Vatican confirms new version of missal; no implementation date

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops announced April 30 that the Vatican has given its “recognitio,” or confirmation, of the new English translation of the Roman Missal, but said the exact date for its implementation in U.S. parishes remains to be determined.

The approval came in a letter dated March 25 from Cardinal Antonio Canizares Llovera, prefect for the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments, although the missal is still undergoing final editing by Vatican officials, the USCCB announcement said.

The Vatican also approved a series of adaptations and proper texts for use in the United States.

Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago, USCCB president, received the decrees personally while he was in Rome for meetings of the Vox Clara Committee, an international group of bishops who advise the divine worship congregation about English liturgical translations.

Bishop Arthur J. Serratelli of Paterson, N.J., chairman of the USCCB Committee on Divine Worship, expressed gratitude for the approval.

BY TIM JOHNSON

FORT WAYNE — Sister Jane Carew has seen the fruits of the diocesan Office of Catechesis, which she directed for 23 years, blossom and flourish. Test scores of the national ACRE (Assessment of Religious Education) reveal the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend as one of the top dioceses in the nation in helping Catholic young people learn the faith.

Last week, the diocese honored Sister Jane who has retired from the diocesan office but will still assist with volunteer efforts.

Sister Jane told Today’s Catholic, “I am grateful to God to be in this ministry that I love and desired from the time I was 17. There is nothing I like more than nurturing the faith in individuals so they in turn can nurture others.”

The team that Sister Jane built over the years in the Office of Catechesis has helped coordinate various programs such as the Catechetical Institute Day for parish catechists (CID); Institute Days of Catechetical Formation for all Catholic school teachers; Education for Ministry two-year formation program for adults begun in 1992 and has over 800 graduates; and the masters in theology program through the University of Dayton and the University of Notre Dame, which were funded through a generous grant by Our Sunday Visitor. The office redesigned catechetical curriculum guidelines for grades kindergarten through eight for parishes and schools. Sister Jane’s initiatives have caught the attention of national catechists.

Sister Jane, of course, gives credit to the Holy Spirit in helping the diocese implement Bishop John M. D’Arcy’s vision for catechesis. He desired a strong catechetical program for parents sending their children to Catholic schools and religious education classes.
Authentic hope comes from something beyond ourselves

IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHOADES

University of Saint Francis baccalaureate Mass

Greetings in the peace and joy of the Lord! I am writing this column on Saturday, May 1, having just returned from celebrating the Confirmation Mass for the graduates of the University of Saint Francis. I need to write this before leaving this afternoon for South Bend for Confirmation Masses tonight and tomorrow at St. Matthew Cathedral, at the University of Notre Dame, and at St. Adalbert Church. I checked the odometer in my car and see that I am almost at 7,000 miles! I realized that I am putting a lot more miles on my car than I did in the Diocese of Harrisburg.

At the beautiful baccalaureate Mass today, it was great to celebrate with our graduates from the University of Saint Francis. They are a very impressive group of young people. I spoke to them today about joy, hope and courage as disciples of the Lord Jesus. My main message was that hope doesn’t come from our accomplishments nor even our success, but authentic and lasting hope comes from something beyond ourselves, or rather, someone beyond ourselves. That “someone” is Christ. Hope comes from God and our belief in Him. I prayed with the graduates that they will go forth with firm hope for the future, a hope that is founded on the Person of Jesus Christ. God has drawn near to each one of us in Christ Jesus our hope. I prayed that our graduates’ faith in Christ will always be lively and strong so that they will be messengers and witnesses of hope for the world.

Confirmations

Every week in this column, I report on my Confirmation Masses. This past week, I was privileged to be a part of the sacrament of Confirmation on our young candidates at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Elkhart and at St. Gaspar del Bufalo Church in Rome City. These were my first visits to Elkhart and Rome City. I am truly enjoying my visits to so many of the parishes of our diocese. I have heard a lot about the lakes of Indiana. I saw my first lake in the diocese at Rome City, the beautiful Sylvan Lake. I am hoping to get some time, maybe in the summer, to enjoy some of the natural beauty of Indiana! Imagine my surprise when I arrived at St. Gaspar’s — when I arrived, I was greeted by a priest from Gettysburg, Pa., in my home diocese, Father Jim Miller, a Precious Blood father. Father Miller is serving there a few weeks while the pastor of St. Gaspar’s, Father Bernard Ramenaden, is home on vacation. Thank you, Sister Jane Carew!

This past Wednesday, Bishop D’Arcy and I celebrated a Mass of thanksgiving for the 23 years of service of Sister Jane Carew, OV, here in our diocese. Sister has done an incredible job in strengthening the catechetical mission of the Church in our diocese. Though Sister Jane has now retired from her position as director of the Office of Catechesis, she still assists the office as a volunteer. How blessed we are by Sister Jane’s dedicated ministry and her expertise in catechesis! Good catechesis builds up the Body of Christ, the Church. The education of our people, of all ages, in the faith is one of our most important tasks. I thank Sister Jane for her many years of service in this important and vital ministry. I thank both Sister Jane and Bishop D’Arcy for leading the revitalization of catechesis in our diocese.

Knights of Columbus

This past Wednesday, the Knights of Columbus in Fort Wayne hosted a religious appreciation dinner for the sisters and priests of the area. I am very grateful to the Knights for their generous support of our priests and religious vocations. It was a very enjoyable evening. The Knights paid special tribute to our priests and sisters celebrating special anniversaries and jubilees this year. Thanks also to the students from Bishop Dwenger High School who served the delicious dinner!

Department heads

This past Thursday, I had my first meeting with all the heads or directors of diocesan departments. It was a good opportunity to discuss the various works and initiatives going on in the various offices, to share ideas, and to plan for the future. Of course, all we do in the diocesan offices is meant to serve our parishes, to foster the Church’s mission of evangelization, and to promote the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. Thank you to all our diocesan staff for their dedicated commitment to the Church’s mission in our diocese.

Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters

On Friday, Sister Beatrice Haines and the leadership team of the Victory Noll Sisters came to visit me. I was happy to learn about the charism and the ministries of the sisters in our diocese and beyond, particularly in the southwestern United States. As you probably know, Archbishop John Noll, the fifth bishop of Fort Wayne, advanced the growth of this congregation that was founded by Father John Joseph Sigstein in 1922. I am looking forward to visiting the motherhouse, Victory Noll, in Huntington this summer. I learned about the Marian devotion of the Victory Noll Sisters and their spirituality that is grounded in a particular way in Our Lady’s Magnificat. During this month of May, it is a beautiful time for all of us to reflect on our Blessed Mother and to grow in our devotion to her.

The month of May, the month of Mary

In the Gospel of this first Sunday of May, the fifth Sunday of Easter, we hear Jesus’ new commandment of love: Love one another as I have loved you. — Jn 13:34. Mary teaches us to live this new commandment. She was always obedient to her Son’s commandment of love and teaches us that same obedience. She is the shining model of our call to holiness through love.

We see Mary’s love at the Visitation when she went to assist her cousin Elizabeth for three months in the final phase of her pregnancy. We see her love when she stood at the foot of the cross, her heart broken as she witnessed her Son’s suffering and death. We see her love in the upper room as she prayed with the disciples awaiting the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Let us ask Mary to teach us to love as we journey through this life. On our Christian pilgrimage, love is the most important virtue for us to cultivate.

Mary, Mother of Fairest Love, pray for us!

In this context, I ask you to be generous in the second collection next Sunday, May 9, for the benefit of Catholic Charities of our diocese. This is a very important collection that helps to fund so many programs that serve the poor and needy in our midst.
Pope calls Shroud of Turin ‘icon’ of Christ’s solidarity with humanity

TURIN, Italy (CNS) — The Shroud of Turin is an icon of “the most radical solidarity”: Christ sharing the loneliest moment of human existence by lying in a tomb, Pope Benedict XVI said after he knelt in silent prayer before the linen cloth.

The pope did not discuss the authenticity of the shroud as the cloth used to wrap the dead body of Jesus, but he said it clearly “is a burial cloth that wrapped the body of a man who was crucified in a way corresponding completely to what the Gospels tell us of Jesus.”

Pope Benedict paid a daylong visit to Turin May 2, celebrating an outdoor Mass, venerating the shroud, meeting with young people and visiting the sick.

During his evening visit to the exposition of the shroud, which is on public display until May 23, the 83-year-old pope said that while he has seen it before, this time there was a special “intensity, perhaps because the passing of years has made me more sensitive to the message of this extraordinary icon.”

The Bible accounts say that Jesus was in the tomb from Friday night to dawn on Sunday — a time that was “chronologically brief, but immense, infinite in its value and meaning,” the pope said.

For a day and a half, Jesus’ body lay dead in the tomb and it appeared as if God had hidden himself from the world, the pope said.

Most modern men and women have had the experience of God seeming to hide from them and from the world, he said. Even if they cannot explain their feeling in those terms, they experience “a void in their hearts that spreads,” he said. “After the two world wars, the concentration camps and gulags, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, our age became increasingly a Holy Saturday, ‘the day when Jesus’ body lay lifeless in the tomb, the pope said.

“We have all had the frightening sensation of having been abandoned, which is precisely the part of death that makes us so afraid; like children we are afraid to be alone in the dark and only the presence of a person who loves us can reassure us,” Pope Benedict said.

As with a “photographic document” with a positive and negative image, he said, the shroud conveys that “the darkest mystery of faith is at the same time the brightest sign of a hope without limits” because it reminds people that Christ willingly embraced death to give all people the possibility of eternal life.

“The shroud is an icon written with blood,” he said.

“The shroud is an icon written with blood.”

POPE BENEDICT XVI

forms suffering into redemption. “Living your suffering in union with the crucified and risen Christ, you participate in the mystery of his suffering for the salvation of the world,” the pope told the sick.

“By offering our pain to God through Christ, we can collaborate in the victory of good over evil because God makes our offering — our act of love — fruitful,” he said.

At the morning Mass in the city’s St. Charles Square, the pope said the shroud is a reminder that Jesus, who died for the sins of humanity, also rose from the death.

In the shroud, “we see reflections of our suffering in the suffering of Christ,” he said. “Precisely for this reason it is a sign of hope: Christ faced the cross to erect a barrier against evil, to allow us to see in His resurrection an anticipation of that moment when, for us, too, every tear will be dried and there will be no more death, nor mourning, wailing nor pain,” he said.

On the eve of the pope’s visit, the Archdiocese of Turin said more than 1.7 million people had made reservations for a specific time to view the shroud up close during its April 10-May 23 exposition. The archdiocese also said it expected an average of 70,000 visitors each week to arrive without reservations; they are allowed to view the shroud from farther away in the central aisle of the cathedral.

Pope’s trip to Portugal will take him to Fatima, two other cities

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — On his first visit to Portugal, Pope Benedict XVI will meet with political leaders and celebrate Masses in three cities, including at the Marian shrine in Fatima.

The May 11-14 trip will mark the 10th anniversary of the beatification of Blessed Francisco and Jacinta Marto, two of the shepherd children who saw Our Lady of Fatima in 1917.

The pope arrives in the Portuguese capital of Lisbon, where he meets with civil authorities and celebrates an outdoor Mass in the evening.

He travels to Fatima May 12 for a series of encounters with bishops, priests, religious and the other pastoral workers and a Mass at the shrine the next day.

On the last day of his trip, the pope and celebrates Mass during a six-hour stop in the city of Porto.

MISSAL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“I am happy that after years of study and review, the congregation for divine worship has concluded its work and provided us with a text that will enable the ongoing renewal of the celebration of the sacred liturgy in our parishes,” he said.

In the coming weeks, Bishop Serratelli’s committee will give Cardinal George its recommendations on when to implement the new translation in U.S. parishes.

The cardinal will then announce the date to the bishops, along with an implementation timeline and process.

A parish implementation guide has been in development at the USCCB and will be distributed to parishes throughout the country when the timeline has been set. In addition, priests and diocesan worship officials have been participating in a series of workshops to help prepare for the changes.

Msgr. Anthony Sherman, director of the USCCB Secretariat for Divine Worship, said “a great effort” to produce the new missal is under way now “among the publishers of liturgical books, along with the other necessary resources by publishers of liturgical music and catechetical resources.”

“Even as that work is under way, a full-scale implementation of catechesis for the new missal should be taking place in the parishes, so that when the time comes, everyone will be ready,” he added.

For more information on the missal, see also: www.catholicnews.com/data/stories/cns/1001802.htm and www.catholicnews.com/data/stories/cns/1000560.htm
A catechist at heart

Sister Jane said she wanted to be a sister at the young age of 11. She was taught in grammar school by the Sisters of Charity in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. A friend of Sister Jane had an older sister who entered the Sisters of Charity in Halifax.

The young sister and another sister from Sister Jane’s parish, had just made their first vows and visited the parish. “I was so touched by them,” Sister Jane said. “I said, ‘This is what I’m going to be,’ and I never deviated. I knew immediately that I wanted to be a sister. From then on, I never questioned it.”

In high school, she was sent to a school run by cloistered nuns called the Convent of the Sacred Heart. “We had a tremendous education there,” she commented, and the sisters gave the students individual attention. The young Jane was especially touched by the English literature works of Dante, William Shakespeare and Cardinal D’Arcy in 1969. Upon her return to Nova Scotia only to find there wasn’t a catechetical position open to her. Sister Jane returned to Lowell and taught high school religion for five years at two all-girls’ Catholic academies.

Sister Jane first met Bishop D’Arcy in 1969. Upon her return from Catholic University Bishop D’Arcy got Sister Jane involved in some committee work while she was teaching high school religion. A major work was that of a committee studying the renewal of the permanent diaconate.

After the study, Sister Jane worked as an assistant with Father Thomas Foley, then the director of the permanent diaconate. Sister Jane indicated that every other year, 60 couples would apply for the permanent diaconate. It would then take a whole year to screen the couples. “We worked on a program of study for them, and I worked on a wives’ program,” she said.

19. Sister attended St. Francis Xavier College in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, where she received her bachelor’s degree. Still with the hope of being a catechist, Sister Jane was sent to rural Nova Scotia spending a year studying and getting certified as a teacher. “In retrospect it was one of the best things I did because the skills I learned as a teacher were so wonderful,” she said. “I went to teach in these rural areas, which I loved.”

One of the superior generals knew Sister Jane desired to be a catechist. She allowed sister to study religious education. But Sister Jane still desired more theology classes, which she received while living in Boston. “I liked to tell Bostonians we had two foreign missions in the Archdiocese of Boston,” Sister Jane quipped. “I was lucky to live with our sisters in Massachusetts and continue to take courses in theology through the Boston Theological Institute.”

Sister Jane prepared and went on to Catholic University and graduated in 1973 and returned to Nova Scotia only to find there wasn’t a catechetical position open to her. Sister Jane returned to Lowell and taught high school religion for five years at two all-girls’ Catholic academies.

Sister Jane’s friend, Sister Therese Legere, at right, and also a consecrated virgin, served as the second witness. Sister Jane Carew is shown as she takes vows as a consecrated virgin at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne in 1990. Lisa Everett, co-director of the Office of Family Life is at left and served as a witness. Sister Jane’s friend, Sister Therese Legere, at right, and also a consecrated virgin, served as the second witness.

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The best solution was for Sister Jane to leave that order and be a consecrated virgin, an ancient order from the early Church that had been restored by Pope Paul VI in 1971. This form of consecration was not lived in community.

In those early years in the Office of Catechesis, “you could see the growth in the office. There was constant growth in terms of the catechetical ministry to the various needs of the diocese,” Sister Jane commented. “But to keep those programs running and to constantly be educating people, those were the positives that carried us.”

So now, just beginning to enjoy some of the fruits of retirement, Sister Jane appreciates the time for more prayer and reflection. She enjoys reading. She also plans to volunteer for the diocese and plans to remain in Fort Wayne in her retirement.

Sister Jane ministered in the permanent diaconate program until a request from Bishop D’Arcy came for Sister Jane to be the director of religious education in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Fort Wayne move

Sister Jane returned to Mass. She was required to return to the mother superior of the Sisters of the St. Joseph and requested a transfer for Sister Jane to Fort Wayne. The mother superior obliged, but Sister Jane was required to return to the community for a week every five weeks. At the end of three years, the new order wanted Sister Jane back in Boston as of July 1, 1990.

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Canadian congregation was changing. Sister Jane wasn’t comfortable with some of the changes and she began the transfer process to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Boston near the time Bishop D’Arcy made his request for Sister Jane to minister in Fort Wayne.

In the meantime, Bishop D’Arcy and Mag. J. William Lester had met with the mother superior of the Sisters of the St. Joseph and requested a transfer for Sister Jane to Fort Wayne. The mother superior obliged, but Sister Jane was required to return to the community for a week every five weeks. At the end of three years, the new order wanted Sister Jane back in Boston as of July 1, 1990.

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Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades congratulates Sister Jane Carew who retired from the diocesan Office of Catechesis after 23 years of ministry.

Sister Jane Carew is shown as she takes vows as a consecrated virgin at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne in 1990. Lisa Everett, co-director of the Office of Family Life is at left and served as a witness. Sister Jane’s friend, Sister Therese Legere, at right, and also a consecrated virgin, served as the second witness.
Bishops ramp up efforts to mobilize Church to support new arms pact

BY DENNIS SADOWSKI

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Senate ratification of the new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty is a moral imperative and a necessary step toward the eventual goal of total nuclear disarmament, Archbishop Edwin F. O’Brien of Baltimore said.

Speaking during an April 26 panel discussion on the ethics of President Barack Obama’s nuclear weapons policy hosted by The Catholic University of America, Archbishop O’Brien urged senators to cast aside partisan differences and approve the START agreement, which calls for what he described as “modest reductions” in American and Russian nuclear arsenals.

Signed April 8 in Prague, Czech Republic, by Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, the START “follow-on” treaty calls for both countries to reduce their strategic arsenals — weapons deployed on long-range missiles, bombers and submarines — to 1,550 each. Under the previous START pact, which expired in December, both countries reduced their strategic arsenals to 2,200 weapons each.

The Russian Duma now must approve the treaty, and from that point, both countries will have seven years to reach the agreement’s targets.

The archbishop’s call is the most recent public step by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and Church leaders to build support for the new round of nuclear disarmament among Catholics in church pews as well as across the wide gap separating Senate Democrats and Republicans.

START again will be on the agenda when members of the bishops’ Committee on International Justice and Peace meet May 13 in Washington. The committee has discussed ways to support the treaty for a year, the same length of time it took to negotiate the new pact.

Archbishop O’Brien, a member of the so-called “E-Team” of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, told Catholic News Service after his presentation that efforts are needed in as many circles as possible to build momentum for the treaty’s ratification. That means, he explained, mobilizing Catholics to contact their senators urging them to support the pact.

“We have to get at these senators ... and build the tide,” Archbishop O’Brien said.

One vehicle to mobilize Catholics, the archbishop suggested, is the nationwide network of state Catholic conferences, which could distribute information on the issue already developed by the bishops’ Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development.

“The effort would be one of the most visible on the nuclear disarmament front since the bishops adopted their 1983 pastoral letter on peace and nuclear disarmament, ‘The Challenge of Peace: God’s Promise and Our Response,’” the letter then addressed many of the Church’s moral concerns over the possession and use of nuclear weapons.

Panelist Rose E. Gottemoeller, assistant secretary of state in the Bureau of Verification, Compliance and Implementation and the lead U.S. negotiator of the treaty, told CNS that the agreement gives the country an “opportunity for moral leadership” in the drive for worldwide nuclear disarmament.

She said she expects the agreement will be ratified because it contains new verification steps that consider the best interests of both countries.

“We have to enter into implementation of the treaty with a very firm knowledge that it is in our national security interests and furthermore provides a very good measure of predictability about what the Russians will be up to in the coming years,” she said.

“TODAY’S CATHOLIC

Archbishop Edwin F. O’Brien of Baltimore, shown in the archive photo from July 29, 2009, speaks at the U.S. Strategic Command’s first symposium on nuclear deterrence, held at the Qwest Center in Omaha, Neb.

Continued from Page 1

CNS PHOTO/REBECCA NARAYAN

Eanthetic. The heart rate increases, digestion is canceled, and the brain, groping for answers, flattens.

Msgr. John Suelzer, beloved pastor of St. Charles Borromeo, Fort Wayne, can recall two such calls; the first coming not when he was a priest, but as an eighth-grade student at St. John the Baptist School, Fort Wayne.

Young John and three classmates were called out of class and told that, “the bishops want us to see you in the rectory right now.”

Bishop was Auxiliary Bishop Leo A. Puryske and their pastor at St. John’s. The boy of eight, fright, were seated in his living room, when the bishop, in a nimbus of cigar smoke, entered, greeting him warmly with the announcement that he had selected the four of them because the Serra Club of Fort Wayne was hosting an all day outing at Our Lady of the Lake Seminary at Lake Wawasee and he thought these four might enjoy such a visit.

John Suelzer did, and he told his mother that he would like to attend high school at Our Lady of the Lake and that he wanted to be a priest.

The other memorable call from a bishop came on the Easter Vigil, 1986, when Father Suelzer was pastor at St. John the Baptist, New Haven. Bishop John M. D’Arcy was calling.

Father John could not believe that the bishop would call on this day, the busiest day of a priest’s year, but Bishop D’Arcy insisted that the matter could not wait and that they must meet immediately.

Distracted, as he drove through traffic to bishop’s home on Roxbury Court, Father John could not imagine what he would find out on his arrival. He found a bomb.

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After some small talk, Bishop D’Arcy said, “I’ve decided to appoint you as pastor at St. Charles in Fort Wayne to succeed Father Ed Hesson.”

Father John could not believe what he was hearing. He was being asked to leave parishes and a place he loved to move to a large, thriving parish to take the place of someone larger than life.

Father Edward Hesson was much larger than life. Among the clergy, he had the iconic image of “a priest’s priest.” Popular at all parishes, the laity claimed him as a priest of the people. Children were enchanted by him. He called himself “Monjumon.” He was a raconteur, a singer, a magician. He loved sports, and his imitation of a horse whinny could stop a cavalry charge.

Replace Father Hesson? Unthinkable. It would be like cast-Mickey Rooney to play Tarzan.

Father John listed important reasons why he should be retained as pastor in New Haven. The bishop countered with why he was needed at St. Charles.

There was a long silence, and Father John played his highest trump, “May I pray on this?”

“No!” said the bishop. “My mind is made up. Bishop Crowley and Msgr. Lester say you are the man for the job, and that’s it!”

So on July 22, 1986, Father John N. Suelzer became pastor of St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Fort Wayne. He was not “the Monjumon.”

People saw the flamboyant Father Hesson as an attractive flowering tree, they now saw Father John Suelzer as a towering stately oak, representing strength, security and confidence; inviting all to the comfort of shade and quiet peace.

Twenty-four years have passed ... the oak continues to spread love and strength.

Looking for valedictorians, salutatorians

Valedictorians and salutatorians from the Catholic high schools and public high schools in the diocese will be featured in the May 23 issue of Today’s Catholic.

Catholic students in the diocese are asked to complete a questionnaire and return it with a photograph to the editor by Monday, May 10, 2010.

To receive the form, contact the editor at editor@diocesefw.org

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First Communion and Confirmation Gifts, Books, Bibles, Crucifixes, Rosaries, Statues
Pope Benedict XVI leads the rites of final commendation during the funeral of German Cardinal Paul Augustin Mayer in St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican May 3. Mayer, the oldest member of the College of Cardinals, died April 30, less than a month before his 99th birthday.

Father Luna says prelates have been targeted, too, because they might possess something of value.

Two longtime Dallas priests ordained as auxiliaries of diocese

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (CNS) — Calling for an end to the nation’s “enslavement to legal abortion,” Father Frank Pavone of Priests for Life announced April 27 that a series of “freedom rides” for the unborn would begin this summer. The rides will be nonpartisan, interdenominational and nonviolent and will involve a diverse cross-section of people, Father Pavone said at a news conference in Birmingham’s Kelly Ingram Park. “Like the freedom rides of five decades ago, these freedom rides symbolize the principle … that justice and equal protection of human rights belong to each and every human being, regardless of size or age or any other condition,” he said. Among those joining Father Pavone in the announcement was Alveda King, director of African-American outreach at Priests for Life and niece of the late civil rights leader, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Her father, the Rev. A.D. King, is depicted in a statue of praying ministers at Kelly Ingram Park. “When I lived in Birmingham, when our home was bombed in this very city, when my classmate was part of the group of four little girls killed in the bombing of historic Sixteenth Street Baptist Church across the way, I dreamed of a world when life would be better, when freedom would prevail for all,” King said. “Now, today, almost 50 years later, we pay tribute to the freedom riders of 1961.”

Pro-life ‘freedom rides’ set to begin this summer in Birmingham

New Scranton bishop asks all to help him proclaim Gospel message

SCRANTON, Pa. (CNS) — As Bishop Mark E. Brennan, who became the 10th bishop of Scranton April 26, he reminded those who filled St. Peter’s Cathedral what the occasion was really about. “This day is about Jesus — and the legacy that he left to the world following his death and resurrection,” he said.

Catholic Bishops, during an April 19 presentation. His talk was the opening session for the April 19-22 conference sponsored by the National Conference for Catechetical Leadership. Father Deck praised catechists for their work and described them as the “largest, most tested and recognized cohort of lay leaders in the Church.” He also said they were at the “front line of renewal” for the Church and had an essential role to play in “providing a vision for the entire Church moving forward.” The priest noted that across the United States, many catechists have died in defense of their faith. Although this has not been the experience for U.S. catechists, he said they still make many sacrifices in their work in schools, parishes and dioceses.

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CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (CNS) — In October, unknown thieves stole the bell at the Corpus Christi Parish, which serves a gang- and crime-infested neighborhood of low-wage factory workers and mom-and-pop business owners on the southeastern outskirts of this border city of 1.3 million residents. Parishioners trust in the simple tolling of the bell by striking a pair of empty propane tanks with an axe handle. “I’m glad they took the bell instead of something in the sanctuary,” says Father Roberto Luna, Corpus Christi’s pastor, who was forced to add extra locks and bars to secure his parish. Such are the challenges of parish life in churches throughout Ciudad Juarez, where warring drug cartels and competition and drug trafficking have forced many neighborhoods into high-crime areas. Ciudad Juarez, which borders El Paso, Texas, has recorded about 5,000 drug-related deaths since 2008, making it the most dangerous city in the hemisphere. The violence has left few people and institutions unscathed. Parishes have been robbed and vandalized.

POLITICAL VIOLENCE

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POPE LEADS FINAL COMMENDATION AT FUNERAL OF CARDINAL MAYER

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USC recognizes student leaders

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis Office of Co-Curricular Activities recently recognized students who significantly contributed to the campus through involvement and leadership in various clubs, organizations and projects.

The Anthony D. Moore Award was given to Melissa Lachat, Joseph Baugmann and Justin Budreau. The award is presented to students who exhibit outstanding leadership and involvement in student life and whose contributions have enriched the University of Saint Francis community. Each of the winners received $250, and their names have been engraved on a plaque that is on display in the Student Center.

The Advocate of the Year Award was presented by Professor Nancy Hankee of the Department of Education, School of Professional Studies. Professor Hankee received a check and certificate of recognition.

South Bend Knights take project for Operation Quiet Comfort

SOUTH BEND — Jan Houin, secretary, Operation Quiet Comfort spoke to members of the Father Julius A. Nieuwendyk 4th Degree Assembly No. 242 in South Bend last October. Houin described the purpose of Operation Quiet Comfort is to send signed quilts and Go Bags to wounded veterans in Iran and Afghanistan.

Operation Quiet Comfort provides small quilts (3 x 5 feet finished) to comfort veterans who are medically evacuated to a higher level of care, as well as for those troops who are sick or injured and recovering in place. The Go Bags are backpacks containing grooming items, shampoo, toothbrush kits, reading and writing materials and more Ziploc bags of all sizes.

Shortly after Houin’s presentation in October, Assembly No. 242 adopted Operation Quiet Comfort as anlagistic project.

On April 22, the assembly presented what is intended to be the first of many contributions to Operation Quiet Comfort in the form of a check for $155.

Father Solanus Guild requests artwork from students

DETROIT, Mich. — The Father Solanus Guild has invited students from across the U.S. to actively participate in the Father Solanus Guild’s upcoming 50th anniversary by submitting a piece of artwork that captures the spirit of Father Solanus.

“In 2008, over 7,000 educational materials were requested by parish and school educators. The materials explained the life and holiness of Father Solanus,” said Richard Merling, Solanus Guild director, explains. “In honor of the guild’s 50th anniversary, we wish to invite these students to submit artwork that reflects the holiness and simplicity of Father Solanus, a humble Capuchin friar who served in Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Indiana and New York.”

The artwork will be displayed throughout the months of November and December at the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit, Mich. There will be over 10,000 visitors to the center during this time of anniversary celebration.

The Father Solanus Guild, a Capuchin ministry, was founded in 1960 for the purpose of keeping alive the inspiring memory of Father Solanus; bringing knowledge of his exemplary life to others; collecting information about his life and work; providing prayer, support and office services to the vice-postulator for the Cause of Solanus Casey.

Efforts continue to move forward as healings attributed to the intercession of Venerable Solanus are studied in Rome. One miraculous cure approved by the Vatican to the prayers of Venerable Solanus will advance the Cause to Beatification.

FORT WAYNE — Worldwide Seminarian Support Inc. will be hosting theatrical extraordinaire Kevin Flinn from Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Parish in West Palm Beach, Fla., in his dramatic one man performance of “St. John in Exile” at St. Vincent de Paul Parish on May 27, at 7 p.m. Admission is free but a free will offering will be taken. All proceeds will go to fund seminarians worldwide, specifically in Africa and India.

Lindenwood holds Quiet Day of Prayer

DONALDSON — Registrations are still being taken for the Quiet Day of Prayer program “Writing Ways: Exploring Writing as a Threshold to Spirit.” Participants will explore how the writing process and the written word can be a graced experience. Sessions will focus on what professional writers have noted about writing as a healing, meaning-making, awe-filled, prayerful experience. Participants will also have time for their own writing in various genres with prompts provided to help get the ink flowing.

The facilitator, Poor Handmaid of Jesus Christ Sister Judith Diltz, is a writer and a college writing instructor.

The program is scheduled for Monday, May 17, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The program fee of $27 includes the noon main meal. Registration deadline is Monday, May 10. For more information or to register visit www.lindenwood.org or call (574) 935-1763, e-mail lws@lindenwood.org or visit www.lindenwood.org.

St. Mary, Avilla student supports needy family with bracelet sale

AVILLA — St. Mary School, Avilla, second-grader Sabrina Ciocca, sold bracelets to help a needy family with four children ranging from the ages of 2-11, and one on the way. The eight-year-old used her savings account and the help of friends Emily Rorick, Abigail Haynes, Alyssa Ciocca and Rocco Ciocca to make 100 bracelets to raise funds for the family. She sold the bracelets for nine days during lunch at St. Mary’s School for the cost of 50 cents or a donation. Her sign read, “Bracelets for the Poor. Donation $ .50.” Bracelet sales reached $129.44 and will go to the purchase of a crib and baby bottles for the family’s expected baby.

Correction

In the Father Derrick Sneyd jubilee story, the final sentence in the last paragraph was inadvertently dropped. The paragraph should read the following: Jubilee celebrations at Father Sneyd’s 50th ordination are currently in the works at Immaculate Conception Parish. And the jubilarian is excited about the prospect of an international reunion of his seminary class that will be held this year in India.
Seminarians from the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend admitted to candidacy at the Josephinum on Saturday, April 24, include Jacob Meyer and Benjamin Muhlenkamp. In the photo, from left, are Jacob Meyer, Father James Wehner, rector, Bishop Emeritus John M. D’Arcy and Benjamin Muhlenkamp.

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The liturgy of Evening Prayer marked a defining moment in the priestly formation of 15 seminarians at the Pontifical College Josephinum on April 24 when the Most Bishop Emeritus John M. D’Arcy of Fort Wayne-South Bend, admitted them to Candidacy for Holy Orders in the seminary’s St. Turibius Chapel.

The Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders is celebrated when a seminarian has reached a maturity of purpose in his formation and has demonstrated the necessary qualifications for ordination. In the presence of the bishop, he publicly expresses his intention to fully invest himself to the calling of the priesthood.

Father James Wehner, rector, Bishop Emeritus John M. D’Arcy and Benjamin Muhlenkamp.

Seminarians admitted to candidacy

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BY LAUREN CAGGIANO

FORT WAYNE — What is the face of homelessness?
A group of local experts on the topic attempted to answer questions like this at a panel session April 29 at St. Jude Catholic Church.

The panel was presented as an educational offering from the St. Jude Social Action Committee. This committee, headed by Sheila Bruening, invites parishioners to learn about social issues and participate in the corporal works of mercy through various efforts like this panel.

The event took place in the church basement and was open to the public. Panelists included Dr. Phyllis Agnew-Sadora, University/Purdue University/Charis House; Dr. Terry Anderson, director of the Interfaith Hospitality Network; Dottie Carpenter, founder of Ave Marie House; Mollie Cripe, YWCA/Allen County Housing and Homeless Task Force; and Ann Helmke, director of Vincent Village.

Mollie Cripe opened the discussion with a look at how the homeless are counted annually, as mandated by the government. This population, she noted, is rather hard to count due to various factors, therefore it is difficult to ascertain an accurate number. What’s more, she noted a sad reality: There are a lot of “first-time homeless.” These are hardworking people who might have lost their homes due to the weak economy. Terry Anderson is director of the Interfaith Hospitality Network, whose mission is to serve homeless families by uniting faith community volunteers and local agencies in a cooperative effort to pro-
vide shelter, meals and compassionate ongoing assistance. St. Jude’s is a member of the Interfaith Hospitality Network.

The minister debunked some myths about the homeless. The stereotype of the unkempt, drug addicted man is not always the reality. First of all, he cited a statistic that 36 percent of the homeless are families. Sadly, children under 18 are the fastest growing segment in the United States. In short, Anderson called to mind a “new face of homelessness … people like you and I.”

St. Jude’s parishioner Ann Helmke is the director of the transitional shelter Vincent Villages in Fort Wayne. The organization is unique in that it is the only transitional shelter in Allen County, serving two-parent families and single-male headed families without requiring the families to split up in order to access transitional shelter.

Echoing Anderson’s comments, she said, “The face of homelessness to me is a young child.” Helmke spoke firsthand about her work with needy families.

“Each family brings a different story to the door,” she said. While some of her clients are stricken by generational poverty, many are newly homeless, former home owners who have lost everything.

Still, in the face of a grim reality, Helmke has not given up. Vincent Village has taken a proactive approach to homelessness. According to the organization’s Web site, the Vincent Village Rental Housing Program was created to fill this affordable housing gap. In the past 15 years, Vincent Village has purchased and renovated 32 vacant and abandoned single-family houses in the three-block area surrounding the original Vincent House Transitional Community.

Ann Helmke, director of Vincent Village.

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Shelter. “It has created a community,” she said about the housing development. Phyllis Agness provided both an analytical and personal account of this social issue. In Fort Wayne Community Schools alone, 340 students were reported as homeless, she said. And as a volunteer at the Charis House, a local shelter for women, Agness has witnessed changes in recent years. She said 100 women and children are typically turned away in a given month, a dramatic contrast from a few years ago when the shelter had capacity to serve almost everyone who walked in the door. “There’s nowhere for them to go,” she said. Yet it’s in times of despair that people like Dottie Carpenter triumph. Carpenter founded the Ave Maria House in 2008 as a ministry of St. Mary’s Catholic Church. The house welcomes homeless men six days a week. Over the past two years, Carpenter has become acquainted with several of the regular visitors. “That’s their house,” she said. Above all, she said that these men want to know that someone cares. And that someone is her. “I have found when you treat people with dignity and respect they turn around,” she said. In her work she has come to believe in the power of education and employment to overcome homelessness. Following the discussion panelists answered questions from the crowd.

AMAZING APOSTLES REACH OUT TO CANCER SURVIVORS

The Amazing Apostles of Our Lady of Good Hope Parish recently held a stewardship event inviting parish youth to join them in making fleece blankets to be donated to Camp Jenee for adults living with cancer. The Amazing Apostles is a religious education class for students with special needs and is facilitated by Molly Daugherty and Kate Jones. Pictured with their blankets in the back row from left are Anna Welch, Grace Oberhausen, Emily Garrett, Thomas Sordelet, Louis Garrett, Tori Daugherty, Alli Stevens and Betty Vandell. In the middle row are Dominic Garrett, Beth Welch, Patty Welch, Michelle Thelen and Natalie Glasper. In the front row are Vincent Schipper, Michael Garrett, Alex Schipper and Grace Garrett.

Celebrity Cruise Lines

Panama Canal Cruise + the Rose Parade

18 Days  Depart Dec. 29 from $2598*

Travel with other Catholics and Your Chaplain Fr. George Almeida

Fly to Los Angeles Wednesday, December 29, 2010. That evening you may want YMT’s optional tour to the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, CA for the Glory of Christmas, Christmas play. On Thursday enjoy our city tour of Hollywood and Beverly Hills including an exclusive, after public hours, private viewing of the floats. Watch the finishing touches put on the floats two days before the parade. On New Year’s Day, YMT will take you to Pasadena for your reserved grandstand seats for the Rose Parade. On Sunday, January 2, 2011 (after Mass) you’ll transfer to San Diego to board your deluxe ship, the Celebrity Constellation. Enjoy award-winning cuisine and comfortable sophistication at its best, aboard Celebrity’s Millennium Class, 91,000 ton Constellation! Your exciting ports include Cabo San Lucas, Acapulco, and Huatulco, Mexico and Panama, Costa Rica. Next, slowly float through the locks, canals, and Gatun Lake, crossing the continental divide through lush rain forest, on some of the most scenic cruising anywhere in the world! Your final port is Cartagena, Columbia, before flying home from Ft. Lauderdale, Saturday, January 15, 2011. This will be Fr. Almeida’s ninth trip with YMT as a Catholic Chaplain. He is retired after serving as pastor of Our Lady of Fatima in Swansea, MA, in the Fall River diocese. Mass will be celebrated some days on tour and aboard ship. *Price is per person, based on double occupancy, and includes taxes and port charges. Extra is extra.

For information, brochure, and letter from Fr. Almeida with his phone number, call 7 days a week: YMT Vacations 1-800-736-7300
Woman to woman in parish ministries

BY KAY COZAD

I
n this month of May as the faithful of the diocese celebrate not only their devotion to the Blessed Mother but also their own earthly mothers, Today’s Catholic celebrates the sacredness of femininity and the role motherhood, both biologically and spiritually, plays in parish and diocesan-wide women’s ministries, where women honor women.

Many of the 80 parishes within the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend have thriving Rosary Societies or Sodalities that sponsor events for women throughout the year. One such event is the spring mother-daughter breakfast or luncheon that invites the women of the parish to attend with a special female in their lives, such as a mother, daughter, grandmother, aunt or friend. The gatherings provide an opportunity for faithful women to gather to honor their relationships.

Each parish has the opportunity to meet the specific spiritual, emotional and physical needs of its women by offering unique ministries as well. St. Pius X in Granger provides assistance and support in myriad ways through its chapter of the Elizabeth Ministry.

According to its Web site www.elizabethministry.com, “Elizabeth Ministry is an international movement designed to offer hope and healing for women and their families on issues related to sexuality, child-bearing and relationships.” It is based on the visitation of Mary and Elizabeth in Luke’s Gospel and is a “fresh format for women to woman mentoring.”

At St. Pius, Jill Kovath has facilitated the multifaceted ministry since 2003. “It started small. We offered support for miscarriage and to celebrate life. It has grown into about 25 teams. Each with a specific focus. We are 100-women strong at St. Pius!” she says. This army of women mentors are at the ready as the need for support services ebbs and flows throughout the year.

Each ministry team, including pregnancy and infant loss, post-partum depression/anxiety, multiples, adoption, single moms, divorced Catholic women and more, is led by a woman who has experienced the need that she supports. “The women,” says Kovath, “find comfort in relating to other women who have experiences similar to their own.”

Kathy James co-facilitates the postpartum/ anxiety team with partner Theresa Depung. They support women who experience depression or anxiety following the birth of a child at monthly support group meetings. “The women need companionship and support,” says James. “It helps to have another woman say, ‘I’ve been there too.’”

Another unique women’s ministry at St. Pius is the Widow’s Group. This new ministry, led by longtime parishioner and widow of five years Mary Pettit, was formed in October of 2009 and has grown into an educational support endeavor. The monthly meetings are held at Granger Library and offer a variety of speakers, including attorneys and hardware personnel, to match the group’s interests. The widows recently decided to lunch together after the meeting for extended fellowship. “The women love it!” says Pettit.

Our Lady of Good Hope in Fort Wayne supports its women with a prayer ministry called St. Gerard’s List. Facilitator Joan Wickham reports that names of expectant mothers are placed on a prayer list via phone or e-mail at the request of a loved one. A nationwide group of close to 300 prayer warriors pray for these mothers-to-be. “We’ve had many blessings come from the prayer lines,” says Wickham. The ministry also provides meals for the women and their families following the birth of their babies.

An annual event at Our Lady of Good Hope that invites women and their daughters of the parish to share their faith and be encouraged in their faith is the Church is Girls Night Out. This year Megan Oberhausen, associate director of the Youth Ministry of the diocese will speak on “Girl Power or Girl Genius.”

Oberhausen says, “It’s an opportunity for the women to talk about their faith and encourage conversation between moms and daughters.”

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne is one of about 15 parishes across the diocese that offers “Women of Grace” Bible study. According to the Web site www.nlla.org, the study’s purpose is to “encourage and affirm women in their dignity as daughters of God and in their gift of authentic femininity.” Through its conferences, programs and curriculum, Women of Grace seeks to authenticate the genius of women (defined by Pope John Paul II as ‘notting the essential nature and spirit of woman’) so profoundly portrayed in the Blessed Virgin Mary.”

Carol Yaney, director of formation and RCIA at St. Elizabeth says, “There’s such diversity in the groups. It’s amazing how we can help each other on our faith journeys.” Each study session, which includes DVDs, the study of women saints, readings and discussion, is open to 12 women visit from Women of Grace’s founder Johnnette Benkovic. Last year, Women’s Day of Prayer offered a day of workshops to investigate the importance of prayer.

Jennifer Kohnman, associate director of the Office of Spiritual Development says of the day, “It’s a chance to come together, take a day away to come closer to God. You see other women from around the diocese and get a broader vision of the Church.”

All women of the diocese are invited each year to this free event, held at various locations. This special day and the women’s ministries of each parish offer a unique and powerful focus on the dignity of women and their invaluable role as nurturing mentors in the Church and society.

The vocation of motherhood

BY SISTER MARGIE LAVONIS, CSC

May is traditionally dedicated to Mary, the mother of Jesus. Besides honoring Mary in May, we also single out and thank our own mothers on Mother’s Day. It might be a good time to reflect on what it means to be a mother.

First of all, the biological conceiving and birthing of a child makes you a mother. Sometimes it’s not obvious to those who have not experienced the miracle of giving physical birth to children, only to neglect or abandon them.

Like our Blessed Mother Mary, a mother is someone who says yes to the call to love her children in love. The primary role or vocation of a mother is to nurture and protect her children. She helps to form their values and is a major influence on their emotional and spiritual development. The instruction in the rite of baptism tells parents that they are the first and primary educators of their children in the faith. Being a parent, a mother, is an enormous gift and responsibility.

When I was growing up I remember my mother being very involved in our parish. She belonged to the Sodality and the Altar and Rosary Society. She did everything from washing altar linens to becoming an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, when the laity began distributing Communion. Even into her late 70s she still brought Communion to patients in the hospital. She often went to daily Mass and took us to special services like novenas. There is no doubt in my mind that her devotion and dedication was a great influence on my formation in the faith and ultimately my becoming a Sister of the Holy Cross.

Another attribute of motherhood is its lifetime concern for their children. Even though a component of motherhood is letting go of their grown children, mothers never cease to love and support them in good times and in bad. Sometimes a mother can do everything right and a child may not respond well.

There are families who have one child with problems and another who has entered religious life, yet both were brought up the same way. Children can cause much sorrow and discouragement, but parents, especially mothers, continue to bestow faithful love. Consider St. Monica who prayed many years for the conversion of her wayward son who eventually became St. Augustine and a doctor of the Church. And there are those who are spiritual mothers.

They may not give physical birth to children but serve as important mentors. These are often those who step in when a mother dies or is ill, or they can be women who befriend children who lack mothering in their own families.

Often we take our mothers for granted and neglect to show them our gratitude. It is important to show our thanks every day not just once a year. The vocation of motherhood is not always easy and often mothers make great sacrifices for their children. Flowers and candy are nice, but most mothers would just like a thank you once in a while throughout the year. There are many ways to show our appreciation.

And if you never knew your mother or she is deceased, remember that Mary is also your mother and loves you very much.
A mother’s love

BY LISA EVERETT

Mother Teresa of Calcutta once told the story of a small Indian boy who kept running away from the children’s shelter where the Sisters of Charity had taken him. Curious to find out why, one of the sisters followed the child until he came upon a poor woman sitting in the dirt in front of a small fire. “Why do you come here rather than stay with us where there is food and shelter?” the sister asked him. The little boy responded: “But this is my home, because this is where my mother is.”

Something about this story strikes me as not only poignant, but profound. What is it that makes a mother the center of a small child’s world, the person he prefers above all else? The answer can only be love, for love is a child’s deepest need, and he finds it reflected first on the face of his mother.

Pope John Paul II reflected that God entrusts the human being in a special way to the woman, and surely this is most true of the mother. This is what makes motherhood a vocation, a calling from God to give of ourselves, day by day, for the good of the children He has entrusted to us. Only this awareness can inspire mothers to attempt to do with extraordinary love the ordinary tasks that make up much of our lives. The small, continuous acts of service and tenderness and even sacrifice that are part and parcel of motherhood forge a personal relationship with our child, which is a foundation of all the other relationships that he or she will develop later in life.

We know more than ever how critical the first three years of a child’s life are in setting the foundation for his or her emotional security, social interactions, moral development and spiritual growth. As Dr. Herbert Ratner, long-time editor of the journal Child and Family once observed: “It is love which holds together the delicate membranes of human society... and love is essentially taught through a one-to-one relationship.” We learn that we are loved largely through the attention, affection and care we receive from our mother, and this experience of love enables us, little by little, to learn to love in return.

But it is not only our relationships with other human beings that are shaped by our relationship with our mother, but also our relationship with God. As St. John the Evangelist put it: “Love then, consists in this—that we have loved God, but that He has loved us;” and His love for us first passes by way of our mother. This is true not only in the order of nature, but also in the order of grace. God’s love for us, revealed fully in Christ, first passed by way of His mother. Pope John Paul II pointed out that through Mary, God entered into a new Covenant—a new relationship—with humanity, and that since then, “each and every time that the order of love is restored in human history, it is always related to the covenant which God established with the human race through the motherhood of the Mother of God.”

This means, for starters, that mothers with children still at home who spend most of the day feeding the hungry and clothing the naked do not have to look far to find Christ. For whatever we do for the least of his brothers and sisters, He assured us, we do for Him. Only this realization has the potential to transform what can become the routine drudgery of daily care into a true work of love—diaper by diaper, errand by errand, dish by dish.

In addition, our feminine sensibility and solicitude equips us to notice the needs of our children in a unique way, so as to respond to them as best we can, and when they are beyond our capacity or control, to bring them to the Lord’s attention, like Mary did for the newlyweds at Cana. By nature, we are tenacious, persistent advocates on behalf of our children, and we can plead boldly on their behalf in prayer. One of the few women in the Gospels who we know for sure was a mother was the Canaanite woman who flung herself at the Lord’s feet and begged Him to heal her daughter who was possessed by a demon. Despite Christ’s initial rebuffs, which were intended to increase her fervor, this fearless mother persists in interceding, and He not only grants her request, but pays her the supreme compliment: “O woman, great is your faith!”

It is a compliment Christ would pay to His own mother when a woman in the crowd called out “Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed you!” Christ directed her attention to the deeper meaning of Mary’s motherhood, one that is not tied to bonds of flesh and blood. “Blessed rather are they who hear the word of God and keep it.” This is the deeper meaning of our motherhood as well, its spiritual dimension, which Pope John Paul II described as “a profound listening to the word of the living God and a readiness to safeguard this Word, which is the word of eternal life.” Only if we are women of faith and prayer, who let the word of God sink deeply into our hearts and put it into practice as best we can, will we help to secure for our children, young or old, their greatest good—the gift of eternal life. What unspeakable love our Lord must have found on the face of his own mother, Mary, from the first time He gazed upon her, cradled in her arms, to the final time, gazing down at her as she stood at the foot of the cross. This Son, entrusted to her during his earthly life, would now entrust the whole human race, and each one of us personally, to the woman who had loved him so well. Perhaps it was His way of drawing us closer to heaven, knowing that for us, too, home is where our mother is.

From the moment of birth there is that mystical bond between mother and child—a source of strength, comfort, and mercy that never fails—someone to count on.

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“From the instant of conception let us assume the fullness of time as it was decreed and ordained from all eternity in the divine plan.”

Come Lord Jesus, help the defenseless.
SHROUD OF TURIN DISPLAY AT NOTRE DAME

From 1978 until 1984, Dr. Eric Jumper, a professor at the Air Force Academy and the Air Force Institute of Technology was part of the Shroud of Turin Research Project (STURP) team. This display in the Hesburgh Library at the University of Notre Dame shows the shroud through a negative camera image, and a cardboard model and fiberglass model image. St. Pius parishioner Mike Zenk did this research while he was at the academy and helped construct the cardboard image. The original Shroud of Turin, which many believe to be the burial cloth of Christ, is being displayed in Turin’s Cathedral of St. John the Baptist from April 10 to May 23. The last public exposition of the shroud was in 2000; it underwent major cleaning and restoration in 2002. Pope Benedict XVI recently viewed the shroud during a trip to Turin May 2.

USF offers summer classes for children

FORT WAYNE — The School of Creative Arts at the University of Saint Francis will offer summer art classes for children in grades 1-6 in the “Art in the Morning” Youth Art Program. The classes will run from July 6-30, Monday through Friday from 9-11:30 a.m., at the Mini and Ian Rolland Art and Visual Communication Center on Leesburg Road.

Area art teachers and art education majors will instruct children in drawing, painting, print-making, multimedia and ceramics. All art materials and a daily snack will be provided.

The cost is $75 for each child and includes all materials and instructional fees. Scholarships are available to those students who receive the Free and Reduced Lunch Program.

A pre-college summer Music Technology Academy will be made available to high school students in grades nine through 12. Classes will run from July 6 through July 23, Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the North Campus, 2702 Spring St.

The academy provides meaningful training in the musical arts and guides students as they create their own digital recordings utilizing the university’s music technology studies and MIDI lab. Each day’s activities include both group classes and individual instruction.

The cost is $85 per student and includes tuition, lunch and all materials. For a registration form including tuition lunch and all materials, contact the School of Creative Arts at 260-399-7700, ext. 8001.

Bishop Rhoades to bless new Redeemer Radio facilities

FORT WAYNE — Redeemer Radio, Catholic Radio AM 1450, announced that Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades will bless the new studio facilities of Redeemer Radio on May 11 at 10 a.m. The station’s new home will be located at 4618 E. State St. (East State Professional Office Park), between Reed and Coliseum. The public is invited to attend.

Bishop Rhoades has been a supporter of Redeemer Radio since his arrival as the new bishop of the diocese in January of this year and serves as honorary co-chair of “Building Faith, Sharing Christ: The Campaign for Redeemer Radio” with Bishop John M. D’Arcy, his predecessor. Bishop Rhoades recently said, “Redeemer Radio is a great means of evangelization and catechesis. ... It has my blessing and my strong support.”

The bishop will be joined by Msgr. Robert Schulte, the vicar general of the diocese, and Jim Fitzpatrick, the episcopal master of ceremonies. Msgr. Schulte, a member of the Redeemer Radio Campaign Cabinet, is scheduled to offer the opening prayer.

The leadership of Redeemer Radio expressed its gratitude to Bishop Rhoades, both for his support and for giving of his time to bless the facilities. Redeemer Radio Board Chairman Mike Kelly noted, “Though we are an independent apostolate, we serve at the pleasure of Bishop Rhoades and strive to do everything possible to assist him in his goals and the diocese in its work.”

The new station studios were made possible through the generous gifts donated during the initial silent phase of the campaign. Campaign Co-Chair Lona Pritchard describes the new studios as “one of the first fruits that demonstrates the success of the initial phase of the capital campaign.”

The blessing of the new facilities marks a new chapter in the life of the rapidly growing Catholic radio station, and the relocation is concurrent with the announcement of the public phase of the capital campaign.

The new studios will provide the space necessary to expand Redeemer Radio’s reach to more of the diocese, and, through the success of the entire campaign, the station will be able to purchase the remaining state-of-the-art, digital equipment to operate and distribute Catholic radio programming to additional stations throughout most of the diocese. The expanded studios provide tangible evidence of the campaign’s progress, and the generosity of Redeemer Radio’s listeners demonstrates their desire for continued growth.

Redeemer Radio will commence broadcasting from its new home on East State Street in mid to late May.

4th Annual Indiana HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CONFERENCE Building the Domestic Church Through God, Family and Love May 22 - 23, 2010 Kokomo High School 2501 S. Berkley Road, Kokomo, Indiana Hosted by: St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church St. Patrick Catholic Church Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana THE ONLY CONFERENCE IN THE REGION TO OFFER SOMETHING FOR ALL AGES! The conference includes:
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**BISHOP RHoades ATTENDS KNIGHTS’ BANQUET FOR RELIGIOUS**

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades joined fellow Fourth Degree Knights at the Anthony Wayne Assembly’s annual banquet honoring priests, sisters, deacons and seminarians on Wednesday evening, April 28, in Fort Wayne. He is shown here with Franciscan Sister Theresa Renninger, who was recognized for 60 years of service. Eighteen priests, 18 sisters and 145 Knights and their ladies were reminded by Bishop Rhoades that the Knights of Columbus understand that vocations are Christ’s gift to the Church. The bishop also announced that he will lead a pilgrimage to Madrid, Spain in August, 2011, joining Pope Benedict XVI there for World Youth Day.

**BISHOP D’ARCY HONORED FOR 25 YEARS AS BISHOP**

Bishop-emeritus John M. D’Arcy celebrated the 25th anniversary of installation as the bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend on Saturday, May 1. Diocesan staff gathered with Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades April 29 in the Archbishop Noll Catholic Center in Fort Wayne to celebrate with a reception. Bishop D’Arcy celebrated the evening Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on May 1.
EDITORIAL

‘New Apologetics needed for ‘New Evangelization’

Pope John Paul II often referred to a “new evangelization” that would have the entire Church — both clergy and laity — spread the Gospel of Christ in our modern society using new methods with a renewed ardor. Now there are reports from Rome indicating that Pope Benedict XVI is considering establishing a new Vatican department for such a “new evangelization” directed to Western societies that are in danger of losing their Christian identity.

The reasons why Western societies have experienced this loss of faith are many — but one of the main reasons for it must certainly be the inability of the clergy and laity to offer a defense of its teaching that resonates with the often skeptical modern ear. In fact, in the years following the Second Vatican Council, the emphasis in the Church was on a dialogue with other Christian and non-Christian bodies that primarily sought better mutual understanding and commonalities of beliefs. Almost banished from consideration as something almost un gracious was the teaching of apologetics — in other words, teaching clergy and laity how to defend the teachings of the Catholic Church in a way that is not only loving, but that seeks to persuade the listener of its truth.

In the New Testament, 1 Peter 3:15 provides the classic starting point for a sound apologetics: “Always be ready to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope — but do so with gentleness and awe.” Apologetics done badly — the apologetics particularly rejected in the post-conciliar period — forgets that latter admonition which not only stresses a gentleness towards the listener, but an awe, that is, a reverential fear, towards the mystery being discussed.

Cardinal Levada and shape of new apologetics

Last week, the prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Cardinal Levada, gave an address that emphasized the urgency of a “new apologetics” that would underpin the “new evangelization” for which the post-conciliar popes have been calling. The cardinal began his address by recalling the words of Pope Benedict when he was visiting Washington, D.C., in 2008: “The pope stated, ‘In a society that rightly values personal liberty, the Church needs to promote at every level of her teaching — in catechesis, preaching, seminary and university instruction — an apologetics aimed at affirming the truth of Christian revelation, the harmony of faith and reason, and a sound understanding of freedom, seen in positive terms as a liberation both from the limitations of sin and for an authentic and fulfilling life.’

Cardinal Levada went on to discuss what a new apologetics would look like. He discussed various ideas such as rooting it in a wonder for creation, in a dialogue with science, in the stories of the saints, in the beauty of the arts, in the quest for Christian unity and in the call to justice and global solidarity. He reflected as well on a dialogue about the meaning and purpose of human freedom. He commented that “if freedom is directed toward reinforcing the individualism of a ‘me-first’ culture, it will never realize the potential offered by the One who made us in his own image and likeness as a liberation both from the limitations of sin and for an authentic and fulfilling life.”

A new apologetics, then, is not simply about a logical discourse that proceeds in a linear fashion. It’s more about looking at truth and beauty as a symphony with various elements that all point back with awe to the Divine Composer. In fact, it is a symphony that is most profoundly reflected in the Divine Liturgy where the beauty of sounds, sights and smells underscore the meaning of the Word proclaimed, sacrificed and consumed.

Towards the end of his address, Cardinal Levada noted the importance of past apologetics such as C.S. Lewis’ “Mere Christianity”: “I found interesting the principal theme of Lewis’ argument for God and Christianity: the innate sense of right and wrong, of good and evil, as proof of a Divine Author. Here again is a key theme for apologetics: the longing for the good, and its related themes of a natural moral law and of the validity of human reason common to all humanity.”

In the end, for a “new apologetics” to take root in the Church will require from both clergy and laity alike a desire for truth and beauty in all its splendor and the burning love to share it with the churched and unchurched alike.

Today’s Catholic editorial board is Kay Cozad, Fred and Lisa Everett, Father Mark Guettert, Msgr. Michael Heinitz, Tim Johnson and Vince LaBarbera.

May 9, 2010

COMMENTS

Questions about National Day of Prayer stir weeks of national debate

WASHINGTON (CNS) — In the weeks since a Wisconsin federal judge ruled the National Day of Prayer unconstitutional, one thing has been certain: People have strong feelings both for and against prayer.

Although the day’s events will continue as planned May 6, its future is uncertain.

In her April 15 ruling, District Judge Donald J./construction in Madison, Wis., said the day of prayer violated the First Amendment, but she postponed enforcement of her decision until all appeals were exhausted. The Justice Department announced April 26 that it will challenge Crawford, even if on the U.S. 7th Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago.

The day has a long history. It has been an annual event since 1952 and has been celebrated on the first Thursday in May since 1988. Attempting to do away with a tradition — and a faith one at that — is certain to cause a reaction.

Charles Haynes, senior scholar of the First Amendment Center in Washington, said politicians might even show up in greater numbers at the prayer-day events this year because not doing so, he told Religious News Service, would be akin to “being against apple pie and motherhood.”

Those on both sides of the issue have taken their views onto the blogosphere, online petitions, billboard advertisements and letter-writing campaigns, but the final word will probably only come after more courtroom battles.

A “Save the National Day of Prayer” campaign was launched by the National Day of Prayer Task Force, a group based in Colorado Springs, Colo., that plans tens of thousands of events nationwide on the annual prayer day.

The Freedom From Religion Foundation — the Madison-based group of atheists and agnostics that filed the 2008 lawsuit against the federal government over the day of prayer — also similarly bolstered their campaign efforts, despite the ruling in their favor.

Both groups are soliciting donations, collecting online signatures and urging supporters to contact governors and mayors either to continue with plans for the day or to refrain from participating in events or issuing proclamations.

On its Web site, the Freedom From Religion Foundation has ironically likened the prayer-day clash to a biblical struggle, saying their group is “in a David vs. Goliath battle.”

A Rasmussen Reports survey released April 23 found that 60 percent of Americans favor the Bar-Yaakov from Adath B’nai a National Day of Prayer, while 28 percent were opposed and 12 percent were not sure.

The day usually includes prayer services, rallies, breakfasts and walks in cities and towns across the country. People meet in churches, city halls, parks and shopping malls to pray or talk about the importance of prayer. Many of the nation’s governors and mayors have signed proclamations in support of the day’s events.

A spokesman for President Barack Obama said the president “intends to recognize a National Day of Prayer,” as he did last year when he issued a proclamation. The president did not host an observance at the White House last year, as President George W. Bush did throughout his presidency.

Only a few Catholic leaders have been vocal in their support for the National Day of Prayer. Archbishop Jerome E. Listecki of Milwaukee told the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel that Crab’s ruling was a “missed opportunity to acknowledge our nation’s identity, which was founded on our dependence on God.”

Bishop Gerald A. Gertelfinger of Evansville spoke in support of the prayer-day efforts at an April 28 news conference at the Evansville diocesan pastoral center. The bishop and Rabbi Helen Bar-Yaakov from Adath B’nai Israel Temple in Evansville urged people of all faiths to set aside their differences and focus on what they share in common.

This year’s National Day of Prayer events in Evansville will be at the town’s Freedom’s Monument, which is public property.

During the news conference, the bishop and the rabbi agreed that prayer-day events do not interfere with separation of church and state but instead reinforces it. “As small as our community is, we have to recognize that we have many faith traditions,” the bishop said, adding that it shows “we’re part of a larger world.”

An editorial in the April 23 issue of The Criterion, archdiocesan newspaper of Indianapolis, said the ruling against the day of prayer would “open our eyes again to how a misguided view-point can potentially dismantle what has been a time-honored tradition in our society.”

“The day goes beyond mere ‘acknowledgment’ of religion because its sole purpose is to encourage all citizens to engage in prayer, an inherently religious exercise that serves no secular function in this context. In this instance, the government has taken sides on a matter that must be left to individual conscience,’” said the American Center for Law and Justice, which represented 31 members of Congress who joined the federal government as defendants in this case, described Crab’s ruling as flawed.

“It is unfortunate that this court failed to understand that a day set aside for prayer for the country represents a time-honored tradition that embraces the First Amendment, not violates it,” said Jay Sekulow, chief counsel for the American Center for Law and Justice, in a statement.

Sekulow also said he thought the case would probably go on to the U.S. Supreme Court, and he predicted that if it does “we will carry the day, but it is going to be a close case.”

He also said it “very well may be decided by the next appointee to the high court.”

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

Today’s Catholic’s reserve rights to edit for clarity and length. Word length may not exceed 250 words. Address letters to: Today’s Catholic • P.O. Box 11169 • Fort Wayne, IN • 46856-1169 or e-mail to: editor@fdcatholicwht.org

CAROL ZIMMERMANN

THE WASHINGTON LETTER

May 9, 2010

CAROL ZIMMERMANN

The Freedom From Religion Foundation has ironically likened the prayer-day clash to a biblical struggle, saying their group is “in a David versus Goliath battle.”
O n the three offices Christ left to his Church—prophet, priest, and king—the third is often the most difficult to talk about for one thing. Americans don’t have kings. The idea of a king does not sound to us like it would have sounded to ancient Israel, where the king was God’s gift to the nation. For another thing, we tend to like our independence. A king sounds like someone who will be bossing us around, telling us what to think and what to do.

Church documents therefore need to translate this idea into terms we can understand. It is interesting to see how Church documents refer to this third office. What terms do they use?

After the world synod on priesthood, an Apostolic Exhortation was issued ("Pastores Dabo Vobis"). It refers to the bond “between the priest’s spirit and the king’s spirit.” Dabo V obis). It refers to the bond “between the priest’s spiritual life and the exercise of his threefold ministry of word, sacrament and pastoral charity.”

The Church calls us to strong faith, but also to authority. A king sounds like someone who will be bossing us around, telling us what to think and what to do.

Church documents therefore need to translate this idea into terms we can understand. It is interesting to see how Church documents refer to this third office. What terms do they use?

After the world synod on priesthood, an Apostolic Exhortation was issued ("Pastores Dabo Vobis"). It refers to the bond “between the priest’s spirit and the king’s spirit.”

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says priests “have the primary duty of proclaiming the Gospel of God” (they are prophets). It says ordained ministers “humbly dedicate themselves to the work of sanctification” (they are priests). Then it says the priest exercises “the office of the Holy Spirit, Shepherd and Head, by having a share of his authority. And by this office, priests “gather the family of God together as a brotherhood.

The Year for Priests

Neither Antioch’s Christian leaders, nor Antioch’s individual Christians, resolved the dispute. The persons directly involved, namely the converts themselves, were not allowed to decide about the matter for themselves. So, the question was sent to Jerusalem, for review by the Apostles.

Replied, the Apostles called the Antioch Christians “brothers,” one and all, without any distinction. The Apostles said that this Hebrew ritual need not be imposed upon converts. They based theirs decision on their authority, conferred upon them by the Holy Spirit.

The Book of Revelation furnishes the second reading. This reading is poetic and highly symbolic. The city, of course, is heaven, but called the “heavenly Jerusalem.” This heavenly city awaits all who love God. On each of its four sides are three gates, open and available to anyone wanting entry. Three was a perfect number. The four sides refer to the four corners of the earth. In other words, all are welcome.

The names of the 12 tribes of Israel appear on the city’s walls, another symbol to say that salvation is offered to all. No tribe is excluded.

St. John’s Gospel gives this weekend the third eloquent reading. It makes three points. Jesus calls upon the disciples to love each other. It will not be easy all the time.

However, following Christ will not be impossible, as the Holy Spirit will assist and strengthen the faithful.

Finally, for those who truly love God, peace will be with them. Peace is not necessarily an absence of conflict, or necessarily so broad as to only exist, hopefully, among people or among nations. It is the peace of the individual human heart and soul that comes from knowing God is present.

Reflection

Already the Church is directing us to Pentecost, but far from merely pointing us to an anniversary. The Church is telling us that, if we accept Jesus and live by the Gospel, God will be with us in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Then, the Church gives us very practical advice. Since being with God in the heavenly Jerusalem is the only true source of peace, and anything else is death, we reach God’s heavenly Jerusalem by our daily decisions to follow Jesus.

The route to heaven is revealed not just by personal insight, but by God’s illumination of the path. Relying upon Christ, and upon the Lord’s Apostles, the Church illumines the way, guiding us to answer, with Christian faith and love, the questions that confront us in life.

As we look ahead to Pentecost, the Church already calls us to strong faith, but also to realism. We need the Church’s guidance.

READINGS

Sunday: Acts 15:1-22 Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8b. 8:8 Ps 110:1-2, 4-5, 14-15

Monday: Acts 16:21-22 Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b. Jn 13:5-16a


Friday: Acts 11:15-17, 20-26 Ps 113:1-8 Jn 15:19-17


CATEQUIZ’EM

By Dominic Camplisson

In honor of Mother’s Day, the CateQUIZ’em, the mother of all quizzes, looks at moms.

1. Who, according to the Bible, was Cain and Abel’s mom?
   a. Eve, of course
   b. It doesn’t actually state, so scholars assume Eve
   c. They had only a father, so they got ribbed at school

2. In Exodus, was there some serious protection for moms. What was to happen to a person who struck his mom?
   a. He was to be excommunicated.
   b. He was to be beaten with wet manna.
   c. He was to be put to death.

3. What was Moses’ mom?
   a. Hebrew
   b. an Egyptian
   c. a Mosaic

4. Job, perhaps showing a great ability to state the obvious, says he came out of his mother’s womb in this condition:
   a. Fighting
   b. Blue
   c. Naked

5. This woman, who was the fourth and perhaps greatest judge of the Israelites, was described as having “arose as a mother in Israel”:
   a. Bathsheba
   b. Deborah
   c. Sheenagh

6. According to Proverbs, it was probably unwise to scorn one’s mother. Why?
   a. Your eyes will be pecked out by ravens and eaten by vultures.
   b. No one who scorned his mother could enlist in the ranks of the army or priestly class.
   c. Mothers were allowed to imprison their recalcitrant sons in the caves in Petra.

7. What did Samuel’s mother make for him every year while he was a child serving the Lord?
   a. four and 10 blackbirds baked in a pie (birds were in short supply)
   b. a little robe
   c. a pilgrimage to Samaria

8. Isaiah recounts that the Lord will do this to Israel as a mother does:
   a. Spank them
   b. Wash their ears
   c. Comfort them

9. According to Matthew’s Gospel, what was Joseph’s reaction when he found out Mary was going to be a mother?
   a. He handed out cigars.
   b. He was pleased.
   c. He planned to divorce her.

10. This saint’s mother was also a saint and even has a southern California city named for her:
   a. Augustine
   b. Comptonius
   c. Tustino

11. St. Helena was the mother to this successful person:
   a. Pope Peter
   b. Constantine
   c. Tsar Nicholas IV

12. The alternate name for “Mothering Sunday” (mainly British) is:
   a. Laetare Sunday
   b. Wuthering Sunday
   c. Mother’s Day

13. The correct theological term for reverence to Mary as the Mother of God is:
   a. Latia
   b. Dulia
   c. Hyperdulia

14. The mother of this successful cleric was called Emilia Kazarowska:
   a. Vlad Kravoka, bishop of Moscow
   b. Thomas a Beckett
   c. John Paul II

15. What does the Catechism of the Catholic Church say about the Church as our mother?
   a. Nothing; the second edition removed the language.
   b. Article 3 describes the church as “mother and teacher.”
   c. The Church is said to be our mother because we never listen to her and we run with scissors.

ANSWERS:

1a. (Gen 4:1-2); 2c. (Ex 21:15); 3a. (Ex 2:22); 4c. (Job 1:21); 5b. (Jdg 5:7). 6a. (Ps 30:17); 7b. (1 Sam 2:19); 8c. (66:63); 9c. (Mt 1:19); 10a. (Santa Monica); 11b. 12a. 13c. 14c. 15b.
What JFK wrought at Houston

Sandro Magister’s “Chiesa” (Church) newsletter (available at http://chiesa.espressorepubblica.it) is an indispensable resource for anyone seriously following the major debates within the Catholic Church, the ideas shaping the pontificates of Benedict XVI, and the goings-on of the Church’s central administration. Sandro and I are friends and were sources for each other during the interregnum between the death of John Paul II and the election of Benedict XVI. In my experience, he’s that rarest of birds in the Italian journalistic avairy — someone who doesn’t make stuff up. Sometime, though, even Homer nods.

In his April 11 “Chiesa,” Sandro gave a lot of space to a critique by Professor Luca Diotallevi of a March 1 speech by Archbishop Charles Chaput of Denver. In that speech, Chaput (whose diocesan newspaper syndicates this column) mentioned that F. Kennedy’s September 1960 address to the Greater Houston Ministerial Association was a harbinger of what Richard John Neuhaus would later call the “naked public square” — an American public space shorn, not only of religious arguments, but of religiously-informed moral arguments made in a genuinely public manner. Professor Diotallevi thinks Chaput got Kennedy wrong. I think Professor Diotallevi got both Kennedy and Chaput wrong.

Diotallevi suggests that John Courtney Murray, who would later write a significant role in shaping Vatican II’s Declaration on Religious Freedom, was the chief ghostwriter of JFK’s Houston speech. That’s wrong, and while Murray may have been consulted, he certainly didn’t agree with Kennedy’s assertion at Houston that religious conviction ought not shape the public debate “directly or indirectly” — for that would have ruled out precisely the kind of Catholic natural law public philosophy that Murray urged in America in his seminal 1960 book, “We Hold These Truths: Catholic Reflections on the American Proposition.”

Professor Diotallevi may also have misread the character of the anti-Catholic bias that Kennedy faced in 1960. It’s true, as the Italian professor writes, that Kennedy’s Protestant audience was used to Christianity “manifesting itself in every aspect of public life.” But what these men wanted was a Protestant public square; some of them were even unsure that Catholics were Christians. Kennedy’s strategy in meeting that bigotry was not to speak of the ecumenical public philosophy the natural moral law could provide (which would have been the classic Murray move), but to propose an America in which everyone’s Christian convictions were out-of-bounds in public life, whether those convictions were expressed “directly or indirectly.”

Then there is the question of what Catholic politicians, post-JFK, learned from Kennedy’s experience. Very few, alas, learned Murray’s natural law approach to arguing moral truths amidst American pluralism, many of them bought into the secularism in public life that Kennedy made even more explicit in his 1962 commencement address at Yale — a speech that declared the great issues of the time technocratic and managerial rather than philosophic and moral. Read through the prism of the Yale address, the Houston speech on religion in public life looks even more like a matter of JFK playing precursor to the naked public square that Mario Cuomo and John Kerry would promote and defend in 1984 and 2004. Those men, in turn, further confused the abortion debate by declaring the Church’s teaching on life sectarian, rather than grappling with it as it is: A natural law moral argument, devoid of uniquely Catholic theological premises; an argument anyone willing to engage in serious thought can grasp.

The depth of anti-Catholicism in the U.S. in 1960 was such that it may have taken a modern rationalist who was far more a modern rationalist than a man formed by the social doctrine of the Church to break the Catholic glass ceiling in American presidential politics. That seems clear to me is that Archbishop Chaput had it right, and Professor Diotallevi has it wrong, in their respective analyses of what JFK wrought at Houston. Kennedy may have defeated Protestant prejudice. But the way he did it prepared the ground for schizophrenic politicians who bracket their moral convictions with the political parties — the secularists — with the “imposition” of “sectarian” convictions.

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

Selucia mentioned in Acts of the Apostles

What did Selucia, the port of Antioch, look like at the time of St. Paul?

Selucia is mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles in the New Testament as the port from which St. Paul and St. Barnabas set sail toward the island of Cyprus on their first missionary journey. This Selucia is called Selucia Pieria and also Samandag. It served as the seaport for Antioch, the third largest city in the Roman empire at the time of St. Paul.

A. Edmonds says this Selucia was located at the mouth of the Orontes river in eastern Turkey on rocks which form a cliff above the Mediterranean Sea at the foot of Mt. Pieria (or Musa). There were ruins of a fort here in 300 B.C. Ishenderun is presently the main port for Antioch.

M. Grant says that Selucia was famous for a sanctuary of the god Zeus on Mount Cassius at the end of the bay that was the scene of annual festivals. The sacred stone and shrine of the cult are depicted on local coinage. Other coins show a temple of the city goddess Tyche (or Astarte). There is a large Doric temple, whose foundations still survive. That seems to be the site.

At Selucia there are remnants, bas ions, gates and tombs of Roman notables. You can see the remains of the Roman emperor Vespasian’s water system. There are also Roman villas with fine mosaics along the slopes of the upper town. You can see the foundations of a cruciform Christian martyr’s shrine from the fifth century A.D. Selucia may have comprised 6,000 adult citizens.

E. Blake says Selucia was named after Selucus Nicator, a distinguished officer under Philip of Macedonia. He accompanied Alexander the Great on his Asian expedition and he became the founder of the Selucian dynasty that ruled Syria from 312-64 B.C. Selucians fostered Greek civilization and culture.

There is another city called Selucia of Isauria or Silifke that pertains to St. Paul, the birthplace of St. Paul, in southeast Turkey. Here St. Thecla is said to have been buried in the cemetery near the fifth-century basilica in the nearby hill of Meriamlik. According to the “Acts of Paul and Thecla,” written in the second century A.D., St. Thecla was converted in St. Paul in Iconium, a city in central Turkey now called Konya. Tradition says St. Thecla, a Christian virgin, set up a nunnery outside of Selucia and was so effective in performing miraculous cures that the doctors of the town went out of business.

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CYO track and field competition opens

BY MICHELLE CASTLEMAN

FORT WAYNE — In the season opener for Catholic Youth League (CYO) track and field, St. Vincent won both the boys’ and the girls’ competition at Bishop Luers, while St. Jude took the boys’ side and St. Charles the girls’ top honors at Bishop Dwenger. Competition for 2010 will again take place on Thursday evenings simultaneously at two locations. Field events will begin at 5:30 p.m. with racing to start at 5:45 p.m. Half of the CYO teams go to the Bishop Luers track, while the other half will compete at Bishop Dwenger High School.

St. Vincent’s Bly won three individual events to help the Panthers edge out second-place St. John, New Haven, 68-66. Third place went to St. John, Fort Wayne, and fourth to St. Therese/St. Aloysius. Other blue ribbon winners for St. Vincent were Kruse (800, 1,600) and the 4x200 meter relay team. The Raiders got five points from their 4x100 meter relay team (54.7 seconds), Hoffer (400) and Rorick (high jump). The St. Vincent girls dominated their field winning both relays and six individual events at Bishop Luers. St. John, Fort Wayne, followed in the points standing with 45.5. St. John, New Haven, was next with 39 and St. Therese/St. Aloysius finished with 11.

At Bishop Dwenger, the Lady Cardinals from St. Charles scored 80 points by winning both relay races, all four field events, the hurdles and the 100-meter dash to win their first meet of the year. St. Jude and St. Joseph/St. Elizabeth tied for runner-up in the team scoring, each putting up 29 points. St. Joseph/St. Elizabeth’s distance specialist, Riembold, won both the mile and half. For the boys, St. Jude outpaced St. Charles and St. Joseph/St. Elizabeth, 64-52-9, in their tri-meet. Both relays were victorious for the Eagles, Schrader won the long jump and 400-meter, Werling the hurdles, Ng the 200 and Palmer had a triple crown.

BISHOP DWenger SENIORS SIGN WITH MARIAN UNIVERSITY KNIGHTS

Bishop Dwenger High School seniors Lauren Palmer and Staci Roberts will continue their running careers with Marian University in Indianapolis. The long-time teammates and co-captains of the BDHS track team have run varsity track together for four years. In addition, Staci ran four years on the varsity cross country team for the Saints. Marian Head Cross Country and Track and Field Coach David Roberts attended the signing in the Bishop Dwenger Library/Media Center on Thursday, April 29.

Program helps students deal with challenges of Internet abuses

BY JIM GAUGER

WEST CHESTER, Pa. (CNS) — Sister Margaret Rose Adams, a Sister of the Immaculate Heart of Mary who is principal of St. Simon and Jude School in West Chester, feels pretty comfortable around technology.

“I thought I was ahead of the curve,” she said, “but the children are so far beyond us.”

Today’s newspaper headlines and television reports bring a new set of challenges for 21st-century parents and their children — challenges that change practically every day.

On April 26, St. Simon and Jude was the site of a two-part program titled “A Proactive Approach to Growing Concerns of Sexting (texting with sexually explicit content), Texting and Internet Abuse.” Paul Sanfrancesco, director of technology for Garnet Valley School District, who for six years held a similar post with the Philadelphia Archdiocese, led two sessions discussing the topic. The first session was in the morning with students in grades six through eight. The second, at night, was for school personnel, faculty and parents.

Sister Margaret Rose said the students were very receptive.

“One thing I have much concern with is that there are so many ways to get on the Internet — computers, cell phones and iPods,” she said.

Sexual material that young people send via cell phones has become a national problem, leading to tragic results in some cases. Students are also involved in cyberbullying, a high-tech approach to a problem that has undermined education for generations.

Sister Margaret Rose estimated that 125 of the 150 students in grades six through eight possess cell phones. “A lot of times an older sibling gets a new phone and passes it down to a younger child,” she said.

Parents give cell phones to their children for safety reasons. A child can text a parent if there is an emergency, for example.

Sanfrancesco takes the positive approach in instructing students and parents about technology’s darker side.

“We’re not trying to scare the parents,” he said. “We are just giving as much information as possible to help them make decisions about their children’s use of technology. Kids have no fear.”

Parenting in the 21st century, said Sanfrancesco, involves being aware of sexting and cyberbullying and dealing with it by monitoring your children’s use of technology and by exercising Catholic values.

“Parents send their children to Catholic schools for a reason,” said Sanfrancesco, the father of three children enrolled at St. Anastasia School in Newtown Square.

“Being a 21st-century student and a Catholic parent requires us to do more,” he added. “It’s against our religion to illegally download music from the Internet. Sure, everybody’s doing it. You have to make the connection between Catholic teaching and 21st-century technology. What you are doing has consequences.”

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‘Signs of Life’ brings clarity to talking points

BY YORK YOUNG

One of the classic lines thrown in the face of Catholics by non-Catholics about Church doctrine, teaching or devotions is often, “Where is that in the Bible?” That question is usually thrown out by those who don’t understand the depth and breadth of the Bible. Catholics don’t use the Bible for understanding its teaching. That question is usually thrown out by those who don’t understand the Church’s teaching that Catholics point to as coming from tradition is less valid than biblical sources.

That Catholics don’t read the Bible. 4) That somehow everything valid in Christianity can be encapsulated in a Bible verse. We could go on here, but you get the picture.

Catholic devotion and traditions can almost all be pointed back to the Bible in some way. Scott Hahn brings a little (make that a lot) of clarity to this issue with his latest book, “Signs of Life: 40 Catholic Customs and Their Biblical Roots.”

Standing alone, each chapter is filled with straightforward explanations and biblical references that will encourage one’s belief while at the same time per-sharing the topic with friends and family.

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**What's Happening?**

*Cinco de Mayo and Kermes festival*

South Bend — Our Lady of Hungary School, 735 W. Calvert, will have a Cinco de Mayo and Kermes festival Saturday, May 8, from noon to 7 p.m. Mexican bands and dancers, kids' games, authentic Mexican food and Pinatas. No entrance fee.

**Bishop Dwenger presents 'Oklahoma'**

Fort Wayne — The Bishop Dwenger spring musical, "Oklahoma," will be presented on May 14, 15, and 16 in the main gym. Friday and Saturday performances will be at 7 p.m., and the Sunday performance will be at 2:30 p.m. Ticket prices are $10 for reserved seating, $7 for students and $5 for adults, and $5 for students and $3 for adults. For more information and an application, contact: Chris & Marcia Wells, Phone: 260-422-4611, Fax: 260-426-3077.

**Elizabeth Ministry Memorial Mass**

Granger — St. Pius X Catholic Church will have a memorial Mass Monday, May 10, at 6 p.m. The Elizabeth Ministry is hosting a Memorial Mass for those who grieve because of the death of an infant or child, miscarriage or abortion (whether the loss was recent or long ago), or the loss of becoming a parent because of infertility. It is hoped that the Mass will provide some healing for those who find Mother's Day difficult. Following the Mass, members of the Elizabeth Ministry support group will gather to share stories, pray for comfort and healing, and support one another through shared experiences. For information contact Theresa at (574) 243-8770 or tdepung5@aol.com.

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**South Bend — Our Lady of Hungary School**

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**Live in harmony with nature**

Fort Wayne — All married and engaged couples as well as single women are invited to learn Creighton's newly emerging science of NaProTECHNOLOGY Saturday, May 15, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church, 10700 Aboite Rd. in the Mother Teresa room. The CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare™ System unravels the mystery of women's cycles by standardizing monthly record keeping. This comprehensive medical model can be used by women with regular cycles, irregular cycles, PMS, infertility, frequent miscarriage and PCOD. Contact Theresa Schortgen, CFCP, at (260) 749-6706 or e-mail chartdaily365@verizon.net to RSVP. The event is free.

**Spaghetti dinner**

South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5570, 5202 Linden Ave., will have a spaghetti dinner, Thursday, May 13, from 4-6 p.m. Adults $7, children ages 5-12 $2.50. All proceeds benefit diocesan seminarians.

**Rummage sale**

Ligonier — St. Patrick Parish, 496-4730. A rummage sale and dinner will be at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are $60 per person and may be reserved by calling (260) 356-2320. All proceeds benefit Huntington Catholic School.

**Fatima movie to be shown**

Elkhart — The World Apostolate of Fatima will host a showing of “The 13th Day,” a movie based on Sister Lucia’s memoirs and independent eye-witnesses, Tuesday May 18, at St. Vincent Hall, 1108 S. Main St., Doors open at 6:45 p.m. The film starts at 7 p.m. Admission is free; registration is required as seating is limited. Call Maria Walter at (574) 264-7781 for reservations.

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Bishop Kevin Rhoades - Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend

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574-293-8541
website: www.stvincentelkhart.org
Principal: Donna Quinn
St. John the Evangelist
117 W. Monroe Street, Goshen
574-533-9480
website: www.stjohnskatholic.com
Principal: Amy Weidner

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website: wwwstpius.net
Principal: Elaine Holmes

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website: www.saintmichaelschool.org
Principal: Gertrude Nawara

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website: www.stjosephhigh.com
Principal: Susan Richter