

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Take a look inside

The new Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center opens
Pages 9-12

Unto us ...

Christmas CD to benefit Women's Care Center
Page 4

Do unto others

Catholic Charities serves poor under many hats
Pages 5, 13

Game on

CYO basketball preseason tournament results
Page 17

Serving the homeless

Vincent Village celebrates 20 years
Page 18

Bishop D'Arcy blesses new St. Joseph Regional Medical Center Chapel

BY KAREN CLIFFORD



KAREN CLIFFORD

Bishop John M. D'Arcy anoints the altar at the blessing in the Our Lady of Fatima Chapel at the new Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in Mishawaka.

MISHAWAKA — "Bless this altar built in the house of the church that it may ever be reserved for the sacrifice of Christ and stand forever at the table of the Lord where your people may find nourishment and strength."

These words were proclaimed by Bishop John M. D'Arcy as part of the blessing of the altar at the new St. Joseph Regional Medical Center (SJRC) in Our Lady of Fatima Chapel in Mishawaka on Dec. 6. An overflow crowd was in attendance for the chapel's blessing ceremony.

During his homily, Bishop D'Arcy spoke of the mission of a Catholic hospital. "This beautiful hospital is dedicated to men and women restored and living in the likeness of God. What should mark this hospital is love for others standing in the midst of other great institutions of healing. Its distinguishing mark should always be bringing the love of Jesus Christ to every person who is ill. For Pope Benedict XVI has written that the church can no more neglect the ministry of charity, than it can neglect the sacraments or the word."

The beautiful wood architecture in the chapel, which includes the altar, ambo and presider's chair, were all designed by Holy Cross Father Herbert C. Yost. The darker part of the wood is American red gum with a veneer of maple. On the ambo is a bookholder that has two strong magnets so that after the word of God is read during Mass, the word can be seen in front of the ambo as a reminder of what has been proclaimed.

The rug beneath the altar was chosen to identify

CHAPEL, PAGE 9

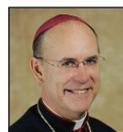
Marian devotion is meaningful to Bishop Rhoades

BY TIM JOHNSON

The following is the first in a series of feature articles in Today's Catholic to acquaint the people of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

HARRISBURG, Pa. — From the rosary being Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades' favorite prayer to celebrating Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine in Mexico, Marian devotion is central to the faith-life of the new bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Bishop Rhoades, meeting with *Today's Catholic* at his offices in Harrisburg, Pa.,



Meet Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

said he was pleased to learn that the Blessed Mother is the patroness of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend under the title of the Immaculate Conception. Just weeks before he learned that he would be the new bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Bishop Rhoades had launched a Marian year in which over 4,000 people from the Diocese of

RHOADES, PAGE 3

YEAR of our PRIESTS

BY MARK WEBER

FATHER DAVID RUPPERT



The biblical phrase, "and a child shall lead them," has a special meaning for Father David Ruppert, because he, in a manner of speaking was led to the sacrament of holy orders

by children — eighth-grade children.

Dave Ruppert was 25 years old and a grad-

YEAR OF, PAGE 4

TODAY'S CATHOLIC

Official newspaper of the
Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend
P.O. Box 11169
Fort Wayne, IN 46856

PUBLISHER: Bishop John M. D'Arcy

EDITOR: Tim Johnson

NEWS EDITOR and STAFF WRITER: Kay Cozad

Editorial Department

PAGE DESIGNER: Francie Hogan

FREELANCE WRITERS: Lauren Caggiano,
Michelle Castleman, Karen Clifford,
Elmer J. Danch, Bonnie Elberon,
Denise Fedorow, Diane Freeby, May
Lee Johnson, Sister Margie Lavonis,
CSC, Joe Kozinski and Deb Wagner

Business Department

BUSINESS MANAGER: Kathy Denice

AD GRAPHICS DIRECTOR: Mark Weber

BOOKKEEPING/CIRCULATION: Kathy Voirol
kvoirol@diocesefwsb.org

Advertising Sales

Tess Steffen (Fort Wayne area)

(260) 456-2824

Jeanette Simon (South Bend area)

(574) 234-0687

Web site: www.todaycatholicnews.org

Published weekly except the fourth
Sunday in June, second and fourth
weeks in July and August, the first week
of September and last week in
December by the Diocese of Fort
Wayne-South Bend, 1103 S. Calhoun St.,
P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, IN 46801.
Periodicals postage paid at Fort Wayne,
IN, and additional mailing office.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
Today's Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort
Wayne, IN 46856-1169 or e-mail:
kvoirol@diocesefwsb.org.

MAIN OFFICE: 915 S. Clinton St., Fort
Wayne, IN 46802. Telephone (260)
456-2824. Fax: (260) 744-1473.

BUREAU OFFICE: 114 W. Wayne St., South
Bend, IN 46601. Telephone (574) 234-
0687. Fax: (574) 232-8483.

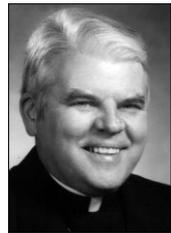
News deadline is the Monday morning
before publication date. Advertising
deadline is nine days before publica-
tion date.

LETTERS POLICY: Today's Catholic wel-
comes original, signed letters about
issues affecting church life. Although
we cannot publish every letter we
receive, we strive to provide a balanced
representation of expressed opinions
and a variety of reflections on life in the
church. We will choose letters for publi-
cation based on reader interest, timeli-
ness and fairness. Readers may agree or
disagree with the letter writers' opin-
ions. Letters must not exceed 250
words. All letters must be signed and
include a phone number and address
for verification. We reserve the right to
edit letters for legal and other concerns.

Mail letters to: Today's Catholic,
P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN
46856-1169; or e-mail:
editor@diocesefwsb.org

ISSN 0891-1533
USPS 403630

The parish-wide mission is an excellent method of evangelization



NEWS & NOTES

BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

The parish mission and the new evangelization

"I have been in this parish 60 years, and this is the finest and best week in all that time." The remarks of a woman to me after I closed the parish mission at St. Matthew's co-Cathedral Parish.

I drove north on one of the first really wintry afternoons, and arrived just before 6 p.m. at St. Matthew Parish where I met a very encouraged Msgr. Mike Heintz and Father Jake Runyon. A delightful soup and sandwich with them, and Jim Fitzpatrick, our always devoted and able diocesan master of ceremonies.

To say I have suggested to Msgr. Mike that he have a parish-wide mission would be an understatement. I thought when he finally agreed it would be done right. He told me that Ginny Kohrman of our Office of Spiritual Development had given to his parishioners the structure, and his excellent committee followed the advice of the Office of Spiritual Development and implemented a full court press.

A phone bank, so that every parishioner receives a call

Advertising and signs. A babysitting component in the basement of the church, so that young parents can come. A letter to every parishioner. As a result, to Msgr. Mike's delight and surprise, he told me there were 800 people there the first night. There were excellent speakers with Msgr. Bill Schooler, Father Jim Shafer and Father Bob Van Kempen; and it was my privilege to celebrate Mass and preach on the final night.

One night was devoted to the sacrament of penance, but there was also a night with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. A full church spent 30 minutes in silent prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

Not new in content, but new in ardor, new in method, and new in expression

That is how Pope John Paul II and Pope Paul VI described the new evangelization.

Each evening was recorded and put on the Internet with the newly ordained Father Jake Runyon taking care of such "expression and method." I was especially pleased to see so many young couples made possible by the babysitting service. The parish-wide mission, if all aspects are implemented, is an excellent method of evangelization. Another characteristic of the new evangelization is that it involves everybody — not just priests and religious, but the whole parish. In fact, as I told the pastor, the outreach and contact is the work of the laity. They are better at it

than we are. Many of them do it for a living; and they know how to contact everyone and how to promote attendance.

There is a certain anonymity, which many people desire in returning to the practice of the faith after many years. A full church, individual confession, prayer and silence gives the atmosphere for a person to slip back quietly into the embrace of Christ and the church without much fanfare. It is usually the best way.

And evangelization to young adults

It was a joy this past week to celebrate Mass at IPFW. We do not have a large state university with tens of thousands of resident students as you find in West Lafayette with Purdue or in Bloomington with Indiana University.

But we do have several smaller state schools, and IPFW in Fort Wayne has the beginnings of residential students. However, it is much more difficult at what is still largely a commuter school to make the contacts over a period of time with the young people. Nevertheless, we have been working on it for many years, and it was a joy to respond to the invitation of Mary Glowaski and celebrate a noontime Mass at IPFW. There were about 50 students and several faculty members, including the assistant to the chancellor, Linda Ruffolo, Professor Bob Sedlmeyer, and other faculty members.

It was a joy to celebrate this Mass with the students, and to preach to them about Advent and Christmas. I stayed, joyfully, for pizza and saw the vital activity that is going on there, helped in great part by Mike Gibson who has served there for a number of years.

Plans were shared for some of the students to attend the March for Life in Washington in late January, as they have in the past. Mary Glowaski told me that the pro-life initiative is rallying many of these students. Another student presented plans for the next World Youth Day, which is to be held, I believe, in Madrid, Spain. Imagine that, in a public state school, plans are already underway for both the pro-life march and the World Youth Day, still a few years away. Also with us was the delightful Allison Sturm, who is working with the young adults on the parish level in such events as Theology on Tap.

A task completed and a hidden monsignor

In early August, after returning from vacation and the annual visits to Fenway Park, I began the task of liturgical installations of the new pastors. I think the Holy Spirit was especially with our personnel board and myself, as we had no certainty concerning the time for the coming of the next bishop. We tried to make prayer a central part of our discernment, and the Holy Spirit gave us the light.

Now at long last, I have installed all the pastors who were named at that time, 13 in all. I drove south from Mishawaka to St. Mary of the Lake Parish, Culver, for the installation of Msgr. Thadeus Balinda. Father Tad, as we call him, was given to us by the goodness of my dear friend, Bishop Robert Muhiirwa, pastor of Fort Portal, Uganda. This is an area evangelized by the saintly and rightly honored Bishop Vincent McCauley, CSC. He is buried at Notre Dame, and I

think his cause for canonization has been introduced, and now priests who were under his influence have returned to help us. Msgr. Balinda was vicar general of his diocese. He has a licentiate in canon law from Rome, and is a prayerful and intelligent man.

He is following the excellent work of Father Glenn Kohrman, and he has been greeted joyfully by the people. He told me how much he is enjoying the work at Culver Academy, which is also the responsibility of the pastor of this parish.

I heard many positive things about his work and was also pleased to hear similar, positive things about the leadership and ministry of Father Glenn Kohrman, who served effectively in Culver over many years.

One more installation remains for an appointment made later after the painful loss of Father Ron Ramenaden. I will go this week to St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, North Manchester, to install Father Thomas Kodakassery, OSB, as pastor. He is a native of India.

Saint Joseph Medical Center

In what can be described as a kind of convocation of the Catholic community of Michiana, it was my joy to consecrate the altar and bless the chapel, and also bless the new Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center itself. I extend special gratitude to the Sisters of the Congregation of Holy Cross through their superior, Sister Joan Steadman, CSC, and to the Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, through Sister Nora Hahn, PHJC, for these are the sisters who in education, and most especially in health care, planted the spirit of Christ in this area. Those congregations are especially devoted to the poor; and it is my hope that the situation in health care today, with all its complications, will not prevent this modern hospital from being a place where the poor are welcomed. I pray it will also be a place where technology is for the person and not the person for technology. On this second Sunday of Advent, I quoted the Catechism of the Catholic Church, which states in reference to Advent, "Finally, with John the Baptist, the Holy Spirit begins the restoration in man of the 'divine likeness' prefiguring what he would achieve with and in Christ."

The Catholic hospital must be a place where this restoration of the divine likeness continues, where work with the sick is seen as a ministry of love, truly the ministry of Christ the healer, and a ministry always and in every way, in support of life.

I am preparing to celebrate for the last time as your bishop our patronal feast of the Immaculate Conception in the cathedral, also under the title of the Immaculate Conception. Two days later, I will be with our priests for our annual Advent Day of Prayer and an opportunity to make a Christmas confession. Our speaker will be Bishop Carl Mengeling, originally a priest of the Diocese of Gary, and now bishop emeritus of Lansing.

Please note in another part of this newspaper some words about John Cavadini and the homily by Pope Benedict XVI.

I look forward to seeing you all next week.

Bishops urge Senate to change abortion provisions in health care bill

BY NANCY FRAZIER O'BRIEN

WASHINGTON (CNS) — As a vote neared on a bipartisan abortion amendment to the Senate's version of healthcare reform legislation, three leading U.S. bishops said the proposed revision "simply corrects ... grave departures from current federal policy."

In a Dec. 7 letter to senators, the chairmen of three committees of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops threw their support behind an amendment to be offered that day by Sens. Ben Nelson, D-Neb.; Orrin Hatch, R-Utah; Robert Casey, D-Pa.; and five others.

The amendment would "keep in place the long-standing and

widely supported federal policy against government funding of health coverage that includes elective abortions," the bishops said, and is similar to one approved by the House in November before passage of its Affordable Health Care For America Act.

"Like that amendment, it does not change the current situation in our country: Abortion is legal and available, but no federal dollars can be used to pay for elective abortions or plans that include elective abortions," the bishops said.

"This amendment does not restrict abortion, or prevent people from buying insurance covering abortion with their own funds," they added. "It simply ensures that where federal funds

are involved, people are not required to pay for other people's abortions."

Along with their letter, the USCCB leaders sent each senator copies of two fact sheets — one on abortion and conscience problems in the Senate health reform bill and the other detailing what the Senate amendment would do.

The letter was signed by Bishop William F. Murphy of Rockville Centre, N.Y., chairman of the USCCB Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development; Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo of Galveston-Houston, chairman of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities; and Bishop John C. Wester of Salt Lake City, who heads the Committee on Migration.

RHOADES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Harrisburg gathered at the National Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., on which Bishop Rhoades serves on the board.

Bishop Rhoades, who will be installed the ninth bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend on Jan. 13 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, explained that Mary "has been part of my life since childhood."

His own mother's name was Mary and she was very dedicated to the rosary. "Some of my earliest memories of prayer would be the holy rosary," Bishop Rhoades said. "She is the patroness of my own parish, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (in Lebanon, Pa., where he was also ordained to the priesthood in 1983), patroness of my high school, and then I went to college at Mount Saint Mary's, which had the beautiful grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes. On the Mount is where I really heard the call to the priesthood — praying there at that mount at the grotto" which is the oldest Lourdes grotto in the United States.

"Then I went to the North American College in Rome — the patroness was Our Blessed Mother," he added.

"I would say that all through my life, I have felt her maternal love," Bishop Rhoades noted. "I feel like I can turn to her always in times of sorrow as well as joy and feel her consolation."

He said, "On the pilgrimage of life, on the pilgrimage as a priest and as a bishop, I feel that she is at my side accompanying me with her love."

Bishop Rhoades' mother died fairly young in 1994. "She was 66 years old," he said, "and that was



Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, shown at his ordination to the priesthood in July of 1983, gives communion to his mother, Mary.

very hard for me because she was a beautiful woman of faith. My mother went to daily Mass and she is the one who taught me so much of the Catholic faith by her example, by her love. And in many ways, the complementarity between love and care of my earthly mother and our heavenly mother Mary ... are connected."

"My favorite prayer is the rosary," Bishop Rhoades said. "I love praying in front of the Blessed Sacrament, I love praying the Scripture, I love praying the rosary. But the rosary for me is just a beautiful prayer."

"I am so grateful to Pope John Paul II with the new luminous mysteries because they brought out even more the Christological nature of the rosary and kind of filled in some other mysteries for us to contemplate," he added. "To contemplate the mystery of Christ at the school of Mary is a beautiful thing for us to do."

Bishop Rhoades served as rector of Mount Saint Mary's Seminary, "the school of Mary," in Emmitsburg, Md., and Marian devotions are strong at the seminary.

"I felt that the priests who were

ordained from Mount Saint Mary's were kind of immersed in that beautiful Marian devotion and had developed, if they didn't have it beforehand, a real filial relationship with Mary."

Bishop Rhoades wrote a pastoral for the Marian year and shared some personal thoughts about the Blessed Mother "as an example of faith, hope and charity for us on our pilgrimage to heaven," he said.

In his pastoral, Bishop Rhoades focuses that because Mary is in heaven, "she teaches us the way to heaven, she is the gate of heaven."

He has also encouraged Catholics of the Harrisburg Diocese to "storm heaven" with five intentions during their diocesan Marian year. The five items include the following: the protection of human life from the moment of conception to natural death; the strengthening of marriage and family life; for peace and justice and an end to all violence and terrorism; an increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life; and the return of non-practicing Catholics to the church and practice of the faith.

STATEMENT FROM BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY

The appointment of Professor Cavadini to the International Theological Commission

December 7, 2009

The appointment by Pope Benedict XVI of Professor John Cavadini, Ph.D., chair of the theology department at Notre Dame to the International Theological Commission should not be allowed to pass without a comment from the local bishop.

This appointment brings honor to our diocese and to Notre Dame, especially to its theology department. The meaning and purpose of this appointment is made clear from a homily Pope Benedict gave when he celebrated Mass for the 30 members of this International Commission, the highest group of theologians in the church. It was the first meeting attended by Dr. Cavadini.

Pope Benedict asked what is a theologian and what is the work of theology. In a kind of examination of conscience for theologians, he gave the Christmas analogy of the Magi and noted that while the learned academicians and the scribes were able to point the travelers towards Bethlehem, they did not go themselves. They gave information, but did not receive formation for their own lives. They did not go in prayer and faith to see the child.

The pope said that in the last 200 years, we have observed similar things. Great specialists and great theologians, teachers of the faith, have taught us many things; but they have not been able to see the mystery itself that Jesus is the Son of God and that in a determined historical moment, the Triune God has come among us. He even says that for those teachers "the great mystery of Jesus, if the Son made man is reduced to a historical Jesus, a truly tragic figure, a phantom, someone who remained in a tomb, who is truly dead."

The pope explained how in our time, we have learned about the Divine Mystery from the little ones from the saints. He spoke about St. Bernadette, to whom Our Lady came at Lourdes; St. Therese of Lisieux, with her "non-scientific reading of the Bible," who at the same time went into the very heart of the Scriptures. He refers to St. Josephine Bakhita, the African slave girl of whom he spoke in his encyclical on hope; and to Blessed Theresa of Calcutta and St. Damien who went to Molokai to live and die with the lepers. He makes clear that God also comes to the learned, but they also must be humbled. He gives the example of St. John, who stood at the foot of the cross and was a humble fisherman, but is rightly called the theologian; and St. Paul, the brilliant scholar of the law, who was reduced to blindness and had to be lifted up and healed by Christ before he could receive his mission to explain the Divine Mystery. As Paul wrote in the First Letter to Timothy, "I was mercifully tested."

Pope Benedict XVI did not speak of himself, but as someone who has been in his presence and has long read his teachings. It is evident that the Holy Father has combined humility, and prayer, and adoration, with great learning.

Pope Benedict XVI has pointed out a serious problem in theology; namely, separation of learning from holiness and faith in the life of the church. Another example in recent years has been those who have attempted to separate theology from catechetics.

Also for John Cavadini, this gap does not exist. He has always linked teaching and a spiritual life and prayer with study. His classes show a person who prays and binds himself closely, not to some proposed church of the future, but to the real church of the bishop and the faithful. He sees theology as at the service of the church and of her needs.

Our professor has bridged this gap, linking always a life of prayer and holiness with study and learning and always respecting the communion that must exist between theology and catechetics, and this may well be why the Holy Spirit, acting through the Chair of Peter, has chosen him for this commission, the highest group of theologians in the church and why this appointment is so important and why it can be expected to enrich the work of the International Commission.

As his friend and bishop, I am delighted with this appointment which brings honor to us all.

Photos of John Cavadini and Pope Benedict XVI can be seen at www.todayscatholicnews.org.

Christmas CD benefits mother and child at Women's Care Center

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — "Unto Us a Child is Born," is a festive music CD released just in time for the Christmas season that has a dual purpose, says producer Beverly Rieger. "It's something I think people will enjoy and it will raise money for the Women's Care Center," she reports.

The nine track instrumental CD offers liturgically traditional music recorded live by Rieger, who considers herself a veteran musician and recording artist. Not only is she owner of Mayan Dream Productions, but she boasts a long history of musical service to the church, including over 37 years in parish music ministry and nine years as director of the diocesan Office of Worship.

Rieger, who is currently the director of music at St. John the Baptist Parish, felt the desire to reach out to those in need within her own community. After speaking with Father Cyril Fernandes, pastor of St. John's, she decided to employ her musical talent to benefit the mothers and children of the Women's Care Center.

This musical artist, currently grandmother of four, looks forward to the birth this month of two more grandchildren and readily admits to having a heart for mothers and children. And she is humbled to offer this project to support the nonprofit organization that provides assistance to women who

find themselves pregnant.

Services provided there include pregnancy testing and verification, ultrasounds, counseling, a 24-hour hotline, parenting classes and the Crib Club — a program that provides baby items earned by participation in parenting classes and prenatal care.

After lining up studio time, Rieger set about laying track after track of bells, piano, harpsichord, trumpet, congo drums, strings and more.

"This is a CD that you can play at home," says Rieger, who recorded an original song, "Deep Snowy Night" that compliments traditional favorites such as "Joy to the World," "Angels We Have Heard On High" and "Silent Night." The stylistic tracks juxtapose reverent melodies with upbeat favorites and would provide a delightful acoustic backdrop for any holiday gathering.

"It's light, happy, joyful and warm," says Rieger of the selections she included on the festive CD. "They're songs that people know and love."

Of the many hours involved in not only laying the tracks but working with the graphic designer to create the cover, printing and cutting the cover, and assembling the CDs in the cases, Rieger says, "I enjoyed it. It's something I wanted to do for the church. It's good to give back as a music min-



istry to the larger community."

"Unto Us a Child is Born," CD sells for \$10 and is available at the Cathedral Bookstore, located downtown in the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center at 902 S. Clinton

St., after all Masses during Advent at St. John the Baptist Parish and during its second annual Lessons and Carols concert.

The concert will be held at St. John's on Dec. 13 at 5 p.m., and is a "celebration of the impending coming of Jesus," offering lessons and carols for Advent laced with Christmas music. Those in attendance will be treated to the sounds of the adult, children's and bell choirs as well as musicians heralding guitar, harpsichord and flute.

The "Unto Us a Child is Born," CD is provided through the music ministry of St. John the Baptist and all profits from its sales will go directly to support the Women's Care Center.

Next year Rieger hopes to offer a Christmas CD that will benefit a local charity with the inspired music of the talented St. John's musicians. "I love St. John's. They are a great group. The talent is phenomenal," Rieger concludes.

For more on the "Unto Us a Child is Born," CD contact Beverly Rieger at (260) 745-7663 or mayandream@gmail.com.

YEAR *of* PRIESTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

uate of Tri-State University where he majored in computer programming and Internet security. He was working for General Telephone in Fort Wayne and teaching religious education classes at Most Precious Blood Parish. This became a challenging assignment when the kids asked questions he couldn't answer. To keep ahead, the teacher had more homework than the students. This led to a deepening interest in the faith, total immersion and pursuit of the priesthood.

A latent nourishment of Dave Ruppert's vocation lay in his roots at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Huntington, where the soil for his vineyard was rich in vocations, springing up five candidates in 10 years. Parishioners there, often heard their pastor, Capuchin Father Ron Rieder, boast of his luck in being a priest in this diocese. The more he bragged, the more they prayed, sending more sons to the seminary.

Father Dave Ruppert was ordained by Bishop John M. D'Arcy Oct. 29, 2005 and is now pastor of St. Therese Parish in Fort Wayne, where his favorite activity as a priest is helping people by bringing them closer to Jesus through the sacraments.

"I love visiting people in their homes," he says, "and in hospi-

tals, and the young people in the schools, because all of these people are my family and that is what families do, they stick together and help each other."

Sharing lunch at school with the kids is another favorite activity, as is cheering students on at sports, drama and musical events.

Citing his own experience as an example, Father Ruppert explains that vocations to the priesthood and religious life are rooted in parish activities and at the foot of the altar. That is why he encourages young people to volunteer for parish tasks and to serve at Mass.

In describing his life as a pastor, Father Ruppert says, "Priesthood is still a very normal life. I enjoy model railroading and am working on a N-scale layout, so this gives me a hobby and fulfills my boyhood dream of being a train engineer. I also like watching professional football by following the Miami Dolphins, although I do cheer for the Colts, too. I enjoy going to movies, especially at the drive-in, with my nieces and nephews, who are among my favorite people in the whole world ... another hobby of mine is people; I like collecting friends."

This last phrase is borne out by a "signature blessing," a Father Ruppert special, given after the final blessing at each Mass when he reminds his flock that "I love you and God loves you."

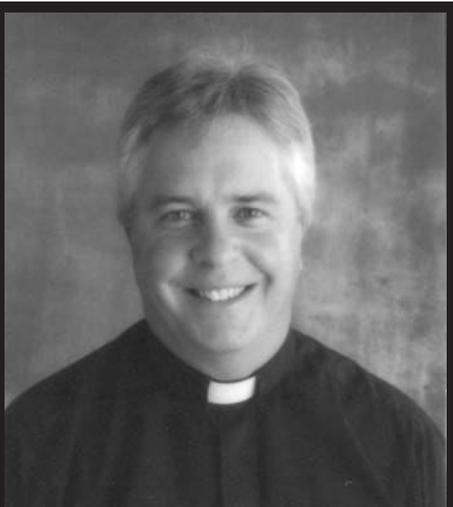
Rev. Joseph W. Gaughan

Pastor of Most Precious Blood Catholic Church
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Ordained November 26, 1994

Congratulations on your
15th Anniversary!

Knights of Columbus St. Gaspar del Bufalo Council
Most Precious Blood Rosary Society



All Saints Religious Goods

Advent Wreaths & Candles • Fontanini Nativities

• Religious Christmas Cards

3506 South Calhoun Street, Fort Wayne
(across from South Side High School)
(260) 456-9173



WATCH FOR
our new second store
coming soon to the
north side of Fort Wayne!

ADVERTISE

WITH
TODAY'S CATHOLIC
(260) 456-2824

 Fontanini.



The Perfect Gift...

Start a Family Tradition with Fontanini Collectibles



Stop in today and choose from our extensive selection of
Village buildings, Nativity sets, figures and accessories.

Divine Mercy Gifts

320 Dixie Way North • (574) 277-1400

South Bend 46637 • 1/2 mile north of Notre Dame on US 933



Fontanini.

is imported from Italy exclusively by



Roman, Inc.

Catholic Charities' Brief Services program is a lifeline in time of need

BY BONNIE ELBERSON

FORT WAYNE — The mission of Catholic Charities is straightforward — to celebrate the spirit of Jesus and foster personal dignity while serving those most in need. The agency's work is based on biblical and theological foundations of Catholic social teaching and relies on partnerships within the community to achieve its goals.

Locally, Catholic Charities offers adoption, foster care and kinship care services, pregnancy and children's services, Brief Services, refugee resettlement and older adult services.

Brief Services, as the name suggests, is only for temporary emergency situations. Catholic Charities offers financial assistance so clients can make rent or utility payments and gives them food vouchers, bus passes, sometimes gas cards to help them through a financial crisis.

According to case worker Phyllis Mizer, clients requesting rent assistance must call on Monday evening to make an appointment, then are seen the next week. Mizer checks their identification, determines the size of the household, whether any family members have special needs, and requires an income statement and a copy of the lease agreement to determine eligibility. "I try to see the whole person" when assessing need, she says.

Both Mizer and community

services supervisor Theresa Teders speak highly of the Gift of Warmth program, which runs from February through April each year. Whenever Catholic Charities helps a client pay their heating bills, Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) matches that amount, up to \$33,000 last year. The utility subscribes to a policy of never turning off gas due to nonpayment during the winter months and the agency lends assistance to those who fall behind in their payments.

Brief Services also covers pregnancy needs. The agency can provide baby formula, clothing, cribs and car seats in cooperation with Women's Care Center, as well as assistance with rent, utilities and food for families in need.

In addition, walk-in clients can request basic necessities like soap, toiletries and clothing needed for job interviews.

Funding for Catholic Charities' activities comes from foundation grants and corporate and private donations. Last year more than 1,000 clients were served and \$124,000 spent over all categories, but Teders admits funding is lagging this year and the agency is "struggling with donations" due to the poor economy.

Catholic Charities collaborates with other community agencies like CANI, the Salvation Army, Community Action, United Way

and the Foellinger Foundation as well as the township trustees in fulfilling its mission.

Besides Brief Services, Teders other areas of responsibility include Hispanic health, immigration,

counseling and Villa of the Woods, a local residence for the elderly, with "Christmas on the side," she says. The agency's case workers refer needy families to be "adopted" at Christmas time, then find sponsors who will provide gifts for them. Again, they work cooperatively with Toys for Tots, Broadway Christian Church and others in the effort. The Christmas

program for 2008 served 55 families, with a total of 203 family members. This year the program will serve 44 families, says Teders.

Brief Services clients like Paula Johnson are generous in their praise of the program. Johnson and her four children moved to Fort Wayne looking for a fresh start in September 2005. She immediately found work as a certified nursing assistant but didn't earn enough to cover all her expenses, especially a \$700 heating bill she incurred that winter. She contacted Brief Services and was referred to Gift of Warmth, which paid half the outstanding bill while Catholic Charities paid the balance. Then case manager Mizer worked with her to find long-term solutions to the problem, including financial aid to attend Brown Mackie College where Johnson is currently studying to become a licensed practical nurse. "We were out of answers, and Catholic Charities was a blessing," she says.

One young woman with three children came to the agency when she couldn't pay her heating bill. She had been on a budget plan with \$89 monthly payments until year's end when she received a \$500 catch-up bill. Even though the Gift of Warmth program hadn't yet begun, Brief Services helped with her rent payment so she could apply that money to the heating bill.

Another Brief Services client, Arleen Robertson, moved from New Orleans to Fort Wayne with her family following Hurricane Katrina. They found a house they could afford but had nothing to furnish it. Again, Mizer worked with them until their basic needs were met.

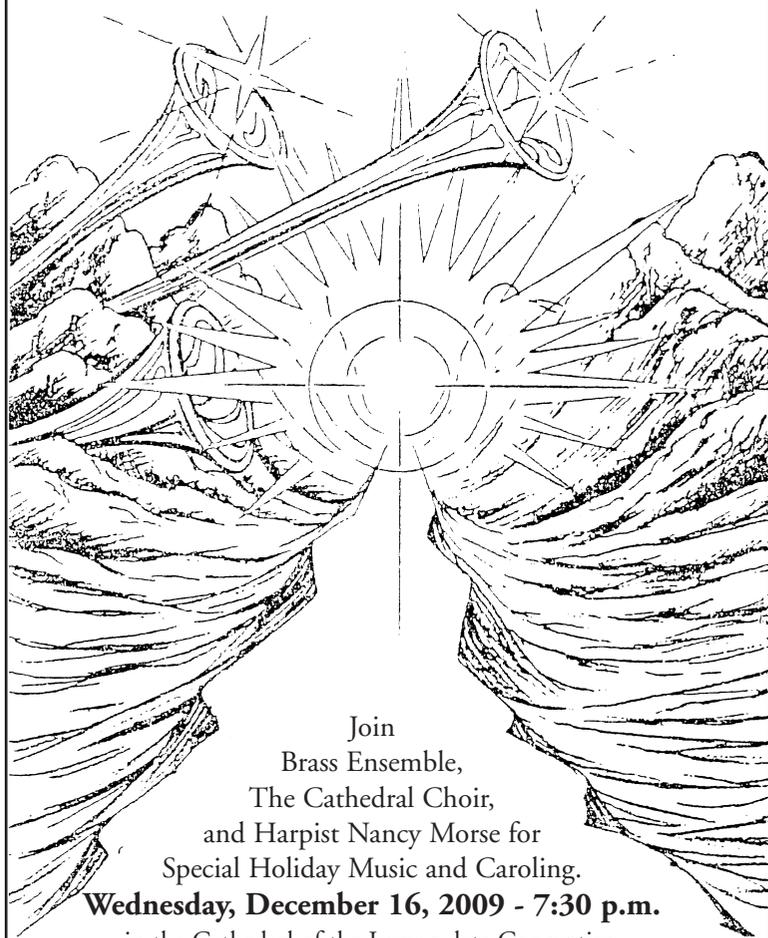
"The people at Catholic Charities were really helpful — we appreciate everything they did for us," says Robertson.

"I love working with clients," Mizer says simply. Teders echoes her sentiment. "The caring you have for the community" makes the job easy.

"We were out of answers,
and Catholic Charities
was a blessing."

PAULA JOHNSON

Christmas in the Cathedral



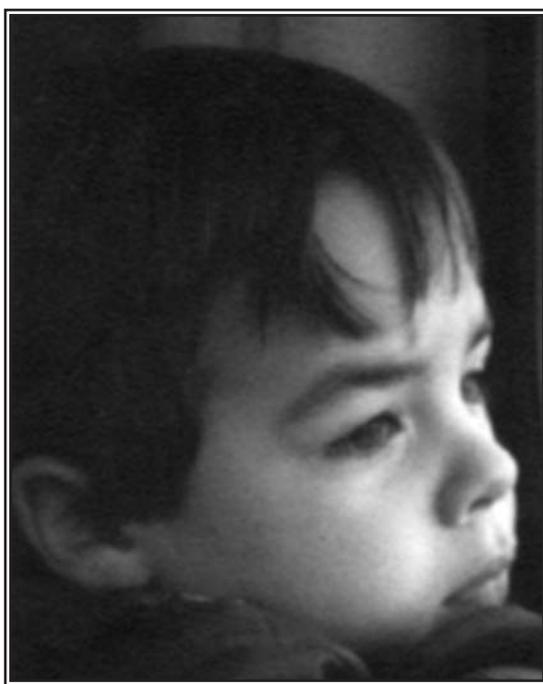
Join
Brass Ensemble,
The Cathedral Choir,
and Harpist Nancy Morse for
Special Holiday Music and Caroling.

Wednesday, December 16, 2009 - 7:30 p.m.

in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
in downtown Fort Wayne

All Cathedral Concerts are free and open to the public.

It's Christmas! ...is his gift in your heart?



He doesn't need toys.
He makes do with those
he has. What he needs is
comfort; the kind that comes
from having a warm home,
food and clothing and the
feeling that things are going
to be all right. You can be
the one to provide that
feeling by giving generously
to Catholic Charities.



To donate online, visit our website
<http://www.ccfwsb.org>
and click on GIVE NOW

Catholic Charities

PROVIDING HELP.
CREATING HOPE.

315 East Washington Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46802
(260) 422-5625 1(800) 686-7459

1817 Miami Street, South Bend, IN 46613
(574) 234-3111 1(800) 686-3112

91% of your financial gift is for services. Only 9% is used for administration
ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE!

Your support helps us continue to provide:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| •Adoption Services | •Food Pantries | •Refugee Services |
| •Community Services | •Foster/Adoptive/Kinship
Care Training | •RSVP (Retire Senior
Volunteer Program) |
| •Children's Cottage | •Immigration Services | •Senior AIDES |
| •Counseling Services | •Hispanic Health Advocate | Employment |
| •ECHO (Education
Creates Hope &
Opportunity) | •Pregnancy Services | •Villa of the Woods |
| | •Refugee Employment
Services | |

Church's presence among sick can help protect human life, pope says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The church must increase its presence among the sick and in society so it can better help defend human life from conception to its natural end, Pope Benedict XVI said. In his message for the Feb. 11, 2010, celebration of World Day of the Sick, the pope highlighted the important role of the church in bringing Christ's love and healing to all those who suffer: be it from poverty, oppression, remorse or illness. Given current cultural and historical context, the pope wrote, there is a growing need for "an attentive and widespread ecclesial presence among the sick." There's also a need for such a presence in society "to be able to effectively transmit the Gospel values of safeguarding human life in all its phases, from its conception to its natural end." The Vatican released the pope's message Dec. 3. World Sick Day is marked each year on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. The 2010 celebration also marks the 25th anniversary of the institution of the Pontifical Council for Health Care Ministry.

NIH approves 13 embryonic stem-cell lines for funding

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Thirteen human embryonic stem-cell lines have been approved for use in federally funded research and approval of many more lines is expected to follow, the head of the National Institutes of Health announced Dec. 2. Dr. Francis S. Collins, who took over as NIH director in August, said in a telephone briefing with the media that it was a "significant day" in the efforts to achieve President Barack Obama's goal of "a loosening up of what had been considered too stringent requirements" for federal funding of research involving human embryonic stem cells. Collins said the 13 stem-cell lines — 11 developed at Children's Hospital Boston and two at Rockefeller University in New York — were approved after NIH staff determined that the scientists who created the lines had followed the "very detailed informed consent process" outlined in NIH guidelines published in July. "In accordance with the guidelines, these stem-cell lines were derived from embryos that were donated under ethically sound informed consent processes," said Collins. "More lines are under review now." When the final guidelines were published July 7, Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia, then chairman of the bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, said they ignored the comments of tens of thousands of Americans who expressed opposition to embryonic stem-cell research during the public comment period and failed to respect "existing federal law against funding research in which human embryos are harmed or destroyed."

NEWS BRIEFS

RENOVATIONS OF ST. CATHERINE IN BETHLEHEM



CNS PHOTO/DEBBIE HILL

Polish Franciscan Father Jerry Kraj oversees renovations inside the Church of St. Catherine in Bethlehem, West Bank, Nov. 26. The church, located within the Church of the Nativity complex, was undergoing some refurbishing before Christmas.

Archdiocese continues dialogue about same-sex marriage in D.C.

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The Washington Archdiocese vowed continued dialogue with the District of Columbia's City Council to seek "a balance of interests in the legislation" after the council Dec. 1 gave preliminary approval to a bill to legalize same-sex marriage. In an 11-2 vote the council passed the Religious Freedom and Civil Marriage Equality Amendment Act of 2009. A required second vote was to take place in the weeks ahead, then the bill was to be sent on to Washington Mayor Adrian Fenty, who has said he will sign it. District laws also are subject to congressional review under the Home Rule Charter. "As the legislation moves forward, the Archdiocese of Washington will continue its dialogue with the council," Susan Gibbs, spokeswoman for the archdiocese, said in a Dec. 1 statement. As written, the current legislation would require faith-based social service providers to compromise their religious teachings and beliefs on gay marriage in order to be eligible to partner with the district government in providing social services to Washington residents. The Washington Archdiocese is morally opposed to the bill because it

redefines marriage. The church's opposition is based on the Catholic Church's teaching that marriage is a permanent union between one man and one woman.

Play about St. John Vianney touring nation during Year for Priests

CHICAGO (CNS) — On a recent evening in Chicago, Leonardo Defilippis felt more edgy than usual. The veteran actor stood ready to perform a one-man play for future pastors, confessors, chaplains and bishops. His task was to bring one of the church's most ardent parish priests to life for an auditorium packed with seminarians: St. John Vianney. The next day, he did the same for more than 400 Chicago priests. It's all for his portrayal in "Vianney," in which he plays the French country priest who in the early 19th century instilled an apathetic town with the desire to live the Gospel. Before the Year for Priests ends in mid-2010, Defilippis will have performed his new play all over the nation. In November, he staged it for the U.S. bishops gathered in Baltimore for their annual fall general assembly and he might do the play at the Vatican for Pope Benedict XVI. "You want to do this right because it's kind of an awesome responsibility," said the actor, a 57-year-old member of Holy

Rosary Parish in Portland. Defilippis is known locally for plays and films in which he has played Jesus as well as saints Francis of Assisi, John of the Cross, Augustine and Maximilian Kolbe.

Ambassador's anti-human trafficking efforts guided by Vatican II call

WASHINGTON (CNS) — A bit of the Second Vatican Council is influencing at least one segment of the Washington government scene these days. Ambassador Luis CdeBaca, a New Mexico-born Catholic of Mexican descent, who runs the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons at the State Department, readily acknowledges that the council's call to Catholics to engage the world guided his decision to become a civil rights lawyer and eventually to prosecute some of the country's largest human trafficking cases. That call is especially meaningful, he told Catholic News Service, now that he heads the country's top office that works to disrupt the criminal networks that promote modern-day slavery and human abuse. CdeBaca, 42, called himself "a Vatican II baby." "It was very interesting to me," he said, "especially coming out of law school as

a young civil rights lawyer, to really start digging deeper and to realize that Vatican II, if you looked at 'Gaudium et Spes' (the council's Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World) and ... (understand) the real concrete church in the world type of things, wow." Since becoming ambassador in May, CdeBaca has met with dozens of officials worldwide in the fight against human trafficking. On Dec. 2 he embarked on his most recent trip, this one to Asia to bring governments together in a widening anti-trafficking campaign.

Priests are to be compassionate, not judgmental, papal preacher says

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Priests are not called to judge others, but to bring God's saving grace, his love and compassion to the world, said the preacher of the papal household. The preacher, Capuchin Father Raniero Cantalamessa, told Pope Benedict XVI and top Vatican officials Dec. 4 that St. John's Gospel recalls, "God did not send his son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." Priests, who are continuing Christ's work on earth, are asked to adopt this outlook toward all people: "Do not judge, but save" them, the papal preacher said. Offering an Advent meditation during the Year for Priests, Father Cantalamessa dedicated his reflection to the role of priests. Again citing St. John's Gospel, the preacher said God loved the world so much, he gave his only son "so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but have eternal life." Priests are called to continue this mission and offer people "sympathy, a sense of solidarity, and compassion," he said.

First U.S. ambassador to Vatican dies at age 95

CARMEL, Calif. (CNS) — The first U.S. ambassador to the Vatican, William A. Wilson, died Dec. 5 at his home in Carmel. He was 95 and had been ill with cancer, his family reported. Wilson was a longtime friend and political adviser to President Ronald Reagan when he was named the president's personal envoy to the Vatican in 1981. Three years later, when Congress repealed an 1867 law prohibiting full diplomatic relations with the Holy See, Wilson's position was elevated to that of ambassador. He served in the post until May 1986, when he resigned to return to private life. Wilson was a Los Angeles native who stepped into his father's oil tool business in 1938, eventually managing it until it was sold in 1955. His business interests subsequently involved Southern California real estate investment, cattle ranching in the United States and Mexico and roles on the corporate boards of companies including Pennzoil.

Fort Wayne Area Ruggers join together for movie and good cause

FORT WAYNE — The local Fort Wayne area rugby teams have united together for a showing of "Invictus." The movie stars Matt Damon and Morgan Freeman, and is directed by Clint Eastwood. It not only the story of the South African Rugby World Cup victory in 1995 — the first global sporting event that South Africa could participate in with the end of Apartheid — but it is also a testament of the character and leadership of Nelson Mandela and the courage of the Springbok captain, Francois Pienaar.

The Carmike Theater on Dupont and Diebold roads have been rented for Sunday, Dec. 13. The doors open at 10:30 a.m. and the movie starts at 11 a.m. There will be a brief presentation before the movie.

The cost is \$5.75 per person. The theater will seat 250 people. Ruggers and rugby fans are encouraged to wear their respective rugby team jerseys. The annual Polar Bear game will be held directly after the game at Northside park. This is a friendly match of players from Fort Wayne or near Fort Wayne between the Black and the Blue.

Those interested in attending are encouraged to bring canned or boxed food to donate to the local charities.

USF Feeds the Fort a resounding success

FORT WAYNE — In an effort to help replenish area food pantries and soup kitchens, University of Saint Francis students, faculty and staff launched a massive effort in November to collect food and funds. The campaign used many means to encourage others to donate: Collection bins were set up around campus, discounts were offered on tickets to the fall production of "All Shook Up" in return for food donations, and students and faculty went door to door. In the end they collected 11,952 pounds of food and \$7,849 in cash for Community Harvest Food Bank. The Associated Churches and St. Mary's Soup Kitchen also received donations from the drive.

Rick Cartwright, dean of the School of Creative Arts, directed the effort. "We had a wonderful response from the campus community to the collection of food and monetary donations," Cartwright noted. "The university is very pleased to have been able to make the holidays better for our neighbors who needed help this year."

"I can't believe their success," said Jane Avery, executive director of Community Harvest Food Bank. "These totals are amazing. They worked so hard. I hope the students, faculty and staff are proud of their efforts. I know I am. This will make a big difference! Thanks also to Five Star Distributing and Stan Zihlerl for

AROUND THE DIOCESE

FATHERS DOMINIQUE, DAMIEN AND DALE



TIM JOHNSON

Father Dominique Carboneau, left, pastor of St. Aloysius, Yoder, and Father Dale A. Bauman, right, together designed a shadow statue of St. Damien of Molokai. Father Dominique did the steel sculpturing and erected the statue in the St. Aloysius Cemetery in the children's burial section. The purpose was to prepare for the canonization of Father Damien DeVueter, who was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on Oct. 11, 2009. "To our knowledge, it is the only shrine to the new saint in the diocese, if not Indiana," says Father Dale, who is pastor at St. Francis Xavier, Pierceton, and parochial vicar at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne.

helping us haul the huge load of food back to Community Harvest."

For more information, contact Rick Cartwright at (260) 399-7700, ext. 8015 or rcartwright@sf.edu or Claudia Johnson, Community Harvest Food Bank communications and advocacy manager, at (260) 447-3696, ext. 311; (260) 433-2913 or cljohnson@feedingamerica.org.

The University of Saint Francis, founded in 1890, is a comprehensive university in the Catholic Franciscan tradition, offering undergraduate and graduate programs to more than 2,100 students.

Community Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Indiana, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the alleviation of hunger through the full use of donated food and other resources. As the largest food bank in northeast Indiana, it collects and distributes over 11 million pounds of donated, surplus food annually through a network of human service member agencies. These agencies offer assistance to hungry people, acting as a safety net to ensure that everyone receives their daily bread with dignity.

Knights of Columbus hold pitch in

HUNTINGTON — Huntington Knights of Columbus Council 1014 will hold its annual "Pitch-In" campaign on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with roadblocks set up in three locations throughout the city.

In the 33-year history of "Pitch-In," the Knights have raised more than \$200,000 to help Huntington County residents in need. Money raised by the Knights of Columbus from various means, including roadblocks, is administered by Love, Inc., a multi denominational nonprofit organization.

One hundred percent of the donations help people who have a temporary need and no other source available to attain assistance. Funds have been used to pay for medical expenses, trips to medical facilities, utility bills, food, etc. No money is given directly to the person in need but is sent by Love, Inc. to the service provider.

All work on the "Pitch-in" annual campaign is donated by Council 1014 Knights of Columbus members and their families.

St. Charles Borromeo students give back to the community

FORT WAYNE — The fourth-grade class of St. Charles Borromeo School is the recipient of the 2009 Association of Fundraising Professionals's Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy award, in recognition for fund-raising efforts over the past 11 years for Turnstone Center for Children and Adults with Disabilities.

Turnstone is a nonprofit that provides services for children and parents with physical disabilities.

The students carried out a read-a-thon, collecting pledge money from the community and donating the contributions to the agency. Over the past eight years, the school has raised more than \$20,000 in total, according to fourth-grade teacher Jill Witte.

Eleven years later, the school has further developed its relationship with Turnstone.

"The past few years we have taken a field trip to Turnstone so the kids can see what goes on there and they get a tour of the building," Witte said. "They also

have us do some activities to show what it would be like with different disabilities."

A group from Turnstone comes to St. Charles to demonstrate how the monies benefit the agency. Most of the funds raised are used for the Adaptive Sports program. The program, which includes wheelchair basketball, wheelchair tennis, power soccer and other adaptive sports, helps build self-esteem, independence and provides an avenue for relationship building among family, friends and clients.

"They learn so much from that day and then we also have a time when they come out and the kids can answer questions," Witte said. "I think the most important thing they learn is that people with disabilities are the same as they are and they can do the same things too. A lot of our kids do not know as many people with physical disabilities and it is nice for them to get to know someone who uses a wheelchair and they can become more comfortable (around) them."

Indeed this project challenges the students to look at the world in a different way.

"I also think it is important to teach kids to give back at a young age because we are so blessed with so many things that we tend to forget how blessed we actually are," Witte said. "It is nice to see all of their faces after they have read for 100 minutes and they realize that they did that for someone else."

The fourth-grade teachers accepted the award on the behalf of the fourth-grade class at a ceremony Nov. 12.

Living Healthier session: Impact on Wellness

FORT WAYNE — The School of Health Sciences at the University of Saint Francis will host the final event in this year's Living Healthier Series, Impact on Wellness, on Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the North Campus, 2702 Spring St.

Session leader Jane Avery, executive director of Community Harvest Food Bank of Northeast Indiana, Inc., will discuss the physical and emotional effects of hunger on all ages as well as social problems that have hunger or food insecurity as a primary factor.

Healthy snacks will be served at 6 p.m. Admission is a nonperishable food item that will be donated to the Community Harvest Food Bank.

Sacred Heart School rings bell for Salvation Army

WARSAW — This Christmas season, the Sacred Heart School students, staff and parent volunteers proudly rang bells and sang Christmas carols at the Center Street Owens Supermarket over the course of three days, Dec. 2, 3 and 4.

Volunteer teams were assembled in the school's student family groups, where one representative from each grade level was present for each half hour shift.

St. Anthony, Angola, parishioners gather for service with living stones

ANGOLA — The church is months from completion but hundreds of St. Anthony parishioners joined together Sunday in the shell of their new church to become part of the brick and mortar. As the sun poured through the openings on the south wall facing Maumee Street people young and old brought stones to the front of the church and placed them in the space that will soon support the altar of their new church.

"Our parish family has sacrificed so much to make this dream a reality that we wanted to provide them a way to be a physical part of the structure. We could think of no greater way to honor them than to have a stone representing their family be part of the cement structure which will support our altar for generations to come" said Marilyn Karpinski, organizer of the service.

Many came to the altar with tears in their eyes placing stones representing loved ones who were no longer here but would now be represented. Children brought hand-decorated stones. Many others brought stones gathered on vacations to places of special significance.

John Peters was not present but had a fellow parishioner place a large quartz crystal in the structure that he has carried with him through many moves, including college. "It's finally found a home" said Peters.

"The stones are as unique as



KEN SCHNEIDER

Conventual Father Frederick Pasche blesses the stones in the future site of the new church's altar at St. Anthony, Angola.

the people" said Karpinski. "We are the living stones that make up God's church."

"Oh, wow!" was the comment heard over and over again as parishioners entered the building for the first time. A bride whose wedding will be one of the first celebrated in the new church investigated the bride/choir room. Members considering baptism into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil noted the placement

of the baptismal font, which will include an immersion pool. Father Fred Pasche, pastor, stated he never had the desire to build a church but admitted "this is exciting." But the most common feeling among the parishioners was joy and thanksgiving for the bounty of God's blessings.

KNIGHTS HELP DEVELOPMENT CENTER



PROVIDED BY RICK TOMPOS

Mike Lintner, president and CEO of the Marshall-Starke Development Center (third from right) accepts a check for \$2,000 from Rick Tompos, Grand Knight of the Culver based St. Mary of the Lake Council #13720 Knights of Columbus. The funds, Lintner told the Knights, will be used to purchase handicapped accessible doors for the center's Plymouth facility. In thanking the group, Lintner said Marshall-Starke employs 193 people and serves about 250 adults with disabilities, 140 of them daily and the remainder in the center's employment program. The Center also serves 182 children aged 3 to 5 in the Head Start program. Pictured above, from left, are Jim Coiner and Joe Stambolija, St. Mary's pastor Father Tad Balinda, Pat McCaffery, Rick Tompos, Terry Kelsey, Mike Lintner, Chris Sayer and Bob Budzius.

Looking for Leaders...



- Full or part-time income opportunity
- Home based business
- Have purpose
- Ask me what I do
- Mom of four; earns residual income by helping others.

Call Janice (260) 710-1054
Parishioner, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne



Four Generations of family ownership

Now in our fourth generation of service, D.O. McComb & Sons has worked hard to provide the families in this community with the very best service possible. As a family-owned funeral home, we take personal pride in every service we arrange.



CELEBRATE THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE YOU LOVE

(260) 426-9494

Maplewood Park • 4017 Maplecrest
Lakeside Park • 1140 Lake Avenue
Foster Park • 6301 Fairfield
Auburn Chapel • 502 North Main
Covington Knolls • 8325 Covington Road
Pine Valley Park • 1320 E. Dupont Road



PROVENA Sacred Heart Home

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

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

For Information, Call: (260) 897-2841

515 N. Main Street, Avilla, Indiana 46710

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

Visit us at www.provena.org/sacredheart

SAINT JOSEPH REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER



PHOTOS BY KAREN CLIFFORD

CHAPEL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

this part of the chapel as the sanctuary. While the altar, ambo, presider's chair and the rug represent a link to SJRMC's presence in its new facility, the tabernacle and statue of the Blessed Mother represent the hospital's tie to its past.

The statue of the Blessed Mother is made of solid wood and is one piece with the exception of her hands held open in front of her body (the hands therefore are removable). The statue was used outside for many years and its condition had deteriorated. The statue has been carefully refurbished and is on display in the new chapel. Although the chapel has been designated Our Lady of Fatima, the statue of the Blessed Mother is Our Lady of Grace (Our Lady of Fatima has

her hands folded holding a rosary).

The tabernacle was moved from the hospital's South Bend location to its new facility, completing the transition and tying together the past and present.

One of the cornerstones of the new chapel is the San Damiano cross, which is suspended over the altar. According to the Franciscans' Web site, the San Damiano cross is the one St. Francis of Assisi was praying before when he received the commission from the Lord to rebuild the church. The crucifix contains the story of Christ's death, Resurrection and Ascension into glory.

Our Lady of Fatima Chapel is part of SJRMC's Spiritual Center, which includes two separate rooms for people of other faith backgrounds to use for prayer. Surrounding the outside of the chapel is a garden area, which completes the healing atmosphere of body and mind at the new hospital.



Bishop John M. D'Arcy delivers his homily during the blessing of the Our Lady of Fatima Chapel at the dedication of the new Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in Mishawaka.

NEW SAINT JOSEPH REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

BY KAREN CLIFFORD

MISHAWAKA — With large spacious windows, generously sized bathrooms, flat screen televisions, bamboo doors, a large atrium with an ATM and a sizable dining facility with a walkout terrace, a picture of a luxury hotel comes to mind.

Instead, these areas all can be found in the new Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center (SJRC) in Mishawaka. With 254 private rooms, the 658,000-square foot facility was designed with input from doctors, nurses and caregivers before construction began in March 2007.

Mike Stack, public relations manager for SJRC, says that everything in the new hospital is designed for the safety and comfort of the patient. The windows in the patient's rooms are 20 percent larger than in the old facility in South Bend. Other large windows adorn each floor of the facility to promote a soothing transition in the healing process.

Each patient room is 289 square feet and has a 32-inch high definition flat screen television. Patient privacy is factored into the room layout, Stack notes. "The curtain track is a lot further away from the bed because the room does not want to create a feeling of being

claustrophobic. The beds are situated when you walk in the corridor so you can't see the patient's head."

The large bathrooms are handicap accessible with a shower and can accommodate wheelchairs and patients hooked up to IV's. With a decrease of space from the bed to the bathroom, there is less chance of slipping and falling.

"We understand that no one wants to be sick and be in the hospital so we tried to make something as close to home as possible. We also wanted to make the care as safe and efficient as possible," Stack emphasizes.

The emotional recovery for patients and their families has also been addressed at the new hospital. Immediate family members may visit the patient 24 hours a day. In addition to the hospital's new chapel, chaplains are available around the clock for prayer with the patients and their families.

"Saint Joseph has always prided itself on being the hospital with a compassionate component to it. On the fifth and sixth floors we have rooms that are called patient family suites with fold out couches. On the one side it is set up like a regular patient room but adjoined to that is a suite where basically it serves multi-purposes," he notes.

"If a dignitary stayed in town

their staff could have a suite area. Or if we have a terminally ill patient and the family wants to be around at all times they can certainly be in there."

SJRC will continue its tradition of providing health care for all, regardless of the ability to pay, as set by the Sisters of the Holy Cross in 1883.

In addition to patient needs, the hospital was designed to be more efficient for the healthcare providers. Each room is designated as same handed, a John Hopkins protocol, that rather than having left and right mirrored rooms, all patient rooms are identical.

The sink is on the left in each room. According to Stack, the first thing a caregiver does is wash their hands and go to the bedside to work with the patient. "The concept is that standardization and repetition decreases the chance for error. That way the caregiver, when they go from one room to another, does not have to reacclimatize themselves," he says.

Higher ceilings throughout the hospital keep the patient from feeling enclosed and keep doctors who work in oncology, orthopedics and cardiology from hitting their heads on overhead equipment during surgery.

The new hospital takes pride in its emphasis on its green guideline



A statue of St. Joseph is situated by the main guest elevators.



Congratulates

Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center
as it continues its healthcare mission.



TONN AND BLANK

is proud to participate as Co-Construction

Managers with Mortenson Construction for this facility.

ENTER READY TO OPEN

Sisters' healing mission endures as new hospital opens

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

MISHAWAKA — The healthcare ministry of the Sisters of the Holy Cross has deep roots. Its beginnings trace back to the Civil War when 80 out of 165 members of the community

responded to the governor's call for religious women to tend to the sick and wounded soldiers from both the North and the South. Although they were not trained nurses, they responded immediately to relieve the suffering in any way they could.

Four of the sisters were the first women nurses on board the Red Rover, a U.S. Navy hospital ship, and are considered the forerunners of today's Navy Nurse Corps.

In 1867, two years after the war was over, the community founded a permanent hospital in Cairo, Ill.

When St. Joseph Parish, On the Hill, as it was called, grew out of its church in South Bend, and began planning for a new one, the Sisters of the Holy Cross saw a great need for healthcare services and took the initiative to establish the city's first

hospital there. This was characteristic of the community that was founded to read the signs of the times and meet crucial needs.

After the parishioners moved into their new church around 1881, the sisters purchased the building and property for \$15,000. Holy

Cross Father Edward Sorin, founder of the University of Notre Dame, signed the deed on Aug. 14, 1882. The old church was transformed into Saint Joseph Hospital and, within a very short time, the sisters were ready to accept their first patients.

Many people of that time were leery of hospitals, so the hospital had a slow start. Its only support came from the

University of Notre Dame, which donated a horse and buggy that served as an ambulance and a truck.

To attract patients, Sister Mary Edward, the first administrator, resorted to putting an ad in the *South Bend Tribune* newspaper, which read, "The building is commodious and substantial, roomy, airy and pleasant. The most skillful and successful physicians and surgeons are employed, and the best

of nurses furnished. Special attention paid to the treatment of surgical diseases and those particular to women and children. Terms reasonable."

The local community finally began to lose its fear of hospitals, and Saint Joseph began to grow and expand. The little hospital gained strong support, and many people in South Bend assisted the sisters with fundraisers to help with its finances.

For over 125 years Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center has made many physical changes and improvements in its technology, but the healing mission of those first founders remains the same. Its main focus is to provide excellent, compassionate care in a faith-based environment to all people, especially the underserved.

To strengthen the mission of Catholic health care in the United States, in 2000 the Sisters of the Holy Cross and the Sisters of Mercy united their healthcare entities and formed a new system called Trinity Health. Although they no longer formally sponsor Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, the Sisters of the Holy Cross continue to be involved in its life and mission in various ways.

Saint Joseph has a new state-of-the-art building in a new location, but its mission of compassionate care and healing endures as the hospital enters a new era. Sister Mary Edward and the other founders of the hospital would be proud of the many men and women, who continue to carry on the mission they began so many years ago.

Many people of that time were leery of hospitals. Its only support came from the University of Notre Dame, which donated a horse and buggy that served as an ambulance and a truck.

to healthcare, Stack stresses. "The bamboo doors throughout the hospital are very durable but can be replaced easily. We also recycle 80 percent of construction waste, which includes wood, steel and concrete."

The first floor's amenities include a large windowed atrium, a business center and a credit union. The main dining room has a walkout terrace for dining, and wireless Internet access is available throughout the building.

With the continued influx of the aging baby boomer generation, SJRMC can evaluate the need for additional patient rooms in the future.

"About 85 percent of the outside of the building is brick, but on the southwest corner of the facility near the emergency room there is material that is easier to remove for future expansion of another patient tower. We have made sure we left a footprint there for the future."



Shown is a section of the San Damiano Cross which hangs above the altar at the Our Lady of Fatima Chapel.

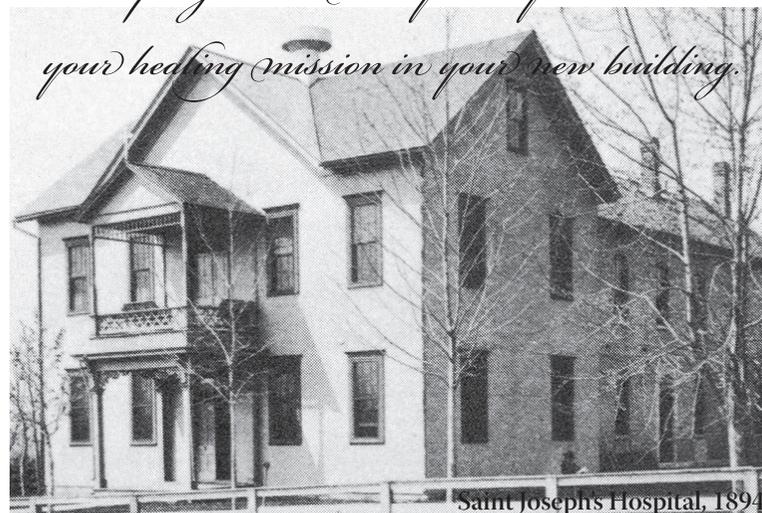


Sisters of the Holy Cross

The Sisters of the Holy Cross congratulate Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center on the opening of its new facility. Since its founding by the sisters in 1882, Saint Joseph's has consistently fulfilled its mission of providing excellent health services to those in need of care.

We are grateful for the ministry of Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center and for the compassionate people who serve there, bringing health and healing to our community.

Our prayers are with you as you continue your healing mission in your new building.



Saint Joseph's Hospital, 1894

www.cscsisters.org

MGM
MEYER GLASS & MIRROR CO., INC.
COMMERCIAL, RESIDENTIAL GLAZING
ALUMINUM STOREFRONT, AUTO GLASS
Dennis Schultz, President
 202 W. Harrison Street Office: (219) 874-6464
 Michigan City, IN 46380 Fax: (219) 874-7945


We pray that your fire for the Lord is never extinguished
1-800-514-8195

*Congratulations to our
health care partner for
the past 90 years,
St. Joseph Regional
Medical Center*

*As your Community Laboratory we are
committed to a partnership which
puts patient care first.*



**SOUTH BEND
MEDICAL
FOUNDATION**

Your Community Laboratory

Area seniors making a real difference through RSVP

BY MARY KINDER

AUBURN — Giving of yourself — your time and talent — has long been a cornerstone of the Catholic Church. This honored tenant is fully realized in northern Indiana through Catholic Charities' Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, or RSVP. The long-standing program brings together area seniors who want to give back to their communities and a long list of agencies who desperately need volunteers. The result is a match made in heaven.

RSVP, also known as Senior Corps, is America's largest volunteer network for people age 55 and over. The nationwide program boasts over 500,000 volunteers across the country who are tackling tough issues in their communities.

Catholic Charities sponsors the northern Indiana Retired Senior Volunteer Program through the Corporation for National and Community Service. The RSVP office in Angola serves DeKalb, LaGrange, Noble and Steuben counties, while St. Joseph and Elkhart counties are served by a RSVP office in South Bend. The Auburn bureau has close to 900 volunteers who generously give their time and talents to 120 different sites throughout the community, including hospitals, schools, nursing homes, parks and other nonprofit entities.

Patti Sheppard, Senior Corps supervisor in Auburn, has been with the organization for nearly 30 years. She loves her job and



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY RSVP
Mary Muzzillo fills backpack with school supplies for a child in need.

explains one of the reasons she's stayed with it, "I am so fortunate to work with people who want to make their community a better place to live."

She goes on to say, "To give of yourself freely like our volunteers do is simply amazing."

In addition to the 120 volunteer sites, RSVP of Auburn also hosts a number of programs within its building, including the Community Center of Caring Food Pantry.

Now in its fifth year, the food pantry works to put food on the table of hungry individuals and families throughout DeKalb County. In 2008, RSVP helped get food to 4,150 families which translates into more than 14,400 individuals.



Shown is a group of children after having received their backpacks filled with school supplies.

What RSVP gives back to the community doesn't end there. The Auburn office also works to screen children for amblyopia, commonly known as "lazy eye." The condition can be easily treated if diagnosed early in life, usually by the age of three. Otherwise, it can permanently impair vision. RSVP volunteers have been trained as screeners, traveling to area preschools, day care or community events to test children for free.

The Gift of Warmth program is another worthwhile volunteering effort carried out by RSVP in Auburn. Coats, hats, mittens and scarves, many of them handmade by Senior Corps volunteers, are collected for people in need. Many of these items go to the homeless,



Mary Ruth Beeber, left, and Mary Lou Freed, right, stock shelves with donated items.

who may otherwise not have any protection against cold weather. Last year, working in conjunction with local factories, The Gift of Warmth distributed between 1,200 and 1,500 coats.

Other programs carried out at the Auburn office range from filling backpacks for underprivileged students each school year to disaster preparedness training provided by the Office of Homeland Security and the Red Cross.

Away from the RSVP office, you can find volunteers throughout the community. "Our volunteers are at so many different places — anywhere there is a need, really," says Sheppard. One of those places is Auburn's popular World War II Victory Museum where volunteers give tours and serve as guides. "We are lucky to have some World War II and Korean War veterans placed at the museum," explains Sheppard. "It's a great opportunity for them to share their unique perspective — a perspective that won't be around forever."

Although RSVP is designed for people aged 55 and older, anyone who is interested can join. Sheppard says her office's oldest volunteer is 95, although she's had two volunteers reach the age of 101. She sees the Senior Corps as a way for older members of the community to remain active and vibrant, "RSVP gives people a way to make friends, get out of the house and connect with the community. It's also a great way for seniors to share their wonderful wealth of knowledge."

One of the major strength of the program is its flexibility, letting the participants choose where and when they want to volunteer and how involved they want to be. Some volunteers help at several locations while others stick to one site or program for long periods of time. In addition, individuals are placed at site based on their interests and skills. Often, volunteers choose to remain in fields they've worked at for years, such as retired teachers signing on to tutor struggling students. However, any nec-



Jan Hartman counts and hangs coats for Share the Warmth.

essary training is provided by the placement sites, so volunteers also have the option of getting involved in something completely new to them.

For anyone interested in volunteering for RSVP, the process is simple. If you live in any of the six counties, including DeKalb, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, St. Joseph and Elkhart, contact either the Auburn or South Bend office. The next step is filling out a simple registration form. Finally, RSVP will call you to discuss your interests, talents and schedule. "It's very easy to get involved," says Sheppard, "and there's always a need out there that has to be met."

If you are interested in joining the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, contact the Auburn or South Bend office and tell them you would like to join the Senior Corps. In Auburn call (260) 925-0917 or in South Bend call (260) 414-2814.

Hispanic Health Advocacy serves increasing Latino population

BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — As a non-English speaker, navigating through an English-speaking world can present a world of challenges. However, these people are not alone, thanks to the efforts of the Hispanic Health Advocacy program offered through Catholic Charities.

The Hispanic outreach program is designed to aid a population in northeast Indiana that considers Spanish their primary language. Catholic Charities case workers interpret and translate English into Spanish, mostly in medical settings. A caseworker accompanies the client to the doctor's office and translates the entire conversation between the care provider and the client.

Above all, the case worker is there to act as an advocate for the client when they need it the most. Sometimes this task is easier to do than others, according to Catholic Charities Case Manager Corina

Hurtado. At times Hurtado must be the bearer of bad news, like telling a woman she has cancer or her baby is deathly ill.

"You just gotta be there for the client," she said. "You can see the pain they're going through."

However, there are some happier times, she noted. Guiding women through prenatal and preventative care can be particularly fulfilling.

At all times, respect is the core value. That is, "us being respectful to (the client) and them respectful to us," Hurtado explained.

The program is a short-term service designed "to help (clients) develop skills along the way," said Catholic Charities Community Supervisor Theresa Teders. Ultimately Catholic Charities hopes the client will become self-sufficient and no longer need the services. In the event the client wants further help, the agency can refer him or her to English classes.

Hurtado said she has seen several success stories along the way, including a woman who once

spoke broken English and is now well spoken.

Clients, who are usually low-income, are referred through doctors, churches, schools, clinics, social service agencies and by word-of-mouth. Often times they are new to Fort Wayne and unaware of its social service programs. Those served range in age from unborn babies to elderly.

And there certainly is no shortage of referrals. The Hispanic population in northeastern Indiana is on the rise and does not show much sign of slowing down.

"The more our community changes, the higher the need," Teders said.

As the demand increases, so does the need for funding. Those interested in supporting the cause can designate a gift for Hispanic Health.

Catholic Charities accepts referrals and appointments by phone. Contact Corina Hurtado at (260) 422-5625, ext. 288.

EDITORIAL

Sharing in the hope of Catholic Charities

Advent is the season of anticipation as we wait in silent hope for the coming of our Savior. And with this season comes the responsibility to share that hope with those within our own communities who are in need. It is the calling of our faith. Catholic Charities assumes that responsibility through the multitude of diverse services it provides during the Christmas season and all through the year.

Catholic Charities' mission is to assist individuals, families and groups to control their own lives and give them hope for the future when they no longer possess the resources to manage. The staff and volunteers of Catholic Charities work tirelessly to provide quality services by calling on the larger community to respond to the needs of those less fortunate — services that would enhance the dignity of each human being in need.

In this time of marked economic distress where unemployment is far reaching, the need for the simple basics has increased dramatically. Unfortunately the resources for those in need have decreased. It has become necessary for all of us to dig a little deeper to continue to share the hope with those less fortunate through gifts and services.

One easy and constructive way to advance the work of meeting this increasing need challenging our community is by contributing through your Catholic Charities envelope found in your parish envelope packet. Through your generosity your donation may impact such important services as Brief Services, the ECHO program, the Community Center of Caring Food Pantry, refugee resettlement and counseling services, to name a few.

Brief Services assists those with immediate and basic needs, including help with food, housing and utilities.

Supporting the ECHO program will assist high school students during unexpected pregnancy or parenting. Each year over 130 students in need are served by this Catholic Charities program, with over a 95 percent graduation rate. ECHO supports these young mothers as well as upholding the sanctity of life.

Or perhaps your dollars may go to help sustain the Community Center of Caring Food Pantry where stocked shelves keep individuals and families with children supplied with food. Over 14,000 individuals were provided with food items last year — a 188 percent increase over the number of those served in 2005.

And as our community embraces its own ever growing multicultural dimension by welcoming immigrants who join our neighborhoods in search of a better life, your financial contribution might assist the Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Department, which has effectively resettled over 2,000 refugees from 14 different countries in the past five years.

Catholic Charities also offers counseling services for the underprivileged who struggle with life issues and are in need of emotional support. This service is multidimensional and is utilized in other areas of the organization including adoption and immigration.

Contributions to our area Catholic Charities puts our faith into action and will provide the opportunity to continue to offer these services and more to our less fortunate brothers and sisters in Christ.

So as we wait in hope for the coming of the infant Jesus, help us to give others the hope and dignity due all God's children through a generous gift to Catholic Charities.

To learn more about the services provided by Catholic Charities in the Fort Wayne-South Bend area visit www.ccfwsb.org

Series begins on Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Last week, *Today's Catholic* editor Tim Johnson and diocesan communications director Vince LaBarbera interviewed Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades. The story in this week's paper is the first in a series to help acquaint readers with our new bishop who will be installed Wednesday, Jan. 13.

Today's Catholic editorial board is Kay Cozad, Fred and Lisa Everett, Father Mark Gurtner, Father Michael Heintz, Tim Johnson and Vince LaBarbera.

COMMENTARY

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

Stem-cell ethics and the things we refuse to do ...

Many well-intentioned pro-lifers have inadvertently adopted flawed or incomplete arguments while trying to defend the noblest of causes: the plight of the vulnerable and the unborn. In the debate over stem cells, for example, a common argument runs like this:

Human embryonic stem-cell research is wrong because we are witnessing new medical treatments for sick patients exclusively with adult, not embryonic stem cells. Every disease that has been successfully treated thus far with stem cells has relied on adult stem cells, while embryonic stem cells haven't produced any cures yet. Adult stem cells work, while embryonic don't, and it's basically a waste of resources to pursue something that is not working. Therefore scientists should stop beating their drums about human embryonic stem cells since all the real-life treatments for patients are occurring exclusively with adult stem cells.

This argument, often employed by those of a pro-life persuasion, is flawed on a number of counts.

First, it seems to presume that the only yardstick for determining embryonic stem-cell "success" will be in terms of benefits to patients who are struggling with various ailments and diseases. Yet researchers themselves would argue that there are many other reasons to pursue embryonic stem-cell research. For example, such research is sure to be valuable for gaining further insight into the cellular mechanisms underlying the development of an organism and is already providing important clues about how an animal builds itself up from a single starting cell called the zygote. Scientific research using non-human (e.g. mouse, rat, or monkey) embryonic stem cells can address these kinds of questions in a responsible way and clearly deserves to be funded and promoted. Such

non-human embryonic stem-cell research is, in fact, a praiseworthy and ethically uncontentious kind of scientific investigation.

Second, the argument that adult stem cells are helping sick patients while embryonic are not — and thus the adult stem cells are "more ethical" — seems to reduce the stem-cell ethics debate to a discussion about what works best, or what is most effective. In fact, however, the ethical concerns have very little to do with scientific efficiency and everything to do with the fact that researchers violate and destroy young humans (who are still embryos) in order to acquire their stem cells.

Furthermore, it may be strictly a matter of time before the embryonic stem cells begin providing cures for human patients. At any point in the future, we could be greeted by a front page

“Furthermore, it may be strictly a matter of time before the embryonic stem cells begin providing cures for human patients.”

news story announcing a dramatic “success,” perhaps an embryonic stem-cell transplant allowing childhood diabetics to give up their insulin injections or paralyzed patients to walk. That “success,” however, would not change the ethical objections to embryo destruction or make an evil act a morally acceptable one — though it might increase the temptation for some to cross the objective ethical line.

To put it more simply: even if it were possible to cure all diseases known to mankind by harvesting (and therefore killing) a single human embryo, it would never become ethical to do so. We cannot choose evil that good might come, nor can we ever afford to pay the steep ethical price of ignoring the sacrosanct humanity of the embryo, that tiny creature that each of us once was ourselves. Treating a fellow human being, albeit a very small one, as a means rather than an end, violates his or her most basic human rights.

In fact, the direct killing of



MAKING SENSE OF BIOETHICS

FATHER TAD PACHOLCZYK

other humans, whether young and embryonic or old and in their dotage, is properly referred to as an intrinsic evil, meaning it is in every instance wrong, and ought never be chosen as a human act. Intrinsic evils do not admit of any legitimate exceptions. Once we concretely recognize the immoral character of an action prohibited by an exceptionless norm, the only ethically acceptable act is to follow the requirements of the moral law and turn away from the action which it forbids.

Bioethicist Paul Ramsey put it well in suggesting that any man of serious conscience, when discussing ethics, will have to conclude that, “there may be some things that men should never do. The good things that men do can be made complete only by the things they refuse to do.”

Refusing to destroy human embryos as a scientist does not imply any opposition to science itself, but only to unethical science, which, like unethical investment practices or unethical medicine, is invariably harmful to society. Good science is necessarily ethical science; it cannot ever be reduced merely to “efficient” science, that which might work or “solve my problems” at the expense of others. In arguing for ethical science, those of us working to safeguard human life would do well to examine our premises carefully, so as to avoid weak or questionable assumptions that could undermine the thrust of our arguments.

Father Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Mass., and serves as the director of education at The National Catholic Bioethics Center in Philadelphia.

Not so secret: New book features 105 documents from Vatican archives

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — With millions of documents filling almost 53 miles of shelf space, the Vatican Secret Archives obviously still hold some secrets.

Despite the aura of mystery surrounding the archives, the Vatican actually encourages academics to research its holdings and has worked with a Belgian publishing house to bring 105 of the most important, or curious, documents to the public.

The coffee-table book, "The Vatican Secret Archives," was published by VdH Books in Dutch, English, French and Italian.

Cardinal Raffaele Farina, the Vatican archivist, wrote in the introduction that he knows popular books and movies love to imply there are deep dark secrets intentionally hidden from public view.

But, as Bishop Sergio Pagano, prefect of the archives, explained, the "secret" in the archives' title comes from the Latin "secretum,"

meaning "personal" or "private."

In fact, Pope Leo XIII ordered the archives opened to researchers in 1881, and currently 60 to 80 scholars work there each day, poring over the parchments, ledgers, letters and texts.

The new book lets readers see some of the things the academics have seen, including handwritten letters to Pope Pius IX from Abraham Lincoln and from Jefferson Davis.

Both letters were written in 1863 while the U.S. Civil War raged on.

President Lincoln's letter is a formal, diplomatic request that Pope Pius accept Rufus King as the U.S. representative to the Vatican.

The letter makes no mention of the war, but assures the pope that King is "well informed of the relative interests" of both the United States and the Vatican "and of our sincere desire to cultivate and

THE VATICAN LETTER

CINDY WOODEN

strengthen the friendship and good correspondence between us."

On the other hand, the letter from Jefferson Davis, president of the secessionist Confederate States, is filled with references to the war and its "slaughter, ruin and devastation."

Only the first page of the letter and Davis' signature are included in the book, but the Vatican historian's commentary about the letter includes quotations from the sec-

LETTER, PAGE 16

Goodness and peace will prevail



THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

MSGR. OWEN F. CAMPION

3rd Sunday in Advent Lk 3:10-18

An atmosphere of delighted expectation overtakes this weekend's liturgy. It is "Gaudete Sunday," a name taken from the Latin rendition of the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "To rejoice." The Lord is near!

Priests may opt to wear rose vestments. These vestments symbolize that the brightness of the Lord's coming already is creeping across the horizon.

More properly, it is the third Sunday of Advent. The Book of Zephaniah furnishes the first reading. It is a short book, only three brief chapters. Little is known about this prophet. This much, however, is known. Zephaniah was the son of Chusi and traced his ancestry to Hezekiah, presumably King Hezekiah of Judah.

Evidently, the book was written between 640 B.C. and 609 B.C., or during the reign of King Josiah of Judah. Josiah was a reformer, and his reforms were religious in intent and in impact. The kings saw themselves as representatives and agents of God. Aside from all else, their duty was to draw the people more closely to God. When the people are faithful to God, they bring peace and prosperity upon themselves.

Zephaniah, obviously, supported this effort. This weekend's reading is

an exuberant and bold exclamation of joy.

The Epistle to the Philippians provides the second reading. Philippi was a city, in what today is Greece, founded centuries before Christ and named in honor King Philip, the father of Alexander the Great.

By the time of the first century A.D., it was an important center in the Roman Empire, and it was important as a military base.

Such centers often became the sites of Christian communities, as there was much movement of people through the empire. People moved to and fro, bringing their ideas and values, such as Christianity.

As was the reading from Zephaniah, this reading is filled with excitement and joy. The coming of the Lord is predicted, and it will be soon. Such was the assumption of many of the early Christians.

When Jesus would come again, all wrongs would be righted. Evil would be defeated. To prepare, Christians should conform themselves as much as possible and in every respect to the Lord.

The epistle proclaims that this holy transformation has occurred. It delightedly declares that the Christians of Philippi are unselfish.

St. Luke's Gospel is the source of the last reading. In this reading, John the Baptist appears, urging that the man with two coats give one to the poor.

John also tells a tax collector to assess only the fixed amount. The Roman system of taxation was in effect legalized extortion. The Roman authorities were not able, or even inclined, to send citizens of Rome into the far reaches of the empire to collect taxes. So locals had to be induced to do the work.

Local tax collectors were turncoats, despised as such. So, some incentive was necessary. Profit made

it worthwhile.

They achieved their profit by adding to the assessed tax their own demand. The law required the taxpayers to meet these demands.

Details aside, when the messiah is acknowledged, goodness and peace will prevail.

Reflection

These readings all predict the coming of God's power and justice. Such is the Lord's promise. However, even while the Scriptures look forward to a sudden, dramatic coming of Jesus in glory, these readings this weekend also remind us that we can bring Jesus into our lives and into our communities by living the Gospel.

In the long run, Advent's advantage is that it allows us to bring Jesus into our own hearts and lives.

With Jesus in our lives, no time is complete darkness. The sunbeams of hope and peace will pierce the blackest of moments. Jesus, the messiah, came — and comes to us — as the Light of the World.

READINGS

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a (Ps) Is 12:2-6 Phil 4:4-7 Lk 3:10-18

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a Ps 25:4-9 Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23 Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25 Ps 85:9-14 Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10 Ps 72:1-4, 7-8, 17 Mt 1:1-17

Friday: Jer 23:5-8 Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 Mt 1:18-25

Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Ps 71:3-6, 16-17 Lk 1:5-25

THE CATEQUIZ'EM

By Dominic Camplisson

In the 12th month, we look at "The Twelve" AKA "The Twelve Apostles" and things apostolic.

1. Where does the term "Apostle" come from?

- a. Greek, probably related to the verb "to send"
- b. Latin, related to the adjective for holy
- c. Aramaic, related to the term anointed

2. Although there were originally 12, why do we hear about several more?

- a. Other church leaders occasionally used the title, including Paul.
- b. Each of the 12 got to choose twelve, hence the 144,000 in Revelation.
- c. They were not math savvy and added wrong.

3. Who was the apostle who deserted the twelve and had to be replaced?

- a. Martha
- b. Judas
- c. Barabas

4. What mechanism was used to restore the twelve apostles?

- a. Magic
- b. Trial by ordeal
- c. An election

5. Who was the apostle to the Gentiles?

- a. Peter
- b. Paul
- c. Mary

6. Who is the only one of the twelve apostles thought to have died a natural death?

- a. Paul
- b. Thomas
- c. John

7. What was the "Apostolic Age"?

- a. an indeterminate period in the early church, lasting until the last apostle died
- b. the age to follow the Age of Aquarius according to Revelation
- c. the period of the teaching of John the Baptist, ending with his beheading

8. The term "Apostolic Fathers" is often used on these men.

- a. Christian writers and bishops who came immediately after or towards the end of the Apostolic Age, e.g. Clement, Ignatius
- b. Men who were old enough to be the fathers of the twelve, so about the same age as Joseph
- c. The fathers of the twelve apostles

9. The term apostle is also used of prominent missionaries. In this context, who was the apostle to (of) Ireland?

- a. St. Brigid
- b. St. Patrick
- c. Oliver Cromwell

10. What is the Apostolic Succession?

- a. The rule by which no Catholic can sit on the throne of England
- b. The direct ministerial connection, conferred by laying on of hands, of each bishop back to the apostles
- c. The test that a candidate for holy orders must pass (hence have success) in order to be ordained

11. What was a separated church that called itself The Catholic Apostolic Church?

- a. a group of English clergymen who set about preaching the second coming in the 19th century
- b. a collection of lay priests in China who maintained the faith and opposed Rome
- c. a Lutheran sect who, recalling Luther was an Augustinian, sought to link themselves to the antipope, Walter XIX

12. A document called the "Apostolic Church Order" purporting to be from the early Church, is generally discredited. One reason it is known to be flawed is because

- a. It was in Greek and the early church only used Latin.
- b. It treats Peter and Cephas as two different men.
- c. It mentions women (Martha and Mary) in the company of Christ, which was not likely.

13. The King of this nation was traditionally referred to as the Apostolic King

- a. Romania
- b. Ruthenia
- c. Hungary

ANSWERS:

- 1.a, 2.a, 3.b, 4.c, 5.b, 6.c, 7.a, 8.a, 9.b, 10.b, 11.a, 12.b, 13.c

Who was Cornelius, the first Gentile convert?

The story of Cornelius is found in the Acts of the Apostles in the New Testament. Cornelius was a Roman centurion in command of the Italian cohort stationed in the city of Caesarea in Israel. Caesarea was the Roman military headquarters in Israel. Thus the Roman procurator Pontius Pilate, who crucified Jesus, was stationed at Caesarea.

Caesarea, on the Mediterranean Sea, was also an important seaport from which ships sailed to Rome. Cornelius, as well as his household, was religious and generous. Father J. McKenzie says Cornelius was a proselyte who accepted the Jewish law but did not become a full member of the Jewish community by circumcision.

An angel appeared to Cornelius and told him to send men to Joppa in Israel to bring St. Peter to Caesarea. The next day St. Peter at Joppa had a vision of a large canvas filled with animals, reptiles and birds. A voice said "slaughter and eat." St. Peter replied he could

not eat anything unclean. The voice responded: "What God has purified, you are not to call unclean."

Peter eventually realizes he is to admit Gentiles into the Christian community. So Peter went to Caesarea to meet Cornelius who dropped to his knees and bowed low before Peter. Peter then baptized Cornelius, the first Gentile convert.

K. Prag says that at Caesarea are the ruins of the 12th century cathedral Church of St. Peter. The apses and part of the west wall survive. The cathedral had three apses with sanctuaries, three aisles of five bays, a floor, and was by tradition located on the site of the house of Cornelius who was baptized by St. Peter.

Besides St. Peter, other famous people had connections with Caesarea. St. Philip, in the Acts of the Apostles, preached the Gospel in Caesarea. St. Paul was imprisoned in Caesarea for two years. Here Paul had his dramatic trial



FATHER RICHARD HIRE

HIRE HISTORY

before the governor Festus, King Herod Agrippa and his wife Bernice. From Caesarea, St. Paul embarked for trial in Rome.

G. Freeman says a church council was held at Caesarea in 195 A.D. that ordered Easter to be kept on a Sunday. The famous theologian Origen of Alexandria in Egypt (d. 254 A.D.) taught in Caesarea and founded his library. Origen was succeeded by his pupil Pamphilus who was succeeded by the famous Eusebius, the father of church history. As an archbishop, Eusebius consecrated the Roman emperor Constantine's Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem.

The historian Procopius was born in Caesarea c. 500 A.D. We should note that Caesarea in Israel is a different city than Caesarea in Turkey where we find the famous St. Basil, an early father of the church. This Caesarea is modern Kayseri, a large Moslem city.

R. Ullian mentions a number of sites in Caesarea in Israel. The beautiful Roman theater, capable of seating 5,000 spectators, was constructed in the time of Jesus and Pontius Pilate, with the Mediterranean Sea as a backdrop. There is also a ruined hippodrome seating 20,000 people. The magnificent aqueduct is almost six

miles in length. The Ralli Museum at Caesarea includes sculptures of Dali and Rodin. You can enter Crusader City on a bridge across a deep moat, then through a gatehouse with Gothic vaulting. The city is a large fortified town.

Then there is the Port of Sebastos extending from Crusader City into the sea. King Herod the Great's harbor at Caesarea was one of the largest harbors of the ancient Roman world.

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

Willful blindness and Fort Hood

Dan Henninger, whose *Wall Street Journal* column is aptly titled "Wonder Land," put it best: "The only good news about the Fort Hood massacre is that U.S. electronic surveillance technology was able to pick up Major Hasan's phone calls to an al Qaeda-loving imam in Yemen. The bad news is that the people and agencies listening to Hasan didn't know what to do about it. Other than nothing."

Here in Washington, D.C. — where strategists are already game-planning What-Happens-After-the-Next-9/11 — one can only wonder whether any such horror will be preceded by other missed warnings. Missed, not because the intelligence hardware is deficient, but because the programming of the software, meaning the analysts, filters out anything that smacks of distorted religious conviction.

In the eight years and three months since 9/11, the U.S. government has willfully turned a blind eye to the Islamist roots of the war against jihadism. The Bush administration was reluctant to name things for what they were, and are, in this clash of civilizations. The Obama administration seems to believe that appeasing the homicidal culture of victimhood that has warped the Arab Islamic world for decades — and that has now reared its head on a U.S. Army base — is more urgent than calling spades spades.

Perhaps the most obnoxious expression of this myopia is the instinct to warn the American people against overreaction, rather than to name jihadism for what it is. That instinct was on display in the immediate aftermath of the Fort Hood massacre, when Secretary of Home and Security Janet Napolitano raised the alarm,

not about jihadism, but about possible violence against Muslims by outraged Americans. Query to Secretary Napolitano: The overwhelming majority of victims of jihadist terrorism around the world are Muslims — like those little Afghani girls who want to learn how to read and have acid poured on their faces by Taliban thugs. Isn't identifying the sources of crimes like this, and like Fort Hood, more important than politically correct posturing about American yahoos going bonkers and conducting anti-Muslim crusades in these United States?

When my small book, "Faith, Reason, and the War Against Jihadism," was first published in early 2008, it was read as samizdat — underground literature — at the State Department, the Defense Department and the Central Intelligence Agency — or so I'm told by friends and colleagues. Evidently, even a primer on the war against jihadism that stressed the imperative of serious, sustained interreligious dialogue was too controversial for career civil servants to be seen reading, because the book also described the ways in which bad theology had led to lethal politics.

"Faith, Reason, and the War Against Jihadism" has now been issued in paperback. In a new afterword, I stress two points: That our security remains threatened by our government's institutional refusal to take the religious roots of jihadism seriously; and that Pope Benedict XVI has pointed the way to new and potentially more fruitful Christian-Islamic dialogue by insisting that any such conversation focus on the hard questions — religious freedom as a fundamental human right, and the separation of religious and



GEORGE WEIGEL

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE

political authority in a just state. We'll see if the paperback shares the same samizdat fate as the hardback in the corridors of power.

Father Raymond de Souza, the Canadian columnist, identified another aspect of willful blindness in the aftermath of Fort Hood. Noting the disinclination among English-speaking opinion merchants to connect the dots between extremist Islam and Fort Hood, Father de Souza reminded his readers of the double standard at work here: for when late-term abortionist George Tiller was murdered in June, many of those same columnists immediately opined that the murderer was a "logical extension" of the pro-life movement.

That slander was quickly falsified when the mainstream pro-life movement immediately and publicly condemned Tiller's murder. We'll know that a corner has been turned when, after the next Fort Hood, the immediate, public reaction of Muslims and non-Muslims alike is an unequivocal assertion that crying "Allahu akbar" (God is Great) while spraying bullets at innocents is a profanation of the name of God.

George Weigel is a senior fellow of the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH

Gospel for December 13, 2009

Luke 3:10-18

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Third Sunday of Advent, Cycle C: the teachings and warnings of John the Baptist. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

SHARE	HAS FOOD	DO LIKEWISE
BAPTIZED	TEACHER	MORE
SOLDIERS	FALSE	EXPECTATION
HEARTS	ANSWERED	WATER
MIGHTIER	THAN I	NOT WORTHY
SANDAL	HAND	THRESHING
FLOOR	CHAFF	GOOD NEWS

CHRIST IS COMING

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

© 2009 Tri-C-A Publications www.tri-c-a-publications.com

LETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

ond page as well.

The commentator said Davis wrote to Pope Pius after the pope had written to the archbishops of New York and New Orleans "urging them to employ every possible means to end the bloodshed and restore peace."

Davis wrote to the pope about the suffering caused by "the war now waged by the government of the United States against the states and people over which I have been chosen to preside." He assured the pope that the people of the South are fighting only to

defend themselves and to ensure they can "live at peace with all mankind under our own laws and institutions."

The book's historical commentary said the letter was, in fact, a veiled ploy to convince Pope Pius to recognize the independence of the Confederacy and establish diplomatic relations; the pope did not do so.

The book also includes a photograph of a letter to Pope Leo written on birch bark. The 1887 letter from the Ojibwe people of Grassy Lake, Ontario, thanks the pope — "the Great Master of Prayer, he who holds the place of Jesus" — for having given them a good "custodian of prayer," the local bishop.

Sports

TWO USF SENIORS NAMED TO ALL-MCC VOLLEYBALL TEAM University of Saint Francis seniors Shellie Rumschlag and Chelsie Hill have been named to the 2009 Mid-Central College Conference All-Conference team. Rumschlag, a Bishop Luers High School graduate, finished in the MCC top five in hitting percentage, kills per set (game) and blocks per set. She finished No. 2 in hitting percentage at .355, No. 3 in blocks per set (1.0) and No. 4 in kills per set (3.5). She is a 4-time All-MCC selection, first team the last three seasons, second-team as a freshman in 2006.

Patient Squires take preseason tourney

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — Patience may pay off for the Hessen Cassel Squires girls' basketball program and play a key role in their success. A year ago, Coach Amy Knapke added a few sixth graders to have enough numbers to bring a varsity team back at Hessen Cassel after years without.

"We were young and at a new level," explained Knapke of her 2008-2009 team. The team took some beatings during the season, but did manage to finish runner-up in their Blue League tournament.

This year, however, may be a different story. The Squires made a strong statement at the preseason showcase taking first place honors in the Queen of Angels Invitational over Thanksgiving weekend. The now more-experienced and confident group downed an always-tough Memorial Park team, not once, but twice, by a bucket each time to win it all.

"I was so proud of our girls.

They just would not quit," beamed Knapke. "Queen of Angels is a great tournament to play in. I was able to see where we are and what we need to work on."

During the tournament, the Squires were led by a balanced scoring attack from Hannah Beckman, Kendall Knapke and Cara Schaadt. Taylor Tobe added the winning basket with 40 seconds left on the clock to put the Squires ahead to stay 29-27 in the championship game.

In early bracket play, Hessen Cassel beat Precious Blood then Memorial Park, 22-20. This sent Memorial Park to the consolation games where they won two rounds to climb back to the championship match-up. Hessen Cassel defeated the scrappy seventh graders from St. Jude in their semifinals.

Knapke's combined roster is made up of 10 players this season — five seventh graders and five eighth graders, three of which have joined from St. Louis Academy. Maria Parsenow is serving as assistant coach. Knapke felt her

team played very controlled in the tournament and kept their composure when the pressure was on. She feels these along with their strong ball handling skills will be the Squires strengths this season.

St. Jude 7 finished third overall while St. Charles 7 was the fourth-place finish in the 2009 Queen of Angels Invitational.

Eagles fare well in Thanksgiving Invitational

The St. Jude Eagles were well-represented in the annual Thanksgiving nine-team tournament held at the University of Saint Francis and sponsored by Queen of Angels. The seventh-grade squad met the eighth-grade team in the championship with the older group winning it all, 36-19.

"I told the seventh graders that if we weren't a year older and a year stronger, they would have won the whole tournament," said eighth-grade Eagle coach Tim

Poore. "It was a great start to both seasons."

Poore's 11-man lineup beat St. John, New Haven in the opening round then St. Charles 7. Next, the Eagles beat their younger team, which sent the seventh graders to the consolation bracket where they beat Hessen Cassel twice to get back to the championship round. Luke Palmer and Jeff Mugg were the Eagles' scoring leaders over the weekend.

Poore has been coaching this group since they were fifth graders and is in his fourth season at St. Jude. His assistants are Mark Mugg, Ron Palmer and Mark Stoner. Poore feels his team has good size overall and are strong defensively. Because most of the kids have played together for several years now, Poore believes the Eagles will have a strong showing in the CYO Gold League.

"St. Vincent has been the obvious power the past three years," explained Poore. But with the big changes that come between the seventh- and eighth-grade years,

Poore hopes to be a threat this season.

Other medal winners in the tournament were Hessen Cassel third and St. Charles 7 fourth.

Scores below were reported as CYO action kicked off on Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009:

Boys

St. Jude 50, Most Precious Blood 35

St. Therese 21, Decatur-7 31

St. Aloysius 30, St. Louis-St. Rose 14

Hessen Cassel 35, Most Precious Blood 18

Queen of Angels-8 16, Decatur-8 29

Girls

Hessen Cassel 26, Most Precious Blood 4

St. Therese 38, Huntington 5

St. Aloysius 14, St. Therese 37

BDHS STUNT GROUP TAKES STATE



PROVIDED BY BISHOP DWENGER HIGH SCHOOL

A Bishop Dwenger stunt group consisting of five varsity cheerleaders was selected by the Indiana State Cheerleading Association to compete in the state finals in New Castle on Nov. 7. Only five groups were chosen from over 75 entries submitted to the state for consideration. These girls then competed and were crowned the State Champion Stunt Group for 2009. In the photo are, front, from left, Leah Helmer and Jordan Potosky, top row, Alana Richardson, Morgan Eifert and Katie Dillon.

ICCL launches winter basketball season

BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND-MISHAWAKA — The Inter-City Catholic League kicked off its 2009 campaign with divisional play at both Mishawaka Marian High School and Saint Joseph's High School.

In the St. John Bosco East Division the St. Anthony Panthers opened up a lead and finished off the St. Matthew Blazers, 40-13. In the other matchup, led by Paul Byszewski's 15-point effort, the St. Joseph, South Bend, Eagles stopped an aggressive attack by St.

Thomas the Apostle, 44-33.

In action from the St. John Bosco West Division, both Pat Conner and Wesley Short dropped in 10 at the Holy Cross Crusaders dashed the victory hopes of the Holy Family Trojans, 46-21. Christ the King also added a win to their record by defeating Corpus Christi thanks to an 11-point effort of Keaton Wieschhaus.

The St. Martin DePorres Division battled at Marian High School and saw a big day by Our Lady of Hungary's Dominique Sanders as he dropped in 28 points in their victory over Queen of

Peace, 40-31. The Falcons of St. Jude faced off against a tough opponent in the St. Monica Comets as they prevailed, 32-29. Matt Henry scored 17 in the win and Chris Coulter paced St. Monica with 16. The final contest pitted two veteran squads; St. Pius X vs. the St. Joseph, Mishawaka, Wildcats. Michael Markris had 14 points as the Wildcats triumphed, 29-26.

Action for all teams will continue on Sunday, Dec. 13. Schedules can be found on the ICCL Web site at www.icclsports.org.

Wednesday, Dec 30th
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church
7:00 pm

eXALT

a night of exuberant worship to our Lord

P R A I S E

our Lord with contemporary music led by Frankie & the Holy Rollers.



A D O R E

Jesus in His Eucharistic Presence.



L I S T E N

as Father Drew Curry presides over the celebration.



'Cookies for Christ' sold at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School

BY CORINE ERLANDSON

FORT WAYNE — St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School first graders, their parents and teachers sponsored "Cookies for Christ," an annual stewardship and educational project for St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School first graders. The cookie sale took place from Dec. 1-3.

First graders and their parents baked dozens of Christmas cookies at home, bag them individually in ziplock bags and sold them to the St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School community for 25 cents each. The first graders also helped make posters to advertise "Cookies for Christ."

The first graders took a field trip in early November to Ellison Bakery to see how cookies are made in a cookie factory. Ellison Bakery also donated dozens of its cookies for the "Cookies for Christ" sale days. Because the cookies were sold during school hours, first-grade parents helped sell the "Cookies for Christ" cookies to all the St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School students at both campuses.

All proceeds from the "Cookies for Christ" sale go to the Sunshine Club, a charitable organization that helps needy families at the holidays by providing them with clothing, Christmas gifts, hams, turkeys, other food and household linens. The Sunshine Club started at St. Joseph Parish on Brooklyn Avenue and now helps members of the Fort Wayne community, as well as families of St. Joseph and St. Elizabeth Seton parishes who are in need during the holidays.

"Cookies for Christ instills the idea of giving of our time and talent early," said first-grade teacher Molly Slocum. "Cookies for Christ has become a great tradition of charitable giving for our first graders at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School."

"Cookies for Christ is a fabulous project for the first graders at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School," agrees first-grade teacher Julie Peters. "The proceeds from the project go directly to the Sunshine Club of St.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY ST. JOSEPH-ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL

A St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth first grader shows off her Cookies for Christ.

Joseph's and St. Elizabeth's parishes to benefit the needy. The kids have a great feeling about being able to help so many people just by making, selling and buying cookies. And cookies are one of their favorite things to eat!"

Joanne Krudop, recently retired after 43 years of teaching and the first-grade teacher who started "Cookies for Christ" 12 years ago, came in to talk to the first graders in November. When

asked about the name "Cookies for Christ," Krudop told the first graders, "Jesus used his hands and feet to heal and help people. Now that Jesus is in heaven, he wants us to be his hands and feet. This is our way to be Jesus' hands and feet."

Last December, the St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School first graders raised \$680 with their "Cookies for Christ" sale, which was also donated to the Sunshine Club.

In celebration: A journey from a shelter to a village

FORT WAYNE

— Vincent Village celebrated 20 years of providing shelter, services and affordable housing for homeless families on Dec. 2, with an open-house celebration at 2827 Holton Ave. Bishop John M. D'Arcy participated in the brief ceremony and tours were provided for interested guests of many of the Village's affordable homes.

"More than 600 families have come through the front door of Vincent House seeking shelter," said Ann Helmke, director. In 1989, Vincent House was the only organization providing shelter for homeless families with an emphasis on keeping families together during the crisis of homelessness, she continued.

Bishop D'Arcy was instrumental in establishing the transitional shelter for homeless families after learning of the need in the Fort Wayne area. When he was an auxiliary bishop in Lowell, Mass., Bishop D'Arcy was involved in the initiation of a center for the homeless there under the titled of St. Vincent House.

Twenty years after opening the doors to homeless families, Vincent Village continues its mission. In the past two years Vincent Village has seen record numbers of homeless families waiting to get into a shelter. "This is indeed a tragic situation as we embark upon the coldest season of the year, added Helmke. Expanding services over the years to meet the needs of the families living in the shelter Vincent Village has increased the number of families that can be helped.

In 1995 Vincent Village began



habilitating vacant abandoned houses in the neighborhood and transformed 28 of these houses into attractive affordable homes for working families. This effort has created a safe and supportive community.

"Approximately 68 percent of the homeless people coming through the front door of Vincent House are children," Helmke emphasized. Vincent Village provides comprehensive services for homeless children with tutoring and educational enriching activities while their families are participating in other Vincent Village programs. This program also serves children living in a near-by shelter.

St. Hyacinth Community Center opened in 1999 providing office space for Vincent Village, space for the Literacy Alliance to provide adult education GED classes and Park Center's counseling and day treatment program for children with emotional challenges. Children's Cottage expanded child care and early education to include infants and toddlers and a Head Start classroom. Accessible units were added to the shelter in 2001 and the Vincent Village Outlet Store opened in 2003.

"Changing the name from Vincent House to Vincent Village in 2008 reflects the journey to a village as we continue to provide an opportunity for homeless families to stay together, while they move to higher levels of self-sufficiency and into a home in a supportive community. In the homes of Vincent Village, families who were once transient can establish roots and regain the rhythm in their lives," Helmke concluded.

"Professional Insurance Services"



- Life
- Health
- Annuities
- Disabilities
- Medicare Supplements
- Nursing Home Care

- Auto
- Home
- Business
- Liability

111 North Third Street • Decatur
(260)728-9290 • (260) 724-8042 • 1-800-589-5468



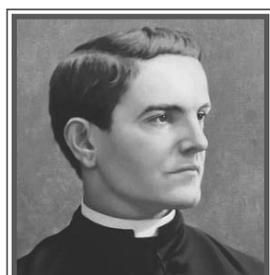
Knights of Columbus

IN SERVICE TO ONE ✦ IN SERVICE TO ALL

• Helping the needy • Supporting the handicapped
• Fighting against all evil

This is the Knights of Columbus of today
Join us and live your FAITH!
ANSWER THE CALL

Contact Indiana Membership Director
Dale Waters • 219-663-4679 • membership@indianakofc.org



Father Michael McGivney
FOUNDER
Knights of Columbus

Merry Christmas!

A Savior has been born to you, who is Christ the Lord.



Listen worldwide at
RedeemerRadio.com

Contact us or provide financial support at:
info@redeemerradio.com
260.436.1450

Redeemer
Radio

Catholic Radio
AM 1450

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: fhogan@fw.diocesefwsb.org. Events that require an admission charge or payment to participate will receive one free listing. For additional listings of that event, please call our advertising sales staff at (260) 456-2824 to purchase space.

MISC. HAPPENINGS

Help from all councils needed

Fort Wayne — The Knights of Columbus Council 13142 will sponsor an Angel Tree at St. Henry Church Saturday, Dec. 19, at 1 p.m. Volunteers are needed from all councils to provide gifts, music, food or funds for the children of inmates in prison. Call Mark at (260) 622-4042 for more information.

Christmas concert announced

Fort Wayne — Most Precious Blood Church, 1515 Barthold St., will present a Christmas Concert Sunday, Dec. 27, at 7 p.m. in the church with Jim Didier, choir director and Kathy Schall, bell choir director. Admission is free.

Living Nativity

Fort Wayne — The children of St. Therese Parish will perform "Follow the Star" a living Nativity on Saturday, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m. at the church, 2304 Lower Huntington Rd. Christmas music will be sung and live animals will be on hand. Some walking is required. Refreshments will follow in the parish hall.

XLT planned at St. Elizabeth

Fort Wayne — A night of worship for youth or the young at heart will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 30, at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church. Praise music by Frankie and the Holy Rollers, adoration and Father Drew Curry will preside.

Breakfast with Santa

Mishawaka — St. Joseph Church will have breakfast with Santa Sunday, Dec. 13, from 10:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. Pancakes,

sausage, hot chocolate, juice and coffee will be offered. Visit with Santa Claus and receive a small gift and a treat. \$4 per person. For information call Camp Fire USA at (574) 234-4145.

National Society of Foresters plan Christmas party

Fort Wayne — The St. Antoinette Court 870 of the National Society of Foresters will have a Christmas potluck Sunday, Dec. 13, from noon to 5 p.m. in the Sacred Heart school basement. For information call Pedro Heredia at (260) 447-2357.

Lessons and Carols at St. John the Baptist

Fort Wayne — Lessons and Carols, a concert of Christmas and Advent music and lessons from sacred Scripture, will be presented by the choirs and instrumentalists of St. John the Baptist Parish on Sunday, Dec. 13, at 5 p.m. The church is located at 4525 Arlington Ave.

Bishop Luers Christmas concert

Fort Wayne — The Bishop Luers Performing Arts Department will present a Christmas concert Monday, Dec. 14, at 7 p.m. in the Bishop Luers gymnasium.

FUND RAISERS

Pancakes with Santa

Fort Wayne — The St. Charles Athletic Association will have a pancake and sausage breakfast with Santa on Sunday, Dec. 13, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. (Door #9) The cost is \$4 per adult, \$3 per child 12 and under or \$15 for the entire family. All proceeds go to the Athletic Association.

Cookie Walk

Plymouth — A cookie walk will be Saturday, Dec. 12, from 8 a.m. to noon in the school cafeteria of St. Michael Church. The cost is \$4 per lb. and is sponsored by Altar Rosary Society.

Cookie Walk

Mishawaka — A cookie walk will be Saturday, Dec. 12, from 9 a.m. to noon in the lower level of St. Monica Church. The cost is \$4 per lb. and is sponsored by Rosary Society.

Knights plan spaghetti dinner

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a spaghetti dinner on Friday, Dec. 18, from 5 to 7 p.m. Adults \$7, children (5-12) \$3. Carry-out available.

Knights plan breakfast

Granger — The St. Pius X Knights will have a breakfast Sunday, Dec. 13 after the 8:45 and 10:30 Masses.

Scholarship/placement exam held

Fort Wayne — All eighth-grade students interested in attending Bishop Luers High School can take the exam on Dec. 12 at the high school. Cost is \$10. A total of \$10,000 dollars in scholarships will be awarded by the Henry-Keefer Scholarship Fund.

Advent vespers

Mishawaka — Father Daniel Scheidt will lead sung vespers on all the Sundays of Advent at 5 p.m. at Queen of Peace Church.

REST IN PEACE

Elkhart

Charles P. Palmero, Jr., 66, St. Vincent de Paul

Fort Wayne

Leonard S. Gerardot, 87, St. Charles

Jim Edward Bridges, 51, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Charles E. Gebele, 88, St. Charles Borromeo

Marie Nancy McMahon, 74, St. Vincent de Paul

Mary Kathryn Rudolph, 96, St. Vincent de Paul

Rosemary E. Cordes, 80, Most Precious Blood

Carlos M. Garcia, 89, St. Joseph

H. LeRoy Ratliff, Jr., 68, St. Charles Borromeo

Lenora Maria Hanley Chandler, 80, St. Vincent de Paul

Rita A. McGinley, 87, St. Jude

Granger

Thomas M. Bauer, 68, St. Pius X

Harriet J. Lehner, 83, St. Pius X

Mishawaka

Margaret E. Arnold, 88, St. Bavo

Betty J. Roose, 86, Queen of Peace

Notre Dame

Evelyn M. Albert, 92, Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Susan Kay Marvel, 57, St. Joseph Chapel

Plymouth

Adalene C. Schoner, 95, St. Michael

Ann Marie Tuttle, 71, St. Michael

South Bend

Felicia A. Galassi, 87, St. Joseph

Antoinette Kopacz, 95, St. Hedwig

Lottie M. Mikolajewski, 88, St. Adalbert

Mary Siczko, 88, St. Anthony de Padua

James R. Kopczynski, 87, Holy Family

Gertrude A. Nowacki, 84, St. Adalbert

Geraldine T. Doran, 83, St. Joseph

Visit www.diocesefwsb.org
for a complete calendar of events in the diocese.

CAREGIVER WANTED

Elderly lady looking for live-in caregiver. Country setting close to town. Room and board, plus salary.



Call for information:

(219) 916-5973

email: icpriority@aol.com

P.O. Box 10, Valparaiso, IN 46384

McElhaney-Hart
FUNERAL HOME
715 North Jefferson
Huntington
(260) 356-3320
www.mcelhaneyhartfuneralhome.com



Hall's

Fort Wayne's
Most Complete
Wedding Service.

You can choose one or all of our services. We'll make the best of your special event. Hall's has been in the business of making people happy for over 60 years. You can trust us to do it just right.

Banquet Rooms
Hotel Rooms
Rehearsal Dinners
Catering Service
Wedding Cakes

For more information contact Hall's Guesthouse at:
(260) 489-2524 • www.DonHalls.com

Associate Superintendent of Catholic Schools • Fort Wayne, Indiana

The Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend seeks applicants for the position of Associate Superintendent of Catholic Schools (Deadline for applications: December 17, 2009)

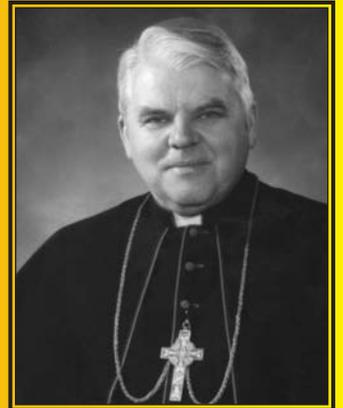
Necessary qualifications include:

- Strong and Proven Commitment to Catholic Identity
- Indiana School Administrator's License
- Five Years Catholic School Administrative Experience; Principal or Assistant
- Ability to Organize Effectively
- Ability and Desire to Assist Principals & Administrators
- Ability and Desire to Build Strong Catholic Schools thorough the Parish
- Ability to Plan, Implement, and Evaluate Curriculum and Instruction.

For Information & Application, Contact:Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend Rhonda Scher, Personnel Manager • P.O. Box 390, Fort Wayne, In 46801 260-422-4611 x3335 • E-mail: rscher@diocesefwsb.org
An equal Opportunity Employer



Join others in expressing best wishes and thanks to BISHOP JOHN M. D'ARCY



As the shepherd of our diocese turns to a much deserved retirement and the next phase of his holy priesthood, Today's Catholic offers our readers an opportunity to convey expressions of thanks and best wishes to this dedicated servant who has led us for the past 24 years.

**PLACE YOUR NAME ON A FULL PAGE TRIBUTE TO BISHOP D'ARCY
IN A "BISHOP'S FAREWELL" ON JANUARY 3, 2010**
(YOUR NAME ON FULL PAGE TRIBUTE AD COST IS \$50.00)

Individual ads are also available...sizes and prices are shown here. Ads are black and white. For color, add \$150.00

1/8 page
5 inches wide, 2.75 inches deep
Cost: \$116.00

1/4 page
5 inches wide, 5.75 inches deep
Cost: \$227.00

one half page
10 inches wide,
5.75 inches deep
Cost: \$449.00

full page
10 inches wide,
11.5 inches deep
Cost: \$848.00

For information on how to place your ad, please call:

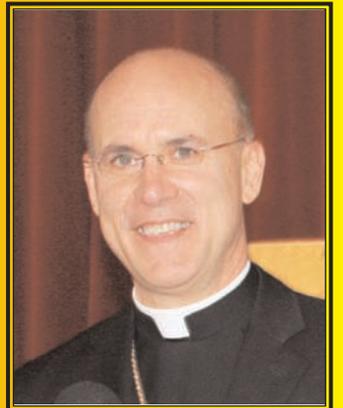
South Bend area:
Jeanette Simon (574) 234-0687
email: jnttsimon@aol.com

.....
DEADLINE
December 16, 2009
.....

Fort Wayne area:
Tess Steffen (260) 399-1457
email: Sales@diocesefwsb.org
Kathy Denice (260) 399-1452
email: Kdenice@todayscatholicnews.org



Join others in expressing a warm welcome to BISHOP KEVIN RHOADES



as he becomes the ninth bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Today's Catholic offers our readers an opportunity to convey expressions of prayerful best wishes and friendship to the new shepherd of our diocese.

The January 10, 2010 issue of Today's Catholic will include a special pull-out section with a glossy cover and full coverage of the installation ceremonies of Bishop Rhoades at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, presided by Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein with many bishops, priests, and dignitaries in attendance.

Individual ads are also available...sizes and prices are shown here. Ads are black and white. For color, add \$150.00

1/8 page
5 inches wide, 2.75 inches deep
Cost: \$116.00

1/4 page
5 inches wide, 5.75 inches deep
Cost: \$227.00

one half page
10 inches wide,
5.75 inches deep
Cost: \$449.00

full page
10 inches wide,
11.5 inches deep
Cost: \$848.00

For information on how to place your ad, please call:

South Bend area:
Jeanette Simon (574) 234-0687
email: jnttsimon@aol.com

.....
DEADLINE
December 23, 2009
.....

Fort Wayne area:
Tess Steffen (260) 399-1457
email: Sales@diocesefwsb.org
Kathy Denice (260) 399-1452
email: Kdenice@todayscatholicnews.org