In Harrisburg in June, Father Michael Depick, an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales who is himself deaf and ministers to deaf Catholics in the Archdiocese of Chicago, celebrated Mass for the deaf and hearing communities at St. Patrick Catholic. The special Mass further inspired Father Rozman to continue his own efforts to communicate better with Catholics who are deaf. He said he learned 96 percent of Catholics who are deaf have never been to Mass — a statistic that both saddened him and encouraged him to create change.

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Core members of the Friends of L’Arche/Emmaus Community join choir members by playing guitar and singing at a special Mass on July 14 in the Sacred Heart Crypt Church. Holy Cross Father Tom Jones celebrated the Mass, which integrates some of South Bend’s disabled population into parish life.

The Mass shared with the Friends of L’Arche/Emmaus Community 30-year Sacred Heart parishioner Denise Hagerty says, “We enjoy their coming. They’ve been coming a long time. We see the Lord in their joy and feel connected to each other.” She and her family looked forward to participating in the picnic following the special Mass.

Father Jones remarks, “It’s an important part of our ministry in the diocese and our church. This is good for our community. They teach us how to enjoy the moment ... as they overcome their disabilities. That’s the kind of attitude, as part of Christ’s community, they mentor to us.”

For information on the Friends of L’Arche/Emmaus Community at Sacred Heart Parish contact  Sister Arlene, director of the L’Arche/Emmaus Community, c/o Sacred Heart Parish, 711 N. Warren Ave., South Bend, IN 46619 bend@msn.com.

For information on Jean Vanier and the L’Arche communities visit www.larche.org.
The challenges of adult autism

BY DIANE FREEBY

SOUTH BEND — With acceptance comes peace, and through crisis, our faith can be strengthened. Those are things Lisa Caponigri has learned as she raises her three children, one of whom is autistic.

The daughter of a Notre Dame professor, Caponigri is known as a pioneer to area parents who have autistic children. When Bobby was born 20 years ago, little was known about the broad-range spectrum. Classic characteristics of autism include impaired language and social skills.

“He was a very bubbly, happy, gorgeous little boy,” recalls Caponigri. “The only thing I can compare it to is a veil that came down in front of his eyes and gave him sort of an empty look. He didn’t really want to interact with his sister, who’s only 18 months older.”

Those early years were difficult. Lisa, who is also mother to 22-year-old Felicia and 16-year-old Guido, stayed up that first night after Bobby’s diagnosis, crying. She fought the autism label, even as she sought help for Bobby.

True peace seemed to elude her, and two marriages ended in divorce. Despite that sadness, Lisa says she clung to her faith and her family, drawing on something her mother reminded her during a particularly difficult time: “God is good!”

“My mom, who is a convert to Catholicism, used to say that all the time,” says Lisa. “I think that in the greatest challenge, and in our darkest moments, I do believe what my mother said to me. God is good! And he does come to you, and he does strengthen you when you’re facing these things.”

After a diverse career that has taken her around the world, Lisa is happy to call South Bend home again. She and her family faced many new challenges when Bobby grew into adolescence, but Lisa believes her son is a very bright young man who would have benefited greatly from earlier intervention that is more readily available now than when he was younger. Challenges change as the child grows up and for these reasons, Lisa is writing “Entering Adulthood with Autism,” due out later next year.

“The most difficult years have been since Bobby turned 17,” admits Lisa. “I saw an entirely different side to his personality. It’s his reaction to hormones and development that… ‘non-autistic’ men handle in a different manner. Even for non-autistic men, that’s a difficult period of life.”

Through that stage, Bobby went from a loving and affectionate child to one who was more aggressive physically. Lisa worried about the future and finally sought help. She hired aides to stay with Bobby in her home, and also relied on her other son who now stands 6 feet-1 inch.” Lisa says Bobby respects his brother.

As with many Catholic parents of special needs children, Lisa wanted Bobby to experience the sacraments. She benefited greatly from the kind words of a Notre Dame priest who said Bobby could still be in God’s presence even if he couldn’t receive the sacraments.

“I was hung up on that, too,” admits Lisa. Finally, I just accepted it.

At night a lot of times I just say prayers with Bobby. … I know he has his own spiritual journey and it’s a great one.”

Parishioners at Sacred Heart, Lisa is pleased both Felicity and Guido attend Mass regularly and are making their Catholic faith their own.

“Their faith has been strengthened, absolutely,” says Lisa of her children. “They talk to me all the time about the challenges I face every day. … People comment all the time on my other two children. … I believe they have an added dimension now because they’ve lived with Bobby. They love Bobby. They love a sibling with special needs.”

Lisa Caponigri's children, Guido, left, and Felicity help their mom care for Bobby and attend school just blocks from their home. Guido is a sophomore at Saint Joseph’s High School and Felicity, who is also co-guardian with Lisa, attends the University of Notre Dame. In addition to her upcoming book on autism, Lisa has written another book illustrating the importance of families spending time together. In “Whatever Happened to Sunday Dinner,” Caponigri shares cherished Italian-American recipes and simple tips to get the family back to the dinner table.

Resources for young adults with special needs

South Bend
- Logan Community Resources, Inc. (574) 289-4831
- ND-SMC Special Friends (574) 631-3657 or sffriends@nd.edu
- South Bend Community School Corporation — adult special education (574) 283-7505

Fort Wayne
- Autism Community Together (A.C.T.) www.acpositive.org
- Children’s Autism Center www.childrensautismcenter.org
- State and national
  - The Autism Society of Indiana www.inautism.org
  - Autism Society of America www.autism-society.org
  - www.autismspeaks.org

Book
- “Entering Adulthood With Autism” By Lisa Caponigri (release date: December 2010)
EDITORIAL

Are we really different?

The media today is typically inundated with an influx of information and the newest findings on disabilities and mental illness. Statistics on just about any disability can be found, including one of every 150 children will be diagnosed with autism this year or an estimated one in every four adults suffers from a diagnosable mental disorder each year. Research is being conducted on several fronts in an international effort to address these conditions.

And while it is important to compile statistics, create viable treatments and work to meet the needs of the challenged, we as followers of Christ are called to see each human being as an individual — a precious gift of life.

The individuals who make up these statistics are each a unique creation of God, as we all are, with his or her own special needs. Are we really that different? Though our needs may vary from one to the next, our innate desire to love and be loved — to belong — unite us in a very real sense. It is a foundational element of the dignity of life.

Catechesis and the sharing of our Catholic faith is a perfect opportunity to include another — to foster a sense of belonging. Opportunities should offer a safe place to begin and be yours to return.

The Catholic Church has recently begun to develop programs to catechize our disabled children. Some of our local churches have initiated grassroots programs led by mothers of children with disabilities to teach them about our faith with activities adapted to their intellectual levels. There is an ever-growing need for this type of catechesis.

But these children grow up and become adults with special needs. How do we, as church, meet those emotional and spiritual needs of the adult individuals in our midst who only seem different due to the need to use a wheelchair, short attention span or unfocused behavior?

One group, L’Arch, established in 1964 by Jean Vanier, has found a unique way to meet the spiritual needs of the disabled. In this week’s issue you can read about a local chapter in South Bend that welcomes those with disabilities into the church, offering them their own weekly Masses, social events and an annual Mass attended by the disabled and parishioners as well. Vanier’s premise is that “relationship is formative.” Each has a gift to offer and something to teach the other.

From the mothers of special needs children to the leaders of our church, the message of belonging and redemption is clear. In his homily on the Jubilee of the Disabled in December of 2000, Pope John Paul II said, “The season of Advent, which begins today, spurs us to prepare ourselves to welcome Christ and be yours to come. But how should we prepare? This important celebration we are holding highlights the fact that a concrete way to prepare ourselves for this meeting is by closeness and sharing with those who, for whatever reason, are in difficulty. By recognizing Christ in our brethren, we are preparing to be recognized by him at his final return.”

COMMENTARY

ND board of trustees’ core membership includes priests

Regarding Bishop John D’Arcy’s “The Church and the University,” in a section of the article headlined “The Silent Board,” D’Arcy chides the Notre Dame Board of Trustees for irresponsibility in not intervening in the crises over Obama’s invitation to receive an honorary degree. He states that the present moment “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.”

Leaving aside the implications of this observation for the lay members of the board, he fails to mention that the board also contains a significant number of members who are Holy Cross priest-professors and priest-administrators and one who is a Holy Cross bishop-administrator. In the last 20 years of his priesthood at Notre Dame before being appointed Bishop D’Arcy’s auxiliary bishop and, later, the Bishop of Peoria. With this kind of core membership, does the board deserve D’Arcy’s suggestion that it lacks the spiritual and intellectual formation to do its job? If D’Arcy had simply followed the suggestions in a companion article to his in America (Aug. 31, 2009) by Archbishop John Quinn ... as ND President John Jenkins, CSC, has tried to do, this crisis would never have occurred.

Robert N. Barger, Ph.D.
Josephine Barger, M.A.
Notre Dame

Pulcheria — witness to the Catholic faith

"Do you suppose we could have the body of Mary here in Constantinople? We would give it all due reverence ..."

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The loss of dreams

Sandra and her husband Bill had spent the last 45 years raising children, building careers and investing in their retirement. They dreamed of traveling the world and spending time with their children and grandchildren in their golden years. But those dreams were dashed when Bill died unexpectedly of a heart attack.

Sandra was devastated by her loss and sought the support of family and friends. As she worked through her grief in the weeks following the funeral, she began to take stock of her life. “I’ve not only lost my husband, but I’ve lost my life as I knew it and all the plans we made together. Bill and I were planning to travel after he retired. Now what do I do?” she asked, feeling lost and despondent about the future.

As those of us who have lost a loved one know, dreams for the future can be pillared in an instant. But many times we don’t recognize that dimension of loss until weeks or months after our loved one has died. “What do I do now?” can be a paralyzing cry. I recall speaking with a financial advisor following my 32-year-old husband’s death. As we spoke of the future, I was unable to picture any life but the nightmare I was currently living. I felt in my heart that my child would never need money for college because I could not envision seeing them growing up.

But as I embraced my grief and learned more about myself as a single parent, I began to understand that standing through my grief would allow my heart to slowly heal. And my young daughters and I would begin to develop a “new normal” way of life, which included plans for the future.

In any relationship in which we love another, we naturally perceive the future unfolding with our loved one actively present and involved. But death ends the possibility of any future plans.

## Jesus, the suffering servant is example

**THE SUNDAY GOSPEL**

**MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION**

**24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Mk 8:27-35

The last and third section of the Book of Isaiah provides the first reading for this weekend in Ordinary Time. This passage is one of several similar sections in Trito-Isaiah. These sections together are called the Songs of the Suffering Servant. Poetic and expressive, they figure in the liturgies of Holy Week and Good Friday because Christians historically have applied them to Christ, the Lamb of God.

Who was in the mind of the author of Trito-Isaiah that these songs were written? Was he thinking of himself? Was he thinking of another loyal and devoted follower of the Covenant who faced many difficulties? Was he thinking collectively of the Chosen People? In any case, the picture of the Servant is complete. The Servant is steadfast. Hardships and obstacles are not allowed to subdue him. He is whole and unblemished. But God thankfully provides strength and guidance.

Assured of God’s help, and rescued in faith, the Servant is undaunted in obeying God. For its second reading, the church this weekend gives us a passage from the epistle of James. At the time of the Reformation, the suffering opinions regarding texts such as this reading literally caused wars. It affirms the classic Roman Catholic interpretation of revelation. God gives us the healing and empowering grace so that we can believe.

However, we must ratify our belief in our worthy Christian conduct. It is not a question simply of following rules and regulations. Rather, it is to conduct ourselves so that in everything we replicate Christ. St. Mark’s Gospel furnishes the last reading.

In this story, Jesus and the apostles have gone to the region of Caesarea Philippon. This region is often in the news even today, and it has been the scene of much violence in the past 30 years. In general, it is the region now called the Golan Heights, territory claimed by modern Syria but taken militarily by Israel about 40 years ago. Parts of it still are under Israeli control.

At the origin of the Jordan River, it is picturesque and placid. Such was the setting for this powerfully revelatory reading. Jesus questions the apostles. His identity is the issue. They respond by reporting the various proposals people put forward as to the Lord’s identity. “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, others one of the prophets.” Then Jesus bluntly asks the apostles about their thoughts as to the identity of the Master. Note that Peter speaks for the group. Also note Peter’s firm answer. “You are the Messiah!” Jesus then gives the twelve a special lesson. It is one of many occasions within the New Testament in which the apostles appear as special students. They heard from Jesus lessons not given to the rank and file. They were special. When Peter interjects his own, human thinking into the discussion, Jesus reprimands him.

Then Jesus tells the crowd that discipleship means carrying personal crosses. It is frank and somber advice. To follow Christ means the willingness to sacrifice even earthly life itself.

### Reflection

Living the Christian life by acts of genuine love and deep faith, all in reflection of Jesus, always has been challenging. Certainly the martyrs, from those who died in ancient Rome to those dying today, know very well this aspect of discipleship. Blessedly, Americans do not face this test of discipleship. But, they face everyday the mighty attacks to the Gospel from our culture. We too must sacrifice if we wish to follow the Lord.

The fact is that, however the challenges come, overcoming opposition and being loyal to Christ results in peace in this life and joy in the life eternal.

### READINGS

**Sunday:** B: 505-9a Ps 116:1-6b-9 Jas 2:14-18 Mk 8:27-35

- Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13 Ps 101:1-3,5-6 Jn 1925-27
- Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16 Ps 111:1-6 Lk 731-35
- Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16 Ps 111:7-10 Lk 736-50
- Friday: 1 Tm 6:12-14 Ps 49b-10,17-20 Lk 8:1-3
- Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16 Ps 100:1b-5 Lk 8:4-15

**CATEQUIZEM**

By Dominic Camplisson

In the seventh month we look at lucky seven in the Bible and beyond.

1. Who in Genesis saw seven fat cows and seven skinny cows in a dream?
   a. Daniel
   b. Pharaoh
   c. Joseph

2. Who, in Genesis, lived 712 years after the birth of Lamech?
   a. George Burns
   b. Methuselah
   c. Abimilech

3. The Jews were told when observing Passover to eat this for seven days:
   a. Kosher pork
   b. The bread of Life
   c. Unleavened bread

4. In the apolitical name Book of Numbers we learn that in the seventh month the Jews perform rituals which are now associated with:
   a. The Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)
   b. The Feast of Lots (Betha)
   c. Hanukkah (Christmas)

5. Levitical prescribeds as seven days the quarantine period for:
   a. Captured foreign slaves
   b. People with skin disease
   c. Repentant Christians returning to the fold

6. The Book of Judges records how the Bejaminites army included 700 men handpicked because of this possibly sinister fact:
   a. They were all left handed
   b. They were all Philistine converts
   c. They were all able to speak Aramaic

7. According to the Book of Baruch, the Jews are told they will be exiled here by Nebuchadnezzar for a period seven generations long:
   a. Des Moines
   b. Egypt
   c. Babylon

8. In 1 Samuel in a series of contrasts the barren wife:
   a. has seven co-wives
   b. has seven husbands
   c. bears seven sons

9. The king Jehoiachin is described in Jeremiah 22 as childless. This is not exactly so as he had:
   a. seven sons
   b. seven children whose gender is unknown
   c. seven daughters

10. The author of Psalm 119 praises God seven times a day because his:
   a. Laws are arbitrary
   b. Nature is caprice
   c. Edicts are just

11. We are told of a famous female follower of Jesus “…from whom seven demons had gone …” Who was she?
   a. Miriam wife of Clopas
   b. Mary Magdalene
   c. Salome wife of Herodias

12. In Act 13 Paul reminds his listener that God destroyed seven nations in this land, which he then gave to the Israelites:
   a. Canaan
   b. Palestine
   c. Jordan

13. According to tradition and the catechism, which biblical prayer has seven petitions?
   a. The Lord’s Prayer
   b. The Hail Holy Star
   c. The Creed

14. This ecclesial center was reputedly built on seven hills:
   a. Canterbury
   b. Mecca
   c. Rome

15. The traditional list of the seven seas includes this one that was dry for the Jews but:
   a. The Red Sea
   b. The Dead Sea
   c. The Sea of Galilee

**ANSWERS:**

1. b, 2, b, 3, a, 4a, 5b, 6a, 7c, 8c, 9a, 10c, 11b, 12a, 13a, 14c, 15a
St. Paul was born in Tarsus

Where was St. Paul born?

St. Paul was born in Tarsus in modern southeast Turkey or ancient Asia Minor in the area called Cilicia during the first years of the Christian era. St. Paul is often called Saul of Tarsus. Saul is the Hebrew and Paul is the Roman name. St. Paul was born a Jew, but he also became a Roman citizen. Tarsus today has about 130,000 inhabitants.

E. Blake says the city of Tarsus existed 4,000 years before St. Paul was born. It was one of the important towns of the ancient Hittite empire. Originally Tarsus was a Hittite town. It was one of the important cities of ancient Asia Minor in the area called Cilicia during the first years of the Christian era. St. Paul was born there. Fodor says at Tarsus there are Roman baths and temples standing next to a basilica that is now a mosque. What is said to be the tomb of Seth, the son of Noah, is at Tarsus.

Take out the big guns

Country life agrees with me very well. I love the organic vegetables we are growing and eating. I love the space, the fresh air and the lack of nosy neighbors. But one thing I just can’t totally get used to is the critters on the property. We have had some adventures with groundhogs, deer and opossum.

I worry about raccoons the most, however, partially because I read somewhere that raccoons lead the pack in carrying rabies, partially because they’re so destructive and mean, and mostly because they love to eat chickens, which we are raising in a backyard coop.

My 12 year old was doing her “chicken chores” this morning and spotted a huge raccoon out in the field. I decided to try to shoo the raccoon off the property the only way I know how — I went to get my son’s paintball gun.

After a few texts to my son (who is away at college), I was able to figure out how to load the CO2 and paintballs. I put on the safety mask, which makes me look like Darth Vader. I’m sure I looked just like a fool, but I like my life is different without Bill, and enjoy life again in a different way. Achieving that would mean redirecting your energy to new ventures of interest to you.

Reinvesting emotionally in life requires a certain shift in the way you think about the future. It requires a certain shift in the way you think about the future.

without her beloved Bill, she was encouraged to think that, though future activities would not include him, she might someday enjoy life again in a different way. Achieving that would mean redirecting your energy to new ventures of interest to her. Reinvesting emotionally in life requires a certain shift in the heart — an inner examination of core values and priorities.

THERESA A. THOMAS

EVEN DAY CATHOLIC

THESA A. THOMAS

an important way to fight off moral challenges and sin in our lives, which our modern culture offers us regularly. We should put confession on the family calendar every month. We can conclude the family “confession date” with dinner at a local restaurant or trip for ice cream, and watch a miraculous change in attitude and action in all family members.

We should choose a day in addition to Sunday to attend Mass to pray for our families. Parents are entrusted with their children’s souls to form and guide and hopefully encourage to think that, though we might someday enjoy life again in a different way. Achieving that would mean redirecting your energy to new ventures of interest to her. Reinvesting emotionally in life requires a certain shift in the heart — an inner examination of core values and priorities.

FOLLOW ME

S J O K H I S C R O S S
A O C T C A N A N X M E
V H E A A L L A E A R L
E N F K E L O F I F E P
I A S E T S I T P A B I
T M A U J O A E Y M U C
S F T P F H E R N Y K S
I O A H T F P M E S E I
R N Y C R E E D A S D
H O A P E T E R J K I L
C S E G A L L I V E R W
F O L L O W M E C R O S

FOLLOW AFTER ME

S J O K H I S C R O S S
A O C T C A N A N X M E
V H E A A L L A E A R L
E N F K E L O F I F E P
I A S E T S I T P A B I
T M A U J O A E Y M U C
S F T P F H E R N Y K S
I O A H T F P M E S E I
R N Y C R E E D A S D
H O A P E T E R J K I L
C S E G A L L I V E R W
F O L L O W M E C R O S

HOPE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

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Reinvesting emotionally in life requires a certain shift in the heart — an inner examination of core values and priorities.

FOLLOWING a period of time in which allowed her to grow deeply, Sandra began to experiment with volunteer work in her area in an attempt to find a place where she felt she could contribute. “After being Bill’s wife for so long, I couldn’t even think of what else I was good at,” she said. Her search for meaning and purpose in life reflected Sandra’s desire to live life more fully. And with effort Sandra now finds purpose delivering flowers to patients in the local hospital as well as spending time with family and friends.

Many times, even years after the loss, those dreams you hold dear in your heart will resurface. It’s okay to recall cherished hopes for the future. But the work of grief is not only about remembering and letting go, but also turning toward the future with new hopes and dreams, and trusting that you will find the right path.

Sandra muses as she finds her way, “I know now that though my life is different without Bill, it’s still a good life.”

Kay Cozad is a certified grief educator and news editor of Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is the author of “Prayer Book for Widows.” Our Sunday Visitor, 2004. She can be reached at kcozad@fw.diocesefwsb.org.
CYO roars into Week 2 football action

BY MICHELLE CASTILEMAN

In the first game of Week 2 Catholic Youth League (CYO) football action, the Royal Reds from Queen of Angels/Most Precious Blood (QA/PB) downed St. John-New Haven, 16-8, in a hard-fought battle.

On their first drive, the Royal Reds’ quarterback Talon Hostetler had some big completions and big runs gaining hard-earned yardage to get in scoring position. It was tailback Ryan Weddle who was able to finally punch in a potential touchdown and Noah Vondran who added the kick to put QA/PB on the scoreboard first 8-0.

In the first drive of the second half, the Raiders were able to answer back in a similar fashion after a couple of big pass plays from quarterback Carson Feldzer, including a 30-yarder to Adam Kitchen, Kyle Hartzog led the way for the Panthers with two rushing touchdowns. Flacable threw for one touchdown and ran for another. Watercutter was on the receiving end of a beautiful scoring catch in the back of the end zone at the tail end of the first half.

Kilchen explained, “We started out a little bit sluggish, but we touched the adversity well and took control in the second quarter. The kids played hard. We still have a lot to improve upon, but we’re glad to be 2-0 out of the gate.”

A tough St. Joe/St. Elizabeth/St. Aloysius/St. Therese (JAT) team downed a young St. John-New Haven group in the final matchup of the first week. Knight touchdowns were scored by Trey Casaburo, Braden Thiele (2), Quinton Gardner (2) and Samuel Lovejoy. Nic Morken led the team in tackles in an overall strong defensive effort for the 2009 runners-up. Casaburo was four-for-four on extra point kicks while Andrew Schenkel converted the one.

Both Mike Gigli and Troy Hoffer, a former Ball State safety, were in their first outing as head coaches at the CYO varsity level. In their second outing, the JAT boys lost a physical matchup to the defending champs, Holy Cross, 26-12.

“IT was a tale of two halves,” summarized Gigli. “Our coaching staff is proud of the way our team came out and played the first half. Holy Cross is a much bigger and more experienced team. We competed for three quarters, but in the end their passing game was too much for our team to handle.”

“Morken ran with heart and desire and kept us in the ballgame. His 146 yards rushing and two touchdowns were more than just impressive. Credit should also be given to the offensive line as well,” he added.

St. John-Fort Wayne/St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Eagles were beaten in Week 1 by the defending CYO champs Holy Cross, and in Week 2 by St. Charles. Eagles Coach Jim Carroll explained, “We’re young with lots of new faces out for the first time. We’ll work hard, push to get better and we’ll be back.”

Panthers and Saints square off for opening game of ICCL season

BY JOE KOZINSKI

MISHAWAKA — The opening contest on the 65th Inter-City Catholic League season started off with a bang as the two teams that have owned the championship for the past three years squared off here at Otolski Field.

The Mishawaka Catholic Saints started the game off with a big kickoff return by Will Whiten that placed the ball deep in the St. Anthony/St. Joseph (South Bend)/St. Pius Panther territory. It took the Saints only two plays to have Dominic Ravotto scamper 14 yards for a touchdown.

The points after attempt were blocked as the Saints led, 6-0, after only 50 seconds of play.

It seemed the Saints were on their move again after Chris Coulter intercepted an Alex Ward pass, but the Panthers returned the favor as Oliver Page snatched a Coulter pass for an INT.

That play allowed Brian Mischler to take a hand off from Ward and dash 59 yards for a touchdown. Michael Farkas then connected on the points after boot to give the Panthers an 8-6 lead.

The Panthers maintained field position after the Saints turned the ball over on downs, but Charles Fletcher intercepted a pass and raced 80 yards for an apparent touchdown only to have it called back on a penalty.

If the Saints were to score it would be the hard way. Ravotto and Joe Kavanagh were used as a one-two punch to drive the ball the length of the field and have Coulter cap it off with a 1-foot plunge making the score 12-8, Mishawaka Catholic.

The second half started with three of the Panther backs; Mischler, Chris Lippert and Justin Drinkall sharing the pigskin and running the ball deep into Saint turf. Eric Mosey went high into the air to pull down a Ward pass at the two-yard line. Two plays later, Greenan Sullivan hammered home the score making the game 14-12 Panthers.

The biggest play of the game may have been what followed, a kickoff by Farkas that pinned the Saints inside of their own 10. Field position would dominate the remainder of this hard hitting contest.

As the game wore on the Saints could only move the ball 20 yards a possession and the Panthers did the same. With fourth down and four to go on their own 18 with 1:05 on the clock the Saints came up two yards short. The Saints would have one more chance but the Panthers would close the door when with fourth down and one with 42 seconds on the clock, a sweep by Lippert gained the yardage needed for the first down and the game.

“When we drew Mishawaka Catholic for our first game, I knew the game would be tough,” said Hostetler. “I knew we had a lot to work on. Our O-line is young and needs time to come together with our new defensive team. We’re going to have some growing pains but we know the guys will continue to improve.”

The Panthers improved to 2-0 after a 26-8 victory over St. Jude in Week 2 play. Hartzog led the way with two rushing touchdowns. Flacable threw for one touchdown and ran for another. Watercutter was on the receiving end of a beautiful scoring catch in the back of the end zone at the tail end of the first half.

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“Morken ran with heart and desire and kept us in the ballgame. His 146 yards rushing and two touchdowns were more than just impressive. Credit should also be given to the offensive line as well,” he added.

St. John-Fort Wayne/St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Eagles were beaten in Week 1 by the defending CYO champs Holy Cross, and in Week 2 by St. Charles. Eagles Coach Jim Carroll explained, “We’re young with lots of new faces out for the first time. We’ll work hard, push to get better and we’ll be back.”

The University of Saint Francis women’s basketball program has set its 2009-10 schedule and Lady Cougars Coach Gary Andrews doesn’t have many cream puffs on the slate heading into his eighth season with four NCAA II teams including 2007 NCAA Division II National champion Northern Kentucky; 13 games vs. NAIA Division II Poll members in the final regular season survey; 10 2008-09 post-season tournament qualifiers; and eight 2008-09 NAIA DII post-season tournament qualifiers including NAIA Tournament Semiinalist College of the Ozarks. “This may be the toughest schedule any USF team has had,” Andrews said.
that we would be lucky to get out of here with a win,” stated Kevin Sandor, coach of the Panthers. “Denton Gillis did a great job defensively all day.”

“All that I can say is that our kids played hard and took advantage of a big break early,” commented Tony Violi, coach of the Saints. “Kevin is an excellent coach and we knew coming in this would be a difficult challenge for us.”

In the other varsity game, the Holy Cross/Christ the King Crusaders topped the West Side Catholic Cougars, 26-0.

The Crusaders were led by Matt Monserez’s two touchdown passes, one to Pat Swift for 35 yards and another to Ryan Wobbe for 20 yards. Casey Coleman had a 25-yard touchdown run and Pierre Byrne added a 40-yard touchdown run. Wobbe converted a two-point kick for the Crusaders.

CHICAGO — Father Robert Barron is one of the world’s greatest and innovative teachers of spirituality. The popular Catholic preacher and author is drawing a record number of visitors to his redesigned Web site, WordOnFire.org. Father Barron is also tapping YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and other new media tools to engage thousands of people — Catholics and non-Catholics alike.

“People aren’t just spontaneously coming to our institutions anymore,” said Father Barron, a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

“We have to go out to get them. It’s the way we have to go if we’re serious about evangelizing the next generation.”

Chicago’s Cardinal George calls Father Barron one of the church’s best messengers. Ten years ago, Father Barron had the foresight to launch his own Web site and soon became the first podcasting priest in America. Today, WordOnFire.org offers new, highly-interactive features that invite visitors on a global journey into a deeper conversation about the spiritual life and the church’s teachings.

Father Barron’s online videos, audio sermons, and articles cover a variety of topics and media, offering compelling commentaries on everything from the best-selling book “The Shack” to the Oscar-winning film “Slumdog Millionaire” to the recent controversy over President Obama’s speech at Notre Dame. Visitors to WordOnFire.org can also take a virtual pilgrimage with Father Barron as he films a landmark, high-def epic adventure, The Catholicism Project. The documentary series will take viewers to over 30 locations in 15 countries and is hailed by writer George Weigel as “one of the most significant efforts ever to advance what Pope John Paul II called ‘the new evangelization.’”

“I’m very excited about the newly designed Web site. We are attempting to engage the culture with the Gospel of Jesus Christ,” explained Father Barron. “And I would like to highlight that word ‘engage.’ All of the forums on the website are interactive, allowing the visitor to talk back, to raise questions, to elicit further comment. Why not use these amazing technologies? It’s something the church has been behind on.”

The mission of Word On Fire is to draw people into the body of Christ, which is the church, and thereby gives them access to all the gifts that Jesus wants his people to enjoy. In the same spirit of obedience held by the first disciples, who upon Christ’s command cast their nets into the deep waters of the sea, Father Barron puts out into the deep waters of the world-wide Web. The Word On Fire Web site draws more than 300,000 visitors each year from every continent.

Father Barron is the director of Word on Fire and is the Francis Cardinal George Professor of Faith and Culture at the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary.
WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

MISC. HAPPENINGS

St. Vincent School reunion
Elkhart — The first St. Vincent de Paul School reunion will be Saturday, Oct. 10, at the Mother Teresa Center, 1114 S. Main St., from 3-5 p.m. An alumni Mass will follow. RSVP to (574) 293-8451 or email: d.quinn@stvincentelkhart.org.

Day of reflection
Mishawaka — A day of reflection will be held at St. Francis Convent (across from Marian High School) Wednesday, Sept. 30, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme for the day is “Francis of Assisi.” Please bring your Bible. The cost of the day is $15 and includes lunch. Register by Sept. 25 to Sister Barbara Anne Hallinan at (574) 259-5427.

St. Adalbert School alumni plan get-together with Pierogi and polka fun
South Bend — A genuine pierogi-tasting contest, while listening to music and meeting old friends will be Sunday, Sept. 27, from 3-4:30 p.m. at the Heritage Center. All alumni are welcome to this free event. For reservations contact the parish office, or call Karen Sikorski at (574) 288-5708 ext. 215 so there will be enough Pierogi.

Light Weigh is coming to St. Vincent
Fort Wayne — A Light Weigh orientation meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the nursery (evening session) and on Monday, Sept. 21, at 10 a.m. in the nursery (morning session). Come and find out about The Light Weigh Bible Study–Video Series.

St. Hedwig Chicken Dinner
South Bend — St. Hedwig Parish will have a chicken dinner Sunday, Sept. 20, at the Memorial Center, 331 S. Scott St., from noon to 2 p.m. The buffet includes Polish fare and beverage. Advance tickets only by Sept. 14. Adults $9, children 6-10 $4 and children 5 and under free.

Spaghetti dinner helps Gault School
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council #5570, 5202 Linden Ave., will have a spaghetti dinner for the benefit of the Gault School for Boys and Girls, Thursday, Sept. 10, from 4-6 p.m. Adults $7, children ages 5 to 12 $2.50.

Bishop Luers Men’s Smoker Knight
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers will hold its Athletic Booster Club Men’s Smoker Knight 2009 on Saturday, Sept. 26, from 7 p.m. to midnight at Bishop Luers High School. Watch Notre Dame vs. Purdue on two big screen TV’s, food and beer provided, bring cigars or buy them there. Cost is $25 per person.

Bishop Luers softball tourney
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will hold a home-coming softball tourney on Saturday, Sept. 26, at Tillman Park, 600 Tillman Rd. Round Robin 10-person, co-ed teams start at 9 a.m. Round robin tourney limited to six teams who will play five games. Awards following the final game at 1 p.m. Proceeds to benefit Bishop Luers. Cost is $15 per player and includes team shirts, awards and beverages.

Daughters of Isabella meet
South Bend — The Daughters of Isabella, Notre Dame Circle #72 will celebrate a Corporate Communion on Sunday, Sept. 13, at the 9 a.m. Mass at St. John the Baptist Church on St. John Way. Breakfast will follow at Tom’s on Lafayette Blvd.

Youth Rally announced
Fort Wayne — The High School Youth Rally, sponsored by the Office of Youth Ministry, will be held at Homestead High School Sunday, Sept. 27. A fun-filled, faith-filled day with great music and videos, an interactive teen expo, dynamic workshops and keynote speaker, Mass with Bishop D’Arcy, and the chance to meet teens from across the diocese is planned. Cost is $20. Register with your parish youth minister by Sept. 18 and forms are available by visiting www.diocesefwsb.org/YOUTH or call Megan at (260) 399-1450.

Knights plan spaghetti dinner
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council #5521, 6153 S. ironwood Dr., will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, Sept. 18, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults $7, children (5-12) $3.

Cardinal Fest announced
Fort Wayne — St. Charles Borromeo Church, corner of Reed and Trier roads, will be celebrating CardinalFest 2009 on Saturday, Sept. 19. Kids indoor and outdoor games begin at 3 p.m. with food service beginning at 4 p.m.

Saint Anne Society plans card party
South Bend — The Saint Anne Society will have a luncheon card party Sunday, Sept. 13, 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.

Sister M. Thomas Anne Haugh, 77, Our Lady of Loretto
Sister M. Claudette Metcalf, CSC, Our Lady of Loretto
L. Jerry Balestrei, 78, Basilica of the Sacred Heart
Sister M. Kevin Jones, CSC, 89, Our Lady of Loretto
Plymouth
Agnes B. Fortin, 96, St. Michael
South Bend
Donn Michael Singleton, 62, Little Flower
Antonia Rodriguez, 83, St. Adalbert
Ervin J. Ciesielski, 80, St. Adalbert
Jose Centeno, 51, Our Lady of Hungary
Ervin Frank Cukrowicz, 86, St. Casimir
Jeffrey Braunsdorf, 49, Holy Cross
Virginia Palmer, 81, Holy Cross
Priscilla M. Johnson, 73, Holy Cross
Joshua J. Reed, 15, Holy Family
Veronica R. Perez, 24, St. Adalbert
Geraldine J. Schmanskis, 85, St. John the Baptist
Syracuse
Harry J. Lemberg, Jr., 84, St. Martin de Porres
Today’s society, not just the politicians. And when he speaks, he speaks until the last of 12 chapters, spending the majority of the book talking about how all Catholics should act in the public sphere.

The infamous instruction of Jesus Christ, adroitly deals with how Catholics should respond and act in the public life, at any stage, is unacceptable. The church has always pointed out that life issues are foundational. What else do we influence our decisions, because what else do we have to thrive on if we deny God’s plans. Making choices that are for the benefit of mankind is everyone’s duty, especially the politicians (look no further than the current economic crisis for some failure of this duty by us, and not just politicians). We all need to be making formed, faith-filled decisions with the help of a conscience formed in the light of Christ’s teaching. “Render Unto Caesar” tells you why.

Bishop John M. D’Arcy ordains Kevin Grove and Gerard Olinger to the diaconate in the Congregation of Holy Cross on Sunday, Aug. 30, at the chapel at Moreau Seminary.

ORDAIN

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who every time he offered Mass he offered his whole self to God. “Offer your whole self to God without reservation,” said Bishop D’Arcy.

He reminded them that they are called to give their hearts to the people, especially the poor, and to the ministry of the church. They must stay close to the people and serve them unreservedly.

The church’s instruction, given by Bishop D’Arcy, admonished those to be ordained to have undivided hearts and be firmly rooted and grounded in faith.

After the instruction, the candidates reaffirmed their vow of consecrated celibacy for the sake of the kingdom and also promised obedience and respect to their bishop and religious superior. Afterwards those present called upon the communion of saints for their blessings upon them. Bishop D’Arcy then laid his hands over each candidate and prayed the prayer of ordination. Grove and Olinger were then presented with the vestments of deacons and the Book of the Gospels.

Bishop D’Arcy concluded the Mass assisted by the two new deacons who assumed the liturgical duties of deacons.

Deacon Grove, a native of Montana, entered Moreau Seminary in August of 2004. He will serve at St. Joseph Parish in South Bend until his ordination in April of next year.

Deacon Olinger is from Springfield, Pa. He, too, came to Holy Cross in August of 2004. His has been assigned to serve as deacon at the University of Portland until ordination.

BOOK OF THE MONTH CLUB

This month’s featured selection: “Render Unto Caesar” by Archbishop Charles J. Chaput

Reviewed by York Young

Should Catholic politicians who support abortion and laws that make abortion legal be denied holy Communion by the church? That has been the flashpoint question during the last two presidential races, when a Catholic who supported abortion in law was on a major party ticket (John Kerry in 2004; Joe Biden, vice president, in 2008). Many Catholics, even among a small group of friends, could likely find impassioned people on either side of the issue.

Even U.S. bishops have publicly come out on both sides. Some, who support such a move, look like they’re hoping to get a public conversion from a politician. On the opposite side, some bishops warn against using the Eucharist as a weapon, which it clearly is not intended to be. One of the more reasoned approaches in the U.S. hierarchy on this topic has been posted by Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, ordinary in Denver. His 2008 book “Render Unto Caesar” (Doubleday, $21.95), titled after the infamous instruction of Jesus Christ, adroitly deals with how Catholics should respond and act in the public sphere.

Archbishop Chaput doesn’t answer our opening question until the last of 12 chapters, spending the majority of the book talking about how all Catholics should act in today’s society, not just the politicians. And when he does give us his answer, it’s a several step process, including an encouragement of the individual in question to merely not present himself or herself for Communion. Including an encouragement of the individual in question to merely not present himself or herself for Communion.

Not all teachings have equal weight, however, and the church has always pointed out that life issues are foundational. Any law that allows the destruction of human life, at any stage, is unacceptable.

“Render Unto Caesar” is much more than a treatise on Catholic politicians and abortion law in America. Archbishop Chaput looks at how Catholics and their faith have contributed to the development of U.S. law, as well as the growth of the country, beginning with the colonies. His best chapters focus on the importance of using our faith to influence our decisions, because what else do we have to thrive on if we deny God’s plans. Making choices that are for the benefit of mankind is everyone’s duty, especially the politicians (look no further than the current economic crisis for some failure of this duty by us, and not just politicians). We all need to be making formed, faith-filled decisions with the help of a conscience formed in the light of Christ’s teaching. “Render Unto Caesar” tells you why.