VATICAN CITY (CNS) — A Vatican official said a new iPhone application can help Catholics prepare for Confession, but cannot substitute for the sacramental encounter between a penitent and a priest.

“Confession: A Roman Catholic App” for Apple’s iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch was recently released as a way for Catholics to prepare for and participate in the Sacrament of Penance. Some recent press reports, however, have suggested that the application could replace in-person Confession.

“It’s essential to understand that the Sacrament of Penance requires a personal dialogue between the penitent and the confessor, and absolution by the confessor who is present,” Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, the Vatican spokesman, told reporters.

“This is something that cannot be replaced by any application. One cannot speak of a ‘confession via iPhone,’” he said.

Father Lombardi said the new application could be useful in helping people make an examination of conscience. In the past, he noted, Catholics would sometimes use written questions and answers to prepare for confession, and that’s something that could be done today with the aid of a digital device.

The application, developed by a small firm in Indiana, is based on the Ten Commandments. It was designed in part for people who have been away from the church and want the opportunity to go to confession.

FORT WAYNE, SOUTH BEND — Forty-one educators from across the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend received the Light of Learning Award last week at luncheons in Fort Wayne and South Bend. Quality Dining, Inc., of Mishawaka, hosts the annual events to demonstrate its continued commitment to area Catholic schools and Catholic education.

Catholic Schools Superintendent Dr. Mark Myers spoke of the School Choice Scholarships that may offer opportunities for Catholic schools. He encouraged the Catholic community to write to legislators in the Indiana Statehouse to pass the bill.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades served as the keynote speaker at both events and purchased the You Can Lend A Hand coupon book, a fundraiser of Quality Dining, Inc., that has raised over $8.2 million for Catholic schools in the diocese and Western Michigan through the years. For $3, each booklet, sold by Catholic school students, offers $95 worth of coupons and discounts for restaurants such as Burger King, Chili’s and Papa Vino’s Italian Kitchen and sporting activities, depending on location.

Bishop Rhoades, in his keynote address, spoke of the Catholic education as a noble task.

“Through our schools, we form new generations in the knowledge of the faith and we teach what it
When I gave the imprimatur for the text of the iPhone application created by three faith-filled young men in South Bend on preparing for confession, I did not know that this was the first time a bishop had given an imprimatur for material on an app. I also did not anticipate the huge response by the media. Last week was quite a week as we received calls and messages from media throughout the world.

Part of the reason for all the attention was that some media sources erroneously reported or suggested that the app allowed one to go to confession via iPhone. That certainty is not possible and it was more than puzzling that anyone would think that the application could replace in-person confession. Nothing is meant to help penitents prepare for confession. These false press reports sowed some unnecessary confusion.

Father Federico Lombardi, the spokesman for the Vatican, explained to reporters, as I have done, that one cannot go to confession via iPhone. He explained that the new application can be useful in helping people make an examination of conscience. It can help people to prepare for the sacrament of Reconciliation. I commend the creators of the app for their work and creativity. I am hearing from people around the world how helpful this app is for them, especially young people who are engaged in this newer technology.

Perhaps all the publicity generated is a very positive thing since it has people talking about the sacrament of Penance. The interest in, and popularity of the new app shows that many are open to learning more about this great sacrament and are seeking help in preparing for confession. This week I was reminded of the words of Pope Benedict at the Mass he celebrated at Nationals Stadium in Washington, D.C., in 2008. Speaking of the sacrament of Penance, he said: “The liberating power of this sacrament, in which our honest confession of sin is met by God’s merciful word of pardon and peace, needs to be rediscovered and reappropriated by every Catholic. To a great extent, the renewal of the Church in America and throughout the world depends on the renewal of the practice of Penance and the growth in holiness which helps penitents to prepare, you may want to check out the new app available for an iPhone, iPad or an iPod Touch is available at the Apple App Store for $1.99. It was developed in South Bend.

**World Youth Day in Madrid announces Pope Benedict XVI’s August 18-21 schedule**

**BY SARA ANGLE**

ROME (CNS) — When Pope Benedict XVI travels to Madrid for World Youth Day in August, he will hold special meetings with young university professors and with young religious sisters.

In early February, organizers of World Youth Day 2011 published what they said was the pope’s “entire agenda” for his Aug. 18-21 trip to Spain.

WYD will begin Aug. 16, before the pope arrives; many of the events will take place near Madrid’s central Plaza de Cibeles and at the Cuatro Vientos Air Base, organizers said.

The pope will arrive at the Barajas airport Aug. 18, where he will be greeted by the king and queen of Spain, they said. The usual welcoming ceremony with youths from around the world will take place that evening in the Plaza de Cibeles.

While much of the schedule repeats standard World Youth Day events, a couple of new appointments have been added to the pope’s schedule, the organizers said.

On his second day in Spain, Aug. 19, the pope will meet young religious sisters at the Monastery of Êl Escorial, about 27 miles north of Madrid. Afterward, he will meet about 2,000 young university professors there.

In what has become a standard World Youth Day appointment, Pope Benedict will celebrate Mass Aug. 20 with seminarians in La Almudena cathedral.

Also on the papal agenda is a visit with a delegation of disabled persons participating in World Youth Day and with residents at a center for those with handicapping conditions.

In addition, the organizers said, Pope Benedict will be present in the Plaza de Cibeles Aug. 19 for the beginning of the Stations of the Cross, which will be spaced out over just under a mile of a main Madrid street. Each station will be focused on one of 14 statues contributed from 10 different cities across Spain. The statues normally are seen only during Holy Week.
Many possible political, economic paths seen for post-Mubarak Egypt

By Patricia Zapor

WASHINGTON (CNS) — After the 18-day “revolution” of public protests that toppled Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Feb. 11, the path ahead for the nation is a blank slate, with a wide range of political and economic paths possible, according to an expert on Egypt at the University of Notre Dame’s Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies.

As news was still getting out about Mubarak’s resignation, Patrick Mason, research associate professor at the institute and its “Contending Modernities” program, told Catholic News Service he thinks that Egypt’s way forward will be a form of civic nationalism that transcends ethnic, religious or other cultural identities.

The tone set during the weeks of protests in Tahrir Square in Cairo and in other locales was one of cross-differences collaboration, he said. “I expected it to be power without coercion, such that power was that of being Egyptian, not whatever one was Muslim, Christian or of some other type of identification, Mason observed.

That is a hopeful sign for the country’s beleaguered Coptic Christian and economic paths. The announcement said that needed reforms included dismantling the previous model of U.S. alliances, he said. “It would be best if Egyptians, those who protested en masse for more than two weeks, were to go ‘back to the everyday business of normal living,” Talhami said. She added that needed reforms included dismantling the Egyptian parliament, allowing all political groups to form and run for office, and setting an election date.

Reese Erlich, author of “Conversations With Terrorists: Middle East Leaders on Politics, Violence and Empire,” said Egypt could be “a shining example of democracy in the region.”

Changes also may lie ahead for the region’s relations with the United States, he said.

Egypt, Lebanon, Tunisia, Yemen and Jordan are nations where new leaders may shun the current model of U.S. alliances, he said.

“They have been tentative and cautionary,” Mason said, “not at the forefront of the protests.”

The young people of Egypt feel allegiance to their religious leaders as part of their faith and society, he said, but that doesn’t extend to believing they should have political power.

The uneven distribution of priests in the world is still remarkable but is easing a bit, the newspaper said. The ratio is changing not only because more priests are being ordained in Africa, Asia and Latin America, it said, but also because the average age of priests is much younger in those regions than in Europe and North America, so the death rate is lower.
NOTRE DAME — The largest student-run conference at the University of Notre Dame filled McKenna Hall on campus for the Feb. 11-12 event. The Edith Stein Project conference every year focuses on gender, sexuality and human dignity under various themes, with the 2011 theme being “Irreplaceable You: Vocation, Identity and the Pursuit of Happiness.”

Edith Stein was chosen as the patron of the project because, as an early 20th century philosopher, she championed the dignity of women. She converted to Catholicism and entered the Carmelite order, but was killed by the Nazis in 1942 because of her Jewish heritage. Edith Stein was canonized in 1998 and is known as St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross.

The vocation theme of the conference was broad, dealing with how the concept of human dignity should guide one’s vocation as a student, one’s state in life — whether it be the priesthood or religious life, marriage or single life — and the work one does.

Two of the headline speakers were authors Wendy Shalit and Dawn Eden. Among Shalit’s books were “A Return to Mockery” (Touchstone, 2000) and “Girls Gone Mild” (Random House, 2006).

Shalit discussed real femininity, in contrast to society’s notion of empowerment and individuality.

Eden told the participants that in society at large, “One’s ultimate value depends not on being made in the image of God, but being wanted and loved by other human beings.” She recounted how this false value caused her to pursue a lifestyle that brought excitement and popularity, but left her feeling empty, depressed and unfulfilled.

After she discovered Catholicism, she learned how she could love her neighbor and God appropriately and bring God’s love to see Christ in every person. The real “thrill of the chase,” she said, is to “listen to the way God calls us at each stage of life.”

The call to religious life or the priesthood was discussed by priests and sisters. Bishop-emeritus John M. D’Arcy shared his vocation story at the Feb. 11 dinner, and on Feb. 12, a panel of three sisters talked about their vocations. Franciscan Sister Benedicta Dana of the Sisters of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration in Mishawaka is a 2008 Notre Dame graduate who helped organize the Edith Stein Project when she was an undergraduate. She was a student at the University of Chicago studying in Italy when she witnessed the crowds gathering in St. Peter’s Square to pray as Pope John Paul II lay dying. Witnessing that “outpouring of people” and seeing the “universality of the faith” planted a seed in her, she said, and she transferred to Notre Dame where she could be among people her own age who were serious about the faith.

Sister Benedicta said she was “open to any vocation God would show me,” and one day as she was praying before the Blessed Sacrament, she felt “so called” to religious life.

For Little Sister of the Poor Constance Veit of Baltimore, the thought of a religious vocation came to her as a sophomore in high school when she volunteered at one of the Little Sisters’ homes for the elderly poor, most of whom were infirm and senile.

“From the first moment, I was seized by God, who seemed to be saying: ‘This is what I need you for: To give your life to them,’” she said.

Sister Constance said she found this call “life-changing and terrifying,” but as she attended college and continued her work with the Little Sisters, she came to realize that self-absorption didn’t make her happy. The path to joy, she discovered, was in humility and service to the poor, the hallmark of the Little Sisters.

Sister Jane Dominic Laurel of the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia in Nashville told the students that in college she had it all: A handsome and virtuous fiancé, a lucrative and exciting job.

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Archbishop Buechlein, Bishop Doherty join attorney general to outline immigration reform principles at statehouse ceremony

INDIANAPOLIS — Indianapolis Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein and Bishop Timothy L. Doherty of Lafayette joined Indiana Attorney General Greg Zoeller and over 20 individuals representing Indiana’s business community, faith leaders and social service organizations to outline and sign the Indiana Compact — a five-point plan guiding principles for immigration reform during a Feb. 9 statehouse ceremony.

“Immigration is an issue that evokes strong emotions,” said Archbishop Buechlein. “We must not let the frustration that many people are feeling lead our legislature to pass bad legislation.”

“The wide range of groups represented here today is evidence that the people of Indiana want a national answer to this problem and not a patchwork of state and local laws,” said Archbishop Buechlein.

“As we work to address the challenges surrounding the development of a sound immigration policy, we need our lawmakers to always keep at the forefront of their decisions the real human faces — the children and the families,” said Archbishop Buechlein.

“Each person is created in the image of God. The challenges are great. We would do well to reflect on Jesus’ words in Matthew 25: ‘I was a stranger and you welcomed me.’ Surely we can craft a national policy that welcomes the stranger and serves the common good without denying anyone their natural God-given rights,” said Archbishop Buechlein.

“The issue of immigration has been an example of the failure of the federal government in setting and enforcing clear policies in an area of their sole responsibility,” said Attorney General Greg Zoeller. “It has also been the source of division among and within states in devising an appropriate response to this failure.

“While I understand the significant problems and deep frustration felt by our sister states, we must be realistic about the costs of the state superimposing itself onto a federal enforcement responsibility when the methods for doing so might be constitutionally suspect or fiscally impractical,” said Zoeller. “By setting forth the immigration-reform goals Congress should pursue, the Indiana Compact strikes the right balance.”

The compact, which was developed over several months by the Alliance for Immigration Reform in Indiana (AIRI) including the public policy arm of the Catholic Church — the Indiana Catholic Conference, contains five benchmark principles for meaningful immigration reform.

The main components of the compact include: 1) a federal solution — immigration is a federal policy issue between the U.S. government and other countries — not Indiana and other countries; 2) law enforcement resources should focus on criminal activities, not civil violations of federal code; 3) the family, as the foundation of society, must be supported and not separated; 4) the economic role immigrants play as taxpayers is important and reaffirming Indiana’s reputation as welcoming and business-friendly state creates economic growth, jobs; and 5) a free society — the way we treat immigrants will say more about a free society and less about our immigrant neighbors. Indiana should always be a place that welcomes people of goodwill.

There is one group that is always forgotten in the debate on immigration policy. It is the children and those who suffer at the hands of traffickers. They are victimized through no fault of their own,” said Kathryn Williams, co-chair of AIRI. “Policy makers must consider the consequences those who cannot advocate for themselves.

Potential consequences include significant disruption to Indiana’s economy. “Immigrants in Indiana contributed more than $2.3 billion in tax revenues to federal, state, and local coffers in 2007, and account for more than 160,000 jobs and more than $10 billion in economic activity,” said Kevin Brinegar, president of the Indiana Chamber of Commerce.

“As we approach a policy debate on how to treat immigrants, policy makers cannot ignore the fact that immigration impacts jobs and business growth, with potentially far-reaching consequences for immigrants and non-immigrants alike.”

Those gathered for the Indiana Compact ceremony followed their comments by signing a representation of the compact. Hoosiers can also sign the Compact electronically by visiting www.indianacompact.com. Several hours following the Indiana Compact ceremony, the Senate Pensions and Labor Committee heard over four hours of testimony on SB 590, a state immigration reform proposal, which is contrary to the principles outlined in the Indiana Compact. Despite the myriad of concerns raised by the immigration coalition members, and others who testified in opposition to the legislation, the Senate panel passed the bill, 8-1.

“The Senate Bill 590, because of the significant cost it will have on the state, was reassigned to the Senate Appropriates Committee. It is expected to undergo amendments to reduce the cost to the state.”

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Pope Benedict said. Protestantism were without fault,” said Cardinal Roger M. Mahoney told an audience at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill Feb. 2 that the ethical injunctions of Scripture require “compassion for the stranger, the alien, and the worker. Whatever economic, political or social policies we discuss — and whatever discussion of constitutional rights and liberties — we cannot turn our backs to this biblical legacy of hope.” Speaking the same day in Naples, Fla., to Legatus, a Catholic business leaders organization, Coadjutor Archbishop H. Gomez of Los Angeles also drew on Scripture to explain that “the church’s approach to immigration — like the church’s approach to every social issue — is never about politics. It is about preaching the good news of God’s love for all peoples. It is about transforming the city of man into the family of God.” As coadjutor, Archbishop Gomez will take over as head of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, when Cardinal Mahoney retires, which is expected to be in late February.

Defend doctrine, but don’t attack others, pope says at audience

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Even in the midst of the upheaval of the Protestant Reformation in Germany, St. Peter Canisius knew how to defend Catholic doctrine without launching personal attacks on those who disagreed, Pope Benedict XVI said. St. Peter, a 15th-century Jesuit sent on mission to Germany, knew how to “harmlessly combine fidelity to dogmatic principles with the respect due to those who disagree,” the pope said in his audience with journalists Feb. 9. “But we caution that while the temptation to turn away from the growing social needs confronting our cities and towns may seem attractive … our capacity to move beyond the many complex problems we face today depends on our willingness to overcome that temptation.” The heads of Massachusetts’ four Catholic dioceses said their statement, titled “Standing in Solidarity With All,” involved a pledge and a plea. “Our pledge is that we will do all we can as bishops to enable institutions — parishes, Catholic Charities, health-care facilities and schools — to continue to do their best in extending help to our neighbors in need,” they said. “Our plea is that in the decisions facing our elected officials, and in the discussions and actions of all citizens, there be preserved, for the sake of human dignity, a special place and regard for the vulnerable.” That pledge and plea were being made across the country by bishops or their representatives in statements and testimony about states’ efforts to balance their budgets. Many echoed the message delivered by Jennifer Almhorn, associate director of the Texas Catholic Conference, in Feb. 2 testimony before the Senate Finance Committee on behalf of the state’s 45 active Catholic bishops: “The charitable community in Texas does not have the capacity to absorb the needs created” by state budget cuts.

Ohio bishops urge end to death penalty; Illinois decision pending

COLUMBUS, Ohio (CNS) — Ohio’s 10 Catholic bishops have joined in urging state legislators to debate and ultimately abolish the death penalty. “Just punishment can occur without resorting to the death penalty,” the bishops said in a Feb. 4 statement, speaking at the Catholic Conference of Ohio. “Our Church teachings consider the death penalty to be wrong in almost all cases.” The bishops said that although murder “rightly evokes moral outrage and a call for justice,” it also requires “spiritual healing and caring support for all those impacted by such a tragedy.” They added: “Just punishment — punishment that reflects the seriousness of the offense, seeks restoration for the offense and protects society — is a foundational moral principle within our just system.” The bishops’ call followed comments by Ohio Supreme Court Justice Paul Pfeifer and by Terry Collins, former director of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections that the time has come for a debate about use of the death penalty in the state. Pfeifer, who was a state senator and helped write the death penalty law as chairman of the Senate’s Judiciary Committee in 1981, said the law has not functioned as intended because an option for life in prison without parole was wrongly excluded from the original legislation. There are currently 157 prisoners on death row in Ohio, with an execution scheduled for each of the next seven months, beginning Feb. 17. “I think the best answer is for the governor to just commute them all and that we do what Illinois has done and say we don’t need the death penalty in Ohio any longer,” Pfeifer said in a Jan. 29 newspaper interview.

Rome Diocese launches site dedicated to John Paul II’s beatification

ROME (CNS) — The Diocese of Rome launched a new website dedicated to the beatification and canonization of Pope John Paul II. Published in seven languages, the site — www.karol-wojtyla.org — offers news updates and background information on the late pope’s saintliness cause, as well as a live webcam of his tomb in the grotto of St. Peter’s Basilica. The website also announced that the beatification ceremony in St. Peter’s Square May 1, Divine Mercy Sunday, will be open to the public and no tickets will be required to attend. The evening before the ceremony, April 30, there will be a prayer vigil at Rome’s ancient Circus Maximus racetrack, it said. The website offers the diocesan-approved prayer asking for graces through the intercession of Pope John Paul II in 31 languages, including Chinese, Arabic, Russian and Swahili. A miracle after Pope John Paul II’s beatification would be needed for his canonization, which is a Church declaration that the person is a saint and worthy of universal veneration.

End to taxpayer abortion funding called long overdue

WASHINGTON (CNS) — The effort to make permanent a ban on federal funding of abortion is both long overdue and widely supported by Americans, an official of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops told a House subcommittee Feb. 8. Richard M. Doerflinger, associate director of theUSCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, was one of three witnesses testifying on the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act, H.R. 3, before the House Judiciary Committee’s Subcommittee on the Constitution. “H.R. 3 is a well-crafted and reasonable measure to maintain long-standing and widely supported policies against active government promotion of abortion,” he said. “It consistently applies to all branches of the federal government the principle that government can encourage childbirth over abortion through its funding power, and that it should not coerce anyone’s involvement in abortion.” In his testimony, Doerflinger cited past surveys showing that the Hyde amendment — attached to annual Department of Health and Human Services appropriations bills since 1976 — has “consistently had the support of the American people,” with many wrongly assuming that “it is already fully implemented at all levels of government.” He also said: “The fact is that Congress’ policy has been remarkably consistent for decades, but the implementation of that policy in practice has been piecemeal, confusing and sometimes saddled with unnecessary obstacles.” Gaps and exceptions have been found that allowed or could have allowed for the funding of abortion through federal programs, he added. He urged Congress to “finally put a stop to this ungodly mechanism and simply end the Hyde amendment across the federal government once and for all.”

TODAY’S CATHOLIC

YOUNG MAN SMILES DURING MASS IN KENYA

A young man smiles during Mass at St. Mary’s Parish in the informal settlement of Mukuru Kwa Njenga in Nairobi, Kenya, Feb. 13. The settlement is home to more than 250,000 people who live in corrugated metal and wood shacks without running water, electricity or a sewage system.
University of Saint Francis students hosting health fair

FORT WAYNE — Students in the University’s nursing, physical therapy and the School of Physical Therapy Assistant Program will host a free annual health fair on Monday, Feb. 21, from 9 a.m. to noon in the main hall of the Doerner Family Center for Health Science Education.

The following presentations will be made: “Aesthetic Therapy”; “Developing Core Strength Through Yoga”; “Ergonomics: Good for You”; “X-box Kinect: Connect it to Your Workout”; and “Zumba: How it can Benefit You.” Students selected their topics and prepared the community education program for their PTA seminar, one of the course requirements before graduation on May 7. Directed by Mary Kay Solon, the program is an accredited two-year curriculum leading to the associate of science degree.

Bishop Luers welcomes students from sister school in Japan

FORT WAYNE — Bishop Luers High School will be hosting 20 Fushiki High School students for five days from March 12-17. The official relationship with this Tokaoka, Japan, area school has entered its third decade.

Bishop Luers is one of only four Fort Wayne schools to have a student exchange program with a sister high school in Tokaoka. As part of this cultural exchange sponsored by Fort Wayne Sister Cities International, some of the Luers’ students and teachers have traveled to Japan over the past 25 years. A group of the Japanese students and their teacher-chaperones will visit Bishop Luers High School every other year.

During the time Fushiki High School students and teachers will stay with host families from Bishop Luers High School and they attend classes at Luers during the day. Fushiki students will have some planned group activities such as meeting the Fort Wayne mayor during the school day and a Bishop Luers all-school assembly.

Notre Dame tuition increase same as in past

NOTRE DAME — Undergraduate tuition at the University of Notre Dame will increase 5.8 percent for the 2011-12 academic year to $41,417, the same rate of increase as the previous year, which was the lowest since 1960. With average room and board rates of $11,388, total student charges will be $52,805.

In a letter to parents and guardians of students returning for the next academic year, Notre Dame’s president, Holy Cross Father John I. Jenkins, wrote that the university remains concerned about the economy and appreciates the tremendous sacrifices that families make to attend Notre Dame.

He wrote that Notre Dame pledged to “honor (their) commitment by providing an educational experience that is second to none and fully consistent with our Catholic values.”

Ongoing economic difficulties, he wrote, have prompted the university’s officers and trustees to focus on finding ways to contain costs and limit spending. Still, Father Jenkins wrote that the university aims to provide the transformative learning experience that the Notre Dame family has come to expect. He pointed to the success and satisfaction of Notre Dame graduates as a measure of the university’s performance.

At a time when many college students complete their course of study in four years, he wrote, Notre Dame has one of the highest retention and graduation rates in the nation, with 96 percent of the university’s students graduating on time. Surveys find that the satisfaction level of Notre Dame alumni routinely ranks in the top three in the nation, and they are able to find career opportunities within a year or less of graduation.

Speaking of what makes Notre Dame unique, Father Jenkins said the university combines a pursuit of academic excellence with a mission informed by faith, an education infused with a moral vision, and inquiry in service to the highest ideals.

Dr. Marilyn Keiser to present organ concert at St. Charles Parish

FORT WAYNE — St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church has announced an appearance by Dr. Marilyn Keiser, concert organist, Friday, March 4, at 7:30 p.m. The church is located at 4916 Trier Rd. in Fort Wayne.

The concert is free and made possible through a generous gift from the estate of Hildegar K. Suelzer.

Keiser will perform organ music by Bach, Handel, Locklair, Howells, Harris and Vierne on the 30-rank instrument installed by the Reuter Organ Company of Lawrence, Kan., and installed in 2009. Keiser is Chancellor’s Professor of Music Emeritus at Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University, Bloomington, where she taught courses in sacred music and prepared organ for 25 years. She is a graduate of Illinois Wesleyan University and the School of Sacred Music of Union Theological Seminary in New York City where she received both a master of sacred music degree and a doctor of sacred music degree.

She has held posts as assistant organist of The Riverside Church in New York City; associate organist/choirmaster of The Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York; and organist/director of music at All Souls Parish in Ashevele, N.C.

She has appeared throughout the United States in concerts sponsored by churches, colleges and chapters of The American Guild of Organists, including an appearance with orchestra at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. In addition, Keiser has appeared as featured artist for The International College of Organists in Cambridge, England; in concert at Royal Victoria Hall with The Singapore Symphony; and at The American Cathedral in Paris.

Marian art students take prestigious awards

MISHAWAKA — Marian High School art students recently took 28 awards at the 88th Annual Scholastic Art Competition. The program offers students the visual arts from around the country to be recognized for their outstanding work and creativity. The northwest Indiana and lower southwest Michigan region of the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers Scholastic Art Awards is in its 88th year.

Digital images of the Gold Key awards are sent to National Adjudication in New York City. Gold Key winners from Marian include the following: Laura Herron, winning four awards — one in painting, two in photography and one non-traditional; Edward Hunckler, Renee Janiak, Abigail Prichard, Elizabeth Smith and Colette Udvardy, winning three awards each.

Silver Key winners from Marian include the following: Caitlin Bartlett, Brittany Duszynski, Anndale Harris, Laura Herron, Helen Jagla, Emily Koch, Colette Udvardy and Emily Voord.

Honorable mention winners were Jacob Chartrand, Jack Feighery, Olivia Ganser, Mia Letizia, Emily Madigan, Taylor McClellan, Mary Sobierski, Nicole Walter and Allen Zielinski.

Colette Udvardy won a Visual Voice Award for her drawing “Flying Free with Diamond.” Jack Feighery won the South Bend Museum of Art Class Scholarship Award.

These students’ award-winning works are on display through March 6 at the Regional Museum of Art at the Century Center in South Bend.

Marian students earning Scholastic Writing Awards include Tess Guntys, Luke Street and Elisa Vanett earning Gold Keys; and Ian Bossean, Angela Kiron, Kelly Powell and Elisa Vanett, all taking honorable mention for their short stories or poetry.

Retro Bible prints, rock opera coming to USF

FORT WAYNE — The University of Saint Francis (USF) will offer an exhibit of reproduction prints of The Saint John’s Bible and works by Art Cislo in the North Campus Lupke Gallery from Feb. 28 to April 3. The rock opera “Jesus Christ Superstar” will also open in the North Campus Auditorium March 28.

Saint John’s Abbey and University commissioned renowned calligrapher Donald Jackson to produce a handwritten, hand-illuminated Bible in 1998. The Saint John’s Bible is a work of art and theology. An artistic team was formed by Saint John’s monks and a team of scholars in central Minnesota combined the ancient techniques of calligraphy and illumination with an ecumenical Christian approach to the Bible, rooted in Benedictine spirituality.

The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., closing from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch. For more information, call (260) 399-7700, ext. 8001.

The exhibit will enhance the presentation of “Jesus Christ Superstar” by the USF School of Creative Arts Fridays through Sundays on March 25-27 and April 1-3. With lyrics by Tim Rice and music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, the musical will feature the message of Jesus as a social and political rebel.

Show times are 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Adults are $10. Doors will open 30 minutes before show time for general seating.

Theatre information, call (260) 399-7700, ext. 8004 or e-mail chuddleson@sf.edu.

FEBRUARY 20, 2011 TODAY’S CATHOLIC 7

SACRED HEART SCHOOL in Warsaw students and staff had the opportunity to wear one of Principal James Faroh’s ties on Wednesday, Feb. 2, for a donation. All proceeds went to the American Cancer Society for research. Faroh has been collecting ties for close to 40 years and has a collection of 300 different widths, styles and themes. From left, Laurel Kelsheimer, Jarod Ilada and Kendra Love decide which tie to wear.
Every Catholic school is called to be a community of faith, hope and charity. The prevailing atmosphere is to be truly ‘Christian,’ an atmosphere in which children and young people are able to experience the joy of knowing Jesus Christ and the joy of belonging to His Church."

“The excellence of our Catholic schools in every aspect (human, intellectual and spiritual) depends upon the quality of our teachers, their competence and their dedication,” the bishop said. “Today we honor with the Light of Learning award select teachers who are models of this excellence. We thank them for their witness to the Gospel and for their hard work. Our teachers participate in a very special way in the mission that Christ has entrusted to the Church. We also thank our principals and our priests for their dedication to the noble task of Catholic education.”

Award recipients are featured in this week’s issue of Today’s Catholic. New this year was the implementation of the Msgr. J. William Lester Award. Msgr. Lester spent 65 years in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend as a priest and educator. The recipients of the Msgr. Lester Award compliment his lifelong work with passion, tenacity and unselfish enthusiasm to our Catholic schools.

In Fort Wayne, James and Margaret Shields were presented the Msgr. J. William Lester Award by Bishop Rhoades. In South Bend, Peter and Nancy Barany were the recipients.

Twenty-one educators from the Fort Wayne area and 20 educators from the South Bend area received the Light of Learning award in recognition of their positive impact on Catholic education.

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Patricia Bond, St. Jude School, Fort Wayne
Stephanie Brito, St. Joseph School, Decatur
Eileen Rodimer, Bishop Luers School, Fort Wayne
Heidi Busch, St. John the Baptist School, New Haven
Chad Chenowith, Bishop Dwenger High School, Fort Wayne
Vanessa Diller, St. Louis Academy, Besancon, New Haven
Amy Edelman, St. Joseph School, Garrett
Jennifer Finnemore, St. Bernard School, Wabash
Chad Helmink, St. Mary of the Assumption School, Avilla
Susan Henry, St. John the Baptist School, Fort Wayne
Kallie Kirkeendall, Sacred Heart School, Warsaw
Pamela Marx, Most Precious Blood School, Fort Wayne
Stephanie Nee, St. Vincent de Paul School, Fort Wayne
Elizabeth Polner, St. Charles Borromeo School, Fort Wayne
Julia Ramp, Huntington Catholic School, Huntington
Carol Sarasien, St. Joseph School, Hessen Cassel, Fort Wayne
Christine Schuhler, St. Joseph-St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, Fort Wayne
Rebecca Smith, St. Therese School, Fort Wayne
Nicole Snavar, Queen of Angels School, Fort Wayne
Nichole Thompson, St. Aloysius School, Tode
Robert Sordelet, St. Charles Borromeo School, Fort Wayne, was this year’s Light of Learning Administrative recipient.
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Father Andrew Budzinski, parochial vicar at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Fort Wayne, leads the meal-time blessing at the Light of Learning Luncheon in Fort Wayne hosted by Quality Dining, Inc.
FORT WAYNE — Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades was given a Luers Spirit welcome — once again with an embrace from one of the students — as he engaged the 540 students of Bishop Luers High School in Fort Wayne after an all-school Mass on Feb. 9.

Although Bishop Luers may be smallest of the four diocesan high schools, as Bishop Rhoades exclaimed in his pastoral visit, it is “big in excellence. And I am very proud of this school community for all the accomplishments that I constantly hear about or read about, whether it be in the area of sports and athletics, the area of drama and music, your spiritual life, the service that you do, the academic life — I really am proud of Bishop Luers High School. And when I see the spirit, I know that it is truly alive as I see the fruits of all the good things that are happening here at Bishop Luers.”

At the all-school Mass celebrated by Bishop Rhoades, he made the homily a sort of theology class explaining the first reading, aptly proclaimed by senior Sean Driscoll, from Genesis 2, the story of creation.

“These stories communicate and reveal to us very important truths for life: Truths about God, about the human person, about life, about sin and about death,” Bishop Rhoades said.

In the garden of Eden, there are two trees: the tree of life, which represents tree of the knowledge of good and evil — a tree which God placed this limit upon, Bishop Rhoades said. “That is the first sin, original sin, placing himself in the place of the One who determines what is right and wrong. That is so harmful to Adam and Eve, we sin, we’re putting ourself in the place of God, who is the Creator, the one who determines what is right or wrong, good and evil. We’re willfully saying ‘no’ to His commandments. The heart of our faith is redeemed, to ‘restore friendship with God.’”

And Bishop Rhoades explained how the tree of knowledge of good and evil also came from a tree, the tree of new life where the gates of paradise would be open. Bishop Rhoades spoke of creation with the original upon himself that claim that he himself what is good and what is right and wrong. That is so harmful to the human community, the right or wrong, good and evil by God who is the Creator, the one who bestowed the knowledge of good and evil.

Bishop Rhoades encouraged the students to be holy, that this is a school that helps you get to heaven, to restore friendship with God. That’s why our Catechism.

Bishop Luers Principal of Mass, presented a “Luers Spirit” license plate to Principal Mary Keefer at the all-school Mass.

Bishop Luers High School
333 E. Paulding Rd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46816
Principal: Mary Keefer
Staff: 39 educators, and 27 support staff
Enrollment: 540 students
Telephone: (260) 456-1261
Web address: www.bishopluers.org

“Luers Spirit!”

FEBRUARY 20, 2011

TODAY’S CATHOLIC

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PHOTO BY JOE ROMIE

Exterior of Bishop Luers High School on Feb. 9.

PHOTO BY JOE ROMIE

Above, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades offers the lunchtime meal blessing as he joins student council members for lunch.

Left, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades receives a Luers Spirit license plate from Principal Mary Keefer at the all-school Mass.
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The students, “The ultimate every sin you and I commit problem of disobedience. man taking it evil, has been given to us, who is the one who proceeds from eating of the tree and evil,” Bishop Rhoades encouraged the students, for their school. “We love them, we teach them, we nurture them,” Keefer said. “Our kids like being here,” she added. “They are happy here. They are proud of their school. School spirit is alive and well.”

Academically, Bishop Luers offers every- thing from an academic success program, which helps students who may need assistance and tutoring, to Advanced Placement where students can earn college credit for high school classes.

The goal of the spectrum of learning is “to prepare students for what’s next,” Keefer said.

She said the students of the school value each other, have a strong work ethic and do what they are asked to do.

Once a month, Franciscan Sister Lois, a Sister of St. Francis of Perpetual Adoration, talks with young women who have an interest in religious life. And the school sponsors a popular vocation day. The presence of priests include chaplains Father Drew Curry, parochial vicar of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Fort Wayne; Father Dave Ruppert, pastor of St. Therese Parish in Fort Wayne; and Father Larry Kramer, pastor of St. Paul of the Cross Parish in Columbia City.

Twice a week, a priest is available for Reconciliation. And a peer ministry group coordinates retreats in the school, helps prepare liturgies, serves Mass, lectors and maintains the chapel.

This atmosphere pulls 20 students from Huntington and one family from Wilshire, Ohio, both over 25 miles away from the school, but Keefer says 20 to 25 feeder schools in the community are represented at Bishop Luers.

“We teach the standards of the state of Indiana infused with faith,” Keefer said.
Faith should guide your journey to financial freedom

BY BONNIE ELDERSBRO

FORT WAYNE — Seven steps to becoming financially free is the subject of lively discussion on Thursday evenings at St. Charles Borromeo Church under the direction of parishioner and financial planner Joe Beier.

Material for the class is derived from the book of the same name authored by Phil Lenahan and subtitled “A Catholic Guide to Managing Your Money.” According to Lenahan, this guide for managing one’s money differs from many on the market in that “its primary aim is to show the important link that exists between our faith journey and how we handle our money.

We must set Godly priorities, he says. How we handle our money is the best indicator of the strength and vitality of our spiritual life. And insight can be gained from the Bible at every step of the way.

The first step to financial freedom, then, is to be a "steward of Providence."

It’s a question of attitude, Lenahan points out. We must change our attitude about money from ownership to faithful stewardship. Based on the parable of the talents, we must recognize that everything we have categorizes and tallies their expenditures, then develop a budget.

According to Biblical teaching, if someone wishes to construct a tower but does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion, he may lay the foundation and find himself unable to finish the work. (Lk 14:28-30)

Step three is to set aside a $2,000 emergency fund. This is necessary to help break the cycle of spending that creates credit card debt. “Possessions gained hastily at the outset will in the end not be blessed.” (Prv 20:21)

Step four is to eliminate that debt. Most people who find themselves in financial trouble have a great deal of credit card debt, says Lenahan. He recommends an Accelerator Repayment Plan, which includes a commitment to go no further into debt, then to prioritize one’s debts and to budget a monthly amount for debt repayment. The Bible teaches that “the rich rule over the poor and the borrower is the slave of the lender.” (Prv 22:7)

Step five is to set aside a rainy-day fund amounting to six months’ living expenses. In today’s uncertain economy, many families find themselves in dire straits when the breadwinner loses his job or illness strikes. This measure avoids the need to fund the shortfall with credit cards. Again, the Bible reminds us that “the plans of the diligent are sure of profit, but all rush haste leads certainly to poverty.” (Prv 21:5)

Step six is to review insurance needs and estate planning. Lenahan emphasizes that this step is imperative on children enter the family picture. At a minimum, couples should have a will and even a trust for disposition of their assets, as well as plans for guardianship of the children if necessary and appropriate health care directives. The Bible addresses the subject sternly.

“And whoever does not provide for relatives and especially family members has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.” (1 Tm 5:8)

Finally, step seven counseled us to save and invest with a purpose. Money is often thought to be evil in and of itself. But indeed, it is the love of money and its misuse that cause problems. A good reason for saving and investing is to meet ones own needs and then to invest in the lives of others. The Bible relates the story of seven years of abundance in Egypt during which the Pharaoh put Joseph in charge. When seven years of famine followed, the country was saved from destruction by Joseph’s careful planning and rationing. (Gn 41)

Beier has taught Seven Steps to Financial Freedom the past five years at St. Charles and gets satisfaction from seeing stressed-out couples leave his class with a better idea of how to manage their money. “I help them use Biblical principles to find a little more peace,” he says.

He relates a story of one couple who, nearing retirement, decided to take the class though they appeared to have no financial worries. At the end of the session they provided positive reinforcement for him and other class members by commenting that they wished they’d done it 30 years ago. This should be part of pre-Cana instruction for engaged couples, they said.

The next session of Seven Steps will begin soon after Easter, beginning at 7:15 p.m. For more information or to sign up call the church office at (260) 482-2186.

Stewardship: A way of life

BY MSGR. WILLIAM SCHOOLER

We often speak of stewardship as a “way of life,” because it is a way of providing funds for the work of the Church. Since stewardship was introduced at St. Pius X, Granger, a few years ago, a growing number of parishioners have taken steps in faith every year to embrace it as a way of life. More people have stepped forward to give themselves in humble service to the parish.

Reflecting on their experience of participating every Sunday at the Eucharist — Stewardship of Prayer — families have recognized the message of stewardship specific ways of returning a portion of what God has given to them. In recognizing the talents they have received, they give them back generously, seeing their involvement in the life of the parish as a way of enriching their own family lives.

Those who are involved in ministries of service outside of the parish understand that they are the arms and feet of the body of Christ extending His care to the poor of our community. Those who accept the Stewardship of Sacrificial Giving, and have taken steps in faith to increase the percentage of their tithe have appreciated the difference between what they need and what they want, trusting that the Lord will meet their needs.

From the perspective of the parish, we clearly see the results of a growing number of parishioners who have made stewardship a way of life. Our Masses are packed on Sundays and holy days, and we

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Sacrificial Giving, we are able to tithe 5 percent of our income to our sister parish of St. Adalbert, to assist them with their school. We tithe another 2 percent to the poor, which is allocated by a committee, which considers all requests. Because of our parish tithe, we have eliminated all fundraisers, trusting that parishioners provide all the funds we need. This generosity also supports the work of our St. Vincent de Paul Society, which actively serves the poor who come to us for help.

We have found that it is necessary to coordinate stewardship efforts in a parish of 3,000 families.

Betsy Quinn serves as the director of stewardship and evangelization. She works with committees of parishioners to make sure that those who volunteer their services are caring and passionate about what they do. She is currently working with her Stewardship Core Team to assist all our ministries in keeping their focus on mission.

Stewardship is, indeed, a way of life. It requires a great deal of work and much sacrifice. We know that we have a long way to go to get the message to everyone. We also need to take another step in faith in our parish tithe. But this way of life also brings a vitality and sense of mission to those who embrace and support the parish which benefits from that faith.
Stewardship benefits family, church and community

BY KAT COZAD

Many parishes of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend have embraced stewardship as a way to not only remain financially solvent but spiritually vital with roots deeply immersed within the working community.

Stewardship, the careful moral management of time, talent and treasure, is a way for Catholics to serve God and others with the plethora of gifts and talents God has bestowed on them, each and to his or her ability. It requires a willingness to trust that God will meet their needs even in sacrifice. Stewardship includes much more than simply contributing from financial resources. Offering time and skills, in addition to what others and the Church is also vital to the life of a steward.

For those who embrace stewardship in this diocese, it is an evolving practice. Today’s Catholic looks at the fruit that has grown from three families’ stewardship.

Jude and Craig Phillips

For Little Flower parishioners Jude and Craig Phillips, the meaning of stewardship has grown over their 43 year marriage. In the beginning, it revolved around participating in their children’s activities at church, but eventually the concept of giving of one’s time, talent and treasure expanded.

“He had a true steward you need to be willing to buy into the fact that stewardship is a way of life. Everyone can do something no matter what stage of life they are at,” says Jude.

Tim Biggins and his wife Judy, longtime parishioners of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, find stewardship to be a multifaceted spiritual journey.

“We believe that our spiritual life is a choice anyone can make. It’s taking the bare minimum in your faith, reaching to use them well.”

Judy and Tim Biggins

Tim Biggins and his wife Judy, longtime parishioners of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Fort Wayne, find stewardship to be a multifaceted spiritual journey.

“Jude and I often look at our religious life as a continuation of our marriage, the more we participate in church activities with each other the closer we become. Through our participation in the multifaceted aspects of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception activities, we believe that our spiritual life has been strengthened.”

The Biggins are encouraged that the stewardship program at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception continues to evolve. “We are trying new ideas all the time. One such example is online giving. Our goal was to have 40 people involved by the end of the first year and currently we are half way after six months,” says Tim.

The Biggins are confident that stewardship as a way of life is a way to live out the Gospel and invites others to follow their example.

Kate and Matt Barrett

Longtime St. Joseph, South Bend, parishioners Kate and Matt Barrett believe that stewardship is a choice anyone can make.

Matt says, “Stewardship is about choices; in particular, about your life choices. Stewards are entrusted with life, with abilities, and with possessions.”

Good stewards, they agree, are those that believe all time, talent and treasure are gifts from God to be used for the welfare of others.

The challenge is recognizing that in that sacrificial giving, they must depend upon God for security. “When we give away what we could otherwise hold on to, to make our lives more ‘secure,’ it’s a concrete way of recognizing that our true security is in our dependence on God. We’re not in charge — and we’re only kidding ourselves when we forget that.”

And from their giving, this couple, happily married for 19 years, raising four children, knows that many times it is difficult to offer more than just “the easy stuff off the top.” But they do find passing this legacy of love and service to the next generation a real blessing. Kate says of involving their children in the practice of stewardship, “We’ve tried to choose some ministries we can do together, such as bringing the Eucharist to the homebound, serving as hospitality ministers at Mass, and going on food calls for the St. Vincent de Paul Society. We also try to encourage them to make special gifts when needs arise, such as the earthquake in Haiti or Hurricane Katrina. Sometimes we’ll offer to match any gifts they make so that they can see their contributions make an even bigger impact.”

“The children all have a firm belief in the family’s sacrificial giving and agree when 14-year-old Wilson says, “Stewardship combines belief in your faith and living it out. It means going beyond the bare minimum in your faith, reaching out to others and helping them.”

So the challenge the Barrett family issues to all Catholics is “to use the gifts God has given us, and use them well.”

Karen Clifford contributed to this story.

SCHOOL’S ‘SOUP’ER BOWL COLLECTS OVER 6,000 CANS FOR CHARITY

St. Anthony de Padua Catholic School seventh graders sponsor the “Soup”er Bowl each year. This year the children collected food item donations of approximately 18 cans per student. Principal Chad Barwick told the students he would shave his beard any way they selected if they raised more than 6,000 cans. He is shown with his “mutton-chop” and beard. Seventh-grade teacher Jaci Byrne is shown with “green” hair and church organist Jerry Siefring is shown with a “buzz” haircut. Donations were given to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.

PROVIDED BY ST. ANTHONY SCHOOL
School choice — good for families, children, society

G overnor Daniels’ initiative to provide real options and choice for families regarding the education of their children is an important and essential step in supporting and strengthening the family and all of society. God established the family as the first and vital cell of society. All peoples and cultures affirm that the family is essential to development of individual persons and society. It is strong families that make strong societies.

Parents have the primary responsibility in caring for and rearing of children. In fulfilling this responsibility, by providing a loving home, instilling faith and values and educating their children, parents provide an invaluable service to society and more importantly to their children who are growing into their role as responsible adults and citizens.

Although parents are the first educators, they are not the only educators of their children.

Society, through its institutions, has an obligation to assist parents in this duty. Faith communities have an obligation and a right to assist parents in the awesome task of educating children. And the civic community (state) also shares in the obligation to assist parents in this responsibility.

The state must make possible the right of parents, as the primary teachers of their children, to choose appropriate educational opportunities best suited to their children’s needs, because no one model of education fits everyone. Beyond the dignity and development of the individual child, quality education of the populace promotes the economic and social well being of all society. Moreover, it is the duty of parents to collaborate with civil and faith communities to ensure that children are appropriately educated.

In recent years the state of Indiana has begun to provide restricted educational opportunities, however, it does not foster and encourage parents to exercise their basic right and responsibility to choose an educational setting best suited to their child’s needs. Availability to alternatives is limited and real opportunities are decreasing. Moreover, parents without financial means are often faced with even fewer options. It is unfortunate that for most children choices are limited to government opportunities only.

This is not the case in other areas of social and familial responsibilities. In the case of health care, child-care outside of the school setting, as well as in higher education and social services for the elderly, etc., choices beyond the government sponsored options are encouraged and supported as a matter of public policy and practice.

Given the critical role parents and families play in the development of children and in building the common good in society, parents and parents have choices in how and where their children are educated. Legislators and state officials have a moral duty to ensure that all parents, through their own choice, have actual access to schools — including public, religious and private — best suited for their children.

The growth and strength of Indiana depends upon the strength of its families and the quality of education of the children. The family as the basic unit of all society must be supported by state policies and practices. Moreover, a vibrant society depends upon a strong and diverse educational system, which also helps families and parents in their responsibilities to strengthen and support the common good.

Because of state policy and practice, most families and parents do not have an option regarding the education of their children. A right denied is a right violated. States accepting and embracing the choice of parents for diversity in the schooling of children and adults will inevitably flourish. As Indiana strives to improve its economic and educational opportunities for its citizens, parental choice in educating children is critical for future success.

Glenn Tebbe is the executive director of the Indiana Catholic Conference.
Birds of a feather

The process we call grief is a wilder-ness that must be traversed with the help of God. Even those who have never experienced our unique grief may understand who has lost a child. Grief—whether it was sudden or death — whether it was sudden or natural—leaves a unique set of footprints in the wake of a loss. We find empathic understanding from others who have experienced a similar loss. Widows in the support group I facilitate have shared that while they are grateful for the compassion of their family and friends, it is within the confines of the group that they find empathic understanding from other women who have lost their spouses. It seems that knowing another has walked miles behind you and left you with the hope that can lead us to our future.

Caroline, a widow of two years, says of the support group, “It’s a club you never want to join, but are glad there are members already there to welcome you. We aren’t alone.” She goes on to say that joining the discussions, with specific topics ranging from living in a couple’s world and removing wedding rings to doing chores, too, and financial issues, brings her insights into her own grief and the hope that she is not alone.

“My children want to help but don’t know just what it’s like to have your better half taken from your life. They naturally want me to get over it. The widows in my group do not hate another, using the term “brother” as if to emphasize the point.

The reading sets the stage for the message from St. Matthew’s Gospel that will follow as the second reading. A favorite image employed by Paul throughout his writings was that, through faith and in Baptism, Christians literal-ly bond with Christ. In Christ, they become heirs to eternal life. In Christ, they receive the Holy Spirit, bringing into their very beings divine grace and strength.

Having made this point, the Apostle then continues to remind the Corinthian Christians that they are birds of a feather. They may be wise “in a worldly sense,” but often genuine wisdom comes across as foolishness to the worldly.

Observing God’s law in trust and love

THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

Mt 5:38-48

THE NEW MISSAL

BY BRIAN MACMICHAEL

The new translation of the Holy Mass:
Eucharistic Prayer, Part 2

We continue our overview of the new translations in the Eucharistic Prayer by looking at the revised texts for the words of consecration, also known as the words of institution. At every Mass, the priest repeats these words by which Christ instituted the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper, and by which the bread and wine become the true Body and Blood of Christ for us today.

The following are the words of consecration over the bread and wine, with changes in bold.

Take this, all of you, and eat of it, for this is my Body, which will be given up for you.

Take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in memory of me.

The changes at the consecration of the bread are minor, but there are a few in the text for the consecration of the wine that are worth explaining. First is the replacement of “cup” with “chal-ice.” Both refer to vessels from which we drink, and both terms appear in the Bible. However, “chal-ice” implies a special kind of cup — one that is precious and set aside for a noble purpose (in this case, the “new and eternal covenant”). This is part of the dig-nified language brought out by the new translation: just as we do not refer to a teacup as a cup, we do not say “chalice” as merely a “table,” so saying “chal-ice” at this moment emphasizes that the Blood of Christ is no ordi-nary drink. Such language can help foster greater reverence at the Holy Mass.

A significant change is the reversion to a more literal translation. In the old translation, “for many” was felt to be overly restrictive, due to potential misun-derstandings. Now, after the consecration, the priest will simply announce, “The mystery of faith.” “Mysterium Fidei” — a declara-tion statement about the Eucharist now present. Venerable Pope John Paul II reflected on these words in his encyclical, “Ecclesia Sancta,” writing that the very thought of the mysterious gift of the Holy Eucharist should fill us with “profound amazement and gratitude.”

In response, the people shall make one of these acclamations: “Thank you, our Lord, and pray for your Resurrection until you come again.”

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Save us, Savor of the world, for your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

All three are rooted in Scripture (1 Cor 11:27, Jn 4:42), But what is conspicuously absent is the pop-ular current acclamation, “Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.” This claim, though powerful, is not found in the Latin. In addition, it does not directly address Christ made pres-ent in the Blessed Sacrament, nor does it speak of our relationship with Him, as the others do.

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

KAY COZAD

The new translation of the Holy Mass:
Eucharistic Prayer, Part 2

Rather, it upholds the reality that each individual must also accept and abide in the grace won by Christ in order to attain eternal life. The recovery of the wording, “for many,” affirms that salvation is not completely automatic.

Nevertheless, it should not be interpreted as overly restrictive, either. The fact that Jesus was addressing only the Apostles in the Upper Room while saying, “for you and for many,” implies far-reaching inclusion — that many more besides the Twelve would benefit from this new covenant.

So, the revised translation of “pro multis” is important, but may require some of the most careful catechesis, due to potential misun-derstandings.

Then, after the consecration, the priest will simply announce, “The mystery of faith.” “Mysterium Fidei” — a declara-tion statement about the Eucharist now present. Venerable Pope John Paul II reflected on these words in his encyclical, “Ecclesia Sancta,” writing that the very thought of the mysterious gift of the Holy Eucharist should fill us with “profound amazement and gratitude.”

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Brian MacMichael is the director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend.
Anti-bullying focus at schools

HOPE

years ago. The program began in studying bullying more than 40 Norwegian researcher who began in Clemson University in South Carolina, is named after a author, Robert Faris, an assistant in more than 7,000 schools nationwide. Prevention Program, is now used especially with online tools, any- bullies no longer hold true. Today, mainly that the old stereotypes of forces what bullying-prevention programs are meant to do. Instead, the comprehensive pro- gram is meant to develop long-term changes. Bullying has been a hot topic at recent National Catholic Educational Association conventions, and this year during the April 26-28 convention in New Orleans several speakers plan to address it. During Catholic Schools Week Jan. 20-Feb. 5, several Catholic schools across the country includ- ed anti-bullying workshops as part of events held for the observance that included Masses, open houses and activities for students and teachers. At St. Francis of Assisi School in Buxton, Wash., which runs a yearlong anti-bullying program, a theater group acted out bullying scenes as part of a Catholic Schools Week Presentation. The kindergarten through fifth-grade students watched a presentation about children getting mad on the playground, and the middle school students watched a performance that focused on gossip, rumors and cyberbullying. After the performances, stu- dents were asked to think about what they saw and make com- ments. The school’s counselor told a local newspaper that bullying is a problem for private and public schools alike. She said it might be easier for a small school like St. Francis to take action when they hear about bullying.

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Sports

FORT WAYNE — Mike Palmer’s Crusaders from St. Therese fin-ished up the regular season with big league wins to secure a second place seed heading into the Catholic Youth League (CYO) basketball tournament.

A week ago, the Crusaders pulled off a 44-39 victory over the feisty boys from Most Precious Blood thanks to five treys from Matt Palmer in the first half and 14 second half points from Cody Meyer.

In their final regular season matchup Tuesday night, the Crusaders fell to the Rose-St. Louis, 24-15, improving to 6-2. The team’s only losses were to St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, the league’s top seed.

“We talked about Hessen Cassel at the beginning of the season and knew they would be a big challenge. We hoped a second- or third-place finish would land us a chance to play them in the championship game,” predicted Palmer.

“But the road will not be easy.”

The Crusaders first meet a solid Twins team from St. Rose-St. Louis.

Palmer feels this year’s unit is special for many reasons. “I have three players who have started every game for me since the sixth grade (Meyer, Palmer and Nate Burrows). We have a lot of experience and an unbelievable amount of selflessness. We also have an amazing new addition in Sam Lovejoy who has brought his rustling toughness to our team along with incredible leadership abilities.”

Palmer continued, “We are by far, one of the smallest teams in the league, yet I would challenge any of the others to a skills competition. These boys are fundamentally sound and pass the ball better than any other team I have ever coached at this level.”

And Palmer has coached a lot of teams. At 52, the dedicated Palmer has been involved in coaching at St. Therese, Bishop Luers and/or V-ball teams since the age of 16. Over the years, Palmer explains how fun it has been to coach and how much he loves the game. He coached his older two sons, who have returned to the bench to help out with the younger boys who are on the St. Therese roster of 12 for the 2010-11 season.

The Blue League tournament kicked off Tuesday, Feb. 15, with Most Precious Blood slating to meet St. Aloysius. The winner will play the No. 1 seeded Squires from St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, who received the bye, on Thursday night, following the matchup between St. Rose-St. Louis and the Crusaders.

Boy’s season standings

Team           W L

Hessen Cassel   6 2
St. Therese     6 2
St. Rose-St. Louis 3 5
Precious Blood  3 5
St. Aloysius    0 8

Girls’ season standings

Hessen Cassel   7 0
St. Therese     6 1
New Haven       5 2
Queen of Angels 4 3
Huntington      3 4
St. Aloysius    1 6
Precious Blood  1 6
St. Rose-St. Louis 1 6

BOB HARTENSTEIN

Defense keeps St. Joseph, Mishawaka, girls in ICCL hunt for a title

By Chuck Freerby

ELKHART — It’s one of sports’ most used axioms that “defense wins championships.” In the case of the St. Joseph (Mishawaka) ICCL girls basketball team, defense has certainly kept them in the hunt for a title.

Down by 10 at halftime, the Wildcats rallied for a dramatic, 19-18, overtime triumph over Queen of Peace Saturday here at the St. Thomas the Apostle Gymnasium. The victory raises St. Joseph’s record to 3-1 and keeps them undefeated in the Martin DeForres Division.

“Our two eighth graders, Emily O’Lena and Shannon McCarty, really helped keep us calm,” remarked Wildcats head coach Jeff Deitchley. “I talked about playing great defense at halftime, and they really responded. Those two help each other and they help the younger girls.”

“Queen of Peace, led by Sydney Burkhardt’s 8 points, held the lead for nearly the entire contest. The athletic McCarty tallied three of her team-high 8 points on an old-fashioned three-point play, tying the contest late in the fourth quarter.

“The game stayed knotted at 18 until Hannah Deitchley hit the front end of a one-and-one with about a minute remaining to provide the winning margin.”

“This was a very evenly matched game,” Deitchley said of the contest with the Pumas. “We knew they had size to contend with and expected a really good game. We work hard on defense at practice. We certainly emphasize it and that’s what got us the win.”

Winning in girls basketball is nothing new for St. Joseph-Mishawaka, which reached the championship game at both the varsity and JV levels last season. Still, Deitchley doesn’t carry raised expectations.

“You never know how a group of kids will play together,” states the Wildcats mentor. “They know each other well, but we just want them to do their best and have fun. We’ll see how the rest of the way plays out.”

Close games were the order of Friday night in Scottsburg as Christ the King (Colors) nipped St. Jude, 23-22; St. Bavo topped St. Anthony, 23-19; and St. Matthew edged Holy Cross, 17-16.

Saturday, two of the league’s three unbeaten remained unsalted, St. Joseph (South Bend) downed Holy Family, 25-10, while Christ the King edged St. Pius, 22-18. However, Corpus Christi knocked off previously undefeated St. Thomas, 34-17, on the Spartans’ home floor. Rachel Cole, who has become one of the league’s top scorers, tallied 17 to lead the Cougars.

For Sunday’s results, check the girls basketball section at icclsports.org.

CYO small school crowns fifth-sixth grade tournament champs

By Michelle Castleman

FORT WAYNE — In junior varsity girls’ action, St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel finished a perfect season with an amazing 22-0 overall record and won the 2011 CYO tournament title on Sunday, Jan. 30.

In the final game, the Squares downed a tough team from Queen of Angels, 34-14. Coach Tracy Sweeney loved to challenge her girls, taking them out of the box by playing tougher teams and competing in several tournaments during the season.

At the beginning, she informed her team, “With 13 girls, we will play each game 13 strong.”

An impressed Sweeney added, “The girls encouraged each other and never let up. They played together outside of the gym on their own and worked on fundamentals at home and on recess.”

Before each game, Sweeney would challenge her players to do something they had never done before and report back to her. “We tell it was scoring 50 double doubles,” grabbing a steal or getting to the free throw for the first time, I loved watching each of them grow,” she added.

“I will miss them dearly, especially our nine sixth graders,” Sweeney confessed.

In the championship of the boys’ tournament, when the weather finally cooperated, it was also St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel, who beat a sound Huntington group, 41-25. With six sixth graders and three fifth graders on his roster, Coach Brett Rupricht led his team to a winning record with just four losses during the season, which came at the hands of schools in the larger enrollment league. “We were both quick and aggressive this season, while other games it was our defense that dominated,” summarized Rupricht. “It was great to watch the kids progress from November until now.”

End-of-year playoffs begin for championship

By Joe Kozinski

SOUTH BEND, MISHAWAKA — The Inter-City Catholic League has shut the book on the regular season and opened a new chapter as the end-of-year playoffs started with 16 teams all vying for the coveted championship trophy.

In second round action, the St. John Bosco Division champion, St. Anthony Panthers, smothered the Spartans of St. Thomas, 39-17, behind the scoring of Oliver Page’s 15 points.

The St. John Bosco West Division champion, Holy Cross Crusaders, disposed of Holy Family, 38-17, as Wes Short netted 10 for the winners.

ICCL PAGE 18

BISHOP DWENGER’S REMOUND WRIGHT HONORED

Bishop Dwenger High School senior Remound Wright was recently named one of five finalists, the “Elite Five,” for the Franklin D. Watkins Memorial Award. This award recognizes African-American male athletes who have set and achieved high academic standards for themselves and who are committed to community service. Following in the footsteps of Franklin D. Watkins, cofounder of the National Alliance of African American Athletes, Watkins award finalists are expected to use their gifts and talents to be leaders in the effort to improve disadvantaged communities to empower those who live within them.

Pictured are the fifth- and sixth-grade girls from St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel School who won the CYO small schools final’s tournament Sunday, Jan. 30, at the St. Joseph-Hessen Cassel Activity Center. The score was St. Joseph, 34, and Queen of Angels fifth- and sixth-grade girls, 14.

Coach Bret Rupert led his team to a winning record with just four losses during the season, which came at the hands of schools in the larger enrollment league. “We were both quick and aggressive this season, while other games it was our defense that dominated,” summarized Rupert. “It was great to watch the kids progress from November until now.”

LOB HARTENSTEIN
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

The St. Martin DePorres Division champion, St. Bavo Panthers played Christ the King in a thriller but came up short as they couldn’t connect on a couple of game tying free throws at the buzzer, 30-28. Brendan Connely led the Kings with 19 as Michael Voor and Joe Molnar’s double digit efforts of the Comets of St. Monica, 54-29.

St. Thomas held off the Spartans of St. Patrick 48-39 as JP Kavanaugh and Ryan Schafer efforts of the Eagles. Poston and Joe Molnar’s double digit efforts weren’t enough as the Wildcats of St. Joseph (Mishawaka) fell just off the mark.

The upstart team from St. Pius X could not hold back the 23 points from Corpus Christi Cougar guard Dominic Ferro, succumbing 40-39. Tony Pratt and Patrick Sandor each had 11 for the Lions.

The final four will play Saturday at Marian High School with the finals tipping in a nip and tuck skirmish with St. John the Baptist, 42-41.

The Panthers of St. Bavo were victorious in a 16-year-old pop singer and musician not only provides entirely wholesome entertainment — threatening only in the sense that frenzied audience members may scrreech themselves hoarse — it also includes several scenes of prayer testifying to its subject’s Christian faith.

Along with photos and home movies from Bieber’s childhood in Stratford, Ontario, the film showcases footage chronicling his rise from street musician — sometimes performing on the sidewalk outside his hometown’s Avon Theater — to star-dom. His ascent to fame was a thoroughly up-to-date and perhaps groundbreaking one in that it was initially launched by, and continually fueled through his grassroots celebrity on social media outlets such as YouTube.

Interspersed with these retrospective scenes are performances from Bieber’s 2010 world tour. The buildup to his climactic appearance at New York’s Madison Square Garden — tickets to which, we learn, sold out in 22 minutes — comprises what there is of a plot, while a modicum of suspense is introduced when Bieber contracts a sore throat only a few days before his big Gotham moment.

(Visited with get-well tweets, he responds with characteristic poise.)

What emerges through it all, under Jon Maddren’s direction, is a likable young man striving to resist the temptations of sudden-onset acclaim. Bieber bids well to do so, thanks in large measure to his close bonds with his mother — Bieber’s parents split while he was still quite young — and grandparents and to his sharing in their evangelical-style piety. By way of testimony to this spiritual inheritance, we witness the prayers he and his entourage recite before each show.

As for anything remotely objectionable, especially fastidious guardians will note that one adult fan explains, with reference to her age-atypical interest in Bieber, “I don’t want him that way,” while the lad himself describes a health drink he’s being encouraged to swallow as tasting like “dinosaur pee.”

But then, one imagines even Donny Osmond has been heard to say worse.

The Catholic News Service classification is A-I — general patronage. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is G — general audiences.

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Justin Bieber: ‘Never Say Never’

By John Mulderig

NEW YORK (CNS) — Teenybopper ecstasy comes to the local multiplexes with the arrival of “Justin Bieber: Never Say Never” (Paramount).

Happily for parents, this genial 3-D profile of the 16-year-old pop singer and musician not only provides entirely wholesome entertainment — threatening only in the sense that frenzied audience members may scrreech themselves hoarse — it also includes several scenes of prayer testifying to its subject’s Christian faith.

Along with photos and home movies from Bieber’s childhood in Stratford, Ontario, the film showcases footage chronicling his rise from street musician — sometimes performing on the sidewalk outside his hometown’s Avon Theater — to star-dom. His ascent to fame was a thoroughly up-to-date and perhaps groundbreaking one in that it was initially launched by, and continually fueled through his grassroots celebrity on social media outlets such as YouTube.

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Justin Bieber is pictured in a scene from the 3-D movie “Never Say Never.”
What's Happening?

What's Happening carries announcements about upcoming events in the diocese. Send in your announcement at least two weeks prior to the event. Mail to: Today's Catholic, PO Box 11169, Fort Wayne 46856, or e-mail: thogan@fw.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.

Women's fertility workshop offered
New Haven — The CREIGHTON MODEL FertilityCare™ System about women's cycles and standardizing monthly record keeping can be used by women with regular cycles, PMS, postpartum depression, irregular cycles, PCOD, endometriosis, infertility and as a means of family planning. NaProTECHNOLOGY is being presented at St. John the Baptist, Monday, Feb. 21, from 6-7:30 p.m. in the community center. Single women, engaged and married couples should contact Theresa Schortgen CFCP at thero365@frontier.com. Reservations are required.

Fish fry planned
Fort Wayne — St. Joseph the Worker Knights of Columbus will have a Lenten fish fry on Friday, March 11, from 5-8 p.m. in the community center. Tickets available at door. St. Joseph Therese (1961-1969). Teaching bright and energetic third graders would gladden the heart of any teacher. The challenge? I was appointed faculty and supportive families with strong family values were my salvation.”

—Sister Adele Beacham (formerly Sister Joseph Therese)

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Bishop Rhoades visits St. Augustine Parish

SOUTH BEND — There was clearly a feeling of excitement at St. Augustine Catholic Church on Sunday morning. Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades was coming and when he arrived he didn’t disappoint.

And as soon as he spoke, Bishop Rhoades immediately captured the hearts of not only the congregation but the children as well.

Bishop Rhoades made his pastoral visit to St. Augustine on Feb. 13 when he celebrated Mass and met the congregation. It was the bishop’s first pastoral visit to the small multicultural parish in South Bend.

“I felt very welcomed here at St. Augustine’s,” Bishop Rhoades told Today’s Catholic. “Coming to St. Augustine reminds me very much of a church that I pastored in Pennsylvania. It was a lot like this parish. I was also very impressed by the fact the teenagers are very involved and engaged in the Mass. I love the different styles of music as well. I’m hoping to talk with some of the young people about vocations.”

With the progress of the new Saint Joseph’s High School, Bishop Rhoades expressed his desires that more minority students attend Catholic grade schools to continue their education into the Catholic high schools in South Bend or Mishawaka.

“He seemed to be so grand in his hat and vestments but he was still a nice person.”

Ayari McDonald, 14, a freshman at Marian High School in Mishawaka was pleased to get to greet Bishop Rhoades. “His visit here made everyone get more involved in the Mass,” she said. “He did an amazing job and told me he looked forward to confirming me.”

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