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‘Salt of the Earth and Light of the World’

BY BISHOP KEVIN C. RHoades

When I was a seminarian, the pastor of my home parish, Saint Mary’s in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, was a beloved elderly priest. He was very good to me, to my family, and to all the parishioners. I remember that he would often describe the parishioners of Saint Mary’s as “the salt of the earth.”

TODAY’S CATHOLIC

February 13, 2011

The Seven Corporal Works of Mercy

1. Feed the hungry.
2. Give drink to the thirsty.
3. Clothe the naked.
4. Shelter the homeless.
5. Visit the sick.
6. Visit the imprisoned.
7. Bury the dead.

The Seven Spiritual Works of Mercy

1. Counsel the doubtful.
2. Instruct the ignorant.
3. Admonish sinners.
4. Comfort the afflicted.
5. Forgive offenses.
7. Pray for the living and the dead.

IN TRUTH AND CHARITY

Salt

The image of salt is a very ordinary, everyday image. In the time of Jesus (before refrigeration and preservation), salt was necessary for preserving meats and other foods, to keep them from spoiling. Salt also adds flavor and zest to food. But if it loses its power to preserve and if it loses its flavor, it is of no use. When Jesus said “you are the salt of the earth,” he is telling us that we have the task on this earth to preserve and to give flavor. We are to preserve the new life of grace He has brought to our world. And we are to give flavor, that is, meaning and space to people’s lives. Salt enhances the quality of life. Being salt, we can contribute to enhancing the quality of others’ lives. Life becomes tasty and full of flavor when it contains the salt of Jesus, His word, His loving kindness, His benevolence, His mercy and forgiveness. Jesus wants this spice of life to reach all people. He needs people who live it and make it visible. He needs disciples who are themselves “salt of the earth,” who bring the salt of Jesus to others, who manifest His kindness, compassion, and love. When His disciples lack kindness and mercy and love, they no longer bring this spice of life to others. Jesus says that if salt loses its taste, “it is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.”

Light

The meaning of the other image Jesus uses “the light of the world” is clear. Again, imagine how the people listening to the Sermon on the Mount must have felt when they heard those words. They lived in a relatively obscure place, in poor Galilee, yet Jesus told them they were the light for the whole world. Some may have thought that Jesus was exaggerating, but He wasn’t. It is true that none of them and none of us can be such a great light through our own efforts alone. We must remember other words of Jesus, when He said of Himself: “I am the light of the world.” He instructed His disciples to go to all nations and peoples and to bring His light to them. This is what happened. From those first simple followers, the light of Christ spread through the Church to all the ends of the earth. And this light continues to spread today. This is our mission, whatever our state in life: to let the light of Christ shine through us wherever we go and whatever we do. This is done by living our faith, by putting it into action, especially by loving one another as Christ has loved us.

A similar message is found in our first reading today from the prophet Isaiah. God teaches us through the prophet that our light will break forth like the dawn when we share bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and the homeless, and clothe the naked. These are a few of the corporal works of mercy. In the responsorial psalm today, we sang: “The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.” According to the psalmist, this light shines when one is gracious and merciful and just.

The Beatitudes

Jesus began the Sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes which we heard in last Sunday’s Gospel. Immediately after teaching the Beatitudes, He said the words: “You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world.” It’s clear, therefore, that it’s when we live the Beatitudes that we are salt and light. We bring flavor and light to people’s lives when we live as men and women of the Beatitudes.

It is good to ask ourselves if we truly bring salt and light to the lives of others, to the members of our own families, to classmates, to coworkers, to friends, to fellow parishioners? Do we bring salt and light to those who are suffering? Jesus says that we don’t light a lamp and put it under a bushel basket. Rather, we set it on a lampstand, “where it gives light to all in the house.” So our Lord says to us: “Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.” Being a Christian, being a Catholic, should not be a private matter. We shouldn’t hide. “A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden,” Jesus says. We should be visible by our lives, our good works, the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, and the Beatitudes. That’s how we are the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

You may find Bishop Rhoades’ columns or homilies at todayscatholicnews.org under the column section.
Saint Joseph’s High School fosters Catholic values, education and community

BY JOE KOZINSKI

SOUTH BEND — When it became apparent that Catholic secondary education must have greater facilities for the youth of South Bend and Mishawaka area, a diocesan drive was begun in order to build a new Catholic high school.” These were words printed describing the successful outreach that in 1951 and became Saint Joseph’s High School.

The $1.9 million dollar effort in visions in the early 1980s, boasting contemporary design, was the foundation and motivation for the current Forward in Faith campaign and will grow into a new facility and foster Catholic values, education and community.

“Our strategic planning committee has been working on this project for more than seven years,” explained Susan Richter, principal of Saint Joseph’s. “We started with a focus on our current location and organizational groups that literally moved blocks around in available spaces on a site map to see what we could do to accomplish very humble dreams.

“Shortly after we began that process, Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center informed us that their location that would be vacated after the new hospital was built,” Richter said. “The Saint Joseph’s community was involved in many of the discussions on how, if and when we would proceed with the Forward in Faith project.

“The project needed to address basic needs, educate and associate an attainable budget to accomplish this,” commented Richter. “First would be strictly education and administration for approximately $26 million, the second tier accounted for; chapel, athletic facilities and chemistry labs bringing the campaign to its current figure of $35.5 million.”

“Bishop John D’Arcy and Bishop Kevin Rhoades had 10 chemistry labs bringing the campaign to approximately $4.5 million of the needed funds.”

“The need now is $8.2 million. We just announced a matching gift of $1 million by the Leighton-Ouse Foundation to the general fund,” Boetticher said. “The city of South Bend has been super supportive in all areas with our development.”

“The goal of course is $35.5 million, the leadership phase has as of today accounted for $22.8 million,” explained Jeffery Boetticher, Saint Joseph’s development director. “We are also counting on the sale of our current location to defer approximately $4.5 million of the needed funds.”

“Community is important in a school and equally important for the formation of the new facility,” explained Matt Edmonds, president of the Saint Joseph’s School Board. “Our strength lies within our students, parents and alumni as our foundation.

“I like to assimilate it to dropping a pebble in a pond and watching the ripples roll out,” Edmonds said. “As the waves radiate out, so will the reach of our graduates into the South Bend community.”

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“Just as the visionaries of the 1950s spin a thread that has intertwined generations of families with common Catholic Values, the Forward in Faith capital campaign empowers today’s idealists with a vehicle to give and inspire the area’s youth.”

“This is an exciting and historic time for not only the Saint Joseph’s community and the diocese but also for the city of South Bend,” commented a jubilant Richter. “Support of Saint Joseph’s is a special place; our graduates have shared their gifts, their faith and their Catholic values unequivocally for decades. We look forward to contributing to the plans to secure Saint Joseph’s High School for many future generations.”

“Built our leadership phase and general phase to the project for more than seven years,” explained Boetticher. “First would be strictly education and administration for approximately $26 million, the second tier accounted for; chapel, athletic facilities and chemistry labs bringing the campaign to approximately $4.5 million of the needed funds.”

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“A unique paradox is that so many people that are in different phases of life are getting behind the campaign,” expounded Boetticher. “Parents with young children are excited that they may attend the new school. Parents with college students are giving back saying ‘thank you’ and alumni are stating that the original 16 sponsors in 1953 did this for us, and we can now give to our community.”

“The generous outpouring of gifts so far has been exceptional,” remarked Boetticher. “The attitude of the same, this is a good high school and good things happen to people that go there.”

“The embodiment of Saint Joseph’s community has been abuzz with anticipation of how they each can help and contribute to the challenge that lies ahead.

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Revised Bible provides ‘more clarity, more detail’ for today’s Catholic

BY PATRICIA ZAPOR

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The revised New American Bible that will be released on Ash Wednesday, March 9, may seem mostly different to casual readers for its efforts at providing context and clarity in how the passages fit together, according to the coordinator of its publication.

“It will be like going from regular TV to high-definition,” said Mary Elizabeth Sperry, associate director of New American Bible utilization for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

“You’ll have the same programs but more clarity, more detail.”

What is being called the New American Bible Revised Edition, or NABRE, will include the first revised translation since 1970 of the Old Testament. The New Testament translation is the same as in 1986 and later editions of the New American Bible.

The NABRE also will include the updated Book of Psalms, which was revised between 1991 and 2010 and has been included in versions of the New American Bible published since 1991.

The new Bible will be available in an assortment of print, audio and electronic formats, from a variety of publishers. Individual publishers will roll out their versions on their own schedules. For instance, Oxford University Press announced its line of compact NABRE editions will be available by Easter, April 24, and its study Bible will be on the market for fall 2011 courses.

The NABRE’s publication will not affect what Scripture texts are used for Mass. The Lectionary translation has already been updated recently.

Sperry explained that some of the updating in the Old Testament resulted from developments in biblical scholarship since the last time it was translated. For instance, recent archaeological discoveries have provided better texts, which affected scholarly views on how certain passages should be translated, she said.

The goal of retranslating the Old Testament was to “get it close to the original language,” Sperry said. Scholars start with the original Hebrew or Greek text, for instance, rather than simply working from the 1970 New American Bible version, or from translations used in other Bible editions.

For the most part, the changes will be hard to spot, except by those who are serious students or scholars, she said.

In other places in the NABRE, even casual readers may catch the differences.

She and Benedictine Father Joseph Jensen, executive secretary of the Catholic Biblical Association and one of the scholars who worked on the translation, both gave two examples of the type of changes everyday readers might notice: the disappearance of the words “cereal” and “booty.”

“The goal when possible was to make the language more contemporary,” said Father Jensen. In today’s culture the phrase “cereal offering” conjures up images of Wheaties and Cheerios, not the bushels of wheat type of offering that the term is intended to mean, he said.

The word “booty” also has taken on the slang meanings of “bullocks” or sometimes, “sexual intercourse,” instead of its primary meaning of “plunder,” such as a marauding army might acquire.

Sperry said another change made for contemporary readers was the elimination of the word “holocaust” in favor of “burnt offerings.” Since millions of Jews were killed in German death camps before and during World War II, the word Holocaust has gradually come to specifically refer only to that period of history, she explained.

Kathleen Nash, associate professor and chair of the religious studies department at Le Moyne College, translated the book of Joel for the NABRE and “shepherded” I Samuel through the process after it was translated by Carmelite Father Craig Morrison, currently of the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome.

Nash joined the process in 1996, several years after the team of translators got started.

It turned out to be a long-term commitment. The editorial board met one weekend a month for years, reviewing each other’s work, sometimes spending multiple weekends on a single book, she explained. Later the group’s meetings revolved around queries from bishops who had their own questions and suggestions after they received the translations.

“For a good number of years, that’s all I did: live and breathe translation,” Nash said.

Coming into the work fairly early in her academic career, Nash said, she was very excited to be involved in the process, especially since the team was “a good mix of seniors and younger scholars, ... we worked well together.”

There were disagreements, to be sure, such as over whether the pronoun “he” should be used in all references to God, she said. Another effort was made to substitute “it” for references to the Church as “she.”

“That didn’t fly,” Nash said.

The completed Old Testament revision was approved by the bishops at their November 2008 meeting. In 2010 the bishops signed off on the latest revision of the Psalter, as the Book of Psalms is called.

The publication of the revised Bible also reinvigorates an ongoing dispute between the Catholic Biblical Association and the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, a separately incorporated entity whose membership is composed of the members of the USCCB Administrative Committee.

The confraternity licenses religious and spiritual literature.

For decades, the association received payments from the confraternity for sales of Bibles and other publications that use the NAB translation. Payments — which the association said represented 25 percent of the income from licensing — but were stopped in 2008 while the confraternity sought changes in the arrangement.

The two sides entered into the process of conciliation provided for under canon law. Both the USCCB and Father Jensen declined to comment on the specifics of the case.

In a statement to CNS, Sperry said: “At the request of the CBA, the matter is in canonical conciliation. That process requires confidentiality. The bishops take the process seriously and will abide by its terms.”

Father Jensen said that conciliation effort “has not been effective, but we are continuing to try.”

Father Jensen said the suspension of the royalty payments had various ramifications, from the issue of who has the legal rights to the royalties to how the association would continue to pay for its program of scholarships and stipends for scholars and students.

The first year after the royalty payments were cut off, the Catholic Biblical Association had a $170,000 deficit because it honored the grants to which it was already committed, he said, adding that the association has suspended all its grants except for a few student stipends and a famine relief donation.
INDIANAPOLIS — Pro-life lawmakers will work this year to curb abortion in Indiana by improving the information women receive before they have an abortion.

“The Indiana Catholic Conference is supportive of legislation to provide more complete information about abortion to help mothers choose life for their unborn baby,” said Glenn Tebbe, ICC executive director.

Sen. Patricia Miller, R-Indianapolis, said the goal of her pro-life bill, SB 328, this year is to 1) “ensure the safety of the woman”; 2) “provide the mother with as much information as possible to make a good and informed decision”; and 3) “provide enough information that the mother understands that there is a child involved.”

Sen. Miller’s bill has several components. The information provided to the mother must be given in writing 18 hours prior to the abortion. Current law allows this information to be given verbally. Adoption alternatives would be made available including that adoptive parents may be responsible for some of the expenses of carrying the baby to term. Prior to the abortion, the mother would be notified that the physical life begins at fertilization and the medical evidence of fetal pain to her child during the abortion. Also she will be given risks associated with abortion and carrying the baby to full term.

SB 328 would make abortion doctors accountable for complications of the abortion and provide for follow-up treatment by the same doctor if needed. Under the bill, abortion doctors would be required to have hospital admitting privileges in the county where they performed the abortion and in the counties adjacent to where the abortion is provided.

“The abortion doctor performs the abortion and leaves,” said Miller. “The woman has complications and ends up in an emergency room and is too embarrassed to tell the ER physician why she is bleeding.” The admitting privileges provision of the bill provides the follow-up care needed by the doctor who performed the abortion.

Sen. Greg Walker, R-Colombus, also authored a bill, SB 457, to strengthen Indiana’s informed consent law for abortion.

Walker said his proposal would apply today’s customary standards in the medical marketplace to patients considering abortion. His bill would expand informed consent to include: potential danger of infertility and danger to a subsequent pregnancy; possible risks of infection, hemorrhage or breast cancer; physicians 24-hour emergency contact information; availability of follow-up care; documentation showing human physical life begins at conception; and material citing sources who say a fetus can feel pain at or before 20 weeks of post-fertilization age.

“If passed by the 2011 Indiana General Assembly, Senate Bill 457 would expand Indiana’s informed consent law, ensuring Hoosier women are well-informed before making a life-changing decision,” Walker said.

“Currently, state law requires information about abortion to be given verbally to women considering this procedure. During such a trying time, it may be difficult for them to internalize such information without having the documents needed to study and read it in private.”

While Sen. Miller said she agrees with the intent of Sen. Walker’s bill, given the state’s fiscal problems, bills introduced this year must be revenue neutral meaning they cannot cost the state anything to implement.

“Our plan is to amend Sen. Walker’s bill, SB 457 into my bill, SB 328 and remove the fiscal impact to the Indiana Department of Health in the process so that the bill can move forward in the process,” said Miller.

“This bill is not new,” said Sen. Miller. “It has passed the Senate in years past, but then did not get a hearing in the House.”

The Indianapolis lawmakers said, “I’m optimistic the bill will pass the Senate and the House this year.”

In 2007, the Indiana Department of Health reported that 10,887 Hoosier children were aborted. Eighty-two percent of Hoosier women who got abortions were unmarried. Women in the age category of 20-24 years who received the highest number of abortions in the state at 33 percent. The second highest category by age was women age 25-29 who received 24 percent of the abortions. Sixty-four percent of the abortions were acquired by white women: 29 percent black; 3 percent other; and 4 percent unknown race. According to a 2010 study by the Guttmacher Institute, 27 states require parental consent for abortion when a minor is involved including Indiana. Thirty-four states including Indiana require counseling prior to an abortion. As part of the counseling seven states include information on the increased risk of developing breast cancer as a result of having an abortion; 21 states require information regarding the negative mental impact abortion has on the mother; and nine states offer ultrasounds prior to an abortion including Indiana. If Sen. Miller’s bill passes this year, Indiana would join 10 states stating that the fetus may feel pain during the abortion.

Indiana’s Abortion Statistics

To view detailed information on the state's abortions see the Indiana Department of Health’s abortion publication called Indiana Induced Termination of Pregnancy Report at www.in.gov/isdh/reports/ftp/2007/index.htm

GET CONNECTED: In addition to the I-CAN Update, view more detailed information regarding the bills and detailed information about the legislative process through the ICC Legislative Action Center. Under policy tools click on issues and legislative process the ICC Legislative Action Center. Under policy tools click on issues and legislation and access the state or federal bills by clicking “current legislation.” The archived updates, ICC positions and other background information can be obtained at the ICC website, www.indianacc.org.

Pro-life lawmakers work to curb abortion, improve Indiana’s informed consent law
Pope tells new bishops they must help those who long for God

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Ordaining five bishops — two Vatican diplomats and three representatives of Vatican congregations — Pope Benedict XVI said the prelates were called to help people recognize and respond to their yearning for holiness and goodness. “Even if it seems that in much of the modern world, people today want to turn their backs on God and think that faith is a thing of the past, there still exists a yearning that justice, love and peace finally would be established, that poverty and suffering would be overcome and that people would find joy,” the pope said.

The human “yearning for what is great, for what is good” is a yearning for God that the Church must help people recognize, accept and develop, the pope said Feb. 5 during his homily at the ordination Mass in St. Peter’s Basilica. The only way to lead people to God, the pope said, is by being strong in one’s own faith, holding firmly to traditional Church teaching and remaining united with the pope and other bishops. “A pastor shouldn’t be a reed that bends with the wind, a servant of the spirit of the times,” he said. Instead, a bishop should be “like a tree who has deep roots,” which give stability even as they allow continued growth.

Vatican plans document on Internet, seminaries

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The Internet can be a valuable tool for Catholic education and evangelization, and its proper use should be encouraged in an environment as well as other Church institutions, Pope Benedict XVI said. “Internet, with its capacity to reach across distances and put people in contact, offers great possibilities for the Church and its mission,” the pope said in his address to members of the Congregation for Catholic Education holding their plenary meeting at the Vatican Feb. 7-9.

The pope said the congregation was working on a document titled “Internet and Formation in Seminaries,” but did not say when it would be published. When used with caution and discernment, the pope said, the Internet can be useful for future priests not only for studying, but for pastoral work in areas of evangelization, missionary action, catechism, educational projects and administration of various institutions. The Church will therefore need well-prepared teachers to keep the seminarians up to date on the “correct and possible” use of information technology, he said. Addressing congregation members, the pope said the education and formation of future priests in seminaries is “one of the most urgent challenges of the Church today because of the low nature of relativism dominant in contemporary society. “For this reason, the service performed by so many formation institutions in the world that are inspired by the Christian vision of man and reality is so important today,” the pope said.

Obama, astronaut, Chilean mine survivor talk about prayer

WASHINGTON (CNS) — It is his faith in God, particularly “that biblical injunction to serve the least of these, that keeps me going and that keeps me from being overwhelmed,” by the challenges of his office, President Barack Obama said in remarks to the National Prayer Breakfast Feb. 3. “It’s faith that reminds me that despite being just one very imperfect man, I can still help whoever I can, however I can, wherever I can, for as long as I can, and that somehow God will buttress these efforts,” he said at the annual gathering in Washington. Also among speakers who talked about the role of faith during personal crises were a survivor of last year’s Chilean mine disaster and astronaut Mark Kelly, husband of Sen. Gabrielle Giffords, the Arizona congresswoman shot during a neighborhood event in Tucson Jan. 8. Obama told of getting strength from prayer for everyday challenges — like for patience when sending his 12-year-old daughter, Malia, off to her first dance “where there will be boys” — as well as for the issues he faces as president. “I pray for my ability to help those who are struggling,” he said.

“Christian tradition teaches that one day the world will be turned right side up and everything will return as it should be. But until that day, we’re called to work on behalf of a God that fosters justice and mercy and compassion to the most vulnerable. We’ve seen a lot of hardship these past two years. Not a day passes when I don’t get a letter from somebody or meet someone who’s out of work or lost their home or without health care,” he continued.

Catholic-Anglican dialogue group to begin meeting in May

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The third phase of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission will begin in May with 18 bishops and scholars set to examine the theology behind some of the thorniest questions creating tensions within the churches and keeping Catholics and Anglicans apart. The Vatican released a statement Feb. 3 announcing that the dialogue commission would meet May 17-27 at the ecumenical Monastery of Bose in northern Italy and listing the 18 commission members. Pope Benedict XVI and Archbishop Rowan Williams of Canterbury, spiritual leader of the Anglican Communion, met in late 2009. They pledged to continue the formal dialogue even as the ordination of openly gay bishops, the blessing of gay unions and the ordination of openly gay clergy threatened the unity of the Anglican Communion and made it more difficult for Catholics and Anglicans to see a way for their communities to draw closer together. Shortly after the pope and archbishop met, the Vatican announced that a new round of dialogue, referred to as ARCIC III, would deal with “fundamental questions regarding the church as communion local and universal, and how in communion the local and universal Church comes to discern right ethical teaching.”

Irish priests’ group calls for postponement of new missal translation

DUBLIN (CNS) — A group representing more than 400 of Ireland’s 4,500 priests has made an urgent plea to the country’s bishops to postpone the introduction of the new English translation of the missal for at least another five years. The call from the Association of Catholic Priests came as the National Center for Liturgy in Maynooth launched a new publication aimed at explaining and preparing priests and laypeople for the changes in the missal. The new texts will be introduced Nov. 27, the first Sunday of Advent and the start of the liturgical year. At a news conference in Dublin Feb. 3, representatives from the priests’ group said the proposed literal translations from Latin had produced texts that were “archaic, elitist and obscure and not in keeping with the spirit, cadence and syntax of the English language.”

Father Dermot Lane, president of Married Women’s Order of Education in Dublin, said the priests were making an eleventh hour appeal to the Irish Catholic Bishops’ Conference and urged the bishops to begin consulting with priests, liturgical committees and laypeople to develop new texts that would inspire and encourage the faithful. “We are passionately concerned about the quality of our liturgical celebration and about the quality of the language that will be used in the way we worship Sunday after Sunday,” he said. “If this goes ahead, instead of drawing people into the liturgy, it will in fact draw people out from the liturgy.”

Survey: Women entering religious life well-educated, active in parishes

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Women entering religious orders today are highly educated and active in parish ministries, according to a new national survey. The results of “The Profession Class of 2010: Survey of Women Religious Professing Perpetual Vows” were released in advance of World Day for Consecrated Life Feb. 2. It was conducted by the Georgetown University-based Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate and commissioned by the U.S. bishops’ Secretariat for Consecrated Life and Vocations. The survey was sent to sisters represented by the two conferences of religious women in the United States — the Leadership Conference of Women Religious and the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious — and to contemplative communities. Major superiors of women religious who participated in the survey reported a total of 79 women who professed perpetual vows in 2010. Of that number, 68 responded by Dec. 15, representing 59 religious congregations, provinces or monasteries, according to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Eighty-four percent of the respondents said the survey reported one or more religious congregations, provinces or monasteries, according to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Eighty-four percent of the respondents said the survey reported one or more religious congregations, provinces or monasteries, according to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.
A R O U N D  T H E  D I O C E S E


Three teams from Most Precious Blood School competed in the 10th Annual Future City Competition hosted at Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne on Jan. 15. The “City of Hoffnung” took the prize of Best City Name. Their name means “The City of Hope.” Student developers of the city are Jacob Schall, Chandler Fairfield and Nikki Ramirez.

Department of Philosophy and Theology and School of Arts and Sciences will host “Reconciling Praise: St. Francis and the Canticle of the Creatures,” a free public lecture, on Thursday, Feb. 17, at 7 p.m. in the North Campus Auditorium.

USF theology instructor Sister Anita Holzemer will explore Francis’ praise of God as a model and a means for the reconciliation of the universe with its Creator. She will stress that praise is integral not only to St. Francis’ writings, as in “Canticle of the Creatures,” but also to humanity’s relationship with God and all of creation.

A question-and-answer session and light refreshments will follow. For additional information, contact Angie Spinner at (260) 399-8066 or aspinner@sf.edu.

Josephinum to hold sixth annual Irish Fest

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Pontifical College Josephinum welcomes the general public to its commemoration of the feast of St. Patrick at the seminary’s sixth annual Irish Fest on Feb. 26 from 5-11 p.m. The event celebrating Irish culture and heritage will be preceded by a Mass at 4:30 p.m. in the seminary’s St. Turibius Chapel, followed by an evening of traditional Irish music, food and dance.

The Irish Fest was begun in 2006 to promote good will and raise awareness of the work of the Josephinum in the preparation of priests for the Church of the future. Proceeds of this fundraiser will benefit seminarians who experience financial difficulties.

“The Irish Fest allows people to enjoy an evening with the seminarians and to get to know the Josephinum in a more personal way,” said Josephinum Rector/President Father James Wehner. “It also provides a means for people to help seminarians who have financial needs. The Irish Fest is a fun way to help a great cause.”

Musical entertainment for Irish Fest 2011 will be held in two adjoining venues on the Josephinum campus and will include performances by Knot Fihb’n, The Ladies of Longford, Regan Irish Dancers, The Shamonrock Club of Columbus Pipe and Drum Band, Maidens IV and 9CC. Beverages and food selections, including fish and chips, will be available for purchase throughout the evening.

Tickets for the Irish Fest may be purchased at the door and are $20 for adults and $5 for youth age 11-16. Children under 11 are free. Pre-sale tickets ($15 adults; $5 youth age 11-16) may be purchased until 4 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 25. Call (614) 885-5585 to purchase tickets by phone via credit card, or visit the reception desk in the main lobby of the Josephinum, weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Parking is free.

St. Monica honors Jean Ellen Brown with Distinguished Alumni Award to McMahon Simon

MISHAWAKA — This year’s Catholic Schools Week honored one of God’s faithful citizens from St. Monica School and Parish. Teresa McMahon Simon became the third recipient of the St. Monica Jean Ellen Brown Distinguished Alumnae Award.

The award was established in 2009, and is named for Brown, a long-time teacher and graduate of St. Monica School. Brown devotes her time to the sacramental programs and liturgical and Mass preparation. It honors alumni who possess Brown’s qualities of outstanding service, commitment and dedication to St. Monica School and/or Parish.

McMahon Simon was surprised. She was recognized in front of the congregation, her friends and her family, which included her husband, Dana, daughter, brothers and father Jerry McMahon, who came in from Florida.

Twenty years ago when McMahon Simon’s oldest child was in kindergarten, she started sharing her talent for sewing — a gift passed on by her mother and grandmother. The kindergarten class project that year was a quilt that each student helped to make. McMahon Simon assisted the children and finished the quilt by sewing the children’s “masterpieces” together. She has continued this talent every year since, and their works hang in the halls of St. Monica School.

McMahon Simon’s sharing of her time, talent and treasure extend beyond school to St. Monica Parish. She sews all of the altar cloths, banners, altar overlay and streamers for school and parish activities (such as Catholic Schools Week, the all -schoools Mass at Notre Dame, anniversaries and parish missions), draperies for church celebration of seasons, baptismal robes, robes for RCIA candidates, and felt hangings for First Communion.

McMahon Simon and her five siblings, who are all children are graduates of St. Monica School. Teresa attended Marian High School and then Miami University in Ohio.

Adult faith formation offered at Christ the King

SOUTH BEND — The diocesan Office of Catechesis is sponsoring a three-week session titled, “The Sacraments: Where do they come from and where do they take us,” facilitated by Tim McCauley on Thursday evenings from 7-9 p.m. on Feb. 24, March 3 and 10, at Christ the King Parish, South Bend.

McCauley will begin by giving a brief introduction to what the Catholic Church means when it calls something a sacrament, and will then focus his three-part presentation on the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and the Eucharist. An examination of the Scriptural basis for Baptism, Reconciliation and the Eucharist, the development of their practice and meaning in the Patriotic era, and the impact they have on everyone’s lives as Christians today will also be covered.

A Catholic Bible is needed at all sessions.

There is no cost to participants, however registration is required. This can be done online at www.diocesefwsb.org/OC under “Adult Faith Formation” or by calling Janice Martin at (260) 399-1411 or via e-mail at jmartin@fw.diocesefwsb.org.

Christopher Godfrey elected to board of Order of Malta

NEW YORK — Christopher J. Godfrey of South Bend has been elected to the Board of Councillors of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta, American Association U.S.A. He fills a one-year vacancy that opened when Joseph Ramirez was elected president of the order.

Godfrey, a former professional football player, holds a ring from Super Bowl XXI in 1986, when the New York Giants, for whom he played guard, defeated the Denver Broncos, 39-20.

An attorney and member of the Indiana Bar, Godfrey worked with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General in Washington, D.C.

Godfrey has been a Knight since 1997 and serves as Area Chair for Northern Indiana. In 1993, with the encouragement of past Principal Chaplain Cardinal John O’Connor, he founded Life Athletes, an association of professional and Olympic athletes who teach and inspire young people to live lives of virtue, chastity and respect for life. His volunteer and charitable work also includes Saint Joseph’s High School where he has served as president of the school board and assistant football coach.

Godfrey has attended many Malta investitures, national conferences and pilgrimages. In Indiana, he began Days of Recollection, a Mass for Life, a newsletter and website, the area’s first Malta auxiliary, and organized the day for Special Olympics athletes.

He is a graduate of the University of Michigan and the University of Notre Dame Law School.

The Order of Malta, headquartered in Rome, is one of the oldest institutions of Western and Christian civilization. Founded in Palestine around 1050, it is a lay religious order, traditionally of military, chivalrous and noble nature.

Its 13,000 members include professed friars and others who have made vows of obedience. The other Knights and Dames are lay members devoted to the exercise of Christian virtue and charity, committed to reaching their spiritual perfection within the Church and to expending their energies serving the poor and the sick.

USF theology lecture on praise scheduled

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis (USF)
SOUTH BEND — After a short week of Catholic Schools Week celebrations, the students at Holy Cross Grade School had the honor of Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrating their weekly Friday morning Mass.

“The first place I visited when I became bishop here was Holy Cross and my first Confirmation was at Holy Cross. ... It’s good to be back,” said Bishop Rhoades to the students at the opening of Mass.

He spoke to the children during his homily about John the Baptist, asking them questions about the cousin of Jesus. “John the Baptist was the last of the prophets. People thought he was the great Messiah and he told people how he wasn’t worthy to be the Messiah,” Bishop Rhoades explained. “When the priest says, ‘Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world,’ the priest doesn’t make this up. These are the words of John the Baptist.”

At the end of the Mass, Bishop Rhoades thanked the children for their participation and reverence during the service. “We need our Catholic people, especially you who are young, to live your faith,” said Bishop Rhoades. “We should pray to St. John the Baptist and pray that he will help us be courageous and live our faith.”

Before dismissing the children back to class, Holy Cross School Principal Angela Budzinski honored Bishop Rhoades with a special Bishop of the Week recognition and Dr. Mark Myers with a Superintendent of the Week.

At Holy Cross Grade School, children from all grades are given the honor of student of the week by their teachers and this entitles them to a dress down day the following Monday. Both the bishop and Dr. Myers were given their special certificates along with Holy Cross spirit wear sweatshirts to wear on their next visit to the school.

“This is a great honor. I’ve never been given something like this before,” Bishop Rhoades told the students.

After Mass, Bishop Rhoades visited the classrooms of each grade and had the chance to talk with the children about the things they were learning in religion class. In each grade the students asked the bishop about his role in the Church and what he did as the shepherd of the flock of 160,000 sheep in the diocese.

Holy Cross Grade School houses 310 students in preschool through eighth grade. The school, established in 1929, is one of the oldest Catholic elementary schools in Indiana.

“I think our greatest strengths lie in our ability to respond to the needs of our students, both in the classroom and with a myriad of services. We offer enrichment opportunities in addition to supplemental services for students,” said Principal Budzinski. “Our teachers are extremely open to working with all students. I have often heard that we do a terrific job in meeting students’ individual needs. Often I am told by South Bend Community School Corporation staff that they so enjoy working with our teachers in meeting the needs of students with IEPs (Individual Education Plans). I am very proud of our staff because they extend this openness to all students, not just with those students who have special needs.

“Another strength is our extra-curricular programs such as athletics, drama, quiz bowl, Bandlink (offered through the
University of Notre Dame’s Marching Band) Boys and Girls Scouts, Junior Great Books and preparing for the Young Authors Conference,” Budzinski said. “We also provide service opportunities within the church and community. For students who need extra assistance, we have such services as tutoring (through Saint Joseph’s High School), College Mentors for Kids (through the University of Notre Dame), speech and LIPS. Both during the school day and after school, students can find extra help and advancement.”

Known as the Crusaders, Holy Cross School offers a wide variety of extracurricular activities to fit students’ interests, including a wide array of sports.

Catholic identity is an important part of the curriculum at Holy Cross, and Budzinski and her team work hard to create unique opportunities for the students, such as volunteering at the parish St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Augustine Soup Kitchen and praying for an end to abortion at the abortion clinic.

“During Catholic Schools Week, we focus on celebrating our Catholic identity. For the past several years, we begin the week with a day of Eucharistic Adoration. We also devote a day to service during this week. Each grade level is participating in some service project. Another facet to the caring shown by our students is the monthly dress down days which supports an orphanage/school in Kenya. We send about $300 each month to the By Grace Orphanage and School in Nairobi, Kenya.”

Another important part of Catholic identity is incorporating the goals of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

“The pastoral leadership also maintains a visible presence in Holy Cross School. The priests greet students daily at morning arrival. In addition, they engage students by celebrating weekly Mass and during retreats for the students and staff,” Budzinski noted. “They are integrally involved in the sacramental preparation for various grade levels. They are often the biggest cheerleaders for Crusader sporting events and extra curricular activities. We feel blessed to have such positive pastoral leadership in Father Michael (Mathews) and Father Jeff (Schneibel),” said Budzinski.
Cristy Jordán brings dual cultural passion to teaching

BY KAY COZAD

FORT WAYNE — Cristy Jordán is a junior high teacher at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School in Fort Wayne and with her Latino heritage and educational experience she brings the passion of generations past to the work she loves. Currently she teaches Spanish to fifth- through eighth-grade students and is also the school’s language progress provider. “I assess students with dual languages and watch their progress,” says Jordán.

Jordán, who has deep roots in both the Latino and American cultures, brings her spunky personality and intellect along with a familiarity of the Latino community to the table that makes teaching a perfect fit for this young mother of two. Surprisingly, though education was paramount within her own family, she didn’t start out with education in mind as her career of choice.

A Fort Wayne native, Jordán was born the fifth of seven children to Elisa and Cristobal Jordán, who also fostered many other children along the way. When asked about her family Jordán becomes animated with pride as she recalls the history of her Latino/American heritage.

Her mother, Puerto Rican born Elisa Torres-Jordán, came to America in 1955 as a young girl, sent by her parents, as they would all of their children, with two of her 10 siblings in search of a better life. The 15-year-old spoke no English, but was determined to earn the highly coveted Catholic education.

Elisa found herself at Central Catholic High School pleading with then-Father J. William Lester, principal of the school at the time, for a chance to earn her diploma there. After much deliberation about language barriers, Father Lester eventually admitted Elisa who earned her diploma with valedictorian status.

She eventually met and married Cristobal Jordán, who also immigrated from Puerto Rico. And at age 62, after all her children were raised, Elisa returned to school to earn a teaching certificate with which she was able to work in the preschool field. The Jordán family attended St. Therese Parish and School in Fort Wayne, where Elisa and Cristobal are still members. And though Jordán says, “I had a wonderful experience,” she notes that racial tension sometimes colored her siblings’ experience.

Several of the Jordán children attended Canterbury High School in Fort Wayne on athletic scholarships, in part due to Elisa’s urging. Jordán recalls her high school years as rich with multicultural academic and athletic experiences, and says, “They pushed me for excellence.”

Following graduation Jordán was off to Sweetbriar College, a small women’s college in Virginia, to study a double major of Spanish and sociology. Her goal was to use her skills and talents at the FBI. However, Divine Providence had other plans, and after graduating in 1997 and doing social work in Fort Wayne for a year, she met her future husband Joe Meade. The couple married in 2000 and moved to Detroit where Jordán taught Spanish at a charter elementary school in the heart of the city.

Jordán says, “That’s when I knew I loved teaching.”

The next four years saw Jordán teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) in the Dearborn Public Schools to adults and high school-aged students and was involved in an adult refugee ESL program. Again Divine Providence would light her path, when in 2005, Jordán’s ESL position was phased out, and she and her husband moved back to Fort Wayne. After meeting Father Tim Wrozek, pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Jordán agreed to start a ESL program at the church.

“I learned the population needs of Fort Wayne,” says Jordán. After two years with the ESL program, Jordán took time off to give birth to her first child, Nya in 2006 and in 2008, her second, Riddick.

Once again Jordán saw a need in the Latino population and returned to teaching, this time at St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, where she taught kindergarten through fourth-grade Spanish and English as a New Language (ENL) at the St. Elizabeth campus. This year Jordán moved to full-time teaching at the junior high level at the St. Joseph campus.

So many cultural differences are evident in the languages, says Jordán. She adds that Catholic identity is what Latino families long for and their language offers a daily connection to God with a firm foundation in family. Jordán believes cultural education must be family-wide.

“The adults can learn religion through their children’s education,” says Jordán. “I need to get involved so we can make that change. I enjoy connecting faith with education.”

Jordán’s enthusiasm for Catholic education is fed by her desire that all children have the opportunity she was given. And her understanding of the Latino community will assist her in creating an educational environment where the adults in the Catholic families will be catechized by their children attending Catholic schools, much like her own father was.

Jordán says passionately, “If my mom hadn’t had her opportunity, I wouldn’t be who I am. Everyone should have access to a Catholic education. I want to be part of making that happen ... I feel like I have to be that voice.”

Jordán is currently taking courses to strengthen her teaching credentials and has been invited to attend the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) Leadership program offered by the University of Notre Dame. Upon completion she hopes to use her skills as a principal in a Catholic school in the area.

Above Spanish teacher Cristy Jordán instructs St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth sixth graders on the etiquette of the dining table. She teaches Spanish to fifth- through eighth-grade students at the St. Joseph campus in Fort Wayne.

At left, Cristy Jordán, left, poses with her family.
A short life bookended by tragedy

The youth choir Christina Green belonged to performances just once a month, on the second Sunday at 9 o’clock Mass. And sure enough, the day after the 9-year-old was killed in Tucson, Ariz., the youngest victim of the shooting targeting Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, St. Oddila’s 64-year-old choirmaster. It was Jan. 9, the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, and there was just one Baptism at that Mass, a 9-year-old girl.

That wasn’t lost on Father Richard Troutman, pastor of St. Oddila.

“You realize how small they are,” he told me.

FATHER TROUTMAN has been a priest since 1968, yet he approached that Mass as if it were his first, putting in extra prayer and still feeling a bit unprepared, like “a work in progress” pastor. He had heard the gun shots the day before and he was just as shocked as everyone else.

The first reading was done by a child, and the words from Isaiah seemed fitting.

“Thus says the Lord: Bring your son, the one whom I uploaded. . . He shall bring forth justice to the nations, not crying out, not making his voice heard in the street.”

In this homily Father Troutman spoke longer than usual, preaching about mystical union with God, a state that is preceded by unnecessary death. Baptism promises us toward community engagement and service, he said, which leads to events like “Congress on your Corner,” the public gathering where Christina was killed.

Then came the prayer of the faithfull, with one petition for all of Saturday’s victims and one for Christina.

Communion was the high point, when Christina’s friends in youth choir shouted “We Are One Body,” as an anthem for a devastated community.

God is author of divine law

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

Mt 5:17-37

The Book of Sirach, that is Second Wisdom, the first reading of this weekend’s first reading, is part of a collection of biblical writings that in their time began teach an important lesson.

As various fortunes, political, economic and individual, changed and reversed among God’s people in the decades after the Babylonian captivity, and as new alien empires seized the Holy Land, Jews emigrated from the homeland of their ancestors to other places.

Understandingly, men went to places where opportunities were more plentiful. While certainly some of these emigrants not only survived, but possibly, did well in their new surroundings, one thing was lacking. It was living in a society in which all acknowledged the God of Israel.

So, to record their ancient religious beliefs, and very importantly to pass these beliefs along to oncoming generations, Jewish scholars composed books such as Sirach.

The essential point in Sirach was human reason and honoring God are not ideas at odds with each other. Obeying God, logic can prove, is the way to order, peace, justice and reward in human life.

St. Paul’s First Epistle to the Corinthians is the source of the second reading. Paul, who would have been no stranger to this notion of a compatibility between divine revelation and human wisdom, as he was so well trained in Judaism but also exposed to Greek philosophy, added a new dimension to the story. Revelation is of a reality that human knowledge often cannot comprehend.

He refers to “hidden wisdom” and “mystery.” We as humans simply cannot understand all. In great love, God therefore has revealed to us what otherwise we would never know.

The Gospel reading is from St. Matthew’s Gospel. As Commandments, familiar to every Christian as they were familiar to the Jews who heard Jesus, the Lord expounds on the meaning of several of these rules for life given by God to Moses on Sinai.

This process reveals two important factors. The first is that God’s law is permanent and unchanging. This is logical. It touches very basic instincts and conditions among humans, all attached deeply and intrinsically to human nature itself, and as such it is not open to qualifications or changes that humans might wish to make.

Secondly, here the Lord speaks with authority. He defines and explains the law of Moses. Jews did not regard the law of Moses as merely a rules composed by Moses. Rather, Moses was the medium through which God revealed himself to humanity. God is the author of the divine law. He is the author of the Commandments. He is the lawgiver. By defining and making more precise this law, the Lord acts as God. It is an important revelation of the identity of Jesus.

Reflection

This weekend looks to the past week, and lessons, as background, and it looks ahead. In both cases, it confronts us with the realities of our nature. It places us in relationship with God. It shows us what otherwise we would never realize.

At Christmas, the Epiphany, and at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by John the Baptist, the Church celebrated the events of salvation achieved for us by Christ, but it also told us about the Lord. It identified the Lord.

In these readings, the Church tells us that to wander away from God’s law and follow our instincts or our limited reasoning is folly. Humans, impaired by original sin, always have trouble understanding this lesson.

Before too long, the Church will lead us into Lent. It will be a time in which we strengthen our own selves to know our limitations and conform ourselves to what we are, human beings, but humans destined for eternal life with God, in Jesus.

READINGS

Sunday: 515:19-20 Ps 119:24-35 Mt 5:17-20


Tuesday: Gen 6:5-8:17 Ps 22:19-24 Mt 5:18-22

Wednesday: Gen 8:16-20, 20-22 Ps 15:16-18, 19-20 Mk 8:22-26

Thursday: Gen 9:1-3 Ps 102:16-18, 19-23, 29 Mk 8:27-33

Friday: Mk 8:31-38 Ps 33:9-10

Saturday: 11bc:7 Ps 145:2-5, 10-11 Mk 9:2-13

The new translation of the Holy Mass:

Eucharistic Prayer, Part I

L ast week, we began looking at the new translations we shall encounter in the Liturgy of the Eucharist, and we made our way to the Preface. At the conclusion of the Preface comes the Sanctus, which in Latin means “Holy.” The Sanctus, like the Gloria, is intended to be sung — in fact, many different settings of this Gregorian chant. Here is the English translation we will begin singing this Advent:

Holy, Holy, Holy God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The only textual difference from our current version is that “God of power and might” becomes “God of hosts.” The word “hosts” refers to a great gathering or multitude, and speaks here of God’s command over the heavenly host of angelic armies. This reference has a Biblical foundation in Isaiah 6:1-3, where the prophet writes, “I saw the Lord seated on a throne . . . Seraphim were stationed above . . . ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts!’ They cried one to the other, ‘All the earth is filled with his glory!’” And in Luke 2:13, “a multitude of the heavenly host” also announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds.

The words of the final three lines can also be found in the Gospel of Matthew, during the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem before his Passion, which the Archangel Gabriel announced to the Son of David; blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest” (Mt 21:9). Versions of this acclamation appear in the other Gospels, and the “Blessed is He . . .” line comes from Psalm 118:11, amidst a passage that became understood as a reference to Christ.

The Sanctus reminds us that all creatures on “heaven and earth” owe thanksgiving to God (“Eucharist” actually means “thanksgiving”). And if we truly believe that the angels are also present and worshiping with us as we celebrate the Holy Eucharist, then every fiber of our being should reflect the utmost reverence. Therefore, immediately after the Sanctus, we kneel. Kneeling is a sign of respect and humility that is distinctly human and bodily — it is something that even the angels, being pure spirit, cannot do.

There are four main Eucharistic Prayers used during Mass, Eucharistic Prayer 1 (the Roman Canon) was formerly the only Eucharistic Prayer used in Roman Catholic worship. As the name suggests, it was used in Rome, and invokes many early Roman popes and martyrs (“We honor Linus, Clemens, Clement, Sixtus . . .”). After the Second Vatican Council, we received Eucharistic Prayers II, III, and IV, all of which also have origins in regional liturgies of the Early Church.

The Eucharistic Prayers are rich texts, but here we all examine just a couple of noteworthy translations. The first is in Eucharistic Prayer II, when the priest asks God, “Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall.” This new mention of “dewfall” may sound odd, but it is actually a powerful Biblical image. In Exodus 16, the Lord tells Moses that He will rain down a daily portion of bread, which would appear as “dew” in the morning. Numbers 11:9 says, “When the dew fell upon the camp in the night, the manna fell with it.”

The Eucharistic connection between manna and the dew becomes even more profound when we consider that our Father, which we pray before Holy Communion, also speaks of us as being filled with a heavenly host of angelic armies. This new mention to be gathered as a daily portion, in order to cultivate complete trust in the Lord, as the fulfillment of the manna, is our constant reverence and sustenance.

The second example comes in Eucharistic Prayer III, There is a familiar line that currently reads: “from east to west, a perfect offering may be made to the glory of your name.” This will instead become a more faithful rendering of Malachi 1:11: “from the rising of the sun to its setting a pure sacrifice may be offered . . . ” While the geographic east-west imagery is beautiful in its own right, it does not carry the full cosmic scope of both space and time implied in the rising and setting of the sun. This new imagery conveys the sense that the Holy Mass and the one Sacrifice of Jesus Christ have a truly eternal quality.

Brian MacMichael is the director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.
Aggie Catholic renaissance

Where can you find a Catholic chaplaincy at an institution of higher learning that’s looking to expand its church to seat 1,400, because the current 850 just isn’t enough? South Bend, Ind., perhaps? Well, no, actually: College Station, Texas, where the Catholic chaplaincy at Texas A&M, St. Mary’s Catholic Center, is setting a new national standard for Catholic campus ministry.

Aggie Catholicism is something to behold. Daily Mass attendance averages 175; there were closer to 300 Catholic Aggies at Mass on a weekday afternoon when I visited a few years back. Sunday Masses draw between 4,000 and 5,000 worships. There are 10 weekly time-slots for confessions, which are also heard all-day long on Monday. Eucharistic Adoration, rosary groups, the Liturgy of the Hours, and the traditional First Friday devotion are staples of Aggie Catholicism’s devotional life.

A rich retreat program is available, and each year some 1,250 students make or staff a retreat sponsored by St. Mary’s — “Aggie Awakening,” an adaptation of Cursillo for students, is one of the cornerstones of the campus ministry; other, specially designed programs include a silent retreat and a retreat titled “Genius of Women.” In 2009-10, 200 students participated in biweekly spiritual direction programs, and another 70 took part in the “Samuel Group,” an exercise in Ignatian discernment that includes a commitment to curb what one campus minister describes as “unnecessary TV and curb what one campus minister describes as ‘unnecessary TV and

Texas A&M is a striking example of “if you build it, they will come.” The program is unapologetically orthodox. There is no fudging the demands of the faith. And yet they come, and come, and come, because Aggie Catholicism shows the campus a dynamic orthodoxy that is not a retreat into the past but a way of seizing the future and binding it in a more humane direction. The premise that informed John Paul II’s approach to students is his entire life — that young people want to be challenged to lead lives of heroic virtue, in which the search for love is the search for a pure and noble love — is a premise that guides Catholic campus ministry at College Station.

Texas A&M is a special place, culturally: in many respects, it seems to have skipped the ‘60s, such that its 21st-century life is in palpable continuance of ‘If you build it, they will come.’

Catholic campus ministry at Texas A&M is a striking example of ‘If you build it, they will come.’ The program is unapologetically orthodox. There is no fudging the demands of the faith. And yet they come, and come, and come, because Aggie Catholicism shows the campus a dynamic orthodoxy that is not a retreat into the past but a way of seizing the future and binding it in a more humane direction. The premise that informed John Paul II’s approach to students is his entire life — that young people want to be challenged to lead lives of heroic virtue, in which the search for love is the search for a pure and noble love — is a premise that guides Catholic campus ministry at College Station.

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Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. She can be reached at www.RealChristina.com.

SCRIPTYURE SEARCH

Gospel for February 13, 2011
Matthew 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34, 37

Following is a word search based on the Gospel reading for the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Cycle A: a new look at the old teachings of the law. The words can be found in all directions in the puzzle.

Abolish until heaven
Liable Judge
Last Penny
Do not swear
Great King

The Catholic Difference

George Weigel

Texas A&M is a striking example of “If you build it, they will come.” The program is unapologetically orthodox. There is no fudging the demands of the faith. And yet they come, and come, and come, because Aggie Catholicism shows the campus a dynamic orthodoxy that is not a retreat into the past but a way of seizing the future and binding it in a more humane direction. The premise that informed John Paul II’s approach to students is his entire life — that young people want to be challenged to lead lives of heroic virtue, in which the search for love is the search for a pure and noble love — is a premise that guides Catholic campus ministry at College Station.

Texas A&M is a special place, culturally: in many respects, it seems to have skipped the ‘60s, such that its 21st-century life is in palpable continuance of ‘If you build it, they will come.’

Laws clarified

White earitout
A draug nanyug
L y o j p p a h t n k n
e al n r t r i l c i
H w l e o j c i w p a k
T a y o p t l u s t l t
C s w l h h s i l o b a
H s k a e r b w a p n e
O a h a t o j d e b n r
c p v d s n b n w a l g
R e f f o e g d u j r e
N g y n n e p t s a l

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Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. She can be reached at www.RealChristina.com.

CROSSWORD

February 6 and 13, 2011

1. Received
4. Account (abbr.)
8. Hoax
12. Rio de Janeiro
13. Trial
14. Fair
15. Alternative (abbr.)
16. Day
17. Faith like a mustard one
18. Amaze
20. Wig
21. Parody
22. Brother’s sib
23. Prison
26. Director (abbr.)
27. Mendicants do
30. Risk taker
34. Had 2 fish and 5 loaves
35. Ashes weekday
36. Author of 1 Corinthians
37. West by north
38. Promissory note
40. Ar (Element symbol)
43. St. ——— Xavier Cabrini
47. Disciple
48. Tasteless
49. Wing
50. “Good and ___”

51. Take a vow
52. Croq
53. Mail
54. God’s are upon us
55. Dynamic

Dow

1. Weight unit
2. Fatty
3. Children
4. Top level
5. Small enclosed field
6. Set on a hill
7. Also
8. St. Christ
9. Past
10. Stagger
11. Don’t justify the mean
12. Fbg
13. “—— and water”
14. Title of respect
15. Stab
16. Hubub
17. The Holly and the __
18. Washout
19. Constrictor snake
20. Flightless bird
21. Stuff
22. North by north
23. Commandments’ number
24. Recked
25. Light of the ___
26. Furious
27. Wows
28. Deceit
29. Pull
30. Obtain
31. Sharply criticize
32. Captain (abbr.)
33. Flat
34. “Of the earth”
35. Opponent

Answer Key can be found on page 15

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Wake. “God is the God of death and resurrection.”

Christina’s very arrival, born on 9/11, demonstrated that strange juxtaposition. Her mom says she took pride in being a 23  Prison
22  Brother’s sib
21  Parody
18  Amaze
17  Faith like a mustard one
16  Dorothy’s dog
15  Alternative (abbr.)
14  Fair
13  Triad
12  Rio de Janeiro
4  Account (abbr.)
1  Received
3  Children
5  Small enclosed field
6  Set on a hill
7  Also
8  St. Christ
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10  Stagger
11  Don’t justify the mean
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Answer Key can be found on page 15

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Wake. “God is the God of death and resurrection.”

Christina’s very arrival, born on 9/11, demonstrated that strange juxtaposition. Her mom says she took pride in being a grace note to a dark day. And surely Christina feels the same way about the loving acts performed after the Tucson shooting: parents who extended their kids’ bedtimes, giving an extra kiss or cookie; neighbors who offered heaping helpings of pasta and prayer. The older I get, the more I accept the contradictions in life, understanding how tears and laughter can mingle, springing from what feels like the same origin. Life’s contrasts bring meaning, just as a symphony has crescendos and decrescendos, rests and triplets.

I’m also coming to appreciate the rhythm and flow of the liturgical calendar. Sometimes we fall into stride with it, naturally matching its tempo. Sometimes its melody feels miles away, but we hear the invitation and jump in at a key change, singing out or humming along. This short month is hinged on Valentine’s Day, and in Christina’s honor we should interpret it broadly, to gather all the love we can, to nurture it, celebrate it and act on it.

Christina Capecchi is a freelance writer from Inver Grove Heights, Minn. She can be reached at www.RealChristina.com.

CAPECCHI
**ICCL Crusaders cruise to 35-28 championship final**

By Joe Kozinski

South Bend — On the final weekend of the Inter-City Catholic League’s regular season, the St. John Bosco West Division was the only trophy still up for grabs and it would be decided on the hardwood of Saint Joseph’s. The Holy Cross Crusaders would face long time ally on the gridiron, Christ the King, for bragging rights and post season seed considerations.

The game would live up to the much anticipated hype as there were two ties and 12 lead changes in the first half, with the Kings holding a 1-point lead at the quarter and a 2-point margin at intermission.

The King’s Brendan Connelly, coming off a 27-point outing the day before, tried to will his team to victory, but picked up his third foul with 4:21 left in the half netting 11 in the win. The Lions of St. Pius X ended a strong note as they defeated the Blazer’s of St. Matthew, 43-26. Benjamin Clark paced the Lions with 14.

In the St. Martin DePorres East Division, co-champion St. Bavo got past Queen of Peace and St. Joseph (Mishawaka) out dueled the Comets of St. Monica, 54-29.

West champion Corpus Christi outscored the Falcons of St. Jude, 41-28, behind the double digit efforts of Grant Bogner and Dominic Ferro and despite the 13 points by Brody Hawkins.

Our Lady of Hungary found a second gear and out paced St. John the Baptist, 40-28. The triple threat of Mikal Henderson, Austin Smith and Boniface Muguro, all with double digits, were too much for the Spartans and the 13-point effort of Julian Collier.

The post-season tournament starts Saturday, Feb. 12, at both Marian and Saint Joseph’s high schools. The complete brackets can be found on the website at www.icclsports.org.

Norbertine Father James Baraniak, second from right, is shown on the sidelines of Soldier Field in Chicago during the NFC championship game Jan. 22 between the Packers and the Chicago Bears. Father Baraniak is chaplain for the Packers and celebrated Mass for them in Dallas on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 6. Father Baraniak has enjoyed a up-close view throughout the regular season and the playoff run. He credits Coach Mike McCarthy for keeping the team playing at a high level despite 16 players on injured reserve. His praise for the Packers leader, a Greenfield, Pa., native, extends beyond football. “Coach McCarthy is one of the most decent people I know,” said Father Baraniak. “He has never forgotten where he came from. He treats people with decency and respect. He is not afraid to be a real man with his players, whether he’s talking X’s and O’s or his Irish Catholic faith.”
BY MARK PATTISON

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Flash back to 2004. American journalist Matt Baglio is living in Rome. He’s never written a book before. But he meets a U.S. priest who came to Rome to learn how to conduct exorcisms.

“I didn’t tend to be interested in the topic. I’m not a big horror fan,” Baglio told Catholic News Service in a Jan. 14 telephone interview from Rome. “If you were to ask me six years ago, seven years (ago), if I would be an expert on demonic possession, I would laugh.”

He hasn’t even seen “The Exorcist all the way through.”

But one book, interviews with 17 exorcists and a being a witness to 30 exorcisms later, Baglio knows much more about exorcisms than the typical Catholic layman.

And now that book, “The Rite: The Making of a Modern Exorcist,” has been turned into a movie — “The Rite,” which premiered Jan. 28.

“I didn’t know the priest. I had no idea that I was going to write the book. I didn’t have a concept. I just heard that I was going to a seminar,” he recalled.

The priest, Father Gary Thomas, can’t speak Italian. But Baglio can. This is a theme that made its way into the movie, “The Rite,” which premiered Jan. 28.

“I didn’t tend to be interested in the topic. I’m not a big horror fan,” Baglio said.

As it turned out, Baglio said he had viewed “The Rite” twice and liked what he saw. He told CNS he had watched Father Thomas also had seen the movie in advance of its nationwide release and had liked it, too.

In a November interview, Father Thomas told CNS: “I think the movie is very authentic about the topic. I was very impressed with Anthony Hopkins and Colin O’Donoghue and their portrayal of the minister of exorcism was accurate.”

“I wrote the book for people I considered to be in the middle — who want to know the unvarnished truth,” Baglio said. “What I hope for with this film, ‘The Rite,’ is that people will be exposed to a topic they hadn’t really thought of before.”

“The Rite” is a “religiously honorable drama” but “aesthetically tentative” as a piece of cinema, said John Mulderig of CNS’ Media Review Office critiquing the film.

The point of believing that demonic possession is possible, he added, “edged, somewhat uncomfortably, into the mold of a conventional horror movie. The effect is to diffuse — and slightly diminish — its valuable underlying message.”

“The Rite” was classified by CNS as A-III — adults — for incest and suicide themes, some gruesome imagery, incidental irreverence, a couple of uses of profanity and a few rough and crude terms.

“Mythical Body, Mystical Voice


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Fort Wayne
Saturday, March 26, 2011
8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
Bishop Dwenger High School
1300 E. Washington Ctr. Rd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Registration Deadline: February 18, 2011
Registration Deadline: March 13, 2011

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FUNDRAISERS

Bishop Luers plans Casa dinner
Fort Wayne — Luers Knights will host a Casa dinner on Friday, Feb. 18, in the cafeteria from 4:30-7 p.m. Dinners must be purchased in advance. Carry-out available. Tickets are $8 for adults and $4 for children 10 and under. Call by Monday, Feb. 14, to Karen Leffers at (260) 747-5977 or Kathy Skelly at (260) 456-1261.

Holy Name Society fish fry
New Haven — The Holy Name Society of St. John the Baptist Parish will have a fish fry Friday, Feb. 11, from 4-7 p.m. Adults $7.50, children 5-12 $4 and children under 5 free.

Holy Half Marathon planned
Notre Dame — Registration is on for the Holy Half Marathon at the University of Notre Dame on Sunday, April 10. It is a two-loop, 13.1 mile course around the campus. All proceeds benefit area charities. All runners will receive a race T-shirt. Register at www.diocesefwsb.org.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Our Lady of Hungary Church, 735 W. Calvert, will have a Hungarian dinner Saturday, Feb. 12, from 4-7 p.m. Tickets are $7 per dinner and are available at the rectory. Carry-out available.

Spaghetti dinner and carnival
New Haven — A spaghetti dinner and carnival with carnival games and face painting will be Friday, March 11, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at St. Louis Besancon Parish. Tickets are $5 for adults, $3 for children 6-11 and free for children under 6. All proceeds benefit the seventh- and eight-grade class trip.

Director of Communications

Priests of Holy Cross currently seeks self-directed and enthusiastic applicants to fill the newly created, full-time position of Director of Communications. In this exciting opportunity you will develop, implement and manage strategic communications and media relations programs, with particular emphasis on raising awareness of the goals and initiatives of the Office of Vocations, Office of Development and the Holy Cross Mission Center. Responsibilities also include strategic planning, budget/project management, including coordinating various efforts with Holy Cross apostolates and vendors. Qualified applicants will have a Bachelor’s Degree in Marketing, Communications or a related field and a minimum of 5-8 years of relevant experience. Candidates must be proficient with MS Office, contact management and search engine optimizer systems, and must be familiar with various forms of social media. Experience with the Adobe creative suite is preferred; knowledge of the University of Notre Dame banner system is helpful. Knowledge of the Catholic Church and Clergy, experience working for a Catholic organization, or specific knowledge of the Congregation of Holy Cross is preferred.

...continued from page 12...

...continued from page 14...

Visit www.diocesefwsb.org for a complete calendar.

REST IN PEACE

Decatur
Patricia L. Mansfield, 78, St. Mary of the Assumption
Robert A. Bombka, 71, St. Mary of the Assumption
Elkhart
Kollin E. Fry, infant, St. Vincent de Paul
Fort Wayne
Joe Halfay, 85, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
Mishawaka
Maurice J. Schrader, 79, St. Bavo
Monroeville
Amy M. Castlemen, 40, St. Rose
Rome City
Barbara J. Hogan, 70, St. Gasper
South Bend
Goldie C. Lanko, 88, Our Lady of Hungary
Verla B. Arett, 79, Little Flower
Virginia L. Bryan, 88, Little Flower
Alice M. Miller, 89, Little Flower
Jeffrey M. Jankowski, 49, St. Joseph
Stephen G. McCance, 49, Holy Cross
Warsaw
Maximina Cacahua, 58, St. Mary of the Assumption
Guadalpe
...continued from page 12...

The CrossWord

February 6 and 13, 2011

What's Happening?

Director of Communications

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THE WORLD IN A SINGLE DAY

ST. MATTHEW STUDENTS TOUR THE WORLD IN A SINGLE DAY

The 329 kindergarten through eighth graders at St. Matthew Cathedral School, South Bend, went Around the World in a Single Day on Monday, Jan. 31, the start of Catholic Schools Week. Following a random selection of a dozen and a half countries — from Mexico to France to Bhutan to Israel — students in each of the 18 classrooms researched the culture, customs and history, as well as the food, music and dance of their particular country.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GET A+ FOR AMERICA

A patriotic tribute took place during Catholic Schools Week at St. John the Baptist School, Fort Wayne, to coincide with the theme, A+ for America. The student body gathered to thank veterans and current military personnel for the right to practice religious freedom. The program included a flag folding ceremony narrated by the student council. The two soldiers that presented the flag were Sgt. Alan Parr, regional coordinator for the Fort Wayne Honor Guard, and Pfc. Russell, member of the Fort Wayne Honor Guard team. Both soldiers are from the Joint Forces Headquarters, Indiana Army National Guard.

ST. ADALBERT SCHOOL KICKS OFF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Jose Ontiveros, a seventh grader at St. Adalbert School in South Bend, visits with author and illustrator Peter Catalanotto. Ontiveros shares with the author a copy of “Within Reach,” writings and artwork by St. Adalbert students. All of the students autographed their pictures and writings in the book. Catalanotto was the guest at St. Adalbert School on Jan. 31 to kick off Catholic Schools Week. The author’s visit was made possible through a Magnificat Faculty Fellowship grant through the University of Notre Dame.