WASHINGTON (CNS) — Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas of Tucson, Ariz., one of many religious leaders decrying Arizona’s new immigration law, said he will ask the general counsel of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to become involved in lawsuits expected to challenge its constitutionality.

In his “Monday Memo” posting on the diocesan Web site April 26, Bishop D’Arcy, bishop emeritus, was the principal celebrant.

During the Rite of Ordination, Matthew and Terrence were called by the Church to serve God’s people. Each confirmed his presence, readiness and willingness to serve. Pontifical College Josephinum Rector and President Father James A Wehner testified to the worthiness of the candidates.

In his homily, Bishop D’Arcy noted that this is the Year for Priests. The yearlong celebration, he said, commemorates a great parish priest — St. John Vianney. And the weekend of April 25 was celebrated by the universal Church to pray for vocations.

Bishop D’Arcy encouraged the faithful to pray that more good men of quality — like the deacon candidates — “will follow them.”

Bishop D’Arcy recalled the words of Pope Benedict XVI when he visited the United States: “It is
Diocese marks vocations from diaconate to bishop emeritus

By Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Congratulations Bishop D’Arcy

This Saturday marks the 25th anniversary of Bishop John M. D’Arcy’s installation as the eighth bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. On behalf of all the faithful of our diocese, I offer grateful thanks and prayerful best wishes to our beloved bishop emeritus. On April 30, 1985, Bishop D’Arcy took canonical possession of the diocese during Evening Prayer at St. Matthew Cathedral, South Bend. The apostolic letter of appointment was read by Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Crowley. On the next day, May 1, the installation Mass was celebrated at the Cathedral of Immaculate Conception, Fort Wayne. That was certainly a blessed day for the diocese as well as for Bishop D’Arcy and his family.

Thanks to Bishop D’Arcy, the Church in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend has grown and flourished in faith the past 25 years. I’ve been thinking how appropriate it was that Bishop D’Arcy’s ministry here began on the feast of St. Joseph the Worker. As St. Joseph worked humbly and diligently to support the Holy Family and watched over Mary and Jesus with love and devotion, so has Bishop D’Arcy in his fatherly care of the family of our diocese. Thank you, Bishop D’Arcy, for your years of work these past 25 years and for your continued devotion ministry as our bishop emeritus. May our Risen Lord bless you with much joy on your 25th anniversary!

Congratulations Deacons Matthew and Terrence

This past Sunday, April 25, Matthew Coonan and Terrence Coonan, Jr., were ordained deacons by Bishop D’Arcy at the Pontifical College Josephinum. This is a cause for joy for the Coohan family and for our diocese. We thank these two fine young men, blood brothers, who are now also brothers in the ordained ministry, for saying “yes” to the call of our Lord to serve in His Church. I am already looking forward to ordaining them to the priesthood next spring!

I will be meeting with Matthew and Terrence soon to give them their summer diaconal assignments. Please pray for them and for all of our seminarians as they continue their road to the priesthood. And please remember in your prayers Deacon Andrew Budzinski who will be ordained to the priesthood on June 26. Let us pray that the Lord will bless our diocese with an abundance of good priestly vocations!

Pastoral visit to Bishop Dwenger

I have now visited all four of our diocesan high schools! I celebrated Mass on Monday, April 19, at Bishop Dwenger High School and then visited classrooms and enjoyed lunch with a group of amazing student leaders. My visits to Bishop Dwenger and to all of our high schools have been some of the best experiences so far for me here in the diocese. I am greatly grateful to see the young faith formation going on in our high schools, a formation that is evident to me as I speak with the students and enjoy their company.

At Bishop Dwenger High School, I received a tour from the principal, Mr. Fred Tone. He has served at Bishop Dwenger for 42 years, the past 16 years as principal. He has truly done an outstanding job. Everyone I spoke with shared with me a great admiration for Mr. Tone’s leadership and example of faith. He will certainly be greatly missed, yet his service has left a lasting mark on this community and in the lives of thousands of young people. Let us pray that the Lord will bless Mr. Tone with good health and much happiness as he retires. Thank you, Mr. Tone, for your service and for your commitment to the noble mission of Catholic education!

Redeemer Radio

This past Wednesday, I was privileged to be a guest at the start of the annual Shashon for our Catholic radio station in Fort Wayne, Redeemer Radio. I spent an hour on the air from 7-8 a.m. with enjoyable opportunity to talk about our faith and to offer my support to this important and holy apostolate. Redeemer Radio is a great means of evangelization and catechesis. I wish to thank all the dedicated employees and volunteers who serve in this apostolate. It has my blessing and my strong support, especially as it embarks on new endeavors to increase local programming and to expand its area of broadcast. May the Lord bless these endeavors!

Moreau Seminary

I am very happy that we have a seminary in our diocese. I felt very much at home during my first visit to Moreau Seminary at the University of Notre Dame, where I celebrated Mass on April 22. It was great to meet the seminarians and the seminary staff, under the wonderful leadership of Father Patrick Neary, CSC. Father Neary will celebrate his 50th year as a priest this year as he is being transferred to serve at the Holy Cross Seminary in Kenya. Thank you, Father Neary, for your spiritual leadership at Moreau. May the Lord watch over you as you continue your priestly ministry in Africa!

As you probably know, Moreau Seminary is an institution of the Congregation of Holy Cross and is named after the foundress of Holy Cross Seminary in Kenya. Thank you, Father Neary, for your spiritual leadership at Moreau. May the Lord watch over you as you continue your priestly ministry in Africa!

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

...of the state’s major religious denominations issued a statement saying that “by codifying racial discrimination this law makes Arizona the laughingstock of the nation and a pariah on the international stage.”

In the statement, United Methodist Bishop Minerva Carcano of the Southwest Desert Conference said that through their social services, schools, congregations and workplaces, religious leaders “witness the human consequences of an inadequate, outdated system.”

Episcopal Bishop Kirk Smith said the law “offends the dignity of all Arizonans.” “The tendency to scapegoat a vulnerable population for Arizona’s economic stagnation and federal inaction on immigration issues is unworthy and counterproductive to the problems we face,” Bishop Smith said.

Bishop Kicanas said he expects the law’s implementation — in July, 90 days after signing — will be delayed by legal challenges.

The law would make it a crime to be in the United States illegally. Federal law treats that as a civil violation.

The law also would require police to make a “reasonable attempt” to determine legal status during “any lawful contact” and require immigrants to carry proof of their legal status, also not a requirement of federal law. It also makes activities such as soliciting work from public roads illegal and would allow anyone who does not believe a police officer or agency is sufficiently enforcing the law to file a lawsuit. Jesuit Father Sean Carroll, executive director of the Kino Border Initiative in southern Arizona and Northern Mexico told the Catholic Sun, newspaper of the Diocese of Phoenix, that the law “violates the dignity of the human person” and ultimately “undermines the safety of our community.”

Father Carroll said public safety depends upon trust between the community and the police and that the law will make that difficult.

“Crimes are committed and people feel like they’re going to have to report their legal status,” he said. The Kino Initiative aids immigrants after they’re deported from Arizona. The bigger issues will still happen on the border, he said, where drugs and human smuggling are rampant.

In signing the bill, Brewer emphasized that “racial profiling is illegal,” and that the law stipulates police need not ask residency status if it would impede a case.

Supporters of the legislation, who also gathered outside the Capitol hours before the signing, said, like Brewer, that the law is necessary because the federal government hasn’t acted to control border problems.

“This is just another step,” according to Robert Kuhn, a member of St. Luke Parish in Phoenix who belongs to the Minutemen border watch group. “The federal government won’t enforce the border, so states have to take it into their own hands.”

Volunteering on the border with the Minutemen, Kuhn said he has seen drug and human smuggling. Undocumented immigrants are “drugging on our society,” he said. “They have no right to do it.”

Contributing to this story was J.D. Long-Garcia in Phoenix.

Montserrat Arredondo and Rosie Villegas-Smith lead other protesters in the rosary April 21 outside the the Arizona Capitol in Phoenix. More than 100 people turned out to urge Gov. Jan Brewer to veto a bill recently passed by the Legislature, which would make being in the United States illegally a crime.

"the governor made a huge mistake. By signing this bill, she's nationalized this issue. This opens up a dangerous precedent for the rest of the country." REP. RAUL GRIJALVA, D-ARIZ.
Bishop Rhoades talks on vocation discernment at Moreau Seminary

BY DIANE FREEBY

NOTRE DAME — “Discernment of the call to the priesthood is more than an intellectual exercise. Yes, the mind is involved, but so must be the heart. In fact, it is there that one truly discovers the Lord’s call.”

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades shared his thoughts on priestly vocations last week at Moreau Seminary at the University of Notre Dame. He was welcomed by 1994 Saint Joseph’s High School alum, Father James Gallagher, a Holy Cross priest recently named director of the Office of Vocations for the Indiana Province. Father David Tyson, provincial superior of the Indiana Province then introduced the bishop to an auditorium filled with priests, religious, seminarians and others interested in discerning the priestly vocation.

“He cannot truly speak of the Catholic priesthood without reference to the priesthood of Christ,” he said, quoting St. Thomas Aquinas, “Only Christ is the true priest, the others being his ministers.”

Bishop Rhoades said both the common priesthood and the ministerial priesthood are a participation in the one priesthood of Christ. The whole Christian community is a priestly one, he said, but in order to effectively teach and lead, priests must first make their relationship with Jesus the center of their lives.

“Through the ministerial priesthood,” explained Bishop Rhoades, referring to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “the Lord Jesus unceasingly builds up and leads his Church. For this reason it is transmitted by its own sacrament, the sacrament of Holy Orders.”

Bishop Rhoades emphasized the need for young men to first have a personal encounter with Christ if they are to be truly able to respond to God’s call to the priesthood.

“In our own lives and in the lives of those we invite to consider the priestly vocation,” explained Bishop Rhoades, “it is necessary to encounter Christ in prayer, to encounter Him in the Word, most especially in the Gospels, to encounter Him in the sacraments, especially in the Eucharistic Sacrifice and in Eucharistic Adoration. It is necessary also to encounter the merciful and compassionate High Priest in the sacrament of Penance.”

Father Gregory Haake, who was ordained a Holy Cross priest three years ago, said that reminder of mercy helps him assist other young men with their discernment. He was thrilled with Bishop Rhoades’ talk.

“This was the first time I heard him speak on the priesthood and I found it absolutely wonderful!” said Father Haake. “It was a wonderful reflection on the priestly relationship to Christ. It was very rich!”

Father Stephen Koeth is assistant director of the Old College Program at Notre Dame, working with 20 undergraduates who are in Holy Cross formation while pursuing their degree at Notre Dame. He appreciated Bishop Rhoades’ emphasis on the Christological and scriptural roots of the priesthood.

“Our own prayer, our own relationship with Christ forms and changes so we can then help form and teach and govern and sanctify the people of God,” said Father Koeth. “It all starts with our personal relationship with Christ. Everything else comes out of that.”

Bishop Rhoades made time after his talk to sit down for a one-on-one interview with a young man working on a vocation video for his high school theology class. When asked how young people can best discern what God is asking of them, Bishop Rhoades emphasized the need for personal prayer.

“Find some good priests or other holy people you can talk to about it, that you can share what’s going on in your heart,” he added. “But I think in the end it’s that quiet, one-on-one conversation with Christ.”

Recalling his own moment of discernment to the priesthood while praying at the Lourdes Grotto at Mount St. Mary’s College, Bishop Rhoades said the Blessed Mother also strengthens and nurtures that encounter with Jesus.
Orders.

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Saints was sung by the choir and

St. Turibius Chapel, the Litany of

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candidate also pledged his obedi-

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declared his intention to undertake

ordination, offering humble and

devoted assistance to the bishop,

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Pope encourages vocations, calls for protecting the people

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI called for prayer and encouragement to nourish new vocations within the Church, and reminded priests that it is their job to vigorously defend their flocks from evil. Pope Benedict marked the World Day of Prayer for Vocations by telling the faithful in St. Peter's Square April 25 that vocations are born primarily through prayer, and that they can be nourished by the prayers of parents and ordained clergy. By reciting the “Regina Coeli,” Pope Benedict said that “the most important form of witness in inspiring vocations is prayer,” and he invited parents to pray so that the hearts of your children open to listen to the Good Shepherd. The pope emphasized the role of the priest in protecting the people they are chosen to lead and steering them to God. Quoting the Gospel of St. John, the pope said, “Only the Good Shepherd, with immense tenderness, guards his flock and defends it from evil, and only in him can the faithful put their absolute confidence.” Pope Benedict reminded priests and bishops of their responsibility to “adhere totally to their vocation and mission through a severe self-discipline of abstinence and meditation. They should be ready to listen and forgive the faithful in their care, and should also cultivate priestly fraternity,” he said.

Legal minds debate whether Obama executive order on abortion will stick

WASHINGTON (CNS) — One of the biggest questions remaining as implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act begins is whether the executive order on abortion funding signed by President Barack Obama will be effective in replacing any expanded use of taxpayer funds for abortion. Legal experts and members of Congress disagree about the impact of the president’s March 24 Executive Order 13355, “Ensuring Enforcement and Implementation of Abortion Restrictions in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.” Anthony Picarello, general counsel for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and Edward E. Schaefer, associate general counsel, said in a nine-page legal analysis that the executive order is likely to face court challenges and does not resolve problems on abortion funding and conscience protection in the health reform law. “Where the order purports to fix a shortcoming of the act in these areas, it is highly likely to be legally invalid; and where the order is highly likely to be legally valid, it does nothing to fix those shortcomings,” they said. Rep. Bart Stupak, D-Mich., a key player in the health reform debate, said executive orders “have been important means of implementing public policy” throughout history, noting that President George W. Bush used Executive Order 13435 in 2007 to limit the use of federal funds for embryonic stem-cell research. “This executive order followed the principle of the sanctity of life, and was applauded and welcomed by the pro-life community,” said Stupak. “That these same people would now claim President Obama’s executive order maintaining that same principle is not worth the paper it is written on is disingenuous.”

Death of pioneering civil rights leader challenges new generation

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The April 20 death of Dorothy Height— an advocate for civil rights and women’s equality for more than six decades— challenges people today to continue her work to make sure her legacy continues, said Catholic leaders. “We consider her to be a Harriet Tubman who passed the torch on to us. Her courage and outreach will continue to be a guiding light for our organization,” said Sister Roberta Fulton, president of the National Black Sisters’ Conference and a Sister of St. Mary of Namur. Sister Fulton told Catholic News Service in an e-mail that Height’s “legacy and good works will live on.” Height, who was United Methodist, was 98 when she died in Washington.

Report: Pope to create Vatican department for ‘new evangelization’

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI is planning to create a Department of the Holy See department charged with overseeing the “re-evangelization” of traditionally Christian countries, an Italian newspaper reported. The Pontifical Council for the New Evangelization will be announced in an apostolic letter being prepared by the pope and will be headed by Italian Archbishop Rino Fisichella, Il Giornale said April 25. The Vatican had no immediate comment on the report.

Papal assailant Agca wants meeting with Pope Benedict in Fatima

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Turk who tried to kill Pope John Paul II in 1981, Mehmet Ali Agca, wants to meet with Pope Benedict XVI at the Marian shrine of Fatima in May, news reports said. The Vatican had no plans to meet Agca. The Italian news agency ANSA said Agca’s request was made by his lawyer through the Vatican papal office. As a sign of support for the pontiff April 21, the Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, said: “Such an encounter is not on the schedule.” Agca had previously asked the Portuguese government for permission to attend annual ceremonies May 13 in Fatima, which will be presided over by Pope Benedict this year. The German pope is going to Portugal from May 11 to 14 to mark the 50th anniversary of the apparition of Blessed Francisco and Jacinta Marto, two of the shepherd children who saw Our Lady of Fatima in 1917. Agca shot and seriously wounded Pope John Paul at St. Peter’s Square on May 13, 1981, the feast of Our Lady of Fatima. He was apprehended immediately, tried in an Italian court and sentenced to life in prison.

Archbishop thanks God for safety of toddler abandoned in New York

NEW YORK (CNS) — Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of New York expressed gratitude that those who abandoned a 3-year-old Florida boy in St. Patrick’s Cathedral knew “there is always a sanctuary at the Church.” Nathaniel Foor had been the subject of a nationwide Amber Alert after his mother, Erin Comeau, 26, was arrested in Florida March 18 on charges of grand theft auto and organized fraud. She reportedly had more than $5,000 in fake $100 bills at the time of her arrest. Comeau told police that Nathaniel was traveling with her friends Eleanor Black and William Scott and their children; surveillance footage at St. Patrick’s showed a woman who was identified as Black dropping the toddler off at the cathedral on the evening of April 20. “Thanks be to God He is all right,” Archbishop Dolan told reporters. “I was so distressed last night when I heard about it, but then I thought thanks be to God he is safe.”

Amid death threats, Christians find ‘there is no future in Iraq’

BEIRUT, Lebanon (CNS) — The death threat came as no surprise to Ihab Ephraim Khodor, an Iraqi Christian. He had seen it happen to other Christians around Mosul, in northern Iraq, where he lived. Year after year there had been plenty of vague and general threats before he received a personal threat just before Iraq’s March 7 elections. Khodor knew it was only a matter of time before such a threat came his way. His expectation is inked into his right wrist. In Khodor’s student days in the early 2000s, he began to get a personal threat just before Iraq’s March 7 elections. Khodor knew it was only a matter of time before such a threat came his way. His expectation is inked into his right wrist. In Khodor’s student days in the early 2000s, he began to get a
Mayor Thomas C. Henry to speak at the USF commencement

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis (USF) has announced that the university’s commencement ceremonies will be held on Saturday, May 1, at 2 p.m. at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum. Fort Wayne Mayor Tom Henry will give the Commencement address.

Graduating seniors Nicole Marie Turner and Delray Payton Davis will deliver the invocation. School valedictorians of the class of 2010 are Monica Elizabeth Eichman, Justin D. Vela, Amanda Elizabeth Joseph, Carissa Megan Haber and April Sue Schuster. Approximately 465 students will be graduating.

Mayor Henry was elected to the city’s highest office on Nov. 6, 2007. From 1984 to 2004, he served on Fort Wayne’s City Council, representing northwest Fort Wayne residents in the 3rd District.

A successful small-business owner for more than two decades, Mayor Henry earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology and a master of business administration (MBA) from the University of Saint Francis. He is a graduate of Fort Wayne Central Catholic High School.

The baccalaureate Mass will be held on Saturday, May 1, at 9:30 a.m., at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Catholics and their families and friends of all faith traditions are warmly welcomed and encouraged to attend this service.

St. Anthony School offers summer care program

SOUTH BEND — St. Anthony de Padua School is offering a summer care program from June 7 through Aug. 17 at the school on the corner of Jefferson and Ironwood avenues. The program is open to any child registered at one of the Catholic elementary schools for the 2010-2011 school year.

Child care will be open to any child registered at one of the Catholic elementary schools for the 2010-2011 school year. The program will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The summer care staff has over 50 years of combined years of caring for, teaching and nurturing children in a Christian environment. They are CPR trained.

The summer program will include arts and crafts, computer lab, indoor and outdoor games, outside play on playground and field, theme days, picnics, field trips and onsite learning and demonstrations.

An informational flyer and registration forms in both English and Spanish can be found on the school’s Web site at www.stanthonynds.org or by calling the school at (574) 233-7169.

Victory Noll program looks at Catholicism in Indiana

HUNTINGTON — The program “Catholicism in Early Indiana” will be presented May 4 at Victory Noll Center by Jeff Hoffman, archivist for Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters.

The program will be held at 7 p.m. at Victory Noll Center, located at 1900 W. Park Dr. in Huntington.

Hoffman will examine the history of the Catholic faith in the Hoosier state, beginning with the arrival of French missionaries in the 17th century and continuing into the 20th century. Local topics include Huntington County’s involvement in the “Irish War,” as well as the early years of Father John F. Noll before he received the red hat as bishop of the local diocese. Bishop Noll was one of the early benefactors of the Victory Noll Sisters and was instrumental in locating the congregation in Huntington.

Hoffman has a bachelor of arts in history from St. Meinrad College and a master’s degree in history from Butler University, where his thesis dealt with 19th century German Catholicism in southwestern Indiana. Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters is a religious community of women dedicated to serving the poor in the name of Christ. Founded in 1922 by Father John Joseph Sigstein, the members of the Victory Noll community are named after those in need in 12 states.

ST. JOSEPH-ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL ALUMNI NAMED 2010 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

FORT WAYNE — Saint Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School announced that nine Saint Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School alumni were nominated for the annual Sterling Sentinel Scholarships sponsored by the News-Sentinel. According to the News-Sentinel, “The Sterling Sentinel Scholarships recognize outstanding achievement by students in Allen, DeKalb and Whitley counties. Schools nominate seniors in the various award categories. Students then have an interview with a panel of judges, who select the following year’s winners."

Alumni nominees include Abigail Christian (arts), Erin Conroy (business), Nicholas Abbott (drama), Amanda Gigli (English), Ethan Gregerson (foreign language), Elizabeth Williams (foreign language), Tyler Campus (industrial-technical), Kristopher Andorfer (music), and Alexander Yaney (social studies).

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Bishop Rhoades makes pastoral visit to Bishop Dwenger

BY MARY KINDER

FORT WAYNE — It was Monday morning at Bishop Dwenger High School, but not a typical one. In the parking lot, a few students stood in a small huddle, anxiously waiting. Inside, a somewhat loud throng of students made their way through the hallways, happy to be relieved of their studies, waiting for their cue.

As the music began and Bishop Rhoades entered the gym, everything seamlessly fell into place and Mass began.

In his homily, Bishop Rhoades took the opportunity to tell the students a bit about himself and his background. He then took note of the high school’s nickname — the Saints — and said he liked that the name serves as a constant reminder that we are all called to be saints. He said this call to holiness is one of the reasons Catholic schools exist.

While giving further explanation of the morning’s readings, which focused on St. Stephen, Bishop Rhoades reminded those in attendance that this particular day marked the fifth anniversary of Pope Benedict XVI’s election. He used the anniversary to briefly touch on the current challenges facing the pope.

He said the story of St. Stephen, who was falsely accused of blasphemy by enemies of the Church, reminded him of the recent criticisms of Pope Benedict. Bishop Rhoades attested that, “No one has fought harder against the terrible crime of child abuse than Pope Benedict.” He then questioned the motives of those attacking the pope, saying they may have another agenda against the Church.

Bishop Rhoades spoke of the power of Catholic education, saying the students have received the opportunity to live their faith while in high school. But, he acknowledged that it’s not always easy to be a true Catholic believer in today’s culture and warned students that they may face subtle forms of persecution as they move on to college. He reminded the students that all of us are called to bear witness to Christ and told them they shouldn’t be afraid to speak the truth. He said they shouldn’t worry about popularity but about their ultimate destiny. Bishop Rhoades challenged Dwenger students to “stand up for what is right and holy.” He finished his homily with a prayer for them, “to be good, faithful and holy witnesses of Jesus Christ in this community.”

Following Mass, Bishop Rhoades accepted gifts from the school, including a shirt from the students and Bishop Rhoades took the opportunity to tell the students a bit about himself and his background. He then took note of the high school’s nickname — the Saints — and said he liked that the name serves as a constant reminder that we are all called to be saints. He said this call to holiness is one of the reasons Catholic schools exist.

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Fort Wayne, England meet via video exchange

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Technology has allowed a special exchange between sixth-grade students of St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, and fifth-year pupils of St. Benedict’s School in Handforth, England.

Using Skype and Smart Boards the two Catholic schools connected at 9:30 a.m. Fort Wayne time and 2:30 p.m. in England on Thursday, April 22.

The visit was arranged, shortly after St. Benedict’s School’s headmaster, James Gallogly, visited the diocese for the installation of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades in January. Gallogly and St. John the Baptist Principal Jane Sandor arranged the exchange, which Sandor hopes will be a monthly exchange between the classes.

Pupils, as students are called in England, from Carole Harding’s class, exchanged questions and answers with Lisa Zimmerman’s sixth-grade class at St. John the Baptist. The students have exchanged e-mails and Power Point presentations explaining what life is like in Handforth and Fort Wayne.

With an easy connection, students were quickly exchanging comments. What time does school begin? At St. John the Baptist, classes begin at 8 a.m.; at St. Benedict’s School, 9 a.m.

What kind of sports do the students enjoy? At St. John the Baptist, the roster includes the usual CYO sports; but in England, criquette is the sport. The English students, whose school has 195 pupils, thought the 300 students of St. John the Baptist was a large school.

The Indiana students were quite impressed when Harding showed the glockenspiel to the American students.

Sixth graders at St. John the Baptist returned Wednesday from a trip to the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Mich. The St. Benedict pupils told of their two-day field trip to a castle.

The students exchanged tidbits on first Communions. In both places, seven was the age for first Communions. While first Communions were held at St. John the Baptist last weekend, they will be held in May at St. Benedict’s.

In spare time, the English pupils enjoy rugby and piano. The American students mentioned participating in sports such as soccer, track, volleyball, hanging out with friends and playing video games.

This initial video cast was a get-acquainted time where ideas were shared, Sandor indicated.

“A project such as this requires the efforts of many people,” Sandor said. “At St. John the Baptist, Johnathan Brouwer, parent, and Bill Combs, Intuitive Technology consultant, have coordinated the technology needs with test runs last week.”

Dr. Mark Myers, superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, is in support of this venture.

“We hope there will be several more learning opportunities for students in England and Fort Wayne,” Sandor added.

Students in Lisa Zimmerman’s sixth-grade St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne, class, connect with pupils at St. Benedict’s School in Handforth, England. With the aid of Skype and the Smart Boards, students between the two Catholic schools connected with video and audio and exchanged questions about uniforms, activities and food they like.

Vince LaBarbera contributed to this story
him to Indiana. Formed under Bishop Rhoades, the Franciscans Minor faithfully follow the Rule of 1223, living just as the saint did in the 13th century. The bishop suggested the Franciscans as possible future guests for the class.

After visits to more classrooms, Bishop Rhoades joined a group of students for lunch. Seated at the table with the bishop were members of student government and campus ministers. Again, they all seemed excited to talk to the bishop and completely at ease with him.

When asked what he thought of their school, Bishop Rhoades was quick to answer, “very impressed!” He smiled and added, “The students are great and seem excited about their Catholic faith. Our mission of Catholic education is being fulfilled.”
Father Larry Kramer celebrates 50 years

BY MARK WEBER

COLUMBIA CITY — Swimming has been a favorite activity of Father Larry Kramer since he was a boy, and he continues to do it as a form of enjoyable exercise on a nearly daily basis.

Learning to swim, however, brought about an occasion when he was faced with a conflict of his mother and Mother Church. As youngsters at Cathedral Grade School in Fort Wayne, Larry and his younger brother, Roger, were made emphatically aware, by Father Eugene Zimmerman, pastor, that a Church teaching of the time, stated that Catholics were forbidden to join the YMCA because it was church.

At home, the boys were told by their mother that, “if you want to go to the lake this summer, you must learn to swim.” The boys responded with the “Zimmerman doctrine” regarding the YMCA and that was the only place where they could take swimming lessons.

Their mother’s reply was, “Well, unless Father Zimmerman teaches you to swim, you are not going to the lake!” For $2, the boys got a towel, swimming lessons at the “Y,” and avoided proselytism.

As a senior at Central Catholic (CC), Larry Kramer knew that he wanted to be a priest but was uncertain if that was also the heavenly plan. Suddenly one evening after choir practice at CC, as he waited at a bus stop in front of the cathedral, he realized that he should go forward with plans for the priesthood, with the hope and prayer that if it were not the right thing for him, God would let him down easily.

His seminary training began close to home at Our Lady of the Lake Seminary at Lake Wawasee, and from there to St. Meinrad and was ordained by Bishop Leo Parsley on May 28, 1960.

Father Kramer’s first assignment as an associate pastor at St. Matthew Cathedral in South Bend, followed by assignments at St. Peter and St. Andrew parishes in Fort Wayne.

In 1973, Father moved to St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Elkhart; returning to Fort Wayne five years later residing at the cathedral and St. Joseph parishes while he continued Campus Ministry work he had begun in 1969.

In 1981, he was appointed pastor of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, Fort Wayne and as a judge in the Marriage Tribunal, a post he would hold for 30 years.

In 1997, Father became pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Bluffton and chaplain at Bishop Luers High School.

Over the years, Father Kramer has served as an episcopal vicar and as a member of the Presbyteral Council. Since 2003, he has been pastor of St. Paul of the Cross Parish in Columbia City.

When asked about the best part of being a Catholic priest, Father Larry Kramer allows that although it is difficult to narrow it down, two reasons stand out: Father finds deep spiritual satisfaction in sharing the sacrament of Reconciliation, and the other is offering Holy Mass.

There is no hesitation on Father’s part when asked what is the most difficult part of priesthood. “Weddings! Not Marriage, Marriage is beautiful and should be regarded as such. But with a wedding, you have a group of people with different expectations that are not realized, and it is like trying to head off a war.”

A favorite scriptural passage of Father Kramer’s is the one about the awakened Eli telling young Samuel to respond to a call in the night by saying “Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.”

Father has counseled others, using this passage, advising them to pray, and say, “Lord, what would you have me do.”

To celebrate his golden jubilee, Father Kramer will offer Mass at the regular time on May 22, followed by a reception at a club in the area where he will rejoice in the midst of parishioners, other friends and family and be silently thankful for each golden moment.

Our Deep and Everlasting Appreciation for Your 50 Years of Service, Father Larry

We thank God for your 50 years as a priest, so rich in grace, and we pray the Lord will grant you many more years of beautiful priestly life.

St. Paul of the Cross Parishioners
Columbia City, Indiana

The Priest Jubilarians honored in this issue, are “the apple of his eye” and good shepherds among us. Thank you Father, for all you do!
Witness of joy is key to promoting vocations, pope says

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The witness of a life lived joyfully and prayerfully is the key to attracting new vocations to the priesthood and religious life, Pope Benedict XVI said.

In his message for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, that was observed April 25, the pope said that while the call to priesthood and religious life comes from God, “it is also helped by the quality and depth of the personal and communal witness” of priests and religious.

“God’s free and gracious initiative encounters and challenges the human responsibility of all those who accept his invitation to become, through their own witness, the instruments of his divine call,” the pope wrote in the message released Feb. 16.

The pope said that especially for priests, but also for religious brothers and sisters, there are three areas of life where a personal example is particularly important for helping others see what answering God’s call can mean:

• Friendship with Christ through prayer and Bible reading, which demonstrates how abiding in God’s love fills a person with the desire to share that experience with others.

• The complete gift of oneself to God, which makes a person able to give himself or herself completely to others as well.

• “A life of communion” and of openness to others, which means being able to draw people together, help them overcome their differences and offer each other forgiveness.

In a world often marked by materialism, self-centeredness and individualism, the pope said, the complete fidelity of priests and religious to God and to serving others is usually a sign of contradiction, but one that shows others where true joy is found.

“If young people see priests who appear distant and sad, they will hardly feel encouraged to follow their example,” he said.

The text of the pope’s message in English is online at: www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/vocations/documents/hf_ben-xvi_mes_20091113_xlviii-vocations_en.html

Pope Benedict XVI blesses a newly ordained priest during a Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican April 29, 2007. At the Mass, the pope pleaded for vocations worldwide as he marked the annual celebration of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Father Patrick McNulty observes 50 years of priesthood

BY VINCE LABARBERA

ONTARIO, Canada — From his home in Ontario, Canada, Father Patrick McNulty — a retired priest of our diocese for 50 years of priesthood this month — writes:

“One of my first childhood memories, in a family of eight siblings, at about age four or five, (1935 or 1936), was standing out in the backyard of our homestead in Huntington hearing the bells from the Capuchin monastery in the distance. I remember fierce tears and I knew that one day my heart would ring like those bells.

I never knew how or when but I knew it would have a lot to do with the Capuchins over the years, and it did. I also knew the bells could ring even if I had never become a priest — believe it or not — Huntington was filled with wonderful lay people.

“But on May 28, 1960, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, when Bishop Leo A. Pursley, of blessed memory, ordained four of us for the diocese, the bells rang for me and they have never ceased ringing since.

“Sometimes they are bells of joy: my many assignments over the years beginning (in Fort Wayne) at St. John the Baptist, the cathedral, St. Henry’s, St. Andrew’s, Our Lady of Hungary, teaching at Central Catholic (still the best high school the diocese ever had), two years in Jerusalem and the Sinai Desert, the 12 wonderful years at St. John Neumann Poustinia House on the old St. Vincent’s Villa property on Jacobs Street (Fort Wayne). But the greatest joy has been the people of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Living and serving them from the altar and being loved by them are one of our greatest blessings as priests — bells of joy!

“But the bells are sometimes bells of sadness: the demise of so many of my brother priests in the ’60s and ’70s, the emotional and theological chasms following Vatican II, the political and social injustices of the ’60s and ’70s, and the heart-rending realization that after so many years I myself am still far from the fullness of Priesthood. But thank God for the sacrament of Reconciliation, for merciful Scripture filled with images of mercy and love — one of my favorites is the humble blind man from Jericho and his blessed cry of the name of Jesus. And finally, thank God for the Church, a mystery filled with joy that is there for the taking if we are open to it.

“Regarding hobbies and how I re-energize, I think my hobby is life: people, music, literature, waving to a neighbor, petting someone’s dog, stopping to talk to a beggar, quiet before the Blessed Sacrament, cleaning my outhouse and getting the wood ready for the winter. Life. Come to think of it, that’s what re-energizes me as well.

“P.S. Do you hear bells?”

Witness of joy is key to promoting vocations, pope says
Father Richard Hire celebrates 40 years of priesthood

BY DENISE FEDOROW

SYRACUSE — Father Richard Paul Hire has traveled the world and the diocese in his 40 years as a priest. A Fort Wayne native, Father Hire was ordained May 30, 1970 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne.

He was born July 1, 1944 in Fort Wayne to Richard J. Hire and Lucille Uebre Hire. His father started Hire’s Auto Parts in Fort Wayne, which is still family owned and operated. His parents had nine children — two boys died in infancy. Three sisters, Pamela Sanders (Fort Wayne), Cheryl Putnam (Tuscon, Ariz.) and Mary Lou Hire (Evergreen, Colo.) and three brothers — James (Arizona) and Thomas and Charles who both operate the family business. Father Hire said both sides of the family were very religious and an uncle on his mom’s side was a priest, which influenced his decision to join the priesthood.

His first assignment was assistant pastor at St. Charles in Fort Wayne, then principal at Huntington Catholic High School. He was diocesan director of religious education and for one year also pastor at St. Peter’s in Fort Wayne.

Father Hire was religious education director at St. Patrick in Fort Wayne and then was pastor at St. Thomas in Elkhart where he stayed for “quite a while.” From St. Thomas he went to St. John the Baptist in New Haven and then Queen of Peace in Mishawaka before moving to St. Martin de Porres in Syracuse of which he said, “I hope to stay here, it’s wonderful.”

Father Hire said the best part of being a priest is how close he feels to God and being able to help people in a worthwhile way.

The best part of being a priest is how close he feels to God and being able to help people in a worthwhile way.

He really didn’t find anything difficult about his vocation except those rare occasions when he might’ve had to deal with difficult people; but he said he was “immune” and added that he enjoys working with people of all ages and income levels.

One way he recharges and relaxes is to be sure to have a good meal for supper. He also loves to travel — something he hasn’t been able to do much of the last couple of years as he helped care for his ailing mother who recently died. But he said his parish’s location on Lake Wawasee is “like a vacation 12 months a year.”

When he is able to travel he likes to visit destinations of biblical and religious importance and said there are a few such sites he’d still like to see — the Black Sea, and take a Mediterranean cruise with stops in Malta, Carthage. He’s already traveled to Australia, New Zealand, South America and most of Europe.

Aside from traveling, he enjoys writing his column for Today’s Catholic following the travels of St. Paul. He said showing people the various religious sites throughout the world “shows the accuracy of the Bible and our faith ... seeing it with your own eyes makes it real and not like a fairy tale.”

His favorite prayer is the Hail Mary, and he said, “If I’m on a bad plane ride I like the Act of Contrition.”

He said there is “so much going on” in this Year for Priests and mentioned he thought it was very nice that Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades does a Holy Hour with the priests.

“Father Dick” as he said most call him, will celebrate his jubilee a little early, since May 30 falls during the Memorial Day holiday — a busy time at St. Martin de Porres Parish. So on May 23, after the last Mass, a special dinner will be held in honor of his jubilee and will be open to the parish.

Seminarians of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

CONGRATULATIONS

Msgr. Bernard Galic
and thank you for your faithful example to the Lord

Deacon Andrew Budzinski
Deacon Matthew Coonan
Deacon Terrence Coonan, Jr.
  Jacob Meyer
  Benjamin Muhlenkamp
  Christopher Lapp

Royce Gregerson
  Zachary Barry
  Matthew Soberalski
  Cristian Reyes
  Joseph Becker
  Jonathan Norton

Brandon McCaffery
  Daniel Davis
  Christoper Sindelar
  Thomas Zehr
  Nathan Maskal
FATHER DERRICK SNEYD celebrates 40th jubilee

BY KAY COZAD

AUBURN — “Every year is a great year,” says Father Derrick Sneyd, pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Auburn, of the 40 years he has spent serving God’s people as a priest. “The 40th year places a deeper reflection on the gifts we are given and how we use them in accumulative ministries and in the priesthood,” he reflects. And those gifts he speaks of are varied and plentiful.

Born the middle child to Stuart and Gladys Sneyd, in Khargpur, India, in 1945, the bright young Sneyd received an exemplary Catholic education throughout his academic years, where he had “very good role models” in the order priests that ran the schools. His youth was made more memorable, he says, by the close friendship shared with Blessed Mother Teresa.

The young Sneyd’s faith formation was positively influenced by his family, particularly his mother, and he recalls a calling to the priesthood as a child. It was following graduation from St. Aloysius Anglo-Indian High School at age 16 that he answered that long percolating call and entered St. Charles Seminary. While in seminary Father Sneyd earned a bachelor of arts degree and went on to eventually earn degrees in education, divinity and counseling from various universities.

Father Sneyd was ordained into the holy priesthood on Oct. 18, 1970 by Bishop Eugene D’Souza in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India and served as the secretary to Archbishop of Bhopal from 1970 to 1972. He arrived in the U.S. in 1972 where he served as associate pastor at Our Lady of Hungary in South Bend and entered postgraduate studies. He also has served in the South Bend Marriage Tribunal, on the Presbyteral Counsel and at Marian High School in South Bend as teacher.

During his 40-year ministry Father Sneyd has served as pastor in several parishes in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, including St. Stanislaus Kostka, New Carlisle, St. Thomas the Apostle, Elkhart, St. John the Baptist, New Haven, St. Monica, Mishawaka, St. Jude, South Bend, St. Mary of the Assumption, South Bend, and St. Anthony de Padua, South Bend. He was incardinated into the diocese in 1984.

The most enriching part of his priesthood, Father Sneyd says, is “sharing in the faith life of the community, growing with them and learning from them. … Being there for the people in their sacramental needs.” He continues, “The priesthood is sanctification of one’s self as well as the people of God. I grow holy, through me they grow holy, and through them I grow holy.”

This sharing of faith is only diminished by the unrealistic expectations sometimes placed on the only too human priests, says Father Sneyd. He works to support his flock in the best ways he can with prayer and reflection in the mix.

Father Sneyd’s favorite Scripture passage is the Prodigal Son. “The real focus is on the older son and … I reflect in my own life how I should not fall prey to the passion of anger which is so negative and destructive,” he says. The good Father considers himself a positive person and expands that positive nature into his ministry as well as his personal life, where he enjoys the culinary arts, especially Italian cuisine.

His love of reading, sports and music also brings him joy. Father Sneyd revels in travel including his annual visits home to India each January. As for being a priest Father Sneyd says, “Now, in my 40th year of priesthood, I would say the best part of being Catholic is the ability to introduce myself as ‘I am Derrick Sneyd, a Roman Catholic priest.’ This often leads into a conversation which gives me the opportunity to witness to the person of Jesus Christ.”

After the initial introduction however, many just call him Father D.

Jubilee celebrations for Father Sneyd are currently in the works at Immaculate Conception Parish. And the jubilarian is excited about the prospect of an inaugural reunion of his seminary class that will take place in January 2011.

“Sharing the faith is only diminished by the unrealistic expectations sometimes placed on the only too human priests,” says Father Sneyd.

FATHER DERRICK SNEYD

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish extends congratulations

Father Richard Hire

as he celebrates the 40th anniversary of his ordination in the priesthood of Jesus Christ.

And with appreciation for his years as pastor at St. Thomas (1991-1999), we offer prayerful best wishes.

ST. HEDWIG TRADITION IS TRULY A FAMILY AFFAIR FOR WEGNER FAMILY

When their mother passed away a few years ago, it took on a new meaning for the Wegner family. The siblings are a tight-knit group who grew up at St. Hedwig in South Bend. April has always been the month for the parish mother-daughter breakfast, and for 16 years, the sisters helped organize it. When their mother passed away a few years ago, it took on a special meaning for the family. This year marked the first time all seven sisters were able to attend the breakfast together. Father Wegner, who is a chaplain for the cloister Carmelite Nuns in Ada, Mich., celebrated Mass. Figured with Father Wegner are sisters Rita Kencham of St. Hedwig, Clarice Cabral of Naples, Fla., Jeanette Grohowski of St. Hedwig, Mary Jo Krisor of St. Hedwig, Teri Halgren of Mesa, Ariz., Geri Oppenheim of Corpus Christi and Gretchen Mehall of St. Matthew Cathedral.

Congratulations to

FATHER DERRICK SNEYD

on the 40th anniversary of your ordination.

You are fondly remembered by many friends at St. Thomas the Apostle parish, Elkhart as our pastor 1986 to 1991.

St. Joseph Parish Bluffton sends best wishes to

Father Larry Kramer

our pastor 1997-2003 on the occasion of his Golden Jubilee.
Msgr. Bernard Galic celebrates 40th anniversary to the priesthood

**By Diane Freeby**

SOUTH BEND — Never underestimate the power of a pastor when it comes to vocations. Msgr. Bernard Galic, pastor of Holy Family Parish on South Bend’s west side, will celebrate his 40th jubilee this August. He says it was the pastor of his small boyhood parish who inspired his priestly vocation.

The selfless dedication of Msgr. Joseph Schmidt, who labored in a mission church serving three Pennsylvania counties, made a strong impression on the second son of Frank and Ursula Galic. The family regularly attended Mass at St. Bernard Parish in New Bloomfield, and although there was no parish school, Msgr. Schmidt placed great emphasis on religious education classes.

“For four years in high school, he was my religion teacher,” recalls Msgr. Galic, who says by his junior year he was considering the priesthood. “I wanted to be just like him!”

The future monsignor, who attended public high school, entered a delayed vocations seminary where he studied two-years worth of Greek and Latin in one year, catching up with his classmates. He attended Sacred Heart School of Theology in Hales Corner, Wis., and was ordained a Sacred Heart priest Aug. 30, 1970. Changes came about in his boyhood parish who inspired his priestly vocation.

Msgr. Bernard Galic

Msgr. Galic began the transition to parish priesthood. In 1979, Bishop William McManus of the Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese welcomed him to St. Michael Parish in Plymouth where he became a diocesan priest in 1981. Msgr. Galic doesn’t hesitate when asked to describe the best part of being a priest.

“Saving souls!” he replies. “No one else can make Jesus present in the Eucharist, but a priest. No one else can forgive sins ... only a priest. Those are two unique things and they are paths to heaven for God’s people.”

Msgr. Galic has served the past 16 years as director of vocations. Seventeen seminarians are currently in formation, and 22 or more are anticipated next year. Msgr. Galic admits he doesn’t like using advertising campaigns to draw men to the priesthood. He says he leaves that part to God, emphasizing a man doesn’t have to decide right away if he should be a priest. His first decision is if he should be a seminarian.

“A seminarian is a young man who thinks God may be calling him to the priesthood, who has chosen to pursue a course of studies, along with other young men, who are making the same discernment in an atmosphere where they’ll have spiritual and academic encouragement.”

Msgr. Galic says one of the most challenging things about the priesthood is being “on duty 24-7.” He recalls Bishop John M. D’Arcy telling him a parish priest “lives over the store. You’re never closed!”

Msgr. Galic does manage a day off here and there, and enjoys occasional trips to Alaska where he fishes with his two younger brothers. He says he is spiritually recharged by his devotion to Our Lady and visiting the small Bosnian town where many people are reporting great conversions to the Catholic faith.

“When I go to Medjugorje, I am so glad that I am a priest, because of the great conversions I see going on in Medjugorje and the role that the Eucharist and Reconciliation has in facilitating those conversions,” explains Msgr. Galic. “I’m so glad I’m a priest when I’m there because I can help people come back to God.”

Although not officially recognized by the Church, the Vatican recently began investigating the alleged apparitions in Medjugorje. Msgr. Galic calls the four months he spent on sabbatical there in 1991 “one of the most beautiful times of my life.” He also believes many men identify their priestly vocations there.

Going from Father Galic to Msgr. Galic this past November still has folks guessing at what to call him.

“Technically, my new title is ‘Monsignor.’ I always tell the people, just don’t call me late for dinner!” deadpans Msgr. Galic, adding, “Msgr. Bernie is okay too! ... When you’re almost 70 and they change your name, it takes a lot of getting used to!”

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Msgr. Bernard Galic
Thank you,
Father Hire

For guiding your parishioners for 40 years, and for a lifetime of positive leadership in our family. Blessings on your anniversary, and best wishes from your brothers and sisters.

Pam Sandels, Cheryl Putnam, Jim Hire, Mary Lou Hire, Tom Hire and Charley Hire
NOTRE DAME — Twenty-four Sisters of the Holy Cross will celebrate their jubilees on Sunday, July 18, at 10:30 a.m. in the Church of Our Lady of Loretto at Saint Mary’s. Eleven of these sisters have taught or ministered in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Three sisters are celebrating 75 years since their first profession; 15 are celebrating 50 years; seven, 50 years; and three celebrated 25 years of vowed life, a collective 1,310 years.

75-year jubilarians

- Sister M. Clare Anne Rumschlag, who entered the congregation from St. Mary Parish, Decatur, taught at St. Vincent de Paul School in Elkhart in 1935. She also was a nurse and taught at Saint Joseph Hospital and School of Nursing, South Bend, from 1940 to 1949. She spent 1963 to 1964 nursing at Holy Cross House, Notre Dame. In 1964 she returned to Saint Joseph School of Nursing. She is now retired and living at Saint Mary’s, Notre Dame. Others celebrating their 75-year jubilees are Sisters Martha Neeser (Sister M. Ambrosia) and M. Josepha Cullen.

60-year jubilarians

The following sisters who are celebrating 60 have served in the diocese:

- Sister Joan Marie Steigmeyer (Sister M. ded) entered the congregation from Holy Cross Parish in South Bend. She taught from 1960 to 1964 at St. Vincent de Paul School in Elkhart. At present she is involved in prison ministry in Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Sister Frances B. O’Connor (Sister M. Francis Bernard) taught at Holy Cross School in South Bend in 1950. Currently, she works and is an adjunct professor of religious studies at Holy Cross College, Notre Dame.
- Sister Mary Ann Lamping (Sister M. Ethelita) taught at Christ the King School in South Bend from 1954 to 1959 and served as a chaplain at Saint Joseph Hospital, South Bend, from 1976 to 1977. She now does volunteer service at Saint Mary’s, Notre Dame.
- Sister M. Mary Carey taught at Sacred Heart School, Fort Wayne, from 1962 to 1968 and in 1970. From 1974 to 1991, she served as an elementary psychologist for the education department of the diocese.

50-year jubilarians

The following sisters who are celebrating 50 years have served in the diocese:

- Sister Angela Mary Carey taught at Holy Cross School in South Bend in 1961 and 1962; Sacred Heart School, Fort Wayne, in 1963; and Holy Cross School in 1964 and from 1971 to 1977. In 1978 she went to St. Jude School in South Bend. She taught theology and art and served as campus minister at Saint Joseph’s High School, South Bend, from 1980 to 1985 and returned there in 1991 to teach and coordinate retreats. She now coordinates the pastoral care at Saint Mary’s Convent, Notre Dame.
- Sister Kathleen Moroney (Sister Marie Venard) served as the finance controller at Saint Joseph Hospital, South Bend, from 1969 to 1973. She now practices immigration law at Holy Cross Ministries in Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Sister M. Arlene Kniola taught at Christ the King School, South Bend, in 1962; Sacred Heart School, Fort Wayne, in 1963; and Holy Cross School in 1964 and from 1971 to 1977. In 1978 she went to St. Jude School in South Bend. She taught theology and art and served as campus minister at Saint Joseph’s High School, South Bend, from 1980 to 1985 and returned there in 1991 to teach and coordinate retreats. She now coordinates the pastoral care at Saint Mary’s Convent, Notre Dame.

25-year jubilarians

- Sister Mary Anne Lamping (Sister M. Doris) taught at St. Thomas the Apostle School in Elkhart from 1967 to 1969. She served as school secretary at Christ the King School, in 1973 and at St. Joseph School, South Bend, from 1973-1975. In 1995 she went to St. Jude Parish, South Bend, where she directed the religious education and spirituality programs. Currently she does religious education and vocation ministry in Fort Portal, Uganda, Africa.

20-year jubilarians

- Sister Kathleen Reilly (Sister M. Walter) worked at the Holy Cross Health System in South Bend from 1991 to 1997. She has been the vice president, mission and corporate responsibility officer for Saint John’s Health System, Anderson, since 2001.
- Sister Mary Alice Bowler (Sister Marie Carl) worked as assistant administrator at Saint Joseph Hospital, South Bend, from 1974-1976. She recently returned to the United States from Uganda, Africa, where she served over 25 years in health ministry and leadership.

25-year jubilarians

Sisters Julie McGuire, Rani Catherine Gomes and Ani Monica Nguyen are celebrating 25 years of vowed life in the congregation. The Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross is an international community of women religious located at Saint Mary’s in Notre Dame.

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

Bishops launch national Web site to promote vocations to priesthood, consecrated life

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Bishops’ Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations initiated a new Web site on April 25 to be a resource for both laity and clergy in the promotion of vocations. The launch date was also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations and Good Shepherd Sunday.

The site has two goals:

- To help individuals hear and respond to the call by God to the priesthood or consecrated life, and
- To educate all Catholics on the importance of encouraging others through prayer and activities to promote vocations.

The vocations Web site can be found at www.YourVocation.org. A Spanish-language site will be available this fall at www.PorTuVocacion.org.

Site elements include discernment resources for men and women, respectively, aids for promoting a vocation culture within the home, and a range of tools for educators, youth leaders and vocation directors including prayers, videos, best practices, lesson plans and vocation awareness programs.

In response to Pope Benedict XVI’s 2010 Theme for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Witness Awakens Vocations, the Web site also hosts videos of priests and religious men and women giving witness to their vocations, as well as testimonies from family members.

ForYourVocation.org exemplifies the Vatican’s embrace of new communications media. In his message for the 44th World Day of Communications, Pope Benedict XVI challenges clergy to employ the “latest generation of audiovisual resources (images, videos, animated features, blogs, Web sites)” to put the media “ever more effectively at the service of the Word.”

The launch of the site will be promoted through social media forums. Facebook users can become “eVangelizers,” one can connect others to the Web site’s blog posts.
Questions about abortion in new law?

Since the recent passage of the “Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act,” scores of people have been contacting the Pro-Life Secretariat of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops with a multitude of questions, such as:

Does the new healthcare legislation actually provide federal funding for elective abortions? 
Answer: Yes.

Can individuals be forced to pay for other people’s abortions even if they are morally opposed?
Answer: Yes.

Are there new challenges to the consciences of individuals, employers and healthcare providers? 
Answer: Yes.

Didn’t President Obama’s Executive Order fix the abortion and conscience problems that the bishops had raised about this legislation? 
Answer: No.

For those interested in more in-depth answers, we offer callers a couple of helpful new resources developed by the bishops’ conference:

1. A one-page fact sheet called “Abortion Funding in the New Health Care Reform Act”:
   www.usccb.org/healthcare/Abort
2. A nine-page legal analysis of the abortion and conscience issues in the Act and President Obama’s subsequent Executive Order:
   www.usccb.org/healthcare/03-25-10Memo-re-
   Executive-Order-Final.pdf

Then there are callers with tactical questions, like:

Weren’t the bishops just out to kill healthcare reform all along? 
Answer: No.

Can anything be done to fix these problems? Answer: Yes.

For many, many months now the U.S. bishops have made statements and sent numerous letters to Congress with the message that our country needs reform that makes health care available to everybody, while killing nobody (www.usccb.org/healthcare/official_documents.shtml#rel cases).

The bishops have supported reform, but they made it very clear that no matter how much perceived good might be accomplished, such legislation must not promote a fundamental moral evil or force people to participate in that evil. Healthcare reform should not have become the vehicle for expanding abortion or challenging conscience protection. It was not the bishops who forced the issue, but congressional leaders themselves.

They refused to apply long-standing current policies on abortion funding and conscience rights to this legislation, all the while claiming that abortions were not being funded.

When it became clearer that congressional leaders would not back down, the bishops’ message to Congress was unambiguous as well. Just before the final vote, the bishops sent one more appeal to Congress that was introduced with a USCCB press release entitled: “Bishops to House of Representatives; Fix Flaws or Vote No on Health Reform Bill.”

It stated: “House leadership ... won’t even try to address the serious problems on abortion funding...(and are) ignoring conscience protection and fair treatment of immigrants.”

Ignoring the plea of the bishops and the large majority of Americans who oppose expansion of abortion funding in healthcare reform, Congress has now enacted the largest expansion of abortion funding in our nations’ history, since Roe v. Wade. Assurances that abortion funding would be removed and consciences would be thoroughly protected have turned out to be empty promises.

But our efforts are far from over. Now we must go back to all the legislators who stated that the abortion and conscience problems were either not there, or would be fixed at another time, because “that time is now!” We must fix this “deeply flawed law,” as Cardinal George called it, and we’ll need a strong bipartisan effort to do so.

It will require the active engagement of Catholics and other constituents demanding this congressional response. Correcting this law, so it will truly uphold every-one’s rights to life and health, will take much prayer and hard work, but the stakes have never been higher.
Octogenarian plus: At 83, things are getting busy for Pope Benedict

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Almost lost in the recent furor over clerical sex abuse is that Pope Benedict XVI just turned 83 and is approaching one of the busiest stretches of his pontificate.

At an age when most Church officials have long retired, over the next six months the German pontiff will make six trips, preside over dozens of public liturgies, meet with a prime minister, commemorate of the Church’s annual vocations day, a general audience talk, another talk at his Sunday blessing and a speech to Catholic digital media experts in Italy.

Over the dozen public liturgies, he clearly wasn’t following the script.

In the Resurrection Jesus triumphed

A typical week in late April, for example, included four days of private talks with African bishops, speeches to new ambassadors, a meeting with a prime minister, commemoration of the Church’s annual vocations day, a general audience talk, another talk at his Sunday blessing and a speech to Catholic digital media experts in Italy.

For the second reading, the Church this weekend offers a passage from the Book of Revelation. This book is the last book of the New Testament in the translations and versions that have been used for centuries, is highly poetic and symbolic, moving and strikingly beautiful in its imagery very often. Often its symbolism is very involved, or unique to the first century. As a result, understanding the book not always is easy without reading scholarly commentaries along with the text itself.

However, the meaning of Revelation is not beyond human intelligence. The book looks to the spiritual life, to life in a world transformed by Christ.

For instance, this reading gives a vision of heaven, symbolized by the holy city of Jerusalem, but a transformed Jerusalem, and of God. It looks into eternity and to the place there for all who love God.

St. John’s Gospel is the source of the last reading. This is not a Resurrection narrative, but it is strongly reminiscent of the Resurrection, and of the Lord’s death on Calvary.

Jesus obliquely refers to the crucifixion and to rising from the dead. Eternal life is open to humans who follow the Lord in obedience to God, in sacrifice and in faith.

The Catequizem

By Dominic Camplisson

Every ten years we do ’em, and this week we quiz about ’em — the census.

1. The first time a census is mentioned in the Bible, the Hebrews are
   a. taxed b. killed c. sent to Babylon

2. This aptly named book records how Moses was asked to enumerate the Israelites
   a. Gallop b. Numbers 1 c. Censi (Greek for Exodus)

3. This tribe alone was to be excluded from the census norms
   a. Hivite (Hittites) b. the Levites (Levi) c. Hanuman (Hannibal)

4. Why was this?
   a. They were to be dedicated to the “Dwelling of the Commandments” and so set aside.
   b. They were actually descendants of the Hebrews whoimmigrated
   c. They were to form the nucleus of the army and so were not to be

5. Numbers 2 gives some huge numbers for the soldiers enumerated. The total for just
   a. one tribe is 186,400 soldiers. This tribe, the one that was to give its name to a kingdom

6. Indicative of the military nature of the conquest of Canaan, the soldiers all told
   a. 100,000 b. 250,000 c. 500,000

7. The Lord had a special punishment for all the men registered in the census who had done
   this
   a. grumbled b. eaten pork c. worshipped the Egyptian god Hadamazda

8. They were told that they would
   a. eat bitter herbs b. not enter the land of Israel c. be enslaved by the Egyptians in an endless cycle

9. We learn in the Old Testament that men are counted as ready for military service when they have reached this age (older than is generally the case today)
   a. 16 b. 18 c. 20

10. In 2 Kings 12, in a strange comment, we are told that David was motivated by
    a. a need to tax people b. a sense of omnipotence c. Satan

11. Perhaps as result, God punished those involved in this census. However that did
    a. not stop the next king, Solomon, from having a census. He wisely perhaps, focused on
    b. tax the whole world
    c. see who had the larger population, the Roman Empire or

12. The New Testament tells us why Joseph headed off to Bethlehem. It was a census, the purpose of which was to
    a. establish a baseline for the Romans to enforce conscription of the
    b. tax the whole world
    c. see who had the larger population, the Roman Empire or

13. Questioning Jesus about his attitude to Rome, enemies asked Jesus,
   a. Do we have to fill in the census forms?
   b. Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar?
   c. Is the census lawful if it counts the number of the beast?

14. In Acts enemies of Jesus recall failed challenges to the status quo. This man, a
    a. violation of church and state separation
    b. acceptable use of government resources unless the results are
    c. a legitimate activity unless used for evil purposes

Answers
1. a, b, 2. b, 3. a, 4. a, 5. b, 6. c, 7. b, 8. a, 9. c, 10. a, 11. b, 12. b, 13. c, 14. a, 15. c
Improve your prayer life today

The best possible scenario, as Mass is the most perfect of all prayers. But for many of us this is simply not possible every morning. I usually make breakfast and send off the high school kids, kiss my husband goodbye and then settle into my sofa, coffee mug in hand, to pray a rosary before the younger children arise. Some days I fly through the beads and immediately into deep mental prayer. Other days I struggle with concentrating on each word I say aloud, trying to recall the mystery for the day, waiting for that mental prayer to arrive. Sometimes it never does.

I try to remind myself that the benefit of prayer is not tied to how I feel. Sometimes God grants consolations and insights to my soul. Other times I feel duller than tumblingweed in the Texas sun. It should only matter that I try to be open and put myself in the Lord’s presence, trusting that He will use the time I offer in ways He sees is best. I feel this simple, short prayer — which takes less than 15 minutes unless I go off on some thought or meditation — helps put me in the right frame of mind for the rest of the day.

Frequencing the sacraments is the best way to enjoy a rich prayer life. Here are some tips for home prayer that can help as well:

• Recognize that you will never find time to pray. You must MAKE time to pray. Study your daily rhythm and figure out when is best for you.
• Find a quiet, relaxing place where you can focus on the mysteries of the rosary or let your mind wander into mental prayer. Choose a clean room where you’re not tempted to start working.
• Keep your “equipment” nearby — your rosary, a book of novenas, a prayer journal to keep track of intentions, a crucifix and maybe some ice water, coffee or hot tea.

Author and philosopher Peter Kreeft says it’s impossible to pray without silence, solitude and slowing down. This is common sense, and yet so many of us have trouble experiencing those things in our lives. We’re so used to trying harder in our careers, being around others in our family and our workplace and working quickly and efficiently — even playing at a fast pace that those qualifications for real deep prayer often elude us.

Kreeft says that nature provides these things in plenty. That’s why walks are good for the soul and sitting on an empty beach can be cathartic in ways that nothing else can be. Try praying outside for a chance of pace when the weather is nice.

Our relationship with God can become a deep friendship, but we need to carve out that most precious of commodities — time — and offer that to Him. God won’t be outdone in generosity, and when we implement the tips above, prayer life will naturally become more fruitful.

Theresa Thomas, is the mother of nine children and wife of David. Her new book “Stories for a Homeschooling Heart,” is available at www.huzellebooks.com E-mail her at TheresaEveryDayCatholic@gmail.com

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Scrupulous Faith

SON OF MAN GLORIFIED
ETRARTSYLDGX
LHRJOADOORFP
PEDEVIRRAOAR
IWUDYNIRCALPO
COETFGENAMPCC
SRNJOTCGOOL
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**USF SPORTS MARKETING SELECTED FOR FOUR AWARDS AT NATIONAL CONVENTION**

The University of Saint Francis Athletics Department will receive four awards for its marketing efforts this past year. The awards will be presented at the National Association of Collegiate Marketing Administrators (NACMA) “Best of the Best” Awards presentation, which will take place during the NACMA Annual Convention from June 20-25 in Anaheim, Calif. NACMA notified USF Sports Marketing today that it is a Top Three Finalist in each of the following categories: Season Ticket Sales Campaign; Ticket Sales Material; Promotional/Schedule Poster; and Single Day Attendance Promotion.

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**St. Charles Cardinals swing into CYO softball season**

**BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN**

FORT WAYNE — Led by their eighth-grade pitching and catching duo of Jordan Scheider and Sierra Fisher, the St. Charles Cardinals are off to a 2-0 start in their 2010 Catholic Youth League (CYO) softball season.

In his rookie season at the helm, Coach Tim Atkinson is well pleased with his eighth-grade leadership. “These two girls show an outstanding positive attitude. They did not have to play CYO softball due to travel softball options that are out there. They still choose to play for their school because they are great kids and want to finish what they started in fifth grade. I’m very lucky to have them,” he explained.

Unlike a year ago, the softball season has been blessed with ideal weather conditions early on. The 2009 reigning champs defeated St. Vincent, 9-1, in their first outing and St. Julie, 10-4, on April 13. Queen of Angels is expected to provide tough competition for St. Charles. The two will face each other next on the schedule, then again on April 27.

Dwenger takes double header over Marian in rugby

**BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN**

FORT WAYNE — In diocesan high school rugby action, Bishop Dwenger downed Marian, 21-5.

Joe DiFilippo reported that the Fort Wayne Club team hosted Marian to a double header at McMillen Park on April 14.

Similar to a touchdown in football, a “try” in rugby is worth 5 points while a conversion kick (PAT) is worth 2 points.

In an evenly matched showdown, Bishop Dwenger led at the half, 7-5. Using the wind to their advantage and holding off a swift Marian backline, the Saints pulled away in the second half.

Scoring tries for Bishop Dwenger were Jarik Sliger, Mike Udho and Matt Weber. Steve Brown connected on three conversion kicks. According to Coach Larry Daher, inside center, senior Collin Rahrig had Marian’s lone score.

Points: Tries — 3; Conversion Kicks — 3; Penalty Kicks — 3; Pata — 2; Dives — 2; Extras — 2; Total Points: 21

Dwenger de Padua Catholic Church and School held its second annual Run, Panther, Run on Saturday, April 17, and featured over 450 registered participants. The post-race celebration was held at the St. Anthony School Gym, 2310 E. Jefferson Blvd. in South Bend and featured race results, awards, food, refreshments, musical entertainment and fun activities for kids.

Run, Panther, Run proceeds benefit the school tuition assistance program. Race co-chairs Angie Faccenda and Pam White agreed that the best thing about the day is the wonderful fellowship the race brings to parishioners, students, volunteers and the community. They were pleased to see so many dedicated runners participating. The event will continue next April.

Overall 5K Winners: First place: Ryan Greutman (16:06); second place: Isaiah Sanga (16:10); third place: Mark Furkus (17:49).

The top three female finishers were Liesl Muehlhauser (22:52), Briana Donahue (23:23) and Tiffany Darling (23:53).


Fun Run Winners were: Boys — first, Jacob Morris; second, Ryan Schmitt; Girls — first, Nora Phillips; and third, Chloe Harding.

SOUTH BEND — St. Anthony Second Annual Run, Panther, Run draws over 400 participants.

Father Mark Gurtner, pastor at St. Anthony, shares a pre-run moment with some of the school’s third graders.

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**Today’s Catholic**

May 2, 2010
Father Robert Barron of Word On Fire examines the central mystery of the Biblical Sacred Meal

CHICAGO — The Catholic experience reveals that the Eucharist is the “source and summit of the Christian life.” In an effort to provide an in-depth spiritual exploration of this very biblical and very holy Sacrament, Father Robert Barron has published a study guide to accompany his CD and DVD presentation on the Eucharist.

Father Barron explores the Eucharist as Sacred Meal, as Sacrifice and as the Real Presence of Christ. Questions from the study guide help readers to deepen their understanding of these three aspects of the Sacrament, aiding the participants in fully internalizing its meaning and from the Catechism of the Catholic Church’s best messengers. The Web site is a one-stop shop where users have the opportunity to access a free facilitator’s guide and downloadable promotional materials.

The study guide is divided into five sections which correspond to the sections of Father Barron’s presentation: “Introduction: A Deeper Look at the Eucharist,” “Eucharist as Sacred Meal,” “Eucharist as Sacrifice,” “Real Presence, Part I” and “Real Presence, Part II.” Each section provides four or five “Questions for Understanding,” which incorporate references from Scripture and from the Catechism of the Catholic Church and also includes several “Questions for Reflection,” which help readers reflect on how Father Barron’s teaching is relevant in their own life and experiences. The guide also includes several prayers that can be used after the reception of Communion.

Additionally, users have the opportunity to access a free answer key on the Word On Fire Web site, WordOnFire.org. For those participating in group study, the password may be used to access a free facilitator’s guide and downloadable promotional materials.

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New media needs more Christian witnesses, pope says

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI called on Catholic communication workers to give witness to their beliefs and to help infuse new media outlets with “a soul.”

“More than through technical resources, although necessary, we want to confirm ourselves living in this (digital) universe, too, with a believing heart so that it may contribute to giving a soul to the Internet’s endless flow of communication,” he said April 24.

The pope made his comments during an audience with participants of a national congress on digital media organized by the Italian bishops’ conference. The congress, which ran April 22-24, was titled, “Digital Witnesses. Faces and Languages in the Cross-media Era.”

During the congress, the Vatican spokesman, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, told participants that truth, transparency and credibility were paramount in communications.

“Secrecy and confidentiality, even given their positive aspects, are not values that are cultivated with ‘a soul,’” he said.

The digital divide, which further separates the haves and the have-nots, still needs to be bridged, he said.

“Without fear we want to set sail for the digital sea, facing the open waters with the same passion that has governed the ship of the church for two thousand years,” he said.

Holy Communion. Additionally, users have the opportunity to access a free answer key on the Word On Fire Web site, WordOnFire.org. For those participating in group study, the password may be used to access a free facilitator’s guide and downloadable promotional materials.

Father Barron, one of the world’s great and innovative teachers of Catholicism, founded Word On Fire, a global media organization, in hopes of attracting millions into or back to the Church. The Web site, originally launched in 1999, currently draws a believing heart so that it may contribute to giving a soul to the Internet’s endless flow of communication,” he said April 24.

The study guide is divided into five sections which correspond to the sections of Father Barron’s presentation: “Introduction: A Deeper Look at the Eucharist,” “Eucharist as Sacred Meal,” “Eucharist as Sacrifice,” “Real Presence, Part I” and “Real Presence, Part II.” Each section provides four or five “Questions for Understanding,” which incorporate references from Scripture and from the Catechism of the Catholic Church and also includes several “Questions for Reflection,” which help readers reflect on how Father Barron’s teaching is relevant in their own life and experiences. The guide also includes several prayers that can be used after the reception of Communion.

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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, PO Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856; or e-mail: thogan@fw.diocecesefwsb.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

Garage sale time
Fort Wayne — The Fort Wayne Christ Child Society will have the annual Garage Sale Fundraiser Friday, June 11, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Queen of Angels Activity Center, 1500 West State Blvd. Funds raised help impoverished children in the area. The Christ Child Society raises close to $50,000 annually to buy coats and to fund other projects, such as providing crib, child car safety seats and diapers for expectant mothers, being served by the three Women’s Care Centers.

Rummage and bake sale
Fort Wayne — A Rosary Society rummage and bake sale will be May 6 and 7, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Precious Blood Church, 1515 Bartholst Rd., and Saturday, May 8, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

An evening with Mary
Monroeville — St. Rose Monroeville will have an evening with Mary on Thursday, May 13. Music starts at 6:45 p.m. followed by Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, presentation of flowers, rosary, presentation on Blessed Virgin by Meg Hanlon of Bishop Luers High School, and Benediction.

Little Flower Holy Hour
Fort Wayne — Msgr. Owen Campion will celebrate the Little Flower Holy Hour at St. Mother of Good Counsel Church, Tuesday, May 4, at 7 p.m. to pray for priests and vocations. Msgr. Campion is the associate publisher of Our Sunday Visitor in Huntington.

Music and Benediction
Fort Wayne — Msgr. Owen Campion is the associate publisher for priests and vocations. Msgr. Theodore Guérin Chapel on Flower Holy Hour at St. Mother of Good Counsel Church, Thursday, May 6, from 7 p.m. to 7 p.m. in a special day of prayer for priests. Morning prayer and Mass, 7 a.m. Rosary, evening prayer and Benediction, 5 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration throughout the day.

Vacation Bible School planned
Kendallville — Immaculate Conception Parish will offer Vacation Bible School, June 14-18, from 6-8 p.m. at the church, 301 E. Diamond St. Children ages 4-14 are invited. For more information contact the parish office at (260) 347-4045. Registrations being taken through May 2 with a late registration date of May 9.

Fish, chicken and tenderloin dinner
Huntington — St. Mary Parish will have a fish, chicken and tenderloin dinner on Friday, May 7, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the school gym at 903 N. Jefferson St. Dinner will be provided by Dan’s Fry Service. Tickets are $8.50 for adults, $5 for children (6 to 12) and children 5 and under free. Raffle, bake sale, homemade desserts. Carry-out available at the gym or drive-through on Warren St.

Mystery dinner theater
Fort Wayne — St. John the Baptist School will have a mystery dinner theater, “Lost in Tinseltown,” Saturday, May 8, in the activity center. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. Dinner at 6 p.m. Tickets are $45 per couple, $25 per person and $15 for children eighth grade and younger. Reservations due by April 30. For information call (260) 456-3321.

Natural Family Planning classes begin
South Bend — The Natural Family Planning Program of St. Joseph County will begin a class series on Monday, May 3, from 6-8 p.m. in the Physicians’ Lounge at the South Bend Clinic, 880 S. Mishawaka Ave.

Prayer for Priests
Mishawaka — Join the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, 1515 Dragoon Trail, on Thursday, May 6, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. in a special day of prayer for priests. Morning prayer and Mass, 7 a.m. Rosary, evening prayer and Benediction, 5 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration throughout the day.

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Application Deadline May 14, 2010

RETAIL IN PEACE

Elkhart
Anthony S. Surfaro, 73, St. Vincent de Paul
Fort Wayne
Juan V. Gomez, 81, St. Joseph
Joan Bollinger, 60, St. Therese
Mishawaka
Kathleen J. Beutter, 85, St. Monica
Anna M. Biesbroeck, 88, St. Bavo
Marie Baert Thomas, 94, St. Joseph
Richard L. DeCloe, 73, St. Monica
Mary E. Delnat, 73, St. Bavo

Notre Dame
Peter L. Bogumill, 88, Durrjanie House Chapel
Carl J. Rudolph, 68, Log Cabin
South Bend
Helen G. Klysz, 93, St. Stanislaus
Leona H. Sochocki, 91, Holy Cross
Theresa L. MacDonald, 81, Holy Family
Betty Ackles, 84, St. Joseph
Mary P. Horvath, 87, St. Matthew Cathedral
Suzanne Stephanson, 58, St. Matthew Cathedral

Theresa A. Hojnacki, 89, St. Matthew Cathedral
Albin J. Pionski, 98, St. John the Baptist
Irene A. Steinholzer, 83, St. Anthony de Padua
Don J. Schulties, 82, Sacred Heart
Phillip A. Brown, 60, St. Stanislaus
Stephen Z. Krzyzaniak, 87, Holy Cross
Clement T. Tafelski, 94, St. Casimir
Warsaw
Francis A. Federico, Jr., 64, Sacred Heart

Washington St. All proceeds benefit pro-life efforts in the county. For information call (260) 356-5933.

Women’s Day Away planned
Huntington — Victory Noll Center will host a Women’s Day Away” program on Saturday, May 15, from 9 a.m. to noon, and will give women a chance to relax, breathe and celebrate with old friends and make new friends. There will be music and prayer, presentations on wellness for the mind and body, and healing using art and poetry. Suggested donation for the program is $10-$15. A continental breakfast will be provided. Registration is required by May 7.

Knickers sponsor trip to Marytown
Granger — A pilgrimage to the National Shrine of St. Maximillian Kolbe in Marytown, Ill., will be Thursday, June 10. Tickets are $79 and includes continental breakfast and lunch. Call (574) 274-8403 for information.

PROVENA

Sacred Heart Home
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- Pediatrics
- Maternity
- Gynecology
- Breastfeeding
- Family Planning

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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.
FIRST GRADERS ENJOY FIESTA DAYS

Molly Slocum and Julie Peters’ first grade classes at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School enjoyed “Fiesta Day” on April 19 and 21. Spanish teacher Christy Jordan has previously been teaching the first graders Spanish words for various food items. On Fiesta Day, Peters’ first graders got to swing at a piñata filled with candy. The first graders were then treated to a Mexican food buffet laid out by first-grade volunteer mothers. The students then requested the food that they wanted by using their Spanish words.

“Fiesta Days” have been teaching the first graders Spanish words for various foods for years to prepare them for elementary programs in the their 2nd and 3rd grades. Jordan said that the event is a fun way to reinforce the vocabulary they have learned.

The purpose of the event is to make the students feel comfortable in a Spanish-speaking environment and to learn respect for their heritage.

About the Author

Christy Jordan is a Spanish teacher at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth School in South Bend, Indiana. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Spanish from the University of Notre Dame and a master’s degree in education administration from Northwestern University. She has taught Spanish for over 20 years and is currently the chair of the Spanish department at her school. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends and traveling to new places. She is also an avid reader and enjoys sharing her love of books with others.

Reflection questions

• When has your initial judgment of someone been completely reversed after you get to know them? How did that experience change you?

• What do you think Father Greg meant when he wrote, “The sacred place toward which God had marked Scrappy all his life is not arrived at, but discovered.” (page 34)? What is that sacred place? How did that experience change you?

• What was the most powerful moment in the book for you? Why?

• How does Father Greg’s story relate to your own life? What parallels can you draw between his experiences and your own?

• What advice would you give to someone wanting to make a difference in the world?

Book of the Month Club

This month’s featured selection: “Tattoos on the Heart” by Gregory Boyle

Reviewed by Kay Cozad

Today’s Catholic book club features “Tattoos on the Heart,” by Gregory Boyle this month, a powerful read that will shake even the most privileged of society to their very core. The well-educated author, an ordained Jesuit priest, takes his reader on a heart-stirring journey marked by poverty-driven violence, shapeless hatred and the salvation of one man’s fight against the maddening chaos of gang-life.

The story of Father Greg, or “G-dog” as he is known in the projects, is well known for his bravo in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles. He was pastor of Dolores Mission Church, which sits between two large public housing projects, from 1986 to 1992. The area was known as the gang capital of the world, with the highest concentration of gang activity in the city.

During his work within the projects, forming relationships with the families and gang members who reside there, Father Greg developed Homeboy Industries to serve the members looking for a better life. Homeboy Industries is involved in a variety of businesses, including baking, landscaping and silkscreening, and hires gang members to learn to work peacefully side by side with rival gang members.

This book is about the workings of God’s mercy and love shadowed in the ugliness of humanity. Father Greg offers a story line that cascades from scenario to scenario, youth to youth, that provides a connected flow of virtue that carries the reader through the sometimes painful and unjust lives of the gang members he works with.

The trail-by-error development of the priest’s own understanding of the subculture of gangbanging and how to interact to create mutual respect is inspiring. He simply never gives up. But even more intriguing is the hope he provides these gang members by his in-the-trenches presence. Father Greg shares his spirituality with them on their terms and offers a new way of life that brings with it self respect and honor. Their resilient nature shines in the darkest of times.

And the priest’s attempts to honor each “Homie” for his or her gifts and show the community and the world that the old adage, “You can’t judge a book by its cover,” is played out with these Los Angeles youth. Father Greg writes about one young man named Fabian, “Turns out he wasn’t all the abuse he endured. He was something else, astonishing and glorious.”

“Compassion,” the author writes, “isn’t just about feeling the pain of others; it’s about bringing them in toward yourself. If we love what God loves, then, in compassion, margins are erased.”

His compassionate actions with this community clearly demonstrates how it is possible for hundreds of former gang members to learn to become responsible, productive adults with families.

The common thread that binds the colorful stories of gang mentality to the analogies the author embeds in each chapter is the pervasive presence of God. The book literally leads the reader through a powerful lesson in love.

The book is written in an easy-read style laced with fresh, quirky, real life dialogue and descriptions. Though the violence and death described brings tears of injustice to one’s eyes there is a holy wisdom that permeates the chapters describing compassion, resilience, kinship and hope. And through out the text it becomes apparent that Father Greg believes God stands with them in it all.

“Tattoos on the Heart,” by Gregory Boyle is yet another book well worth the read. Getting to know the gang members and their glorious, though many times pain filled encounters, ignites a spark of hope for the future of humanity.

Reflection questions

• When has your initial judgment of someone been completely reversed after you get to know them? How did that experience change you?

• What do you think Father Greg meant when he wrote, “The sacred place toward which God had marked Scrappy all his life is not arrived at, but discovered.” (page 34)? What is that sacred place? How do you discover it in your own life?

• On page 124 Father Greg writes, “Meeting the world with a loving heart will determine what we find there.” What does that mean to you?