Red caps
U.S. cardinals named by Pope Benedict
Page 3

‘We must never resign ourselves to the absence of peace’
Mideast synod closes
Page 5

Rosary for America
Diocese gathers
Page 8

Gridiron heat
ICCL and CYO football
Pages 17

BY KAY COZAD

COLUMBIA CITY — St. Paul of the Cross Parish celebrates 150th jubilee

COLUMBIA CITY — St. Paul of the Cross Church was filled to capacity on Sunday, Oct. 24, with parishioners and friends who gathered to celebrate the parish’s 150th anniversary at a special Mass concelebrated by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades and St. Paul’s pastor Father Larry Kramer. “It is a joy to be with you today, my first visit to St. Paul of the Cross Parish here in Columbia City, on this happy and blessed occasion, the 150th anniversary of your parish,” said Bishop Rhoades as he began his homily.

Noting the rich history of the parish, Bishop Rhoades reminded the congregants that it was in 1860 that the first Catholic church was built in Columbia City by “generous and faith-filled parishioners” who furnished the labor and materials for the simple wood-framed church. He added that seven years later, in 1867, a larger church building was constructed and then dedicated by Bishop John Henry Luers, who gave the church the title St. Paul of the Cross.

Bishop Rhoades speculated on Bishop Luers’ reasons for dedicating the church to the Apostle of the Cross, saying “St. Paul of the Cross is a saint of the heart, a saint of the farmer, a saint of the worker and a saint of the judge. He is a saint for everyone.”

He then added “The name of St. Paul of the Cross has always been a reminder to the people of Columbia City that all men are called to work for the Kingdom of God. We are called to transform the world where we work.”

At the end of the general audience on Oct. 20, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades met with Pope Benedict XVI. Bishop Rhoades was asked by Pope Benedict to share his greetings and blessing.

St. Paul of the Cross Parish celebrates 150th jubilee

BY DENISE FEDOROW

WARSAW — Youth around the diocese were encouraged to be fearless this year’s FaithFest held Sunday at Lakeview Middle School in Warsaw. “Fearless” was the theme for the annual event and was based on the Scripture from 1 Jn. 4:18, “There is no fear in love but perfect love drives out fear.”

The morning started out high energy as Chris Padgett got the 420 teens and chaperones going with “some crazy Jesus songs.” Padgett is a songwriter, musician, speaker and worship leader who travels around the world giving talks, missions and concerts. He was a founding member of the popular Christian band, Scarecrow and Tinmen, has four solo albums to his credit and has won the Unity Award for best Catholic rock song. His zany sense of humor had the audience laughing when Franciscan Father David Mary Engo came on stage to pray with the teens and Padgett quipped, “Did you guys see him? It was either a brown Smurf or a Franciscan.”

Padgett shared a story about being given an award his senior year of high school for “most unique personality,” which he said “meant freak of nature.” He spoke of asking a popular girl out on a date and they got married five years later and now have eight kids and all the kids are different.

Youth ‘Fearless’ at FaithFest

“Just like everyone here is different, God wants to love us all in our unique way,” he said. “There’s no need for another St. Therese, we already have one. There’s a need for a ‘Saint You.’”

Padgett said there were three main points he wanted the kids to remember:

• Jesus picked me — because there is no one just like you.
• Jesus prepares me — “God decided to use my weirdness to speak around the world,” he said. Even if all your friends are doing something else, go do and live what you’re supposed to.”
• Jesus protects me — using the story of Saul and David and Goliath, Padgett illustrated how, because of David’s faith, he slew the giant and was protected.

“If you wimp out, God picks someone else,” he said.

Jay Horning, the youth director from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne, was a first-time attendee and said he was looking forward to the keynote speakers and different sessions.

Stephanie Loney from Sacred Heart Parish in Warsaw said she’s attended a couple of years in the past and what she likes most about FaithFest is that it is “a way during the year to reconnect with your faith.”

The group then divided up for a basic
A Roman pilgrimage

IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHODES

I am writing this column over the Atlantic Ocean while flying home from a weeklong pilgrimage in Rome for the canonization of Brother (now “Saint”) Andre Bessette, CSC.

Canonization Mass

On Sunday, October 17th, over 80,000 faithful from around the world gathered in Saint Peter’s Square with the Holy Father to celebrate with joy the canonization of six new saints, including Saint Andre. I had a great seat in the first row of the bishops, right behind the row of cardinals. Happily I was seated next to Bishop Daniel Jenky, CSC, the Bishop of Peoria and former Auxiliary Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend. Many Holy Cross priests and brothers were present to see their congregation’s first saint canonized.

In his homily, Pope Benedict said that “for Brother Andre, everything spoke of God and of God’s presence.” He described Brother Andre as “wholly inhabited by the mystery of Jesus.” As porter at the College of Notre Dame in Montreal and then as faithful custodian at Saint Joseph Oratory, Brother Andre lived a deep life of prayer that bore fruit in a life of “boundless charity.” This simple and humble Holy Cross brother was renowned for many cures that he attributed not to himself but to the intercession of his beloved Saint Joseph. He is now even more renowned as a canonized saint of the Church. May his example inspire us to be faithful to prayer and humble in Christian service!

Also canonized at the Mass was a Polish priest of the fifteenth century, Father Stanislaw Kazimierczyk. I remember years ago Pope John Paul II speaking about this priest in his homily at the canonization of the Lateran who served in Krakow. Saint Stanislaw had an ardent love for the Holy Eucharist. For the past 500 years, there has been devotion to this holy priest who is now a canonized saint.

The other four newly canonized saints were all religious sisters, three of whom were founders of religious congregations. One I had learned about when I was at World Youth Day in Sydney, Australia. Her name is Mother Mary of the Cross MacKillop. She is the first canonized saint of Australia. It seems that everywhere I went in Rome last week I met Australian pilgrims delighted with their new saint. They spoke with pride and admiration of Saint Mary of the Cross and her strength, zeal, and perseverance despite many setbacks. In the difficult terrain of rural Australia, Mother Mary MacKillop and her Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart were dedicated to the education of the poor.

Celebrations in Rome

After the canonization, I joined many pilgrims for a celebratory “pranzo” hosted by Father David Tyson and the Indiana province of the Holy Cross congregation. It was a wonderful dinner.

The day after the canonization, pilgrims celebrating Saint Andre’s canonization gathered for a thanksgiving Mass at the Church of Sant’Andrea della Valle. Bishop Jenky, many Canadian bishops, and I celebrated the Mass with Cardinal Turcotte, the Archbishop of Montreal. Dozens of Holy Cross priests, including many from our diocese, concelebrated as well. Father Richard Warner, the Superior General of the Congregation of Holy Cross, offered words of joy and gratitude at the end of Mass.

On Tuesday, I celebrated Mass in the Irish chapel in the crypt of Saint Peter’s Basilica with Father Jim Gallagher, the vocation director of the Holy Cross province of Holy Cross, Father Peter McCormick, associate director for campus vocations at Notre Dame, and a dozen young men, seminarians and students from the University Notre Dame, who were also pilgrims in Rome for the canonization. It was very special to be with our Notre Dame students in prayer. I only realized after the Mass the significance of our celebrating the Mass in the “Irish” chapel!!!

On Tuesday afternoon, the U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See, Dr. Miguel Diaz, and his wife Marion, both graduates of Notre Dame, hosted me, Father Jenkins and others from Notre Dame at a wonderful dinner in their residence on the Janiculum Hill. It was a delightful dinner and conversation as we discussed the important relationship between the United States and the Holy See and the cooperation that exists in various ways to serve the common good.

Papal Audience

At the General Audience on Wednesday in Saint Peter’s Square, our Holy Father continued his series of catechetical talks on religious women of the Middle Ages. He spoke about the beautiful life of Saint Elizabeth of Hungary. At the end of the audience, I was blessed to have a minute or two conversation with Pope Benedict. He asked me to share with you, the faithful of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, his greetings and blessing. What a gift our gentle and humble Holy Father is to the Church and each of us. After the audience, I was happy to meet four young women from Saint Mary’s College who were in Rome for a semester abroad.

After the general audience of Pope Benedict XVI on Oct. 20, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades met four young women from Saint Mary’s College who were in Rome for a semester abroad. They too were excited to be there for the canonization and the papal audience.

There is not enough space in this column to relate all the activities and events of my week in Rome. I visited many of my favorite churches. Since I was a student in Rome for seven years, I feel very much at home when I return there. Fortunately, my Italian comes back to me after a few days. I prayed for you at the tombs of Saint Peter and Saint Paul and offered Mass for all the faithful of our diocese at Mass in the crypt of Saint Peter’s Basilica. May Saint Andre Bessette and all the newly canonized saints inspire us on the path of holiness and intercede for us!
Pope names 24 new cardinals, including two from United States

BY JOHN THAVIS

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI named 24 new cardinals, including two from the United States: Archbishop Raymond L. Burke, head of the Vatican’s highest tribunal, and Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl of Washington.

The pope announced the names at the end of his weekly audience Oct. 20 and said he would formally install the cardinals during a special consistory at the Vatican Nov. 20.

“The universality of the Church is reflected in the list of new cardinals. In fact, they come from various parts of the world and fulfill different tasks in the service of the Holy See or in direct contact with the people of God as fathers and pastors of particular churches,” the pope said.

The new cardinals come from 13 countries on five continents, and their number included 10 Italians. The pope named 10 Roman Curia officials — a higher number than expected — along with 10 residential archbishops and four prelates over the age of 80. One unusual aspect of the pope’s list was that two of the residential archbishops were retired.

The November ceremony will mark the third time Pope Benedict has created cardinals since his election in April 2005. After the consistory, he will have appointed about 40 percent of the cardinals currently under the age of 80 and therefore eligible to vote in a conclave to elect a new pope.

The elevation of Cardinal-designates Burke and Wuerl will bring the number of U.S. cardinals to 18. Of that number, 13 are voting-age — matching a historically high number for the United States.

Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan of New York was named to the list of new cardinals; his retired predecessor in New York, Cardinal Edward Egan, is still under 80, and tradition generally holds against two voting-age cardinals from the same diocese.

The consistory will leave the College of Cardinals without a 27-member minimum, a new record. Of those, 121 will be under age 80, one more than a numerical limit of 120 that has often been waived. Seven cardinals will turn 80 over the next six months.

Pope Benedict’s latest appointments left geographical balances relatively unchanged among the voting members of the College of Cardinals, although it bolstered the European presence, which will have 66 of the 121 potential voting cardinals. The new voting-age cardinals included 11 from Europe, 2 from Latin America, 2 from North America, 4 from Africa and 1 from Asia.

Eight of the under-80 cardinals named were Italians, leaving Italy with 25 voting-age cardinals, by far the largest number from a single country. Italy will have 48 cardinals overall.

Ten of the new cardinals are Roman Curia officials, which means that Roman Curia electors cardinals would number 37, about 30 percent of the total.

Cardinal-designate Burke, 62, is prefect of the Vatican’s highest tribunal, the Supreme Court of the Apostolic Signature. While the court’s work is generally shrouded in secrecy, when it comes to moral and political issues — especially abortion and same-sex marriage — Cardinal-designate Burke has been one of the most outspoken U.S. bishops.

Before the November 2008 U.S. presidential election, he said the Democratic Party “risks transforming itself definitively into a ‘party of death.’”

In 2004, he was the first U.S. bishop to say publicly that he would withhold Communion from Catholic politicians with voting records that contradicted church teaching on fundamental moral issues. He was serving as archbishop of St. Louis when Pope Benedict named him head of the Apostolic Signature in 2008.

Cardinal-designate Wuerl, 69, is known for his commitment to promoting Catholic religious education and Catholic schools. As head of the archdiocese that includes the U.S. capital, he also has been a leader in defending Catholic values in public life.

The pope named four Africans as cardinals, including Coptic Patriarch Antonios Naguib of Alexandria, Egypt, who has been in the spotlight recently as the recording secretary for the Oct. 10-24 Synod of Bishops for the Middle East.

Also named were Congolese Archbishop Laurent Monsengwo Pasinya of Kinshasa, 71, a biblical scholar and activist in justice and peace issues; Guinean Archbishop Robert Sarah, president of the Pontifical Council Cor Unum, 65; and retired Zambian Archbishop Medardo Joseph Mazombwe, 79, who has helped mediate political disputes in his country.

The pope named a single Asian, a former collaborator in the Roman Curia while St. John Paul II was pope, to become head of the Apostolic Penitentiary, the Supreme Court of the Apostolic Signature.

In Latin America, the pope named Brazilian Archbishop Raymundo Darnacence Assis of Aparecida, 73, as well as Ecuadoran Archbishop Raúl Eduardo Vela Chiriboga, 76, who retired as archbishop of Quito in September.

European residential cardinals among the new cardinals included Italian Archbishop PaoloROMEOPalermo, 72, Polish Archbishop Kazimierz Nycz of Warsaw, 60; and German Archbishop Reinhard Marx of Munich and Freising, 57.

In addition to Cardinal-designates Burke and Sarah, the Roman Curia officials named included Italian Archbishop Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints’ Causes; Italian Archbishop Mauro Piacenza, prefect of the Congregation for Clergy; Swiss Archbishop Kurt Koch, president of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity; Italian Archbishop Fortunato Baldelli, head of the Apostolic Penitentiary, a Vatican tribunal; and Italian Archbishop Velasio De Paolis, president of the Prefecture for the Economic Affairs of the Holy See, who was recently named as an interim leader of the Legationsaries of Christ while the order undergoes a reorganization.

“I ask you to pray for the new cardinals, asking the intercession of the most holy mother of God so that they fruitfully fulfill their ministry in the Church,” the pope said.

The pope named four cardinals who are over the age of 80, prelates he said were “distinquished for their generosity and dedication in service of the Church.”

STUDENTS PRAY AT ABORTION CLINIC

Students, parents and teachers from St. John the Baptist School, Fort Wayne, gathered Oct. 21 to pray the rosary during 40 Days for Life across from the abortion clinic on Inwood Drive.
Pope calls Catholics to transform world through missionary outreach

BY CAROL GLATZ

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — All Catholics are called to spread the good news of salvation and support the Church’s missionary mandate, Pope Benedict XVI said on World Mission Sunday.

“The missionary task is not to revolutionize the world, but to transform it, obtaining strength from Jesus Christ,” he said during his Angelus address in St. Peter’s Square Oct. 24.

To proclaim the Gospel, Christians are called to strengthen the bonds of communion with other Christians and to seek “constant personal and communal conversion,” he said.

World Mission Sunday “reminds us that ecclesial communion is the key to our task of proclaiming the Gospel,” he said.

The pope also called on people to pray for all those who have generously dedicated their lives to missionary work, often amid “great difficulties.”

In his written message for World Mission Sunday, the pope said every Catholic has an obligation to participate in the Church’s missionary outreach in their own families and communities.

The faithful need to support foreign missions through prayer and concrete help by donating to the churches in missionary lands and to the pontifical missionary societies, which fund the training of priests and catechists and the education of children, he wrote.

Every year, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith receives financial requests to fund thousands of projects around the world.

During this year’s general assembly, the society allocated the following financial contributions:
- more than $17.2 million to projects in Africa;
- more than $10.7 million to Asia; more than $2 million to the Americas; nearly $1.5 million to Oceania; and nearly $1.2 million to Europe.

Revolutionizing the world.

The faithful are called to spread the good news of salvation and support the Church’s missionary outreach in their own families and communities.

The pope called on Catholics to pray for all those who have dedicated their lives to missionary work, often amid “great difficulties.”

In his written message for World Mission Sunday, the pope said every Catholic has an obligation to participate in the Church’s missionary outreach in their own families and communities.

The faithful need to support foreign missions through prayer and concrete help by donating to the churches in missionary lands and to the pontifical missionary societies, which fund the training of priests and catechists and the education of children.

Every year, the Society for the Propagation of the Faith receives financial requests to fund thousands of projects around the world.

During this year’s general assembly, the society allocated the following financial contributions:
- more than $17.2 million to projects in Africa;
- more than $10.7 million to Asia; more than $2 million to the Americas; nearly $1.5 million to Oceania; and nearly $1.2 million to Europe.

The bishop concluded his homily with gratitude for the many devoted priests and sisters who have served at St. Paul throughout its history, including current pastor Father Kramer. He also said, “We thank the Lord for all the devoted parishioners, past and present. And we ask the Lord to continue to bless this parish community that it may be an evangelizing community that attracts others to Christ and His Church, a holy community that continues to grow in the virtues, especially in faith, hope and charity.”

Throughout the jubilee Mass, the St. Paul of the Cross choirs raised their voices in angelic hymns, while the congregation responded in kind. And in a special blessing, Bishop Rhoades concluded Mass by holding a relic from St. Paul as he made the sign of the cross over those gathered.

After greeting parishioners in the gathering area of the church following Mass, Bishop Rhoades joined Father Kramer and his flock at a dinner in honor of the jubilee.

Lifelong St. Paul of the Cross parishioner Mike Weigold, who ushered at the anniversary Mass, thought highly of the history of the parish. “I think it’s neat that the Catholic Church has been here in Columbus City for 150 years,” he said and added, “I wonder what the founders, that small group of people, envisioned — what it would be like? I think they’d be very happy.”

Erin Slidler, and her 18-month-old son Jacob, celebrated the jubilee Mass with joy. “We’re relatively new here, but St. Paul has been very welcoming to us,” she said. “They have an active young adult group here. It’s a very active parish, and I appreciate that.”

Carl and Joan Baermann, parishioners for 14 years, said of the jubilee celebration “It’s wonderful! The choir worked so hard. We’ve been involved in funeral dinners, Bible studies and just love this parish. Father Larry is excellent!”

And Father Kramer was delighted with the number of people who helped put the celebration together. “It was glorious. This is really good for the parish. Unfortunately it only comes along every 150 years,” he said with a grin.

Saint André Bessette, C.S.C.,

IS THE FIRST MEMBER OF
THE CONGREGATION OF HOLY CROSS
TO BE CANONIZED

Brother André
Friend of the Suffering,
Apostle of Saint Joseph
Jean-Guy Dubuc

This book tells the extraordinary story of Brother André, an unassuming man who remains beloved for his mercy to the sick, for his devotion to St. Joseph, and for his role in the construction of the majestic Oratory of St. Joseph in Montreal, which continues to be visited by millions of pilgrims each year.

We rejoice with all the brothers, priests, and sisters of Holy Cross in our diocese to be canonized St. Paul of the Cross.

Available from your bookstore or from ave maria press®

1-800-282-1865 • www.avemariapress.com

PROMO CODE: AT6111ØØ5NT
Peace is possible in Middle East, pope says at synod’s closing Mass

BY CINDY WOODEN

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Closing the Synod of Bishops for the Middle East, Pope Benedict XVI said, “We must never resign ourselves to the absence of peace.”

“Peace is possible, urgent,” the pope said Oct. 24 during his homily at the Mass closing the two-week synod.

Peace is what will stop Christians from emigrating, he said.

Pope Benedict also urged Christians to promote respect for freedom of religion and conscience, “one of the fundamental human rights that each state should always respect.”

Synod members released a message Oct. 23 to their own faithful, their government leaders, Catholics around the world, the international community and to all people of goodwill. The Vatican also released the 44 propositions adopted by synod members as recommendations for Pope Benedict to consider in writing his post-synodal apostolic exhortation.

Although the bishops said the main point of the synod was to find pastoral responses to the challenges facing their people, they said the biggest challenges are caused by political and social injustice and war and conflict.

“We have taken account of the impact of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the whole region, especially on the Palestinians who are suffering the consequences of the Israeli occupation: the lack of freedom of movement, the wall of separation and the military checkpoints, the political prisoners, the demolition of homes, the disturbance of socio-economic life and the thousands of refugees,” they said in one of the strongest sentences in the message.

They called for continued Catholic-Jewish dialogue, condemned anti-Semitism and anti-Judaism and affirmed Israel’s right to live at peace within its “internationally recognized borders.”

Although relations between Christians and Jews in the region often are colored by Israeli-Palestinian tensions, the bishops said the Catholic Church affirms the Old Testament — the Hebrew Scriptures — is the word of God and that God’s promises to the Jewish people, beginning with Abraham, are still valid.

However, they said, “recourse to theological and biblical positions which use the word of God to wrongly justify injustices is not acceptable. On the contrary, recourse to religion must lead every person to see the face of God in others.”

Addressing the synod’s final news conference Oct. 23, Melkite Bishop Cyril S. Bustros of Newton, Mass., said, “For us Christians, you can no longer speak of a land promised to the Jewish people,” because Christ’s coming into the world demonstrated that God’s chosen people are all men and women and that their promised land would be the kingdom of God established throughout the world.

The bishops’ point in criticizing some people’s use of Scripture was intended to say “one cannot use the theme of the Promised Land to justify the return of Jews to Israel and the expatriation of Palestinians,” Bishop Boustros said.

In their message, the bishops expressed particular concern over the future of Jerusalem, particularly given Israeli “unilateral initiatives” that threaten the composition and demographic profile of the city through construction and buying up the property of Christians and other Arabs.

They also offered words of support for the suffering Iraqi people, both Christians and Muslims, and for those forced to flee the country.

The synod members said they talked extensively about Christian-Muslim relations and about the fact that they both are long-standing citizens of the same countries and should be working together for the good of all.

“We say to our Muslim fellow-citizens: We are brothers and sisters; God wishes us to be together, united by one faith in God and by the dual commandment of love of God and neighbor,” they said.

But Christians must be given their full rights as citizens and the future peace and prosperity of the region require civil societies built “on the basis of citizenship, religious freedom and freedom of conscience.”

Throughout the synod, members said that while religious freedom and freedom of worship are recognized in most of the region’s constitutions, freedom of conscience — particularly the freedom to change religious affiliation — is not respected in many places.

The synod propositions called for educating Christians in the beliefs of their Muslim and Jewish neighbors and for strengthening dialogue programs that would help the region’s people “accept one another in spite of their differences, working to build a new society in which fanaticism and extremism have no place.”

Much of the synod’s discussion focused on the fact that many Christians are emigrating because of ongoing conflicts, a lack of security and equality and a lack of economic opportunities at home.

They praised those who have remained despite hardship and thanked them for their contributions to Church and society.

While they did not call on emigrants to return home, they did ask them to consider it eventually and to think twice before selling their property in their homelands.

Several bishops had told the synod that Christians selling off their property was turning previously Christian-Muslim neighborhoods and towns into totally Muslim areas.

One of the synod propositions said, “We exhort our faithful and our Church communities not to give in to the temptation to sell off their real estate,” and they pledged to set up micro-finance and other projects to help people retain their property and make it prosper.

The synod members affirmed their commitment to efforts to promote full Christian unity and promised to strengthen cooperative efforts with other Christian churches in the region because “we share the same journey” and unity is necessary for effectively sharing the Gospel.

The bishops at the synod also recognized their own failures in not promoting greater communion between Catholics of different rites, with other Christians and with the Jewish and Muslim majorities of their homelands.

And they told their lay faithful, “We have not done everything possible to confirm you in your faith and to give you the spiritual nourishment you need in your difficulties.”

All Christians, including the bishops, are called to conversion, they said.

The propositions called for creation of a “commission of cooperation” between church leaders of different rites, the sharing of material resources and establishment of a program to share priests.

They also echoed a repeated call in the synod for the pope to study ways to expand the jurisdiction of Eastern Catholic patriarchs and major archbishops to allow them greater power in providing for their faithful who live outside the traditional territory of their churches and to consider dropping restrictions on ordaining married men to the priesthood outside the traditional homeland of the particular church.

Maronite Archbishop Joseph Souris of Cyprus told reporters, “The synod is not a medical prescription or a cure” for the problems Christians face in the Middle East, “it’s a journey that is just beginning” and will have to be implemented by the region’s Catholics.
Papal delegate outlines reform process in new letter to Legionaries

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The papally mandated reform of the Legionaries of Christ may take “two or three years or even more” and require the establishment of at least three commissions, a papal delegate overseeing the reform said in an Oct. 19 letter. Italian Archbishop Velasio De Paolis, who was named by Pope Benedict XVI to the College of Cardinals the day after his letter was dated, urged members of the Legionaries to “set aside all suspicion and distrust” of one another during the process of reform and renewal of the order. “If we are united and respectful of each other as we move forward, the journey will be swift and sure, but it will be certain shipwreck to let ourselves get caught up in the desire to win out and impose our own ideas,” he said. But Cardinal-designate De Paolis also said members must not allow the failings of the order’s founder, the late Mexican Father Marcial Maciel Degollado, to be seen as representative of the Legion itself. “The Legion has been approved by the Church and it cannot be said that it is not a work of God at the service of his kingdom and of the Church,” the letter said. “The founder’s responsibilities cannot simply be transferred onto the Legion of Christ itself.” Pope Benedict ordered a reform of the Legionaries after revelations that Father Maciel, who died in 2008, had fathered children and sexually abused seminarians. “The shock caused by the founder’s actions had tremendous impact, on a scale capable of destroying the congregation itself, as many in fact predicted,” said Cardinal-designate De Paolis.

Rome diocese opens sainthood cause of Vietnamese cardinal

ROME (CNS) — The Diocese of Rome formally opened the sainthood process for Vietnamese Cardinal Francois Nguyen Van Thuan, who spent 13 years in prison in communist Vietnam — nine of them in solitary confinement. After he was freed by authorities in 1988, Pope John Paul II named him vice president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace 1994 and president of the council in 1998. He died in Rome in 2002, which is why the diocese formally opened his sainthood cause Oct. 22. In his 2007 encyclical on Christian hope, Pope Benedict XVI called Cardinal Van Thuan an exemplary model of maintaining hope through prayer, even in a “situation of seemingly utter hopelessness.” The formal opening of the cause does not mean the late cardinal will be beatified or canonized quickly. Witnesses will be called to testify about his life and holiness, his writings will be collected, and a biography will be compiled. The diocese must gather evidence that he has a widespread reputation for holiness and must look into claims by the faithful that they were healed through his intercession.

Some St. Paul–Minneapolis parishes to merge, form clusters

ST. PAUL, Minn. (CNS) — Before pastors had an opportunity to explain during Masses Oct. 16-17 how a strategic plan for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis would affect their parishes, local media prematurely announced the closure of some churches in one area of Minneapolis. Some church buildings will eventually close as a result of the strategic plan, which will reduce the number of parishes in the archdiocese from 213 to 192 during the next several years. However, the decision about which church buildings to close and which to keep open as a part of mergers is yet to be determined in some cases, with approval from Archbishop John C. Nienstedt and the presbyteral council. That’s the situation for some parishes in northeast Minneapolis. Before the 4:30 p.m. Mass Oct. 16 at Holy Cross in northeast Minneapolis, Sandra Westfall heard from a neighbor who read the newspaper that morning that she was going to lose her church. But Westfall closed her mind to the news. If she had to hear that message, she wanted to hear it from her own pastor, she said. Parishioners applauded after hearing during the homily that Holy Cross was not in imminent danger of closing its doors. “You, my brothers and sisters, can take a huge sigh of relief,” said Father Glen Jenson, pastor of Holy Cross, St. Hedwig and the newly added St. Clement Parish, all of which are merging into St. Anthony of Padua, which was designated the receiving parish in Minneapolis. “You will determine what goes on in these four parishes.”

Scott named editor-in-chief for Catholic News Agency, EWTN News

DENVER (CNS) — David Scott, an author and former editor of Our Sunday Visitor newspaper, has been named editor-in-chief of both Catholic News Agency and EWTN News. The move reflects a growing collaboration between the two large news companies to expand their operations in the global Catholic digital and multimedia market. Catholic News Agency, based in Denver, has news bureaus in North and South America and Europe. EWTN is the news arm of EWTN Global Catholic Network, based in Irondale, Ala., which provides multimedia services to more than 140 countries and territories and describes itself as the world’s largest religious media company. Michael Warsaw, president and CEO of EWTN Global Catholic Network, said Scott “brings a tremendous skill set to the post of editor-in-chief and is highly respected within Catholic journalistic circles. Having him on board will allow us to take our services to the next level,” he added.

Mildred Jefferson, pro-life leader, surgeon, dies in Cambridge

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Dr. Mildred Jefferson, a leader in the pro-life movement for decades who was also the first African-American woman to graduate from Harvard Medical School, died Oct. 15 at her home in Cambridge, Mass. She was 84. No cause of death was announced. Among the groups praising Jefferson’s pro-life work over the years were the Massachusetts Catholic Conference and the National Black Catholic Apostolate for Life. “When others were silent, Dr. Mildred Jefferson refused to be silent,” said Franciscan Father James E. Goode, president of the New York-based National Black Catholic Apostolate for Life. “Her voice and presence were heard throughout this nation proclaiming the dignity of all human life.” Gerald D’Avolio, executive director of the Massachusetts Catholic Conference, said Jefferson’s role in the pro-life movement “demonstrated the movement’s breadth and depth — she was a pioneer in breaking barriers in the medical field and she was a dedicated physician who defended the dignity of the human person with intelligence and verve. Her respect for the Catholic Church and her willingness to provide compelling legislative testimony over the years in alliance with the Massachusetts Catholic Conference will always be remembered and appreciated,” he added.

US cardinal named to council studying Vatican’s economic problems

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI named Cardinal Francis E. George of Chicago to the international Council of Cardinals for the Study of the Organizational and Economic Problems of the Holy See. The Vatican announced the appointment Oct. 23. The cardinal members of the council meet regularly with the pope to help oversee the economic management of the Vatican. The special council was established by Pope John Paul II in 1981 to advise him on the Vatican’s ailing finances and organizational problems that he inherited from his predecessors. The council is presided over by Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, and members include Cardinals Roger M. Mahony of Los Angeles, George Pell of Sydney and Marc Ouellet of Quebec.

Pope names Miami auxiliary bishop to head Orlando Diocese

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Pope Benedict XVI has named Auxiliary Bishop John G. Noonan of Miami to head the Diocese of Orlando, Fla. He succeeds Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski, who was installed June 1 to head the Miami Archdiocese. He will be installed Dec. 16. Archbishop Pietro Sambi, papal nuncio to the United States, announced Bishop Noonan’s appointment in Washington Oct. 23. “I promise to preach and to teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And to the best of my abilities, I will be a bishop close to the people of the Diocese of Orlando,” Bishop Noonan said in a statement at a news conference in Orlando the day of his appointment. He said he looked forward to learning about his new diocese from the laity, the priests, and the men and women religious.
Day of the Dead festivities planned at Notre Dame

NOTRE DAME — Internationally known artist Artemio Rodriguez will join musical and dance groups to bring Mexican traditions to life at the University of Notre Dame during its annual festivities celebrating the Day of the Dead.

A spirited, rather than mournful holiday, the observance honors and celebrates those who have gone before. The Día de los Muertos (or Day of the Dead) festivities will be held on Monday, Nov. 1, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center Great Hall on the Notre Dame campus. The celebration is free and open to the public.

Installation of the ofrenda will be available for viewing through Nov. 2. Rodriguez will discuss his work at 6 and 7 p.m. on Nov. 1.

Also during the Nov. 1 event, a 6:30 p.m. discussion and musical performance will feature anthropologist and musician Alex E. Chávez, a Notre Dame visiting faculty member, and special guest Juan Rivera of the Chicago group Sones de México. Mariachi ND and Ballet Folklorico Azul y Oro will perform at various times throughout the evening.

The festivities are sponsored by Notre Dame’s Institute for Latino Studies and the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at the Snite Museum of Art and Multicultural Student Programs and Services.

Visit latinostudies.nd.edu/dott or call (574) 631-3796.

Small Christian Communities offers Nov. 6 session

FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent de Paul Parish’s Small Christian Communities extends an invitation to Catholics to join them as they explore family struggles, employment difficulties, stress and other family issues. Topics also explore ways to pray and give thanks to God. The event will be held Saturday, Nov. 6, from 6:30 to 12:15 p.m. in the parish hall. There is no charge for this event but registrations are requested by Nov. 4, by calling (260) 489-5357, ext. 207 or through e-mail at dschuerman@saintv.org.

Masses for parents who lost a child

During the month of November, in which the Church prays in a special way for the souls of those who have died, the Catholic Office of Liturgy is sponsoring on each end of the diocese, a memorial Mass for parents who have lost a child, including through miscarriage and abortion.

The South Bend area memorial Mass will take place on Sunday, Nov. 7, at 2 p.m. at St. Anthony Parish, South Bend, and will be celebrated by Father Mark Gurner.

The Fort Wayne area memorial Mass will take place on Sunday, Nov. 14, at 2 p.m. at St. Jude Parish, Fort Wayne, and will be celebrated by Father Tom Shoemaker. Siblings, grandparents and other family members are also welcome to these liturgies.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

GRIEF CENTER PARTICIPATES IN MARIAN PROCESSION

Parishioners of the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Community and Sacred Heart Church, Fort Wayne, participated in a Fatima statue procession on Wednesday, Oct. 13. Father George Gabeh, a priest of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, led the prayer service.

Catholicism Revealed announces speakers

FORT WAYNE — St. Vincent de Paul Parish will be offering a Catholicism Revealed series held Monday evenings this fall from 6:30-8 p.m. at the church. Prayer time, prior to the presentations, begins at 6:10 p.m. The series will explore theology of the body this fall.

The following speakers will present talks on the following dates:
• On Nov. 8, Perry J. Cahall, PhD., will present “In the Beginning...” The evening will include a discussion on the nature of the Holy Trinity, how humanity is made in the image and likeness of God and also humanity’s original unity with God.

Cahall earned his master of arts and doctor of philosophy degrees in historical theology from St. Louis University and is currently an associate professor of historical theology at the Pontifical University Josephinum, Columbus, Ohio, where he teaches theology and Church history courses, including theology of the body, theology of the new evangelization, pastoral care of Marriage and early Church history. He also serves as the Josephinum director of admissions. Cahall resides in Columbus with his wife and children.
• On Nov. 15, Lisa Marino will present “Naked and Ashamed.” This theology of the body session will explore life with sin and how original sin has affected lives today. Marino is the fifth of 13 children in the Kloosa family from Elkhart. She earned her degree in philosophy from Saint Mary’s College in 1991. She founded the New Evangelization Team of Elkhart County which, for four years, sponsored catechetical and worship events for Catholics and non-Catholics alike. Marino has been the RCIA director at St. Matthew co-Cathedral for nine years and currently travels the diocese giving parish mission talks and speaking to students at youth retreats. Marino has a special love for Pope John Paul II’s theology of the body, which she has presented to parishioners, prayer groups, diocesan seminarians and diocesan priests at continuing education conferences. Marino currently presents theology of the body at all diocesan engaged couple conferences. She has married to her husband Nick for nine years and they are the parents of four children.
• On Nov. 22, Father Andrew Budzinski will present ‘Behold, I Make All Things New.’ This final session will include a discussion of the sacredness of sexuality and vocations, and how the faithful can be living signs of God and heaven. Father Budzinski, newly ordained priest for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, earned masters’ degrees in both theology and in divinity. His bachelors’ degrees were in communications from the University of Notre Dame and philosophy from the Pontifical College Josephinum. His master’s thesis centered on “The Theology of Communications.” Information from Pope John Paul II’s theology of the body helped to form Father Budzinski’s vocation in life. He serves as parochial vicar of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church, Fort Wayne.

Cookbook benefits St. Mary’s Soup Kitchen

FORT WAYNE — St. Mary’s Catholic Church in downtown Fort Wayne has put together “Taste and See,” a cookbook filled with traditional family recipes and unique international fare including North African spicy chicken, easy Croatian sarma, Cuban picadillo, Polish pickled eggs, Russian kish and Haitian bouillon. The cookbook also includes an outline of what it takes to prepare the day and is open seven days per week.

The soup kitchen has operated nonstop since Jan. 22, 1975 when the late Father Tom O’Connor, former pastor of St. Mary’s, and then-music director David Fyfe, starting cooking soup in the rectory kitchen. They passed it out from the back door to hungry people who came asking for help. But the roots of the soup kitchen go back even farther. Few know that Father Tom had a history of giving groceries to hungry people, but by January of 1975, he knew the money budgeted for food would not last. Fyfe suggested making soup to stretch the food dollars — he had a few of his grandmother’s recipes — and the rest is history.

Not even the 1993 fire that destroyed the old St. Mary’s Church disrupted the food ministry. The day after the fire, canned soup was distributed from the back of a truck in the church parking lot, and later from the back of the rectory until interim kitchens could be constructed, first in the old boiler house and later in a house at the corner of Jefferson and Clay. Today the soup kitchen operates from a state-of-the-art kitchen that is part of the church complex.

Cookbooks are available at the St. Mary’s Church Office, (260) 424-8251, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Enter from the parking lot at the corner of Jefferson and Clay downtown. Books are also available at the church on Sunday mornings 9 a.m. until noon.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Multicultural Student Programs and Services.

The celebration began with a brief history of the holiday. Activities included Warren Primary Center students reading essays and there was a visual display of a day of the Dead altar. The event concluded with dinner and carnival-like booths run by volunteers.

“The Day of the Dead event provides fun and educational activities for the children and offers an opportunity to reach out to the school’s growing number of Latino students,” said Evan. “We hope the event makes them feel welcomed and integrated into the school community. It’s also a way to introduce students who are not Latino to the culture,” said Olivia Critchlow, CAT director. Through the CAT program, Saint Mary’s students serve as tutors and teacher assistants at Warren. Many of the teacher assistants work in the school’s English as a New Language (ENL) classes.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

GRIEF CENTER PARTICIPATES IN MARIAN PROCESSION

Parishioners of the St. Mother Theodore Guerin Community and Sacred Heart Church, Fort Wayne, participated in a Fatima statue procession on Wednesday, Oct. 13. Father George Gabeh, a priest of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter, led the prayer service.
Bishop D’Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund awards tuition assistance to 29 elementary schools

BY ELISA M. SMITH

FORT WAYNE — Twenty-nine Catholic elementary schools in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend are being awarded tuition assistance of $215.44 each for school year 2010-2011 from The Bishop D’Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund. Seventeen are Fort Wayne area elementary schools and 12 are South Bend area schools.

The Bishop D’Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund is a restricted endowment fund within the Catholic Community Foundation of Northeast Indiana. Bishop John M. D’Arcy established the fund in 2007 with gifts from his late sister, Mary Caprio, died in September 2007, and from other special donations. The purpose of the fund is to grant tuition assistance to Catholic students in Catholic elementary schools in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.

Schools which have a student receiving an award for the school year 2010-2011 are as follows:

• Fort Wayne area: Huntington Catholic, Huntington; Most Precious Blood, Queen of Angels, St. Charles Borromeo, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton/St. Joseph, St. John the Baptist, St. Jude, St. Therese and St. Vincent de Paul, all in Fort Wayne; St. Bernard, Wabash; St. John the Baptist and St. Louis Academy, New Haven; St. Joseph, Decatur; St. Joseph, Garrett; St. Joseph, Monroeville; and St. Mary of the Assumption, Avilla.

• South Bend area: Corpus Christi, Holy Family, Our Lady of Hungary, St. Adalbert, St. John the Baptist, St. Jude and St. Matthew Cathedral, all in South Bend; Queen of Peace and St. Bavo, both in Mishawaka; Sacred Heart, Warsaw; St. Michael, Plymouth; and St. Vincent de Paul, Elkhart.

The fund makes distributions each year based on an annual payout of 6 percent of the value of the fund on June 30. Recipients are awarded financial assistance based on need by a committee that consists of Daniel Fitzpatrick, James Fitzpatrick, John Gaughan, Joseph Ryan and Elisa Smith.

Bishop D’Arcy celebrated 50 years as a priest on Feb. 2, 2007. He contributed gifts that he received from the golden jubilee of his priesthood to create the Bishop D’Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund. In addition, when his sister, Mary Caprio, died in September 2007, Bishop D’Arcy requested that memorials be given to this fund. Moreover, a special gift from a family foundation was contributed to the Bishop D’Arcy Catholic Education Jubilee Fund in May 2008. The total value of the fund was approximately $104,128 as of June 30, 2010.

The committee sent letters and tuition assistance application forms in April 2010 to principals and pastors of all Catholic elementary schools in the diocese, inviting them to recommend one student from the school who qualified for tuition assistance based on financial need. Also, the committee requested a written essay, not more than 100 words, from each student who applied, titled “Why Catholic Education Is Important to Me.”

For each student who is granted an award, it will be for one time and is nonrenewable.

Several gathered at the Allen County Courthouse on Saturday, Oct. 16, to pray the rosary for America. The faithful were joined by the Franciscan Brothers Minor. The Fort Wayne rosary was among 6,000 rosary rallies held nationwide. The campaign was part of America Needs Fatima.

A group of faithful gathered at Christ the King Church at State Road 933 on Oct. 16 for an hour of prayer, a devotion to Our Lady of Fatima. A part of the national day of prayer for America Needs Fatima, this was the fourth year that South Bend was represented in the public square rosary crusade.
THEY TOOK PLEDGE TO PRAY

Students at St. Therese School in Fort Wayne honored St. Francis on his feast day with a blessing of animals which included dogs, cats, gerbils and chickens. The students and parishioners donated pet items to be contributed to an animal shelter.

WAVERLEY "COOKING WITH THE STARS" COOK OFF set for Friday, Nov. 19

Ecumenical teens gathering in Pierceton

PIERCETON — High school students of St. Francis Xavier Parish, Pierceton, joined with the Pierceton United Methodist and Pierceton Presbyterian churches’ high school students for a “picnic” on Oct. 17 at the Pierceton Park. There are no other students at the park that evening. The picnic was held on the high school’s field. Students from both schools worked together to plan the event, which included games, a bonfire, food and music. The event was open to all high school students in the area.

Blessing of Animals includes Collection of Shelter Items

A sea of white wooden crosses fill a grassy area at Marian High School in Mishawaka. Sponsored by the Marian Right to Life Club, the crosses represent lives lost to abortion in St. Joseph County. The crosses will be displayed until the end of the month, throughout the 40 Days for Life campaign.

Diocesan and National Council of Catholic Women seek members

WASHINGTON — The National Council of Catholic Women will hold their Annual Convention Nov. 10-13 at the Renaissance Hotel in Washington, D.C. For 90 years, the National Council of Catholic Women has supported, empowered and educated Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service — the three core tenets of the organization.

As a faith-based organization, the National Council of Catholic Women fosters growth in spirituality, adds value to their lives and assists them in faith.

The National Council of Catholic Women acts through its membership to support, empower and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service.

The NCCW believes that each woman can serve with purpose and meaning as a Catholic woman in society.

The National Council of Catholic Women offers true, lasting value on so many levels, and all that is asked of them in “payment” is their faith, friendship and service.

Additional information is available at www.nccw.org.
TODAY'S CATHOLIC

DISCOVER
CULTIVATE
DEVELOP

Potential Intellect Character

Trinity School

AT GREENLAWN

A classical education rooted in the Christian tradition for students in grades 7 to 12

COME AND DISCOVER:

A community of learners led by faculty whose own passion for knowledge inspires a lifelong love of learning.

An interactive approach, along with the design of our curriculum, challenges every student.

Dedication to the discovery of truth, the creation of beauty and the practice of goodness.

OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1:00 – 3:00 P.M.

107 S. Greenlawn Ave. South Bend, IN 46617 • 574-850-7168 • www.TrinityGreenlawn.org
The Saints Among Us

BY KAY COZAD

In the months in which the Catholic Church celebrates All Souls and All Saints days, many around the diocese remember their deceased loved ones with fondness. Inspiring stories of loving service, faith and sometimes humor bring those loved ones to life in our hearts once again. And many are considered everyday saints by anyone’s standards. As these faithful departed are honored here are stories of two lives that were lived in faith and service in everyday moments.

Mary — friend to all

Mary Rodgers was faithful servant, wife, mother of three boys and friend to many. She would be the first to say that she was no one special. But it was her humility and selflessness that was endearing and even heroic in the eyes of those who knew her. She had a deep abiding faith that informed everything she did. And her devotion to the Blessed Mother brought many closer to Christ.

Her husband Bill says of Mary, “I still think of the rosary she did with Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) using candles for each Hail Mary. I think of her at Saturday morning Masses that we had attended together. I also miss her help in providing spiritual guidance to our kids, even though they are now adults. I am still trying to develop at least some of her faith and trust in God. She had that trust through the end of her life.”

That faith was apparent to Mary’s friend Terri, who says, “I can’t think of anyone who inspired me more in my faith than Mary. She made me want to be a better person, a holier person. Because of her I can bear my pain much easier. No matter what she was going through she didn’t complain. She was so positive about everything.”

Another friend, Nora, agrees saying, “Mary had the faith of a saint. In all of her problems she always turned to God. Her weapon was the rosary. No matter what the problem she always had a good attitude. Along with devotion to the Sacred Heart, she loved Our Blessed Mother.”

And from that deep abiding faith came a genuine desire to serve. Mary’s friend Sue recalls years ago when she was suffering from depression that Mary would call to check on her. She says, “When I would tell her that I was struggling, she would come to my house and pray the rosary with me, and then we would go for a walk together to try to help me feel better. I will never forget her calm spirit and her beautiful faith. Mary was truly an inspiration to me and affected me with her strength and fortitude. I believe she was an angel here on earth, she surely is loving heaven as one.”

Terri says of Mary’s kindness, “She made us all feel as if we were the most important person in her life.” And that kindness was extended to strangers as well, whether at retreats where Mary would inspire those in attendance or a stranger who needed a ride.

Mary lived heroically with cancer for almost a decade before her death on Christmas Eve in 2006. Her friends and family agree that she taught them how to live — and how to die. So many have been touched by her inspiring humility, generosity, faith and love.

Mother of virtue

Valeria Buchanan was one of 13 children growing up on a farm in Minnesota where family and faith were the basis for life. As an adult those values she learned as a child were shared with her own five children and all who she met.

Her daughter Barb says, “She was 5-foot, 4-inches of beauty, love and encouragement to whomever she encountered. She was full of energy and was always supporting and teaching us; never too busy for a hug, a smile or a kiss. She cooked, cleaned, baked all our bread, sewed our clothes, took care of the yard, planted a garden and never complained.

“Mom taught us that patience and understanding were key to being happy. At times, we would need to take a breath and proceed quietly and cheerfully. She had an infectious smile, a gentle spirit and willingly helped others whenever an extra hand was needed.”

Valeria took her responsibility for her family’s faith formation very seriously. Barb recalls, “Food was not tasted until grace was said and we always went to church as a family. Through her, we learned of the power of prayer and how important it was to talk to God.”

Valeria died of cancer on Valentine’s Day in 2003. But her legacy of faith and love inspired Barb even now. She says, “Now, here I am, walking through my life without her by my side but I take great comfort in knowing that she’s in heaven with all the other saints. A day never passes that I don’t call on one of her lessons. Sometimes, it’s offering a smile or words of encouragement; it’s in being thankful for all that God has blessed me with. It’s in keeping my anger or disappointment in check and finding the good in a situation. It’s sharing my love with those around me without condition or restraint and embracing life with eagerness and vigor. It’s being able to smile her smile and recognizing one of my greatest blessings was having her as my teacher and Mom.”

These faith-filled women, much like so many of those inspiring deceased loved ones who are being honored this month, have lived the Gospel of Jesus Christ and left a legacy of peace.

Amen
Office of Worship answers questions concerning funerals

BY BRIAN MACMICHAEL

Are there diocesan rules about funerals?

Yes, please consult the Web site of the Office of Worship (www.diocesefwb.org/diocesan-offices/worship-office/diocesan-guidelines-norms) for our diocesan guidelines on funerals and liturgies with cremated remains, including a section of questions and answers.

What is the proper way to refer to the funeral liturgy?

The “Mass of Christian Burial” is probably the most elegant title, but “funeral Mass” is certainly acceptable. “Funeral service” would only be appropriate if a Mass does not occur, while “funeral liturgy” is sometimes ambiguous, since it could refer to either a Mass or a liturgical service outside Mass. “Mass for the Dead” technically included funeral Masses, but it is a broader term that would include Requiem Masses on All Souls Day, for example.

Where may a Christian funeral be celebrated?

Funeral Masses must be celebrated in a parish church or — if approved by the pastor and the diocese — in a consecrated chapel where Mass is regularly celebrated. Funeral services that are not Masses may take place in the parish church, a consecrated chapel, the funeral home, the graveside or even another appropriate place.

What kind of contact should there be between the family and the church when planning a funeral?

A significant amount of communication is necessary, since the parish typically arranges the liturgy with the family (music, readings/readers, etc.), if it hasn’t been preplanned already. Circumstances may dictate that the funeral home sometimes be involved in this as well, but contact with the proper people at the parish is essential.

What is Catholic protocol when an unregistered Catholic dies (for example in a nursing facility) and the family wishes for the deceased to have a Mass of Christian Burial?

Consultation between the family and the local pastor or chaplain is necessary to determine how best to proceed.

What is Catholic protocol for Catholics who had not practiced the faith, but the family wishes for them to have a Catholic burial?

Our diocesan guidelines state that a Catholic funeral may take place “if it can be determined that this would not be contrary to the wishes of the deceased.”

What are the options for prayers at the vigil, and is there a preference?

The normative practice is for the actual vigil itself (consisting of a Liturgy of the Word and a series of prayers) to be prayed. If the family of the deceased specifically requests the rosary as the primary devotion during the time typically reserved for the vigil, then the vigil prayers and structure may be altered to accommodate this, as provided for by the funeral rites themselves. The praying of the rosary should never be refused during the visitation/vigil, if the family specifically requests it.

May there be flowers in the church for a funeral? How about during Lent?

The Order of Christian Funerals says: “Fresh flowers, used in moderation, can enhance the setting of the funeral rites. But flowers during Lent are not permitted, as stated in the General Instruction of the Roman Missal No. 305: ‘During Lent it is forbidden for the altar to be decorated with flowers.”

Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent), solemnities and feast days are exceptions. Floral decorations should always be done with moderation and placed around the altar rather than on its mensa (the top of the altar).

Does the Church allow contemporary Christian hymns at a funeral, like “I Can Only Imagine”? What about secular selections from pop or country genres if they speak of God?

Just as at weddings, the music at a funeral liturgy must reflect its sacred and solemn nature. Secular or non-liturgical music does not belong before, during or after the rite within the sacred place of the church. Any such favorite songs should be done apart from the funeral rites, such as at the accompanying communal meal.

What are the options for prayers at the funeral Mass?

Actually, a good catechetical opportunity to use black vestments is All Souls Day (Nov. 2), when we recall the effects of sin and that the deceased may be in purgatory and in need of our prayers.

What does the Catholic Church say about cremation? How should the remains be interred? Must they be buried? Could they be scattered at the loved one’s request?

Although it can be allowed, the funeral rites state that cremation “does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body.” The decision to cremate should be carefully considered in consultation with the pastor, and is only permitted when it is chosen for reasons that do not contradict our strong Catholic belief in the sanctity and resurrection of the body. Whenever possible, cremation should then be done after the funeral. The rites also state that cremated remains should be treated as a body and “buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium.” It is not acceptable or dignified to scatter the ashes or keep them in one’s home.

What about people wanting to put the ashes of a pet in with them? Is it acceptable?

This is absolutely unacceptable. Cremation is already a sensitive allowance in the life of the Church, and we must carefully guard the dignity of Christian, human burial, as well as the theological reality of the resurrection of the body. We would not permit the bodies of pets to be placed in a casket with a human body — all the more would we not permit the indiscriminate mixing of ashes.

Can a Catholic be buried at sea?

Although not envisioned as a norm, scattering, burial at sea is a necessity. The United States Bishops’ Committee on Divine Worship has said, “The cremated remains of the body may be properly buried at sea in the urn, coffin or other container in which they have been carried to the place of committal.”

Can a Catholic donate his body to science?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says the following (Nos. 2300 and 2301): “The bodies of the dead must be treated with respect and charity, in faith and hope of resurrection. The burial of the dead is a corporal work of mercy; it honors the children of God, who are temples of the Holy Spirit. ... Autopsies can be morally permitted for legal inquests or scientific research.”

Looking for Leaders... • Full or part-time income opportunity • Home based business • Have purpose • Faith and family first • Mom of five; earns residual income by helping others. Call Janice (260) 710-1054 Parishioner, St. John the Baptist, Fort Wayne

Can Only Imagine”? What does the Catholic Church say about cremation? How should the remains be interred? Must they be buried? Could they be scattered at the loved one’s request?

Although it can be allowed, the funeral rites state that cremation “does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body.” The decision to cremate should be carefully considered in consultation with the pastor, and is only permitted when it is chosen for reasons that do not contradict our strong Catholic belief in the sanctity and resurrection of the body. Whenever possible, cremation should then be done after the funeral. The rites also state that cremated remains should be treated as a body and “buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium.” It is not acceptable or dignified to scatter the ashes or keep them in one’s home.

What about people wanting to put the ashes of a pet in with them? Is it acceptable?

This is absolutely unacceptable. Cremation is already a sensitive allowance in the life of the Church, and we must carefully guard the dignity of Christian, human burial, as well as the theological reality of the resurrection of the body. We would not permit the bodies of pets to be placed in a casket with a human body — all the more would we not permit the indiscriminate mixing of ashes.

Can a Catholic be buried at sea?

Although not envisioned as a norm, scattering, burial at sea is a necessity. The United States Bishops’ Committee on Divine Worship has said, “The cremated remains of the body may be properly buried at sea in the urn, cof- fin or other container in which they have been carried to the place of committal.”

Can a Catholic donate his body to science?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says the following (Nos. 2300 and 2301): “The bodies of the dead must be treated with respect and charity, in faith and hope of resurrection. The burial of the dead is a corporal work of mercy; it honors the children of God, who are temples of the Holy Spirit. ... Autopsies can be morally permitted for legal inquests or scientific research.”

Brian MacMichael is the director of the Office of Worship, Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.
Legal document specifies preferences for funeral services

I ndiana lawmakers have established a new way to remove some of the uncertainty, and perhaps some disagreements, regarding the funeral arrangement process with the passage of Indiana’s Funeral Planning Declaration statute. Effective July 1, 2009, this law provides a vehicle for any competent person 18 years of age or older to designate a family member, friend or other, trusted individual as the person who is authorized to carry out funeral wishes specified in the declarant’s Funeral Planning Declaration. The full text of the new law, which includes a Funeral Planning Declaration form, can be viewed at www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/title29/ar2/ch19.html.

A Funeral Planning Declaration could be invaluable as a means of assuring a declarant that his/her desired funeral ceremony and burial preferences will be carried out after the declarant’s death. After all, a Catholic’s end of life worship preferences are no less important or meaningful than those undertaken during life. The new law provides that a Funeral Planning Declaration must be separate from a will, power of attorney or similar document. It is a stand alone document and takes precedence over certain other documents concerning decision making on the disposition of the declarant’s body after death; direction of funeral arrangements; and, grave memorials. The declarant designates the individual who is authorized to carry out the declarant’s preferences on such items, or who is entrusted to make those decisions on behalf of the declarant after the declarant’s death if no preference is provided. Either way, the new law presents a means to take guesswork out of who is authorized to direct the funeral planning process and gives a declarant some level of assurance that his/her religious preferences will be honored after death. If the declarant has a change of heart after making a valid Funeral Planning Declaration, the document can be destroyed, rendering it invalid, and another can be executed.

A declarant’s ability to have preferences that are designated in a Funeral Planning Declaration carried out as requested could be limited by such things as the declarant’s financial resources at the time of death or contractual agreements, such as a prepaid plan with a funeral home. You should consult a priest to determine the suitability of liturgy preferences. If you are interested in a Funeral Planning Declaration, coordinate it with your other estate plans and talk with a priest to avoid roadblocks to having your preferences carried out after your death.

This information is not intended to be legal advice. Consult with an attorney to review all of the details and the requirements for making a valid Funeral Planning Declaration.

Burial trends favor full Catholic funeral rite

FORT WAYNE — Planning a funeral in today’s marketplace can be a confusing business, which now faces with the multitude of traditional and not-so-traditional choices now available. In the current fast-paced American culture a rise in the need for expediency and convenience has begun to take precedence over tradition and religious ritual.

But according to Tom Alter, superintendent of Catholic Cemetery in Fort Wayne and director of cemeteries in the Diocese of Fort Wayne, though trends are shifting, the choice of full-body funeral Mass remains the preferred form of memorial service for Catholics in the area.

Currently a traditional funeral consists of a one-day viewing, which includes a vigil service with a rosary recitation, planned with the help of funeral home personnel. The vigil is typically a time when personal experiences and stories are shared to honor the deceased loved one. Personal photos, videos, memorabilia and music highlight the gathering that precedes the funeral Mass.

The funeral Mass itself is planned in cooperation with the parish director of worship or liturgy. It is important, Alter points out, that family members meet directly with the parish personnel rather than allowing the funeral home to arrange the Mass. “If they don’t meet with the parish directly, they might not get exactly what they want,” he says.

Alter admits that there is a slow decline in the use of funeral Masses but speculates that the trend is due to individuals, especially those who are not making their funeral wishes known to family members before their death. “Parents need to make clear to their kids what they want. Write it down but send it to all the kids,” says Alter, who has experienced disagreements among siblings where only one has been given burial instructions.

Recently a shift has been noted toward replacing the funeral home viewing with a one- or two-hour visitation at the church before the funeral Mass. Cost is the primary factor in this trend, says Alter. “The funeral home charges to go to the church. So people are cutting it short to save money.” Though cost can be prohibitive, Alter reminds the survivors that there is a rich Catholic tradition in the funeral vigil and Mass that cemeteries across the nation. “It is a benefit to the survivor because the deceased’s wishes are being fulfilled. There’s a beauty to the ‘green funeral’ rite that makes you feel good when you leave. You have sent them (the deceased) off in the right way,” says Alter.

The funeral industry is also witnessing an increase in weekend services, due in large part to convenience. With the transient work schedule of the U.S. population, gathering for a funeral is now easier to accomplish over the weekend.

And with the nation’s environmental awakening in recent times, the green funeral, “where the deceased’s body is placed in a shroud or decomposable coffin, and buried without chemical use or the vault, have become popular on the West Coast. But according to Alter this environmentally friendly burial trend has not hit the Midwest yet.”

Memorial form is taking a new direction too with the boomer generation wanting everyone to know about who is buried there,” he says, referring to the information laden monuments.

Cremation has become a popular alternative to full body burial with cost reduction of up to $6,500. Alter reports that cremation burial at the Catholic Cemetery has risen from 4 percent in 1991 to 14 percent today. However, he states that the increase remains well under the national average of over 34 percent.

Though the Catholic Church now accepts cremation funerals, it continues to encourage full body funerals with cremation and interment to follow the rite. Alter reports that the Catholic Cemetery follows the teachings of the Church with regard to internment, especially concerning the dividing or spreading of the ashes. “We don’t treat cremation differently than we do full body burial. Scattering is not allowed. It’s not respectful,” he says.

Another nontraditional burial alternative is direct cremation, where the body goes directly to the crematorium and is then buried. There is no visitation or funeral service, which eliminates much of the cost of the funeral. Alter reports that this alternative is not used widely in the Midwest. Though current trends are directed toward newer and more cost and time efficient alternatives to the traditional vigil and funeral Mass, it appears that the rich historic beauty of the full Catholic funeral rite continues to hold meaning for many Catholics who have a lost loved one.
The Chilean mine rescue: Some eternal thoughts about our salvation

Responding to editors’ requests for a regular sampling of current commentary from around the Catholic press, here is a guest column, titled “The Chilean miners’ rescue: Some eternal thoughts about our salvation,” from the Oct. 22 issue of The Criterion, newspaper of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. It was written by Scott Surette, a member of St. Louis de Montfort Parish in Fishers in the Lafayette Diocese.

Watching the rescue of the miners in Chile was a very powerful and moving experience for a lot of people all over the world. Watching each of the miners being brought up one by one, I was overwhelmed with some eternal thoughts.

One of the most impressive things about this rescue is what a testimony it is to how precious each and every human life is. These trapped men were not famous people. They were ordinary miners that the world would not have thought much about outside of this event.

And yet, once the world found out that they were alive and trapped, the entire world came together in the desire to bring them home. Even this group of ordinary “nobodies” became very important to the whole world simply because there was the hope of saving them. And, inside, we all want to be saved.

Watching the miners come up one by one was so powerful. With every rescued miner, there was a large crowd gathered around, with the president of Chile and other important people all cheering, clapping and crying tears of joy.

With each miner, there were always family members standing right there to greet them with hugs, kisses and tears. I was overwhelmed just imagining that this might be what arriving in heaven will be like.

With God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, all the angels and saints will gather together, cheering, clapping and crying tears of joy over our rescue. And our loved ones who have gone before us will be standing right there with hugs and kisses. Just the thought of my arrival in heaven unfolding like that moves me to tears.

Consider this: When compared to eternity in heaven, our lives here on earth are very much like living “alive and trapped” in our own “hole in the ground,” and, right now, all of heaven is united in an all-out effort to rescue us from our own certain death. Just imagine all the angels and saints looking down on our “alive but trapped” lives in this world, and how all of heaven will stop at nothing to bring us home. We are all that important.

There was only one way out of that mine, and that way came by putting them into another kind of being, by putting them into another kind of being, by putting them into a rescue capsule. Staying in that mine would have meant certain death. The miners would never have seen the light of day again.

What about us? We need to be rescued too, just like these miners. We need to find the one and only way home to heaven.

Jesus is the only way. Without Jesus, we face certain eternal death. Without Jesus, we will never see the light of an eternal day again.

Now consider that God not only has drilled a hole to reach us, and sent a capsule to rescue us, but the capsule itself is His one and only Son, Jesus, who died and rose just to save us. That is how important we are! That is how hard all of heaven is working to rescue each one of us.

There will be great rejoicing in heaven when each one of us is rescued. I can’t wait to see Moses and Peter cheering and clapping at my arrival into heaven, and my loved ones standing right there with hugs and tears of joy.

What a vision! Thank you, Jesus!

The dignity of those with dementia

I once heard a remarkable story from a woman named Cecilia sitting next to me on a long flight. She told me that her mother had suffered from dementia for many years, eventually reaching the point that she could no longer recognize her children when they would visit at the nursing home. She then changed the tone of the conversation immediately, as she added, “But there’s always someone in there.” When I asked what she meant, she continued: “I love singing as an African-American. I’ve got a strong voice. I sometimes visit nursing homes near my house just to sing for the patients, to do something different and break up their routine a little. I still remember 12 years ago, I decided I would sing for my Mom. She didn’t have a clue who I was, and didn’t respond to much of anything, because the dementia was so advanced. She seemed almost catatonic. By chance I had come across one of her old hymnals with the Baptist songs we used to sing in church as kids. She used to know most of them by heart. Well, those old hymns stirred up something inside her, and after I started singing, she suddenly picked up and began to sing along with me! Yup, there’s always someone in there.”

Cecilia’s story about her mother runs against a cultural tendency today, which is to dismiss those struggling with dementia as if they were no longer persons. There is, however, clearly deserve much more from us than the kind of benign neglect or worse that is so often treated with indifference.

Many of us fear a diagnosis of dementia. We worry about “surrendering our core” or “loosing our true self” to the disease.

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

In deference to his father, this German was ordained a diocesan priest first, then entered the Jesuits in 1900. He led parish missions in Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands, and was wounded as a chaplain in World War I. After the war, he worked in Munich with the poor and unemployed, directed a men’s sodality, and spoke out against the rise of Adolf Hitler: The Nazis arrested him three times, imprisoning him at Sachsenhausen and in an abbey. He was freed in May 1945, but had a heart attack while saying Mass Nov. 1.
In Jesus, we find what Zacchaeus sought

The Book of Wisdom provides this weekend’s first reading. An essential component in ancient Hebrew belief, and contemporary Jewish thought as well, is that God is the Creator of all, and the author of all life. For this reason, there is so much respect for natural life and for the processes of nature.

It should be recalled that Wisdom was written in a world greatly influenced by Greek philosophy. Surrounding Greek philosophy was Greek mythology, which saw gods and goddesses as beings within nature. They had control over nature, of course, but they could exercise their control in ways not necessarily kind to humanity.

Furthermore, humans could use, misuse, nature and the things of nature in this Greek world. Wisdom called pious Jews living among Greeks to remember the Lord’s invitation to entrust our life and will. How we answer the question of how we set ourselves to the educational, social and religious welfare of both adults and children from the early days of this nation. The question arises: What is ultimately determined who is a saint.

American saints bear blessings for time, eternity

The second reading, the Church gives us a selection from St. Luke’s Gospel. Luke tells the story of Jericho, an ancient city not far from the Dead Sea, mentioned in several dramatic Old Testament passages. It is a city seated at the foot of the great Judean mountains, a virtual oasis in a stark and lifeless terrain. So, it was a place of security in the otherwise forbidding Jordan River valley and Judean wilderness.

However, in truth, Jericho offered no enduring security. Zacchaeus was wealthy, but Luke’s Gospel sees wealth as a burden. The poor are closer to God. They are unencumbered. Additionally, Zacchaeus was a tax collector, a disgusting occupation among the Jews. Nevertheless, Jesus, the Lord of life, freed Zacchaeus from the heavy burden of his sin, and gave him life, genuine security.

Climbing the tree on the part of Zacchaeus teaches us two important lessons. Despite all his wealth, he was subject to the simple obstacles confronting everyone, namely the inability to see through or over them. And, Zacchaeus desperately wanted to see Jesus, realizing that wealth offered him no lasting satisfaction.

Reflection

In just a few weeks the Church will close its liturgical year. The weekend following, it will lead us into a new year of worship and reflection. But, before the new year, it will call us to close this present year in a mood profoundly hopeful and thankful.

Hopefully, in Jesus, we have found what Zacchaeus sought. Our life, and our security, are in Jesus. When we have found Jesus, we have hope, and we give thanks, because we are one with God, in Jesus. The key to finding Jesus is in giving ourselves to Jesus, without compromise, without pause. Our union with the Lord must be as if Jesus is our king.

This weekend’s reading points us toward the feast of Christ the King, the great celebration closing this year.

READINGS


Monday: Rx 7:2-4, 9a 14:1c 24:1b-4b, 5-6 1 Jn 3:1 Mt 5:1-11


Wednesday: Phil 2:17-18 Ps 27:1, 4-13 Lk 14:25-33

Thursday: Phil 3:3-8a Ps 105:2-7 Lk 15:1-10

Friday: Phil 3:7-14 Ps 122:1-5 Lk 16:1-15

Saturday: Phil 4:10-19 Ps 112:1b-2, 5-6a, 9a, 19:16-19

American saints bear blessings for time, eternity

"Don’t call me a saint. I don’t want to be dismissed so easily." Dorothy Day said that. She was never one to mince words. Over the course of her 53 years, she labored for peace and fought for justice as the co-founder of the Catholic Worker movement. She took a hands-on approach to alleviating the suffering of the poor and all people shunted off to the margins of society. She helped start "houses of hospitality" and Catholic Worker communities to serve the needy and promote social justice. These now total 185 in the Unites States and 11 other countries. From the 20th’s until her death in 1980, Day spoke up on behalf of workers’ rights, civil rights and human rights. A world-renowned pacifist, she was jailed for her participation in marches and sit-ins, and even called her a communist.

These days, Dorothy Day is called a “Servant of God.” And despite her own request, one day she may be known as a saint. Far from a courageous and compassionate activist on behalf of those with the least power and least opportunity, she was a woman who did all that she did for the love of God.

And that’s what distinguishes those people we reverence as saints. They act heroically not out of altruistic personal convictions or concern for others; rather, they allow God to act in them and through them. Their relationship with their Lord inspires all they do with a divine light for time and eternity. Throughout history, people whose deep spirituality has guided their thoughts, words and deeds have dedicated their lives to fulfilling God’s will. In the process, they have reached those around them as well as many others with God’s own mercy.

Here in the United States, we have been blessed by many holy men and women who have walked among us. Those officially recognized by the Catholic Church as saints include the early North American martyrs, St. Isaac Jogues and companions who came here to share the Good News with the native people. Later, many nuns and priests devoted themselves to the educational, social and religious welfare of both adults and children from the early days of this nation. These include Saints Francis Xavier Cabrini, Elizabeth Seton, John Neumann, Rose Philippine Duchesne, Katherine Drexel, Mother Theodore Guérin and Damien de Veuster of Molokai who was canonized just last year.

You probably know something of Father Damien’s amazing story. Born in Belgium in 1840, he entered the seminary, hoping to become a missionary. He was sent to Hawaii where he served for several years until the bishop asked for volunteers to serve at the leper settlement of Molokai. There Damien went and there he stayed, caring for his suffering people’s physical needs as well as for the spiritual. After much soul-searching, he decided to leave the school and help them find the land. He buried the dead with dignity and honor, and he hoped to heal the那些 abandoned by the rest of the world. When he discovered that he had caught the disease, he simply said the phrase “we lopers” in his sermons and continued his heroic efforts until his death in 1889.

God’s heroes are extraordinary in their zeal for serving the Lord through His children in the face of hardship, sacrifice and even death. What makes these saints truly remarkable is the way they opened themselves to God’s love, sacrifice and will. How we answer the Lord’s invitation to entrust our life to Him — day by day without reservation — is what ultimately determines who is a saint.
VATICAN CITY (CNS) — “The universality of the Church,” proclaimed the headline across the top of the Vatican newspaper L’Osservatore Romano on Oct. 30, as it announced Pope Benedict XVI’s choice of 24 new cardinals from 13 different countries.

Yet those expectations have been keenly scrutinized to further globalize the College of Cardinals were no doubt disappointed. Fifteen of the 24 new cardinals are European; 10 are from Italy, and 14 are current or former officials of the Roman Curia.

Instead of expanding the geographical reach of the college, the pope appeared to be pulling it back to its historical base in Rome and Europe.

Europeans will now make up a majority of voters in a potential conclave, with 62 of the 121 cardinals under the age of 80. Roman Curia officials will comprise a full 30 percent of the cardinals.

The nomination of so many Europeans and Italians this time around did not surprise close Vatican observers, and many said cardinals’ expectations came due this fall.

As a result, many heads of archdioceses around the world are still waiting — and may wait a long time. In this batch of nominations, Pope Benedict has named more than 10 European prelates to Vatican positions that often come with a red hat. But some of the European prelates’ expectations came due this fall.

The crux of the issue is the current limit of 120 cardinals who are under age 80 and therefore eligible to vote in a conclave. That’s something the pope could easily change, if he wanted to.

For centuries, the College of Cardinals had a limit of 70 members, and all had a vote in a conclave. It was Pope John XXIII, who began to raise the number of cardinals, a trend that continued with every successive pope.

Pope Paul VI established the maximum of 120 electors, all of whom were to be under age 80. However, the 120 limit has been set aside several times — Pope John Paul II went way over in 2003 with 135 voting-age cardinals; Pope Benedict will exceed the maximum by one this time around.

The pope could do away with the numerical ceiling of 120 with the stroke of a pen, and thus open the way to a conclave. That’s something the pope could easily change, if he wanted to.

For, centuries, the College of Cardinals had a limit of 70 members, and all had a vote in a conclave. It was Pope John XXIII, who began to raise the number of cardinals, a trend that continued with every successive pope.

Pope Paul VI established the maximum of 120 electors, all of whom were to be under age 80. However, the 120 limit has been set aside several times — Pope John Paul II went way over in 2003 with 135 voting-age cardinals; Pope Benedict will exceed the maximum by one this time around. The pope could do away with the numerical ceiling of 120 with the stroke of a pen, and thus open the way to a conclave. That’s something the pope could easily change, if he wanted to.

The two main land masses of the Peloponnesian peninsula, and may say Greece is divided into two-niche, the most striking aspect was the geographical diversity between east and west. In this batch of nominations, Pope Benedict has named 40 percent of potential cardinal electors after the Nov. 20 consisto.

The pope has described the College of Cardinals as the Church’s “Senate,” but not a politi.

cal one. In 2007, addressing particip.

ants in his second consistory, he highlighted the college’s geographical diversity but said its role above all is to promote unity with the bishop of Rome. Its actions, he added, should reflect “humble self-giving” and not the search for power or domination.

Pope Benedict will have named 40 percent of potential cardinal electors after the Nov. 20 consisto. Over the next three years, he would have the opportunity to name at least 32 more. When that happens, the pope will have left his definitive mark on a future conclave. He named more than two-thirds of the cardinals who will choose his successor.

St. Paul reckons with Roman governor

The Acts of the Apostles mentions that at Corinth St. Paul met a Jewish couple, Aquila and Priscilla, who recently arrived from Italy. This couple had the same trade as Paul, namely tent making. Paul stayed at their house, which became a Christian meeting place.

Every Sabbath, in the synagogue, Paul would speak to the Jews and Greeks. Next to the synagogue was the house of a Gentile Titus Justus who believed in God. A leading man of the synagogue, Crispus, believed in Jesus, along with his whole household. Paul preached the Gospel in Corinth for a year and a half from A.D. 51-52. At the ancient site of Corinth, Baedeker says you can see the large Agora or marketplace that was the hub of Corinth’s political and economic life, and the Bema from which speakers addressed the people. It was here in A.D. 52 that Paul appeared before the Roman governor Gallo. Paul was summoned before the governor, because the Jews complained that Paul was inducing the people to worship a God contrary to the Jewish religion. But Gallo dismissed the case, because it dealt only with religion. Later a Christian church may have been built here.

Father Richard Hire is pastor of St. Martin de Porres Parish.

HIRE HISTORY

ROMAN MILITARY COLONISTS

The Acts of the Apostles mentions that at Corinth St. Paul met a Jewish couple, Aquila and Priscilla, who recently arrived from Italy. This couple had the same trade as Paul, namely tent making. Paul stayed at their house, which became a Christian meeting place.

Every Sabbath, in the synagogue, Paul would speak to the Jews and Greeks. Next to the synagogue was the house of a Gentile Titus Justus who believed in God. A leading man of the synagogue, Crispus, believed in Jesus, along with his whole household. Paul preached the Gospel in Corinth for a year and a half from A.D. 51-52. At the ancient site of Corinth, Baedeker says you can see the large Agora or marketplace that was the hub of Corinth’s political and economic life, and the Bema from which speakers addressed the people. It was here in A.D. 52 that Paul appeared before the Roman governor Gallo. Paul was summoned before the governor, because the Jews complained that Paul was inducing the people to worship a God contrary to the Jewish religion. But Gallo dismissed the case, because it dealt only with religion. Later a Christian church may have been built here.

Father Richard Hire is pastor of St. Martin de Porres Parish.

Climbing up

H J C N M U S T S T A Y

S A O C E S U O H N A

U A L Z R E L L A W A D

E B L F U O J N T D Y O

A R E V T X W A C L O T

H A C R A C H D F O N O

C H T T T O E D H A S

C A O S S I N N E R A

A M R S X H J O Z B E V

Z A A E C K W L N M H E

P P H E R O M A C Y S X

L O O K E D U P O O R Z

2010 Te-C-A Publications www.te-c-a-publications.com

Contemporary search

Gospel for October 31, 2010

Luke 19:1-10

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for 31st Sunday on Ordinary Time, Cycle C: the story of a man who climbed a tree. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

ZACCHAEUS COLLECTOR HE RAN LOOKED UP SINNER POOR ABRAHAM

CHIEF CROWD SYCAMORE MUST STAY BENEATH TONGUE TO SEEK TAX STATUTE PASS THAT WAY HOUSE HALF SALVATION TO SAVE

Hope

Continued from Page 15

In the years since Trent’s death, my girls and I have marked special events and occasions — the first day of school, birthdays, graduations, first boyfriends, career successes and so much more — that he has missed, and we have experienced without his love, support and special touch. But even with the loss, I can celebrate with gratitude the wonderful life I have created for my daughters and myself. I now can count these years as the blessings that they are.

The unexpected insight that I have been left with in the aftermath of this poignant anniversary is multifaceted. It was made clear once again how important telling my story to a supportive soul is for the rendering of grief. And as I purged my heart with the telling, I realized how greatly missed my husband still is and conversely, though the life I chose with Trent is no longer mine to enjoy, how wonderfully blessed I have been in the years since his death — grief and all.

— Kay Cozad is a certified grief educator and the news editor/writer of Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author of “Prayer Book for Widows,” Our Sunday Visitor, 2004. She can be reached at kc ozad@todayscatholicnews.org.

EIGHT YEARS AGO

October 31, 2010

Noonmarks from the front lines of the anti-abortion movement.

October 31, 2010

Continued from Page 15

Climbing up

H J C N M U S T S T A Y

S A O C E S U O H N A

U A L Z R E L L A W A D

E B L F U O J N T D Y O

A R E V T X W A C L O T

H A C R A C H D F O N O

C H T T T O E D H A S

C A O S S I N N E R A

A M R S X H J O Z B E V

Z A A E C K W L N M H E

P P H E R O M A C Y S X

L O O K E D U P O O R Z

2010 Te-C-A Publications www.te-c-a-publications.com

Contemporary search

Gospel for October 31, 2010

Luke 19:1-10

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for 31st Sunday on Ordinary Time, Cycle C: the story of a man who climbed a tree. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

ZACCHAEUS COLLECTOR HE RAN LOOKED UP SINNER POOR ABRAHAM

CHIEF CROWD SYCAMORE MUST STAY BENEATH TONGUE TO SEEK TAX STATUTE PASS THAT WAY HOUSE HALF SALVATION TO SAVE

Hope

Continued from Page 15

In the years since Trent’s death, my girls and I have marked special events and occasions — the first day of school, birthdays, graduations, first boyfriends, career successes and so much more — that he has missed, and we have experienced without his love, support and special touch. But even with the loss, I can celebrate with gratitude the wonderful life I have created for my daughters and myself. I now can count these years as the blessings that they are.

The unexpected insight that I have been left with in the aftermath of this poignant anniversary is multifaceted. It was made clear once again how important telling my story to a supportive soul is for the rendering of grief. And as I purged my heart with the telling, I realized how greatly missed my husband still is and conversely, though the life I chose with Trent is no longer mine to enjoy, how wonderfully blessed I have been in the years since his death — grief and all.

— Kay Cozad is a certified grief educator and the news editor/writer of Today’s Catholic newspaper. She is also the author of “Prayer Book for Widows,” Our Sunday Visitor, 2004. She can be reached at kc ozad@todayscatholicnews.org.
MISHAWAKA — The Holy Cross/Crist/Catholic Knights Crusaders finished third in both the boys’ and girls’ cross country action, the school’s top showing in both categories. The boys were assisted by their third place finisher, Jared Kinzer, who led the team with 13:56. The girls had six runners in the top 75, including Alex Cagle, who finished 26th overall with a time of 20:17. Also scoring for the girls were Stephanie Homan (35th), Paige Fitch (46th), Sarah Dondlinger (51st), and Abby Schwaiger (55th).

The boys’ team was led by Kinzer, who finished 21st overall with a time of 13:56, and by Brian LeCharpentier (26th), Austin Schreiner (32nd), and Brandon Pearson (36th). The girls’ team was led by Cagle, who finished 26th, and by Homan (35th), Fitch (46th), Dondlinger (51st), and Schwaiger (55th).

The Crusaders took home the CYO championship and the Cardinals could not be any prouder of these kids. They gave it their all, and we just wanted to keep going to him."

The Saints went back to the ground game and with their go to running back Ryan Schafer, who led the Saints with 48 yards rushing. Schafer lead a drive of six plays down into Crusader territory, but the Crusader defense came up with another big stop and forced a turnover on downs.

After a pivotal defensive stop the Saints, they had the ball back desperately needing to score. On third down and 12, Crusaders’ defensive lineman Connor Futa broke through the Saints’ offensive line and sacked quarterback Molnar to give the ball back to the Crusaders.

The Crusaders went back to Connelly, who led the Crusader charge with 105 yards rushing, to run the clock out. However, it was Andrew Petsche’s 10-yard burst through the middle that was the clincher for the Crusaders leaving the final score 16-8. "Coach Violi had his team prepared and they found a weakness in our defense and kept using that to their advantage," said Krzyzewski. "I told our kids that they (Mishawaka Catholic) would be prepared and they fought hard."

"We challenged the kids at the beginning of the week to take charge of the team and they did that in this game they never stopped fighting," said Violi. "I could not be any prouder of these kids. They gave it their all, and they are a great group of kids."

In the first CYO state final a team seeded 18-12, the number one seed St. Anthony took care of Westside Catholic, 32-0, in the third week of the regular season, but it was Holy Cross who prevailed and defeated the Cardinals, 24-12, in the final game of the CYO post season.

After a scoreless first quarter, the "big uglies" from Holy Cross seemed to be getting things done and putting pressure on the St. Charles’ quarterback, Cody Miller, preventing the successful Cardinal passing game. The Crusaders got their first six after a 9-yard drive led by workhorse, Rylan Asher. His big runs were capped off by the Crusaders’ signature play — the quarterback sneak — from Lane Lewis which gave Holy Cross an 8-0 lead at the half.

After making a few adjustments, the Cardinals came out strong in the second half, picking up first downs at a noticeably quicker pace.

Starting off the third quarter showdown, St. Charles attempted to tie things up. With the wind in his face, Andrew Gabet carried his team on his back down the field, which ended in the Cardinals’ first score on a well-designed, play-action pass from Miller. But the kick was no good, so the score stood read 8-8. The Crusaders answered back immediately on a 61-yard scamper by Asher, but the Cardinals were not finished yet. Brandon Pearson came through on a jet-black downfield pass for St. Charles’ second score which closed the gap, 12-16.

St. Charles played hard all four quarters and never quit. But Asher scored again with just under four minutes left in the game putting the Crusaders out of reach.

Finishing their CYO season with an impressive 8-2 record, the Cardinals will be heading northwest to represent Fort Wayne in the diocesan showdown next week along with the runner-up contender, the St. Vincent Panthers, according to CYO guidelines.
VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The people at the Vatican newspaper weigh in on any number of serious issues, but they are now being challenged in the blogosphere after they claimed that Homer Simpson is one of their own, even if he doesn’t know it.

In an Oct. 17 opinion piece published in L’Osservatore Romano, Vatican newspaper columnist Piero Occhetta wrote that “few know it, and he does his best to hide it, but it’s true: Homer J. Simpson is Catholic.”

That assertion predictably provoked some amused or sarcastic reactions on blogs and websites all over the United States, including from the show’s executive producer, Al Jean. In an interview with Entertainment Weekly, Jean said that he was “trying real hard to be Catholic,” but in fact, “his best to hide it, but it’s true: Homer J. Simpson is Catholic.”


But, he is quoted as saying, “we’ve pretty clearly shown that Homer is not Catholic. I really don’t think he could give us a meal on Fridays — for even an hour.”

In an Oct. 20, 2010 article on the Web site of the Philadelphia Enquirer, Occhetta said that L’Osservatore Romano was “trying real hard to be Catholic.”

The Washington Post titled a blog, “Is the Dope Catholic? The Vatican blesses the Simpsons” and asked, “so is L’Osservatore Romano truly so pro-Catholic about ‘The Simpsons’ that it is seeking a cartoon conversion? Or is this just a way to connect through pop culture?”

Occhetta wrote that the cartoon in the Oct. 16 issue of the Italian Jesuit weekly La Civilta Cattolica. That article, titled “‘The Simpsons’ and Religion,” asserted that the series “is one of the few television shows for kids in which the Christian faith, religion and questions about God are recurring themes.”

La Civilta Cattolica pointed out that the Simpsons “say grace before meals, and in their way, believe in heaven.”

However, the article’s author, Jesuit Father Francesco Occhetta, said by telephone that L’Osservatore Romano had been exaggerated. “That may be their interpretation, but we never said the Simpsons were Catholic,” he said.

Instead, Father Occhetta said, the fact that the series often deals with religion, even irreverently, shows that Homer Simpson “is open to the question of faith and God.”

The analysis in the magazine recalled a 2007 episode titled, “The Father, the Son and the Holy Guest Star,” in which Homer and his son Bart are attracted to Catholicism after meeting a priest (played by Liam Neeson) they could connect with.

In the episode, the Catholic Church comes out looking good,” Father Occhetta said, although the depiction of a Catholic nun in the episode is basically an outdated, negative stereotype.

The Simpsons regularly and distractedly attend a church, prayed over by the often ridiculous Rev. Lovejoy. Father Occhetta said that while the show lampoons certain religious figures, it shows the Simpsons are a family of faith and open to Christianity.

Producer Jean called the church “pretty libertarian,” the show criticizes “those who preach a Christian life but don’t live it,” Father Occhetta said.

He said it is in contrast to Walt Disney films where characters are only good or only bad. “In ‘The Simpsons,’ that’s not how it is,” he said. “Good and bad coexist in every person, just like real people,” which is why people keep watching, he said.

Addressing the fact that some parents don’t think the show is appropriate for children, L’Osservatore Romano wrote that despite some “dangers” in the long-running series, parents “don’t need to be afraid of letting their children watch the adventures of the little yellow people.” In fact, it said, watching episodes together could furnish the basis for conversations about family life, school, society and politics.

And because the show is full of “skeptic realism,” young television watchers learn early on not to believe everything they see, the Vatican newspaper said.

The latest essay is not the first example of attention to Homer Simpson’s spiritual essence in L’Osservatore Romano. In a comment on “The Simpsons” when the show celebrated its 20th anniversary in December 2009, it said, “simultaneously reflecting modern people’s indifference toward and great need for the sacred, Homer finds his ultimate refuge in God” — even if he doesn’t always get his name right.

“Things Seen and Unseen,” by Lawrence S. Cunningham is a compilation of years of note-taking on issues of every-day theology by this theology professor at the University of Notre Dame. His insightful reflections are a comical, tragic and beautiful commentary on the realities of contemporary Catholicism.

“Bridges to Contemplative Living with Thomas Merton,” edited by Jonathan Montaldo and Robert G. Toth offers a brand new booklet and eight updated booklets in the four-year-old series. The series adds the Advent and Christmas booklet to its resources to lead participants on a path of spiritual growth. Ave Maria Press, ISBN: 978-1-934349-52-5

“The Bible’s Best Love Stories,” by Allan F. Wright is a book attuned to the deepest need of every human being: Love. Each of the 20 chapters offers a specific Bible story with commentary on a variety of types of love from first love to brotherly love. Prayer, a pertinent quote and reflection questions close each love story for further reflection. The author includes a suggested “love connection” activity as well. St. Anthony Messenger Press, ISBN: 978-0-86716-960-7

“The Roots of Faith: From the Church Fathers to You,” by Mike Aquilina covers several topics of interest from the Mass to the mysteries of marriage with a historical perspective that brings to light the truth of the Catholic Church as a living organism, ever growing and maturating. Scripture and stories breathe life into the author’s idea that the contemporary Church is still the same Church that began with Jesus Christ. Servant Books, ISBN: 978-0-86716-938-6

“The Notre Dame Book of Prayers” is a 273-page treasure trove of traditional and contemporary prayers ranging from the mysteries of the rosary to heartfelt supplication for justice and everyday prayers for aging parents or the birth of a child. The 12 chapters offer a taste of several University of Notre Dame land marks with personal reflections from a variety of authors to inspire a deeper prayer life. A great prayer resource. Ave Maria Press, ISBN: 978-1-59471-200-7

Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Mishawaka, Indiana seeks a highly motivated and organized Director of Liturgy and Music to lead and develop the music ministry in a parish of 1,100 families, including both the Adult and Children’s choirs. Responsibilities include planning liturgies and music (4 weekend Masses, 1 weekday Mass), and developing formation and training for liturgical and musical ministers. Proficiency playing both organ and piano is highly desirable. Pay is commensurate with ability and experience. This may be a part-time or full-time position. Send cover letter and resume to: Queen of Peace Catholic Church 4508 Vistula Road • Mishawaka, IN 46544

Fall nights say curl up with a book


WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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

Open house at Bishop Dwenger
Fort Wayne — Bishop Luers High School will hold an open house Wednesday, Nov. 10, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. All interested families may attend. Information about clubs, sports, financial aid, teachers and staff will be available. For information, call the Bishop Luers admissions office (260) 456-1261.

Trick or treating at the Black Forest
Fort Wayne — The St. Vincent Scouts will have free trick or treating on Oct. 30 from 3-5 p.m. at the Black Forest next to the Haunted Castle, located at the corner of Auburn and Wallen roads. This event is a safe trick or treating event sponsored by the Allen County Sheriff Department. This is non-scary trick or treating for the community. Children are invited to come dressed in costume and receive candy and prizes.

Holiday home party and craft show
New Haven — St. Louis Besancon Parish will have a holiday craft show Saturday, Nov. 6, from noon to 6 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 7, from 9 a.m. to noon at the recreation hall, 15535 East Lincoln Highway.

Knights plan fish fry
South Bend — The Knights of Columbus Council 5521, 61533 S. Ironwood Dr., will have a fish fry on Friday, Nov. 5, from 5-7 p.m. Adults $8, children (5-12) $3. Chicken strips for $8 and shrimp for $8.50 will be available.

St. Pius X senior group to meet
Granger — St. Pius X has a senior group (55+) that meets the second Tuesday of the month at noon starting with Mass. On Nov. 9, the topic will be Thanksgiving with “The Our Father,” prayed by Dick McCloskey. For information call (574) 271-7853.

Fall rummage and bake sale
Fort Wayne — St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, 11521 U.S. Highway 27 S., will have a rummage and bake sale Friday, Nov. 5, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 6, from 8 a.m. to noon, Sack sale on Saturday for $3.

Holiday Bazaar
Mishawaka — Queen of Peace Parish, 4508 Vistula Rd., will have a holiday bazaar Saturday, Nov. 13, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enjoy over 60 booths, raffles and baked goods. For information call the parish office at (574) 255-9674.

Day of recollection
New Haven — The Sodality of St. John Church, 943 Powers Ave., will have a day of recollection for men and women on Friday, Nov. 5, with Father David Engo of the Franciscan Friars Minor. Mass will begin the day at 9 a.m. with three sessions and lunch included. The conference will end about 2:15 p.m. with time for confession and reflection. There is no charge, but a free-will offering will be taken after lunch.

Dinner dance and auction planned
Monroeville — St. Joseph School will hold a dinner dance and auction on Friday, Nov. 5, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Quixote Hills Reception Hall in Hoagland. A social hour at 6 p.m. with a silent and live auction, dinner and dancing with music by Breakaway and a special tribute to the St. Rose Archers 1975-76 CYO Championship basketball team with a free throw contest and a $100 cash prize is planned. Proceeds benefit the St. Joseph Home and School Association. Tickets are $12 in advance or $15 at the door. For tickets call (260) 623-2310 or the school office at (260) 623-3447.

Bridge of Hope dinner and auction benefit held
Mishawaka — A dinner and auction will be held Friday, Nov. 5, at 6 p.m. at the Riverside Terrace, 426 Lincolnway East. Tickets are $45, Patron Tickets, $65 or $600 per table of 10 with program recognition. Visit www.bridgeofhopejes.com or call (574) 291-2423 for more information.

Snowflake Bazaar
Huntington — St. Mary Parish Rosary Sodality will hold their annual Snowflake Bazaar in the school gym, Saturday, Nov. 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sunday after the Masses. There will be lunch with soup, sandwiches and apple dumplings, and, also, a bake sale and mini-craft vendors.

Rosary for poor souls
Mishawaka — A rosary for the poor souls will be recited Sunday, Nov. 11, at 2 p.m. in the St. Joseph Cemetery, corner of Liberty and Jefferson.

Theology on Tap
Fort Wayne — The Theology on Tap series for young adults in their 20s and 30s, single or married, will be held at Columbia Street West, 135 W. Columbia St., Thursday, Nov. 4, at 6:30 p.m. on the topic “Ars Celebrandi: The Art of Celebrating Mass,” with Brian MacMichael. This event is hosted by the Office of Campus and Young Adult Ministry. Visit www.diocesefwsb.org/TOT.

European Pilgrimage

European Pilgrimage
Departs: May 2, 16; Aug. 2; & Sept. 12, 2011
12 Days Celebrate Mass 9 Days! from $2349*
ROME – VATICAN – PORTUGAL – FATIMA
SPAIN – FRANCE – LOURDES – PARIS
Fully Escorted + Your YMT Catholic Chaplain-Priest!
Tour the Vatican including Audience with Pope Benedict XVI (subject to his schedule). Tour Rome’s religious highlights including St. Peter’s Basilica, St. Peter’s Basilica, and Rome’s first church the “Cathedral of Rome and of the World.” Celebrate two Masses in Rome including Mass at St. Peter’s. See ancient Rome, the Colosseum, Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain, Basilica Santa Maria Maggiore and more! Fly to Lisbon, Portugal, visit Lady of Fatima Church, celebrate private masses at the Basilica of Fatima and Apparition Chapel of Fatima; and tour the Fatima monastery. Travel to Salamanca, Spain; visit the Old Cathedral and New Cathedral; overnight in Valladolid, Spain; Visit Lourdes, France; celebrate Mass at the Grotto of Lourdes. Take the high-speed train to Paris for two nights. Paris includes highlights: The Shrine of the Miraculous Medal with Mass at the Chapel of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, a full-day tour of Paris visiting the Louvre Museum, Eiffel Tower, Basilica of the Sacred Heart and more. This Pilgrimage Includes 10 Breakfasts & 10 Dinners. *Price per person, double occupancy, plus $259 tax, services, & gov’t fees. August & September departures add $100. Airfare is extra. Cell now for complete details. Space is limited.

For information, itinerary, reservations and letter from your chaplain with his phone number call 7 days a week:
YMT Vacations 1-800-736-7300
America’s best choice for affordable travel since 1967.
‘Fearless’ youth encouraged to be themselves

At right, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrates Mass following a question-and-answer session. Bishop Rhoades and Franciscan Father David Mary Engo closed the high school teens’ FaithFest in Warsaw with Eucharistic Adoration. Youth from all over the diocese attended the event held in Warsaw on Sunday Oct. 24.

The Catholic Schools Office is accepting applications for the Elementary School Principal-Mishawaka Catholic School Mishawaka, IN Enrollment: 450 Grades: PreK-8 Qualifications: *Practicing Catholic *5 years teaching/administrative experience *Eligible for Indiana Administrative License This is a unique and challenging opportunity for collaborative leadership of a NEW interparochial school. For more information and application, contact: Catholic Schools Office 915 South Clinton Street Fort Wayne, IN Tel: 260-422-4611 Fax: 260-426-3077 Applications available online at www.diocesefwsb.org/cso Application review begins November 1, 2010

THE TRUTH OF THE EUCARISTH REVEALED...

See & Hear the Story Unfold!

A Powerful Fact-Based-Case for Belief in the REAL PRESENCE in the Eucharist!
(Recorded Live at Transfiguration Catholic Church, W. Milton, OH, September 2009)

*DVD includes exclusive interview with Investigative Team! To order the “Science Tests Faith” DVD at the Introductory Price of $10 Including Shipping & Handling. Send payment & order to: Love and Mercy Publications, P O Box 1160, Hampstead, NC 28443 www.loveandmercy.org

Recipes, prayers, activities and stories wanted

Today’s Catholic will look at the heartwarming traditions of Thanksgiving around the diocese in an upcoming November issue. If you have a Thanksgiving recipe, special prayer or activity, or a heartwarming memory of a family tradition with photo, please e-mail to kaymcozad@gmail.com or mail to Today’s Catholic, P.O. Box 11169, Fort Wayne, IN, 46856-1169 by Nov. 10. Please send only copies of photos as they will not be returned.

F A I T HF E S T

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

introduction of Pope John Paul II’s theology of the body. Mary Bielski and her roommate Liz Cotrupi encouraged the girls to “leave all your issues behind — boyfriends, moms, homework and dig deep into your Catholic faith,” Bielski said.

Mary Bielski graduated from Marquette University with a double major in theology and psychology. As a volunteer youth minister for 10 years and founder of All4Him ministries in 2006, Mary travels and speaks around the nation at high school retreats.

“Theology of the body is a collection of 129 general audience speeches Pope John Paul II gave on love, life and human sexuality,” Bielski said. “She spoke about all the media messages that are focused on beauty and sex and said God loves us as we are.”

“‘It’s so freeing to know we don’t have to meet all those requirements,’ she said. And when you know that you’re less likely to get involved with a guy who doesn’t honor you.”

After lunch, there were workshops on the following topics that the youth chose from: “Fear No Evil,” Gone Viral, Out of Darkness, Ok, Go (evangelization) Blood of the Martyrs, The “S” word (why is there suffering?) and Legit.”

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades told the young people about St. André Bessette and how the new saint’s life exemplified humility. Because of the saint’s lack of education, he was made a doorkeeper at the College of Notre Dame in Montreal. Yet, over 40 years, many would come to Brother André with their struggles in life, their illnesses, and, through Brother André’s intercessory prayers to St. Joseph, many were cured of their illnesses. Brother André would get upset if someone claimed that they were cured by the Holy Cross brother.

Bishop Rhoades encouraged the young people to follow the example of St. André and the prayer example of the tax collector.

Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction followed the Mass.